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Saturday, 4 February, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes	* Non-disintegration of the Union	* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity	* Perpetuation of Sovereignty
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President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to President of Sri Lanka

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—On the occasion of the 64th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which falls on 4th February 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of felicitations to Mr Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

MNA

President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Prime Minister of Sri Lanka

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MNA

Fourth day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues Union level organizations explain National Planning Bills, Union Supplementary Budget Allocation Bill 2012, Union Budget Bill 2012



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives attending fourth day third regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—The third regular session of the first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the fourth day at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 566 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

Members of the Union level organizations concerned submitted the National Planning Bills, the Supplementary Budget Allocation Bill of the Union for 2012 and the Union Budget Bill 2012 to the session.

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung reported on strategic trans-

port sector development policy of the Ministry of Transport, aims of the policy for the tasks, aims of the financial policy, aims of the quality control policy, the aims of the employment, supplementary fund for 2011-2012 fiscal year, and financial statement for 2012-2013 fiscal year of departments, enterprises and the whole ministry.

Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min submitted reports on policy, aim and tasks of the ministry, incomes and approval for expenditure for 2011-2012 fiscal year, the drafted estimated incomes for 2011-2012 fiscal year, drafted expenditure, revenue expenditure and

capital expenditure for 2011-2012, supplementary fund, railroad construction project and debt sector, proposal for income and expenditure for 2012-2013 fiscal year, raising of drafted income, drafted estimated income in comparison with drafted income for 2011-2012, estimated revenue expenditure, estimated expenditure in comparison with drafted expenditure for 2011-2012 fiscal year, capital expenditure, estimated capital expenditure, new projects to be implemented in 2012-2013 fiscal year, continuation of the tasks in 2012-2013 fiscal year and content of foreign exchange.

Union Minister for Agriculture and

Irrigation U Myint Hlaing explained aims and tasks of the agricultural sector on national project in fifth five-year short-term plan, submission of supplementary fund for 2011-2012 fiscal year, budget accounts for 2012-2013 fiscal year, allotted supplementary budget and drafted budget for 2011-2012 fiscal year, revenue expenditure, capital expenditure and debt payment for seeking supplementary budget for 2011-2012 fiscal year, revenue income, revenue expenditure, capital income and capital expenditure, debt receipts and debt payment from the budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Union Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min reported on the electricity plans to be implemented in third five-year plan period from 2011-2012 to 2015-2016, potentials for generating electricity in third five-year plan period, revenue income, debt receipt, revenue expenditure, capital expenditure and debt sector from revenue and capital budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe made clarification on policy of the electrical sector for five-year short-term plan, goals of the electrical sector in 2012-2013 fiscal year, tasks in electrical sector in 2012-2013 fiscal year, the projects to be implemented in 2012-2013 fiscal year, continuation of the plans in 2012-2013 fiscal year, the estimated budget for the projects of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise in 2012-2013 fiscal year, seeking of supplementary budget for 2011-2012 fiscal year, the drafted estimated budget for 2011-2012 fiscal year, original budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year, revenue expenditure, capital expenditure and debt payment from the budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year, receiving of foreign exchange for 2012-2013 fiscal year and drafted expenditure.

(See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 February, 2012

What the most difficult thing is!

What is the most difficult thing in our life? Some people define it as glory while some, as education, economy and wealth. If one knows thoroughly what is the most difficult thing in life,

one can overcome it easily.

Every body has to face difficulties in doing any works. Putting blame on the difficulties we are facing could not achieve any success. If so, prosperity, advancement and success stay away from us.

Every success has difficulties. To achieve success, we must surmount difficulties right now. In our life, we can try to get something we want and know something new. But we can get nothing if we do nothing.

So, youths should make strenuous efforts in pursuing education and doing businesses and any work with strong determination and belief. Do anything adamantly is the start of success.

That is to say, it is the first step to overcome the most difficult one. Then, there should be no turning back.

It is importance of us to overcome difficulties in order that our desires are synonymous with our life.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) to emerge as 11th bridge in the time of new government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) lies on Katha-Bhamo railroad near Sinkhan Village in Bhamo Township of Kachin State. Constructed on 7 May, 2009, the bridge is due to open in February, 2012.

The upper structure of the bridge is made of steel truss plus prestressed concrete and reinforced concrete and the footing and piers of reinforced concrete. The steel trusses used in the bridge were manufactured by Myaungdaga Steel Mill.

The bridge has 4630 feet long motor road and 5510 feet long railroad. The motor road is 28 feet wide, flanked by three feet wide pedestrian walks. The railroad is 14 feet wide. The clearance is 320 feet wide and 47 feet high. It can withstand 60 tons per vehicle.

The bridge is a rail-cum-road one, making it convenient for trips and travel. It will serve as an effective link between towns and villages in Kachin State and towns and villages in Sagaing Region. It makes rail travel possible to all highlands and main lands in connection with other railroad networks, breaking down the distance, fostering connectedness among national brethren, bolstering socio-economy.

Translation: TKK





Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) meets with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Beijing, capital of China, on 3 Feb, 2012.—XINHUA

Merkel visits China to discuss Euro debt crisis

BEIJING, 3 Feb—In Beijing, German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, has arrived for a two-day visit. This is the Chancellor's fifth visit to China since she took office in 2005. Her visit marks the 40th anniversary since diplomatic ties were established between the two countries.

Premier Wen Jiabao held a welcoming ceremony on Thursday afternoon. Later, the two leaders held a meeting, discussing the current financial situation in Europe and the world economic situation. Meanwhile, the two sides also discussed how to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the future. On the second day of her stay, Merkel will visit South China's Guangdong Province where she will visit local German companies and attend an economic forum.—Xinhua

Second car bomb in as many days kills six in Colombia

VILLA RICA, 3 Feb—A car bomb detonated outside a police station in southwestern Colombia on Thursday, killing six people and wounding 30 in the region's second such attack in less than 48 hours, officials said.

Those killed in the blast in the town of Villa Rica, in the department of Cauca, included the police station commander and at least three civilians, said Mayor Juan Guillermo Mina.

The station was nearly destroyed along with several nearby shops, television news footage showed. "We have never had this type of incident occur here and I hope that it never happens again," Mina said. The bombing came one day after nine people were killed and 69 wounded when the police station was bombed in the far southwestern port town of Tumaco. It was the third

bombing in Tumaco this year, local officials said.

The government blamed leftist rebels with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) for the Tumaco attack. While the Thursday attackers were unidentified, military officials say a FARC front operates in the region.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, who traveled to Tumaco, said Thursday he was increasing security forces in the region.

"There is no justification for the attacks, and what they are doing is making any possibility of peace more difficult," said Santos.

He said Tumaco has suffered enormously because it is a "strategic center for narcoterrorism," and announced he would be sending 2,500 soldiers and marines, as well as 300 police officers, to the city.



A police officer stands in front of a house after a bomb exploded outside a police station in the town of Villa Rica in the southern Colombian Province of Cauca, on 2 Feb, 2012. At least four people were killed on Thursday in Colombia in an explosion, the second such attack in less than 24 hours to hit the troubled violence torn southern regions of the South American country, officials said.—XINHUA

Defence Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon said the Tumaco attack was carried out by FARC guerrillas in alliance with Los Rastrajos, a criminal gang made up of former drug traffickers and ex right-wing paramilitary fighters.

The FARC, founded in 1964, has an estimated 8,000 fighters across Colombia, according to the Ministry of

Defence.

Leftist guerrillas with a rival group, the National Liberation Army (ELN), are also active in southwestern Colombia.

The various groups are struggling to control regions of Colombia's Pacific coastline, key for exporting illegal drugs and smuggling in weapons.

Internet



Philippine police examine the site where three most wanted leaders of the al-Qaeda-linked terrorist groups Abu Sayyaf and Jemaah Islamiyah were among those allegedly killed in a US-backed dawn airstrike in Jolo. INTERNET

Russia, NATO to hold missile defence drills

MOSCOW, 3 Feb—Russia and NATO will hold joint computer-simulated missile defence exercises in Germany in March, an official said Thursday.

The decision to conduct these drills was taken at the NATO-Russia Summit in Lisbon in November 2010.

"The exact timetable for the drills has not been determined yet," Russian Deputy Defence Minister Anatoly Antonov said. "I think we may aim for March."

Antonov downplayed the importance of the upcoming exercises in light of the current deadlock in missile defence talks between Russia and NATO.

Russia has proposed a joint system, while NATO favours two independent systems which exchange information.

Moscow is seeking written, legally binding guarantees that the US-backed European missile defence network will not be

directed against it.

Washington, however, refuses to provide the guarantees, saying the shield is directed against threats from Iran and North Korea.

"Unfortunately, there has been no progress (in missile defence talks)," Antonov said. "It is a pity that the situation is not changing as our colleagues from the United States and NATO are still not ready to understand Russia's concerns." —Internet

No S-400 missile exports before 2015

MOSCOW, 3 Feb—Russia has no plans to export the S-400 Triumf air-defence system before 2015, a state-controlled arms exporter said Thursday.

"Until 2015 all the S-400s will be manufactured for Russian needs only," Rosoboronexport head Anatoly Isaikin said.

The S-400 (SA-21 Growler) air defence system is expected to form the cornerstone of Russia's theater air and missile defences by 2020.

The S-400 can engage targets at a range of up to 400 km and an altitude of 40,000-50,000 metres. The system uses an array of assets optimized for engaging ballistic and cruise missiles.

Internet

Suicide car bomb attack kills 31, injures 60 in Iraqi capital

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb—A suicide car bomb attack rattled Iraqi Capital city Baghdad on Friday, killing at least 31 people and injuring 60 others, an interior ministry source said.

The interior ministry official, on condition of anonymity, told Xinhua that the attack took place near a funeral site outside a hospital in southern Baghdad's al-Zafraniya district.

Many of the injured are in serious condition, which could make the death toll higher, said the official. Several vehicles and buildings near the site were damaged by the explosion, said the source.

No one has claimed responsibility so far, he said, adding that investigations are underway.

Violence in Iraq has been seeing increase since US forces completed their pullout on 18 Dec, 2011.

Xinhua

German terror suspect captured

DUSSELDORF, 3 Feb—A man accused of assisting in six hate crime slayings in Germany and supplying weapons to a neo-Nazi terrorist group was arrested Wednesday, authorities said.

The suspect, identified only as Carsten S, 31, was taken into custody in Dusseldorf following a commando-style raid on his home by the German anti-

terror unit GSG 9. He was formally accused of assisting the National Socialist Underground in six of 10 homicides the group allegedly committed between 2000 and 2007.

He was also accused of one count of attempted murder.

The neo-Nazi group has been connected to the killings of eight shopkeepers and staff

of Turkish origin, as well as one from Greece, and one policewoman. The German Federal State Prosecutor's office said Wednesday Carsten S had supplied money, weapons and ammunition to the organization after it went underground in 1998, the English-language German news Web site The Local reported.

Internet

People gather at the scene of a car bomb attack in Zafaraniyah, Baghdad, Iraq, on 27 Jan, 2012. A suicide bomber detonated an explosives-packed car near a funeral procession in southeastern Baghdad on Friday, killing and injuring dozens of Iraqis, police said.—INTERNET



Mass hysteria rare, but usually seen in girls

ATLANTA, 3 Feb — Fifteen teenage girls report a mysterious outbreak of spasms, tics and seizures in upstate New York. But tests find nothing physically wrong. Scores of adults in Northern California report crawling skin sensations and other bizarre symptoms. Government doctors find no physical cause after an extensive study. The conclusion by experts is that these are just the latest examples of what used to be called mass hysteria. Now known as conversion disorder, sufferers experience real, but psychologically triggered symptoms.

It's rare, but scores or even hundreds of outbreaks have been recorded through the decades around the world. It's a diagnosis that's often reached after other causes are ruled out, and is usually traced to a stress-causing trigger. Individual cases are common, even the kind involving tics and other movement-related symptoms. On average, the National Institutes of Health gets reports of two such cases each week, said Dr Mark Hallett, who heads the branch that fields those calls. Outbreaks, however, are unusual. Most involve females, often teenagers.—*Internet*



Junior/Senior High School senior Thera Sanchez speaks on the Today Show in New York. Sanchez said she was fine until she woke up one day and began stuttering. She said symptoms worsened to the point she couldn't even attend class. She said she's had some psychological counseling, which she says increased her stress but has not resolved whatever is causing her condition. "I want an answer. A straight answer," she said on the show. —INTERNET

Malaria toll far higher than thought

SEATTLE, 3 Feb—Malaria kills more than 1.2 million people a year, nearly 50 percent more than previously thought, and inflicts a high toll among adults and older children and not just toddlers, a new investigation says. But there is also good news: deaths from the mosquito-borne disease have in fact been falling sharply thanks to access to better drugs and insecticide-treated nets. Published in *The Lancet* on Friday, the study by the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington, Seattle, says malaria killed at least 1.2 million people worldwide in 2010.

The estimate will be a likely shock for health policymakers. Only last September the UN-backed Roll Back Malaria (RBM) calculated mortality in 2009 at 781,000. The higher figure, say the US researchers, derives from wider and more reliable data, including use of a technique called "verbal autopsy". Under this, investigators interview relatives of someone who has recently died in order to help pinpoint the cause of death. In many poor countries which lack medical infrastructure, mortality is often poorly probed or misidentified.

The new study skews the belief that the overwhelming

majority of malaria deaths occur among the under-fives. In 2010, more than 78,000 children aged five to 14, and more than 445,000 aged 15 or older, died of malaria, together accounting for 42 percent of the total. "You learn in medical school that people exposed to malaria as children develop immunity and rarely die from malaria as adults," said lead researcher Christopher Murray.

"What we have found in hospital records, death records, surveys and other sources shows that just is not the case." From 1985, says the paper, malaria deaths grew every year, peaking at 1.8 million in 2004. But from 2004, the toll fell every year. Between 2007 and 2010, the



A mother and her child sit on a bed covered with a mosquito net near Bagamoyo, 70 kms north of Tanzanian capital Dar es Salaam, in 2009. Malaria kills more than 1.2 million people a year, nearly 50 percent more than previously thought, and inflicts a high toll among adults and older children and not just toddlers, a new investigation says. —INTERNET

decline has been particularly acute — more than seven percent every year — and the big beneficiary has been Africa. Among the stars are

Tanzania and Zambia, which saw deaths fall by more than 30 percent between 2004 and 2010. *Internet*

Vitamin D deficiency may cause human infertility

VIENNA, 3 Feb — Vitamin D deficiency, which has long been a risk factor for diseases of osteoporosis and diabetes, may play a role in infertility both for men and women, according to a research by Austrian scientists. The finding was published in the latest issue of *European Journal of Endocrinology*.

After the analysis of numerous studies, Austrian

physicians Barbara Obermayer-Pietsch and Elisabeth Lerchbaum found that vitamin D level was associated with the production of male hormones. More specifically, there was a link between vitamin D and the increase in testosterone levels, subsequently the semen quality.

As vitamin D played an important role in hormone production also in women,

low levels of vitamin D often lead to too much testosterone, which therefore could increase the risk of infertility of women, according to Obermayer-Pietsch.—*Xinhua*



Japanese entrepreneurs aim for Silicon Valley

TOKYO, 3 Feb—For an emerging generation of Japanese innovators, the dream isn't a job for life at a big company. They have new ambitions, and they're determined to go places. Especially Silicon Valley. Small but growing numbers of Japanese entrepreneurs are jumping



Naoki Shibata, a co-founder of the AppGrooves, an iPhone application discovery tool, holds a smart phone in Tokyo. Small but growing numbers of Japanese entrepreneurs are jumping into the startup scene in northern California, particularly since the earthquake and tsunami last March. INTERNET

into the startup scene in northern California, particularly since the earthquake and tsunami last March.

They include Naoki Shibata, who took the plunge by giving up the sort of life many Japanese in past decades spent their lives trying to attain.

Only 30, Shibata had an executive-level position at online retailing giant Rakuten Inc and an assistant professorship at the prestigious University of Tokyo, where he earned a PhD. Last June he launched App-

Grooves, an iPhone application discovery tool. "I wanted a global company from the first moment," he said. "If you want to reach a global market, then you have to start from Silicon Valley."

Shibata and others say they are seeing a major uptick in Japanese entrepreneurs migrating to Silicon Valley or seriously contemplating a move, as their country struggles with two decades of economic stagnation and a rapidly shrinking and aging population.

Internet

News Corp taps Bloomberg executive to lead Dow Jones



Lex Fenwick, CEO of Bloomberg LP.—INTERNET

NEW YORK, 3 Feb — Rupert Murdoch's News Corp on Thursday named Bloomberg LP executive Lex Fenwick as chief executive officer of its Dow Jones & Co unit which houses its *Wall Street Journal* newspaper. Fenwick, a 25-year Bloomberg veteran, will join Dow Jones on 13 February and report to News Corp President Chase Carey. He replaces Les Hinton, a 52-year News Corp veteran, who left the company last July in

the wake of the phone-hacking scandal at the UK newspaper division he previously oversaw.

Dow Jones has been run by President Todd Larsen since Hinton left. Larsen will remain with the company. Fenwick replaced Bloomberg founder Michael Bloomberg as chief executive of the business in 2001. More recently he has been CEO of Bloomberg Ventures, a venture capital unit he founded in July 2008. Unlike his predecessor, Fenwick has limited executive experience in the newspaper publishing business. In fact Dow Jones does not currently have any executive who is titled "publisher." Hinton took on that title back in 2008 but Fenwick is not titled publisher of *The Wall Street Journal*. News Corp hopes to tap in to his expertise with financial markets services to fully exploit its suite of financial data products.—*Reuters*

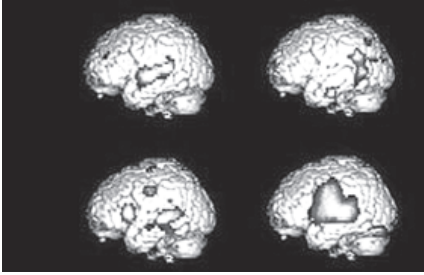
IMF urges LatAm economies to guard against crisis contagion

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb — The Latin America and Caribbean economies should be poised to take a string of steps including easing their monetary policies to guard against contagion risks triggered by the eurozone debt crisis, an official of the Washington-based International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Thursday. The Latin America and the Caribbean economies should hope for the best and prepare for the worst, Nicolas Eyzaguirre, Director of the IMF's Western Hemisphere Department, cautioned in an article carried on the IMF blog on Thursday.

These economies should "be ready to ease monetary policy, where strong institutions and low inflation would permit it," and watch financial systems closely for signs of stress, Eyzaguirre noted. They should rebuild fiscal buffers to maintain fiscal credibility and prepare for a further deterioration in global conditions, he stressed, adding that they needed to maintain flexible exchange rates to buffer shocks, particularly from commodity prices. These policies would give the region the best protection against increasing global uncertainties, he said.—*Xinhua*



Science decodes 'internal voices'



The studies focused on a part of the brain associated with sounds called the superior temporal gyrus.

INTERNET

LONDON, 3 Feb — Researchers have demonstrated a striking method to reconstruct words, based on the brain waves of patients thinking of those words. The technique reported in PLoS Biology relies on gathering electrical signals directly from patients' brains.

Based on signals from listening patients, a computer model was used to reconstruct the sounds of words that patients were thinking of.

The method may in

functional magnetic resonance imaging to track blood flow in the brain has shown promise for identifying which words or ideas someone may be thinking about.

By studying patterns of blood flow related to particular images, Jack Gallant's group at the University of California Berkeley showed in September that patterns can be used to guess images being thought of - recreating "movies in the mind".

Internet

Building a better light bulb: Energy efficient organic LEDs

DRESDEN, 3 Feb — Incandescent light bulbs are energy hogs, but many people prefer them for the cozy quality of light they emit. Scientists from Dresden University of Technology in Germany have set out to build energy efficient organic LED (OLED) lights that could rival incandescent bulbs in white-light colour quality. OLEDs consist of many layers of organic materials with different electrical properties. Excited electrons move through the materials and when the electrons are reunited with positive "holes," they emit electromagnetic radiation in the form of visible light. To build their white light OLED, the researchers used four

separate emitter layers: blue, green, yellow, and red. The different colors are combined to cover all parts of the visible spectrum.

Through a detailed study of the movement of electrons through the OLED, the scientists were able to tune the colour and quality of the light by adjusting the height of the layers. The final OLED, described in the AIP's *Journal of Applied Physics*, casts a colour of light very near to warm white point A, a standard measure of the white light spectrum reached by some incandescent bulbs. The OLED also has high color stability, meaning the light can be dimmed without noticeably altering its quality.— Internet

Scientist says dragons & elephants may solve Australia's environmental problems

CANBERRA, 3 Feb — Between out-of-control fires and destructive invasive species, Australia is facing major environmental problems. Now, an Australian scientist says he has a radical solution to these issues: Import large animals, such as elephants, to consume flammable grasses and combat the feral animals that are reconstructing the

ecosystem. "A lot of people are saying that we need to look to geoeengineering to solve our problems," said David Bowman, a professor of environmental change biology at the University of Tasmania, Australia. "What I am saying is that we need a new nature — we need to try ecosystem engineering."

On 7 Feb, 2009, an

unusually massive firestorm ravaged around 990,000 acres (400,000 hectares) in southern Australia. The incident, known as Black Saturday, was indeed a unique case, but fires are a constant problem for the continent because of flammable grasses, most notably the African gamba grass, which is considered an alien species.

In addition to the exotic grasses, numerous non-native animal species — pigs, goats, cattle, horses, donkeys, camels, buffalo and deer — are competing against native species for resources, destroying habitats and spreading diseases to domestic animals, Bowman said.

Internet



Kinect for Windows gesture sensor launched by Microsoft



Kinect holds the record for being the fastest selling consumer device in history.— INTERNET

NEW YORK, 3 Feb — Microsoft has launched a version of Kinect, its voice and motion-controlled sensor, to work with Windows-based PCs. It joins a previous version which was designed for the company's Xbox 360 games console. The new hardware features a "near mode" which allows it to track movements as close as 40cm away, compared to 50cm on the original model. However, the updated device costs nearly twice as much as the Xbox 360 version.

The sensor's UK price is yet to be confirmed, but in the US the Windows-compatible hardware's recommended price is \$249 (£157). By comparison the Xbox version is sold for

Kinect for Windows' general manager Craig Eisler told the BBC that the company also subsidised the Xbox version and recouped the money from games and other related sales.

It's been just over a year since we launched Kinect for Xbox 360, and we're only starting to scratch the surface of what's possible," said Mr Eisler.

"The sky's the limit. We're doing a testing and adoption programme with 300 companies around the world. They're doing things that we would never think of - from the oil industry, to training, to manufacturing."

Internet

Ofcom reports lopsided gains in UK broadband speeds

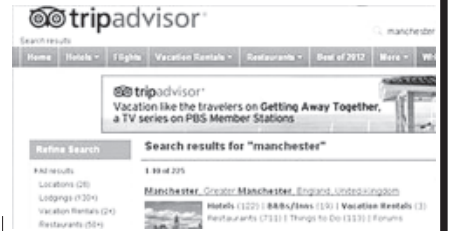
LONDON, 3 Feb — The UK's average home download speed is on the rise, but it could be even faster if more users upgraded at minimal cost, according to Ofcom. November's average broadband speed was 7.6 megabits per second, up from 6.8Mbps in May, says the regulator. Upgrades offered by Virgin Media and BT helped boost the figure.

Ofcom says many of the 42% of homes which subscribe to speeds of 10Mbps or less would benefit from switching deal or provider at little or no cost. The 22% headline speed bump is a notable improvement, according to the price comparison website broadbandchoices.co.uk "In reality, the average speed increase of 1.4Mbps will save you around 6 minutes when downloading a 2 hour film," said Michael Philips, the firm's product director. "This doesn't sound a lot but faster connections improve your general web-surfing experience and are definitely worth the investment, for example if more than one person shares the connection in a household."

Ofcom noted that the price difference between many of the so-called super-fast services and current generation

TripAdvisor rebuked over 'trust' claims on review site

LONDON, 3 Feb — TripAdvisor has been ordered to rewrite some of its marketing claims by the UK's Advertising Standards Authority. The ruling follows complaints by hotels that the site had said that its holiday reviews could be "trusted". The ASA said it was concerned that consumers might be fooled by fraudulent posts since the entries could be made "without any form of verification". TripAdvisor described the ruling as a "highly technical view" of "copy that was used in a limited capacity". However, the watchdog said that the ruling served as a warning to all UK-focused sites with



The travel site's UK homepage no longer makes the claims that provoked the complaints.— INTERNET

user-generated material. The ASA said that the US-based firm's site originally carried statements saying that it contained "reviews that you can trust" and that it had "more than 50 million honest travel reviews". It said that two

hotels and the online reputation firm Kwikchex, which represented others, had complained that the claims were misleading since they could not be substantiated. The advertising body said it acknowledged that reviewers were asked to sign a declaration that their reviews were real and that they had no incentive or competitive interest with the places commented on.

It also recognised that the site said that it used "advanced and highly effective fraud systems" to identify and remove fake content. However, the ASA said it was still possible that "non-genuine" reviews could appear on the site undetected and that users might not be able to spot them. It warned that this was particularly a problem in cases where an establishment only had a small number of reviews.— Internet



New advertising rules will limit how fast ISPs can market their "up to" speeds after April.— INTERNET

connections was "relatively small". It said Plusnet customers could roughly double their promised speed to "up to" 40Mbps by swapping to a service with the firm that cost £5 more a month. It said TalkTalk clients could enjoy a similar gain by paying their provider an extra £10 a month, while one of BT's deals offered an equivalent speed bump at no extra charge.— Internet



Mine explosion kills eight in NW Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 3 Feb—An anti-tank mine explosion on Friday morning killed eight Cambodians and injured another in Banteay Meanchey Province, some 400 kilometres northwest of Cambodia, an official said.

"The explosion happened at 9:30 am when a home-made tractor ran on the anti-tank mine on a forest path to their cassava farm," Tep Khunnal, governor of Banteay Meanchey's Malai District, he told *Xinhua* by

telephone. "Nine people were on the tractor at that time. Seven were killed on spot and one died shortly after being admitted to hospital," he said, adding the injured one is also in critical condition.

The accident occurred in Sampor Village, Banteay 2 commune, Malai District of Banteay Meanchey. Landmines killed 43 Cambodians and injured another 168 in 2011, according to the report of the Cambodian Mine and Explosive Remnants

of War Victim Information System.

According to the record, since 1979 to the end of 2011, there were a total of 64,017 landmine casualties. Of the casualties, 19,619 people were killed, 35,522 were injured and 8,876 were amputated. Cambodia is one of the countries that suffered most from mines as a result of the nearly three decades of war and internal conflicts from the mid 1960s until the end of 1998.—MNA/Xinhua



Lion dances are performed in front of AirAsia's 100th Airbus A320 aircraft featuring a dragon livery at the Low Cost Carrier Terminal in Sepang, Malaysia.—INTERNET

Israeli airplanes strike Gaza

GAZA, 3 Feb—Israeli airplanes carried out a series of strikes in the Gaza Strip early Friday, wounding at least two civilians, witnesses and medical sources said.

The targets included a smuggling tunnel beneath Gaza's southern border with Egypt, an empty house in the nearby Rafah city, an open land and a house in northern Gaza Strip, the witnesses said.

A four-year-old girl and a man suffered minor injuries in the airstrike near the house in northern town of Beit Lahiya, Adham Abu Selmia, an emergency spokesperson, told reporters. F-16 jets and helicopters participate in carrying out at least five raids.

The Israeli raids came a day after Palestinian militants in Gaza fired rockets on southern Israel territories. No group claimed responsibility for the attacks, apparently to avoid frictions with Gaza's Hamas rulers who always seek to stay calm. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon visited Gaza on Thursday and called for maintaining the fragile ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinian groups.

Xinhua

15 killed in train-vehicle collision in NE India

NEW DELHI, 3 Feb—At least 15 people were killed and 50 injured when a passenger train hit a road construction vehicle at an unmanned crossing near the capital of the northeast Indian state Guwahati on Friday morning, said witnesses and officials.

The passenger train was coming from New Bongaigaon station in lower Assam to Guwahati when it hit a JCB vehicle at Mirza, 15 kilometres from Guwahati at around 09:45 am local time.

At least five coaches behind the engine were reported to have derailed after the accident, a witness told *Xinhua* by phone. The driver of the JCB was killed on the spot.

MNA/Xinhua



Protective eyewear is displayed at the Marine West Military Expo at Camp Pendleton, California on 1 Feb, 2012. The expo is one of the year's largest annual display of new military equipment.

INTERNET

Venezuela supports Argentina in claim to disputed islands

CARACAS, 3 Feb—Venezuela Thursday voiced support for Argentina in the territorial dispute with Britain over the Malvinas Islands (called the Falkland Islands by Britain).

"The government of Great Britain should know that 179 years after its invasion of the Malvinas Islands, Argentina does not stand alone in its legitimate claim of its sovereign right over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime spaces," the Venezuelan foreign ministry said in a statement.

Today, Argentina is "part of a solid regional bloc" which won't yield to threats or aggressions, it said. Venezuela considers Britain's recent actions, like sending a warship to the Malvinas and the "aggressive" remarks by

British Prime Minister David Cameron and Foreign Minister William Hague, as "a repeated provocation and acts of intimidation."

Tensions between Argentina and Britain have gradually increased as the 30th anniversary of the Malvinas War, an armed conflict between both countries in 1982, approaches. Earlier this week, Britain announced it would send one of its most modern warships, the "HMS Dauntless", to the Malvinas to replace a smaller warship.

On Thursday, Prince William, second in line to the British throne, is scheduled to have a six-week training stint as a rescue pilot in the Malvinas, a move that prompted new protests from Argentina and its Latin American allies.

Xinhua

US defence chief sees Israel could attack Iran this spring

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb—US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta said that Israel could attack Iran this spring, the *Washington Post* reported here on Thursday.

The *Washington Post* story said: "Panetta believes there is a strong likelihood that Israel will strike Iran in April, May or June before Iran enters what Israelis described as a 'zone of immunity' to commence building a nuclear bomb." The newspaper's columnist David Ignatius wrote in the article that US President Barack Obama and Panetta "are said to have cautioned

the Israelis that the United States opposes an attack, believing that it would derail an increasingly successful international economic sanctions programme and other non-military efforts to stop Iran from crossing the threshold." However, the White House hasn't yet decided how the United States would respond if the Israelis do attack, the story added.

The story continued: "US officials see two possible ways to dissuade the Israelis from such an attack: Teheran could finally open serious negotiations for a formula to

verifiably guarantee that its nuclear programme will remain a civilian one; or the United States could step up its covert actions to degrade the programme so much that Israelis would decide that military action wasn't necessary."

The story said that US officials don't think that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has made a final decision to attack. But the senior US officials doubt that the Israelis are bluffing, worrying about "the guns of spring - and the unintended consequences."

Internet

China stresses need to resolve debt crisis

BEIJING, 3 Feb—China may engage more deeply in resolving the European debt crisis, Premier Wen Jiabao said at a media briefing with visiting German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Wen said it was "very urgent and important" to resolve the debt crisis and his country is considering "involving itself more deeply into" the efforts to address the issue through channels like the European Financial Stability Facility and the European Stability Mechanism.

Merkel arrived in Beijing on Thursday for a three-day visit.

Wen said China attaches great importance to the European debt crisis from a strategic perspective, as the European Union is its largest trading partner, the China's official *Xinhua* news agency reported.

Wen said the EU's financial stability, economic growth and integration not only affect the continent but also that of China and the world.

"The Chinese side supports efforts to maintain the stability of the euro and the euro zone," Wen said.

The Voice of America said Merkel had sought China's help in persuading Iran to abandon any plans it may have for nuclear weapons. The VOA said Merkel had told reporters she understands China does not support calls for new sanctions against Iran, but she urged China to "use its influence" to emphasize to Iran that the world should not have another nuclear power.

The European Union imposed an oil embargo on Iran last week.

Internet



Wikileaks founder Julian Assange (L) arrives at the British Supreme Court in London, Britain, on 2 Feb, 2012. The two-day final hearing about the Assange extradition ended on Thursday. The British Supreme Court will decide whether to extradite Assange to Sweden to face sexual assault allegations in weeks.

XINHUA

US intelligence boss urges new legislation to boost cyber security

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb—US Congress should pass laws to boost cyber defense, as the country is in "a type of cyber Cold War," Director of National Intelligence James Clapper told a congressional panel on Thursday.

Clapper claimed the US is losing some 300 billion US dollars annually to cyber-based corporate espionage, and sustaining daily intrusions against public systems controlling everything from major

defense weapons systems and public air traffic to electricity and banking.

Speaking at a hearing of the House Select Intelligence Committee on worldwide threats, the intelligence boss urged lawmakers to pass a bill that forces intelligence sharing between the government and the private sector, following the model of the Defence Industrial Base pilot programme launched by then-Deputy Defence Secretary William Lynn last

year. Also appearing at the hearing were Central Intelligence Agency Director David Petraeus, Defence Intelligence Agency Director Ronald Burgess and Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Robert Mueller. Mueller also said it is important to deal with the growing cyber threat, which he believes "will equal or surpass the threat from terrorism in the near future."—Xinhua

ASEAN-Australia Asialink Conversations held

YANGON, 3 Feb—The Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Asialink University of

this gathering for the year 2012.

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin delivered the key note address on the opening day.

Ambassadors and responsible officials from ASEAN countries, Australia and Japan attended the opening session of the Asialink Conversations.

MNA



Melbourne, Australia jointly conducted the ASEAN-Australia Asialink Conversations—Myanmar 2012 at Sedona Hotel, here on 3 and 4 February. The Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, on behalf of the ASEAN-Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS) hosted

Sixty senior representatives from government, academia and business circles from ASEAN, Australia and Japan participated in the conversations and exchanged views on Myanmar and regional issues including politics, economics and finance as well as cultural heritage and nation-building.

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin addresses ASEAN-Australia Asialink Conversations.

MNA

Union Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Sri Lankan counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—On the occasion of the 64th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which falls on 4th February 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of felicitations to Prof. G L Peiris, MP, Minister of External Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.—MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister receives Italian Ambassador, Deputy Head of Mission

YANGON, 3 Feb—Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win received Italian Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Paolo Andrea Bartorelli and Deputy Head of Mission Ms Mara Borsolini at the office of the Bago Region Government in Bago yesterday.

MNA



Students of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon) and Bansomdejchaopraya & Rajabhat University (BSRU) performing their skills.—MNA

Myanmar, Thai students exchange language and cultural fine arts

YANGON, 3 Feb—Under the cultural exchange programme between National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon) under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Bansomdejchaopraya & Rajabhat University (BSRU), 21-member Thai delegation comprising lecturers and students of the BSRU exchanged language and cultural fine arts at the NCFAU (Yangon) from 23 January to 2 February.

The Thai delegation on their sightseeing tour of

Yangon on 28 January visited famous pagodas and National Museum. At the lawn of Kumadra Hall of the NCFAU (Yangon) on 2 February, the Thai youths participated in wearing thanakha, making mon-lone-ye-baw (small glutinous rice dumplings) and hta-ma-ne (delicacy made of glutinous rice, oil, sesame, groundnut, etc). In the afternoon, students of the two countries entertained with respective arts, followed by greetings of the rectors of the BSRU and NCFAU.

The NCFAU rector presented the lecturers and

students of the BSRU with gifts and so did the BSRU rector to Myanmar lecturers.

MNA



Why English?

Than Daing Kaung (Meiktila)

The morning sun had begun to scorch the compound when the school bell rang and the children gathered to the assembly to sing the National Anthem. Just then, a loud voice, “Tun Tun Kyaw and Win Maung Lay are hiding back in the classroom” came out. These words made their two boys’ classteacher furious and she was seen rushing to her classroom. However, an experienced teacher whose name was Daw Mya Thi, held the raging teacher saying, “No, no, let me see them, please. They are mischievous. They are dour and standoffish a lot. Sure, they have high IQs. I’m teaching them Shakespeare’s Plays.”

Daw Mya Thi was called as one of the most sensitive instruments in school. Her feelings for the students are deep, rich and insightful. Her impact on the pupils has a beginning a middle and absolutely no end.

It’s virtually impossible to honour Daw Mya Thi with few words. She used to say, “All the students represent the next generation of scientists who will shape the future of

our country.”

When something makes you laugh, you have to ask yourself, why? In the case of a night study class, the roar of laughter is always heard, however, no question is needed to ask for the study belongs to Sayamagyi Daw Mya Thi who always speaks English.

Why the nightclass always crowded with smiling kids is no question. Daw Mya Thi herself had been a middle-aged woman who had lost her job and her sense of security in life. She returned to college where she met a sisterly teacher who helped her to get a job and Daw Mya Thi changed to Distance Education. After getting a degree, she moved to a marginal village between Meiktila and another district, accepting the post of a primary teacher.

At first Daw Mya Thi looked like nothing more than a durable cliché of teaching staff; a teacher who simply wanted to work for the monthly pay. But three months later, Daw Mya Thi was asked to offer college preparatory class

on weekends. Those who wanted to seek her help were five female teachers who were very weak in English.

Why such enthusiasm? In a word, jobs. Elites like diplomats and CEOs needed English for work a generation ago. Time has changed now the ante on what’s needed is going up year after year. In China, the Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2008 Olympics pushed English among staff, guides, taxi drivers and ordinary citizens. To get a prized call centre job in India, speaking English is a ticket. English is the working language of the Japanese, French and Czech staff at Toyota plants in the Czech Republic. In 2004, Malaysia started teaching school-level math and science in English.

In Myanmar, mathematics and sciences subjects are taught in English. “Are the teachers strict that the students should practice and use English till they are near-perfect?” One old timer asked me.

I replied him a long answer. “English is the language of business, technology and, increasingly, empowerment. People the world over have found a new land which is an English-speaking one. In our country what we need are teachers like Daw Mya Thi who doesn’t teach to live but who lives to teach.”

Fourth day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw...

(from page 1)

With regard to social and management sector, Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min submitted



Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min submits reports.—MNA



Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe makes clarifications.—MNA

reports on drafted estimated budget of Ministry of Defence for 2011-2012 fiscal year, estimated budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year, drafted estimated budget for 2011-2012 and estimated budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year for revenue expenditure, drafted estimated budget for 2011-2012 and estimated budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year for capital expenditure, income and expenditure, revenue and capital expenditure.

Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min also submitted reports on estimated budget and drafted expenditure of cantonment development affairs committee for 2011-2012 fiscal year, estimated expenditure, income, revenue expenditure and capital expenditure for 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Today's session was adjourned at 2.45 pm and the fifth day session will be held at 10 am on 6 February (Monday).

MNA

Instructions of Supreme Court of the Union further clarified in Magway

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Instructions of the Supreme Court of the Union at the second work coordination meeting between the Supreme Court of the Union and chief judges of Region/State High Courts, and Region/State law officers was further clarified at Magway District Court this morning.

Magway Region High Court Judge U Sein Tun clarified instructions of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Union on judicial affairs and judicature. Also present were judges of the region high court, the region law officer, district and township level judges.—MNA

Special rapporteur visits Insein Jail, meets NLD chairman

YANGON, 3 Feb—Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party visited

Insein Central Jail today where they met two prisoners and a detainee.

The special rapporteur also met Daw

Aung San Suu Kyi, chairman of National League for Democracy, at her home on University Avenue at 3.30 pm.—MNA

UNESCO to cooperate in drafting media law

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Ministry of Information is drafting a media law in accord with the constitutional provisions and based on international and regional norms and standards. In doing so, the ministry will cooperate with UNESCO so as to make sure

that the law is in conformity with international standards and procedures.

Moreover, a discussion on the media role that can guarantee press freedom, responsibility and accountability in promoting democracy will be held under the

cooperation between the ministry and UNESCO.

Similarly, a workshop on printing and television laws will be held under the collaboration between the personnel of the ministry of ICT experts from UNESCO. MNA

Specialists give health care to local people in Zabuthiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Under the arrangements of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, the specialists team from Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (200-bed) provided health care services to local people from three wards and 13 villages the clinic in Shwekyabin Ward of Zabuthiri Township today.

Their health care services were supervised by members of Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr Paing Soe and U Myo Nyunt. Ten specialist teams gave medical

treatment to the local people, performed free surgical operations at patients with eye complaints and provided optical glasses in Zabuthiri Township and referred the emergency patients to Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed) and Jivitadana Hospital (1000-bed).

The specialist teams plan to make field trips of medical treatments to remaining seven township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

MNA

Press conference on Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2012 held

YANGON, 3 Feb—The get-together and press conference of the Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2012 was held at Royal Mingalardon Golf & Country Club in Mingaladon Township on 1 February.

General Secretary U Chan Han of Myanmar PGA explained the purpose of the tournament. The international professionals expressed their opinions for the tournament.

Tournament Director Mr Jiltisek Tampraserk spoke on the occasion.

US\$ 300,000 will be shared to the winners. The first prize winner will fetch US\$ 47550, the second US\$ 32550 and the third US\$ 18300. The 65th position winner can win US\$ 810. Altogether 144 international golf professionals and 17 Myanmar professionals will

participate in the Open.

The first round of the Open commenced at the club yesterday.

Scott Hend (Aus), Ben Fox (USA) and Wade Ormsby (Aus) tied at the first position by firing eight-under-per 64.

The Open is jointly sponsored by Zaykabar Co

Ltd together with Air Bagan, A1 Construction Co Ltd, Alpine Purified Drinking Water, Asia Metal Group of Companies, Srixon, Tiger Beer, Canon and 100 Plus. Hole-in-one sponsors are Zaykabar Co Ltd, CEO (Cost Effectiveness Oriented Group Co. Ltd) and Aung Hein Min Co Ltd (Sumitomo).—MNA

LOCAL SPORTS

Inter-Station Football Tournament held in Kangyidaunt Township

KANGYIDAUNT, 3 Feb—The Kangyidaunt Township Administrator's Cup Inter-Station Men's Football Tournament took place at the township sports ground in Kangyidaunt Township.

On 30 January, Kangyidaunt Station beat Begaret Station 8-7 in the final match.

Local authorities and departmental officials presented prizes and cash awards to the respective winners. Township Administrator U Myint Sein awarded championship trophy to Kangyidaunt Station.



Altogether 10 football teams from nine stations in the township participated in the tournament from 7 to 30 January.—Township IPRD

As part of fire preventive measures under the instructions of Aungmye Thazan Township Fire Prevention Supervisory Committee of Mandalay, auxiliary fire brigade members together with local authorities inspected fire preventive activities at residential houses and restaurants and gave advice to ward dwellers on 17 January.—NLM

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing receives Bangladeshi Chief of the Naval Staff

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing received Bangladeshi Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed (ND), ndc, psc at Zeyathiri Beikman here this morning.

During the meeting, the Commander-in-Chief said Myanmar and Bangladesh are good neighbours, maintaining friendly

ties. Myanmar is trying to open its door wider to the neighbours and global countries and is practicing discipline-flourishing multiparty democracy step by step prescribed in the constitution. The government is exerting efforts for stability and development of the State and so is the Tatmadaw. He then expressed his pride in Bangladesh's chairmanship of the United Nations Peace



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing receives Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed (ND), ndc, psc, of Bangladesh at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

relationship. The exchange of goodwill visits between the two nations since the democratization of Myanmar indicates the amity between the two countries, fostering

Building Commission. He then proposed to promote cooperation between the two armed forces.

The Bangladeshi Chief of the Naval

16th SSMNC Plenary Meeting on 24-25 Feb, 6th SCWCSAG Meeting 27-29 Feb

YANGON, 3 Feb—The coordination meeting for the 16th Plenary Meeting of the 6th 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee will be held from 21 to 23 February and the plenary meeting on 24 and 25 February.

Members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee are invited to arrive on Kaba Aye Hill, here, on 20 February.

The 6th Plenary Meeting of the 6th State Central Working Committee of the Sangha

of All Ganas will be held from 27 to 29 February. State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws and members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Ganas are invited to arrive on Kaba Aye Hill, here, on 26 February.

Even if they cannot accept the invitation in time, the Abbots are invited to arrive on Kaba Aye Hill, here, in time, according to the Department of Religious Affairs.—MNA

He said the Bangladeshi Navy would like to cooperate further with Myanmar Navy, which would bring mutual understanding of navigation matters. He said on his tour, he discussed coordination and cooperation between two navies with officials concerned. He added that he believed the relationship of the two countries would go strength from strength as Bangladeshi Armed Forces and Bangladeshi leaders were trying to deepen the relationship with Myanmar.

Also present at the call together with the Commander-in-Chief Defence Services were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win, Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of Commander-in-Chief's Office, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and senior military officials. The Bangladeshi Chief of the Naval Staff was accompanied by Commodore Commanding Chittagong Commodore Nizamuddin Ahmed, (TAS), ndc, psc and the Bangladeshi military attaché to Myanmar and personnel.—MNA

Staff expressed thanks to the Myanmar Tatmadaw for its hospitality, adding that he witnessed warmth of Myanmar citizens and development of Myanmar and Nay Pyi Taw.

Worrying problem of today's mode of dress

Ko Shwe Maung

We have already heard some Myanmar sayings that go by 'The beauty of a woman lies in her hair;' 'The ability of a man is decided by his own physical strength;' 'The modesty of a woman cannot be exchanged for gold'. We have seen the dress styles of ancient Myanmar people in movies, books and documentaries.

As most of Myanmar people are Buddhist, they follow the Buddha's teachings. Ancient Myanmar women usually wore a traditional Myanmar jacket with an overlapping flap in front together with a vest and avoided wearing revealing clothes. They had long hair. Some had a style of hairdo with a top knot and a circular fringe whilst some had their hair coiled round a comb. Myanmar women of ancient times wore *htamein* (sarong) reaching down to their insteps. Those fine traditions of Myanmar women reflect the true Myanmar culture.

As times go by, the world has seen many changes and developments. With globalization process alongside alien cultures, we can now witness that Myanmar culture has been coloured. Although political, economic and social changes can be accepted, every Myanmar who values his or her own lineage cannot accept the fact that the Myanmar culture is turned upside down due to alien cultures.

In today's world, the role of women has been on an equal terms with that of men. At a time when the role of Myanmar women is getting important, Myanmar women of all ages have the duty to try to make the Myanmar culture attractive to the global community and respected around the world.

Nonetheless, the dress style of some Myanmar women today has been disturbed by alien cultures. Copying the Western and Eastern cultures from movies and videos

and on the net, young Myanmar women have come to wear revealing clothes. After 1988, young women had their hair curled and were in the habit of wearing long skirts. Later, they wore mini skirts and short skirts. Then, trousers came into fashion and women started wearing dresses and clothes with narrow, thin strips. Afterwards, short hairstyle, shorts and straight hairstyle came into vogue. At last, women have been obsessed with wearing very revealing clothes and very short skirts. Those fashions are usually copied from celebrities. Women do so not only on occasions like weddings and birthday parties but also when going round in town.

Elderly people understand current fashion and modernization but cannot accept young women wearing indecent dress totally contrary to the Myanmar culture. So, we should all oppose the bad habit of wearing an immodest dress. There are some parents who even encourage such an improper habit rather than stopping it.

Today, some young parents encourage their kindergarten- or primary school-age daughters to dress indecently in festivities by making them wear revealing clothes. And this is like watering a toxic plant. Parents should understand that young girls may get spoilt in their backs before and after adulthood. At this age, they are surrounded by a vast array of danger. I therefore assume that the onus is upon parents and their children to safeguard and maintain their traditional culture and lineage. Bearing in mind that there is a saying which goes 'Your nation may break up because of a femme fatale', all Myanmar people are urged to try to promote and maintain the glory of Myanmar culture before being too late to mend.

(Translation: ST)

Advanced Communicative English Course concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—The Advanced Communicative English Course, organized by Myanmar Hoteliers Association (Nay Pyi Taw Zone), concluded at Hotel Amara in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone yesterday afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung made a speech and presented prizes to the outstanding trainees and gifts to Ms Linda Doeden and Ms Aleta Loftis of USA English Language Institute, Fort Collins, Colorado.

General Manager U Han Tun gave completion certificates to the trainees. Later, the trainees demonstrated their skills in spoken English.—MNA

Blast in Tamu kills boy, wounds girl

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—A blast killed a 3-year old boy and wounded a 7-year old girl in Tamu, Sagaing Region, on 31 January.

Maung Win Kyaw threw a pack he picked up from outside to his sister sitting on a cradle while they were playing under their house in Sandaku-2 Ward about 3 pm on 31 January as their mother had gone outside.

The pack landed about two and a half feet distance from his sister and blasted, wounded Maung Win Kyaw at his head and parts of his body. He died while receiving treatment at the hospital and his sister is undergoing treatment at the hospital for injuries on her abdominal part, arms and legs.

Authorities inspected the blast and raised the public awareness of how to avoid such kind of blasts.

U Tun Thein of Tamu informed the authority that he found a grenade near a farm on his way to Pyitawtha Village by bullock cart to carry dry shawls yesterday.

The authority seized the US-made grenade bearing FUZE, M-213 GOI 4.57-75.

The authority has alerted the people to inform them when they find suspicious men and things and has alerted the people and their children not to pick up suspicious things when they find them in their environs.—MNA

California nuclear station shuts down unit for possible leak

LOS ANGELES, 3 Feb—The San Onofre nuclear station in southern California Tuesday evening shut down one of its units as sensors detected a possible leak.

The Southern California Edison (SCE), operator of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station south of San Clemente, announced that it has begun a precautionary shutdown of the Unit 3 because sensors detected a possible leak in one of the unit's steam

generator tubes.

An SCE statement said "The potential leak poses no imminent danger to the public or plant workers. There has been no release to the atmosphere."

The cause of the leak is under investigation and the repair work will follow before it resumes operation, the company said. (The SCE has reported the incident to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Xinhua

Carbon monoxide kills man in WVa hotel

SOUTH CHARLESTON, 3 Feb—A Holiday Inn Express in South Charleston, WVa, was evacuated Tuesday after a man died of carbon monoxide poisoning, fire officials said.

At least three other guests were hospitalized, one in critical condition, the *Charleston Daily Mail* reported.

Two construction workers staying in the same room on the fifth floor of the hotel were overcome by carbon monoxide overnight, fire officials said.

One man was found dead and the other was unconscious when co-workers went to find them

about 10 am on Tuesday.

The unconscious man was in very critical condition at Charleston Area Medical Centre's General Hospital, officials said.

High levels of carbon monoxide, as much as 500 to 600 parts per million, were detected on the hotel's third, fourth and fifth floors. Anything over 35 parts per million is too high, fire officials told *The Charleston Gazette*.

South Charleston Fire Chief Greg Petry said the hotel would remain closed until the cause of the carbon monoxide was determined.

Internet



Photo taken on 31 Jan, 2012 shows the posters of Hong Kong Arts Festival in Hong Kong, south China. The 40th Hong Kong Arts Festival kicked off on Tuesday and artists from the world would present 166 shows. XINHUA

'India's jet deal setback to British industry'

LONDON, 3 Feb—The British aerospace industry has been dealt a major blow after India favoured a French firm for a multibillion-pound fighter plane order, a newspaper said.

India Wednesday gave the preferred bidder status to French firm Dassault ahead of an European consortium that included British defence

giant BAE Systems. BAE has been hoping to partly assemble 126 Eurofighter Typhoon jets at Warton and Sarnesbury in Lancashire for the Indian Air Force.

Favouring the French firm in the tendering process for India's new multi-role combat aircraft could have serious implications for BAE Systems and the British

aerospace industry, the *Morning Star* reported Wednesday.

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, an umbrella body of manufacturing unions, will meet Defence Procurement Ministry Minister Peter Luff next week and will be raising the issue.

Internet

Harbin has always been the centre of attention as far as winter tourism is concerned with its ice and snow festival every January. However, 300 miles outside the city; lies a small village said to be the ultimate winter destination. Closed off by surrounding mountains, the village, aptly named Xuexiang, or "home of snow", has steadily build up its reputation among tourists over the last few years. It consists of around twenty wooden houses decorated with strings of golden corn and red chili hung to dry. In winter the snow here can reach up to two metres. This absorbs sound creating a winter wonderland.—INTERNET



US actor David Hasselhoff (R), age 59, proposes marriage to girlfriend Hayley Roberts (L), age 31, on top of Sydney Harbour Bridge in Australia.—INTERNET

Four Swedes, one Thai killed in southern Thailand road accident

BANGKOK, 3 Feb—Two young Swedish couples and their Thai driver were killed Wednesday morning when their rented car collided head-on with a six-wheel truck in south Thailand's Phang Nga Province, local media reported Thursday. The Swedes were on their way to a popular diving destination in Chumphon Province to the north of Phang Nga. The police are hunting the truck driver who fled the scene, *Phuket Gazette* reported.

The killed Swedes are identified by their ID cards as Elin Marita Hedbris, 21; Frida Madeleine Falk, 22; Anders Tobias Larsson, 22 and Johan Olof Nikolas Svensson, 22, the report said. The accident is the most fatal incident involving Swedes in Thailand since the 2004 tsunami disaster, it added.

Xinhua

SW China pileup kills one, injures 40

GUIYANG, 3 Feb—One person has died and another 40 have been injured in a collision involving 22 vehicles in southwest China's Guizhou Province on Friday morning, according to local traffic police.

The pileup, involving 11 buses, eight cars and three trucks, took place at about 4 am on the expressway near the county of Sansui, and it

led to a brief suspension of traffic, a police spokesman said.

Ice had made the road slippery when the accident happened, the spokesman added.

The injured people have been rushed to hospital.

An investigation into the cause of the accident is under way.

Xinhua



Photo shows Russian aircraft carrier Admiral Kuznetsov.—INTERNET

Needle removed from woman's head

BEIJING, 3 Feb—A three-centimetre long needle was removed from a woman's head in China after doctors operated on her to bring her out of a coma.

Forty-nine-year old Lin Xuefen collapsed on the Lunar New Year's day and went into a coma.

Her sudden illness was a mystery until a medical exam revealed the needle.

Lin had met with a traffic accident 18 years ago and has since suffered regular headaches. She was in good condition after the surgery, *China Daily* reported Tuesday.

Internet

Tropical vegetation stores more carbon than thought

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb—The first ever "wall-to-wall" map of carbon storage of tropical vegetation in Africa, Asia and South America has shown that it stores 21 percent more carbon than estimated.

Scientists from Woods Hole Research Centre (WHRC), Boston University, and the University of Maryland produced the map using a combination of remote sensing and field data.

Reliable estimates of carbon storage are critical to understanding the amount of

carbon released into the atmosphere by changes in land cover and land use, the journal *Nature Climate Change* reports.

Tropical deforestation in many developing countries is considered a major source of the greenhouse gases that cause climate change, releasing as much as 1.1 billion tonnes of carbon into the air every year, according to a Woods Hole statement.

"For the first time we were able to derive accurate estimates of carbon densities using satellite LiDAR observations in places that have never been measured," said Alessandro Baccini, assistant scientist at Woods Hole, who led the study.

Based on new data in this study, researchers believe that current models may overestimate the net flux of carbon into the atmosphere due to tropical vegetation loss by 11 to 12 percent.

Internet

British student to launch bamboo smart phone

LONDON, 3 Feb—A 23-year-old British student will launch a mobile phone made largely from bamboo, *The Telegraph* reported on Thursday.

The smartphone, called 'ADzero', is expected to launch later this year. Made from four-year-old organically grown bamboo that has been treated to improve its durability, the phone runs Google's Android operating system. Kieron Scott-Woodhouse, from Shepherds Bush in London, designed the phone because he was frustrated that so many existing models looked similar to each other.

He is a student of Middlesex University. A technology entrepreneur had contacted him after he posted designs online.

The phone was initially intended for the Chinese market but an enthusiastic reception in Britain means it will go on sale in design retailers later this year, the newspaper said.

Internet



The new ADzero phone is made largely from bamboo and runs Google Android.

INTERNET

Flesh-eating bug spreads in Britain

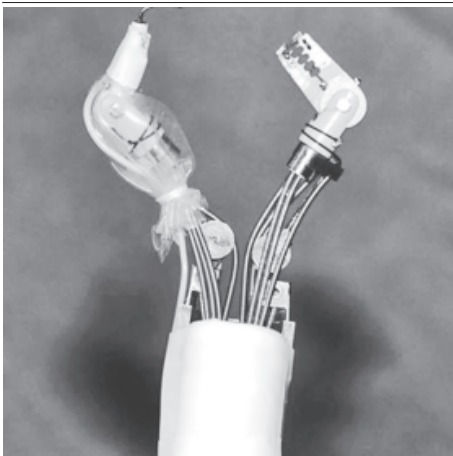
LONDON, 3 Feb—A flesh-eating form of pneumonia that is easily passed between healthy people on public transport is spreading across Britain, the *Daily Mail* reported. The deadly strain of MRSA called USA300 passes easily through skin-to-skin contact. It can survive on surfaces and so has the potential to be picked up on buses and tubes. It was first seen in the US but cases are now being reported in the community and not just hospitals in Britain, the newspaper said Thursday.

Ruth Massey, from the department of biology and biochemistry at the University of Bath, said extra vigilance was required around this and similar MRSA bugs known as PVL-positive community acquired strains.

The USA300 is resistant to treatment by several antibiotics and can cause large boils on the skin. In severe cases, it can lead to fatal blood poisoning or a form of pneumonia that can eat away at lung tissue.

Massey said there were 1,000 cases of PVL-positive community acquired MRSA in England in the last year, of which 200 were USA300 strains.

Internet



A Master And Slave Transluminal Endoscopic Robot (MASTER) is seen at a lab in Singapore in this undated close-up handout photo. Inspired by Singapore's famous chilli crab dish, researchers have created a miniature robot with a pincer and a hook that can remove early-stage stomach cancers without leaving any scars.

INTERNET

Gold stolen from historical collection

YREKA, 3 Feb—Historic gold pieces valued at \$3 million have been stolen from a northern California courthouse where they had been on display, authorities said.

Thieves broke into the Siskiyou County Courthouse in Yreka Wednesday and took an assortment of gold nuggets and other artifacts from a display of historical items highlighting the area's involvement in the Gold Rush of the 19th century. The loss is being itemized, but Siskiyou County Treasurer Wayne Hammer told the Redding (Calif) Record Searchlight the entire gold display is valued at \$3 million. "They basically stole a part of our history and heritage," said Siskiyou County Sheriff Jon Lopey. After an attempted robbery in 1979, the display was rebuilt and reinforced, with an alarm connected to law enforcement officials. Allison Giannini, spokeswoman for the Sheriff's Office, said it was unclear why the alarm did not go off during the burglary on Wednesday.

Claudia East, vice president of the Siskiyou County Historical Society, said the items are "absolutely irreplaceable." "It's such a unique collection," East said. "I think it was the only one like it in the continental United States." The gold display has been a tourist attraction, especially for Californians eager to learn more about the state's Gold Rush history, East said.—Internet

Baby lost toe aboard plane

WELLINGTON, 3 Feb—New Zealand aviation authorities say the list of "serious or critical events" aboard aircraft in 2011 included the accidental amputation of a baby's toe.

The tip of the toe was sliced off as the child's parents attempted to stow an onboard entertainment screen. It was one of 2,000 incidents reported to New Zealand's Civil Aviation Authority, the *Dominion Post* newspaper said Thursday. Although the

agency did not identify the airline, Air New Zealand confirmed the incident occurred on one of its flights.

More than half the events reported involved impacts or near-misses with birds, the records show.

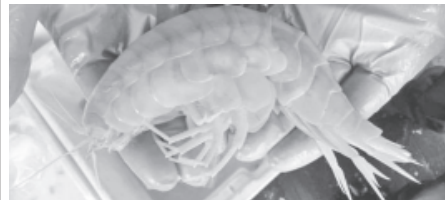
There were three onboard deaths, 15 incidents of people smoking and 20 cases of drunk, drugged or unruly passengers. One woman was hospitalized after duty-free liquor bottles fell from an overhead storage bin,

striking her on the head, and another passenger was allowed to travel with two replica machine guns that had not been detected before he boarded a plane.

Irene King, chief executive of the Aviation Industry Association, pointed out regular reporting of incidents, no matter the severity, was important in helping airlines highlight areas of service and safety that required improvement.

Internet

World's biggest 'prawn' discovered



This photo, released by Oceanlab on 3 February, shows a scientist from the University of Aberdeen holding one of the 'supergiant amphipods' off the coast of New Zealand.

INTERNET

LONDON, 3 Feb—A British expedition has discovered an enormous species of crustacean that looks like a prawn and is 11 inches long, *Daily Mail* reported on Thursday.

The so-called 'supergiant'—a type of amphipod—was discovered more than four miles below the surface in waters north of New Zealand.

Most amphipods are usually 0.8in-1.2in long. But

the new specimen, found by a team from the University of Aberdeen, was 10 times the size, the newspaper said.

Using submergence cameras and a large trap designed by the university's Oceanlab, the crew was able to explore to depths of six miles. They were hoping to find specimens of deep-sea snailfish, which have been photographed before but have not been seen since the 1950s.

Expedition leader Alan Jamieson said: "The moment the traps came on deck, we were elated at the sight of the snailfish as we have been after these fish for years."

"However, seconds later I stopped and thought 'What on earth is that?' whilst catching a glimpse of an amphipod far bigger than I ever thought possible. "It's a bit like finding a foot-long cockroach."

Internet

Man arrested for stealing glacial ice



SANTIAGO, 3 Feb—A man was arrested in Chile for allegedly stealing more than 5 tons of ice from the Jorge Montt Glacier to sell for use in cocktails, police say.

Police intercepted a refrigerated truck Friday with more than \$6,100 worth of ice. The driver was arrested and charged with theft, and police are considering charging him with violation of a national monument.

The *Guardian* reports the ice was to be sold as designer ice cubes to be used in bars and restaurants in Santiago.

Internet

Two women decorate a steamed bun at Hutouzhuang Village in Wenxi County, north China's Shanxi Province, on 1 Feb, 2012. A contest of flour products will be held to celebrate the upcoming Lantern Festival which falls on 6 Feb this year.

XINHUA



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VINAKANSAL VOY NO (1-12)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VINAKANSAL VOY NO (1-12) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: BINH MINH INT'L SUNRISE
SHIPPING JSC**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FU YANG SHAN VOY NO (94)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FU YANG SHAN VOY NO (94) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



A view of a frozen Naviglio canal in Milan, Italy, as Europe's death toll from a week of frigid weather rises.

INTERNET

Heilongjiang sees least snowfall in 45 years

HARBIN, 3 Feb—Northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, which borders Russia and is renowned for ice and snow, has nevertheless been experiencing a winter with the least snowfall in 45 years, a local meteorologist said Friday.

The province has seen continuous low snowfall since November, and the precipitation was 70 percent less than that of normal years, said Song Lihua, deputy director of the Heilongjiang Provincial Climate Centre.

In January alone, the average snowfall stood at only 0.8mm, or 76 percent less than that of normal years, Song said.

"The cold air has been very strong this winter, which results in low temperatures, reduces chances of blending with warm air and brings about a dry, cold and snowless winter," she said.

Heilongjiang is the northernmost province of China.

Xinhua



Lhalu Wetlands in Lhasa, capital of Southwest China's Tibet autonomous region, on 1 Feb, 2012. The total area of wetlands in Tibet is 6 million square hectares, 10 percent of all the wetlands in the country.

XINHUA

US judge delays trial for Fort Hood Army base shooting suspect

HOUSTON, 3 Feb—A US military judge ruled on Thursday that the trial for a military psychiatrist accused of killing 13 in a 2009 shooting spree at the US Fort Hood Army base will be delayed until June.

Major Nidal Hasan's trial was scheduled to begin in March, but defense lawyers asked military judge Gregory Gross to delay the trial until July to allow more time to go through documents related to the case for key evidence needed for the trial.

Prosecutors argued that defense lawyers did not need more time, but Gross agreed to move the start date for the trial to 12 June.

Hasan allegedly opened fire with two handguns on unarmed soldiers who were preparing for deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan at a crowded medical building at Fort Hood, Texas, on 5 Nov, 2009. The shooting rampage left 13 people dead and more than 30 others injured.

Hasan, 41, who was paralysed from the waist down after being shot by police the day of the rampage, has been in custody since the shooting. He has been charged with 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder. If convicted, he faces the death penalty.—Xinhua

Heavy snow continues to hit wide areas of Japan after peak

TOKYO, 3 Feb— Snow is expected to continue falling on the coastal prefectures alongside the Sea of Japan in the country on Friday after it peaked on Thursday, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA).

The agency said the winter pressure pattern had abated, ending weeks of heavy snowfall that led to more than 56 deaths across the country as of Thursday.

At 11 am, up to 3.51 meters of snow had accumulated at Okura Village in northern Yamagata Prefecture. At Tsunan Town in Niigata Prefecture, 3.48 metres of snow was on the ground, according to the public broadcaster NHK. The JMA forecast that snow will fall in mountainous areas of central and northern

Japan through Saturday.

Heavy snowfalls covered a wide swathe of region including the northern prefectures like Niigata, the northernmost island of Hokkaido and the western part.

A latest snow slide at a popular mountain hot-spring resort in northern Akita prefecture killed three people Wednesday evening. The heavy snowfall have caused disruptions in train services and cancellation of flights in the country.

On Thursday, several main motorways connecting major cities in western Japan were partly closed and domestic operation of the air traffic over the affected areas was suspended due to the severe weather condition.—Internet



A zoo official prepares to tie the mouth of Oni, an African lion, after it was successfully anesthetized at Taman Satwa Jurug in Solo, Indonesia's central Java Province, on 31 Jan, 2012. Oni escaped from his cage and then attacked and killed a camel before he was subdued and anesthetized on Tuesday, local media reported.—INTERNET



A man is being gored by a bull as others run during the annual Candlemas celebrations in Tlacotalpan on 1 Feb, 2012. A pack of bulls is let loose to rampage through the streets for hours as crowds taunt them as part of the week-long religious celebration.

INTERNET

Wife indicted in Argentine governor's death

BUENOS AIRES, 3 Feb —The widow of Gov Carlos Soria, who was shot in the face after a New Year's eve party, has been indicted on aggravated manslaughter and arms charges, Argentine judicial officials said Thursday.

Susana Freydoz is the only person charged with Soria's death, the officials said, citing Judge Emilio Stadler.

Freydoz is under observation in the psychiatric unit of the provincial hospital in the city of Cipolletti. She was hospitalized at the request of her attorney, Alberto Richieri, who said his client's life was in danger because she might commit suicide, judicial officials said. The 61-year-old Soria died "from a single shot" to the left side of his face in the bedroom of his ranch in a rural area outside General Roca, a city located about 1,350 km from Buenos Aires. Police found the governor's .38-caliber revolver, which was used to fire the fatal shot. The governor was buried 1 Jan in a private cemetery in General Roca in a service attended only by relatives and a few Peronist Party officials. Soria, a leader of President Cristina Fernandez's governing Peronist Party, took office 10 Dec after winning 50 percent of the vote in the September elections.—Internet

Australian towns brace for record floods

SYDNEY, 3 Feb— Residents in Australia's northern New South Wales (NSW) and southern inland Queensland are bracing for historic flooding as thousands are forced to leave their homes, local media reported on Friday.

The rural NSW town of Moree is preparing for its worst floods since 1976, with around 2,300 residents ordered to evacuate their homes or businesses, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) News reported.

The Mahi River which runs through Moree passed its forecast flood peak level of 10.6 metres, reaching a similar level to that recorded in 1976.

In Moree, the town's 9,000 residents have been separated by floodwaters since a main bridge was closed Thursday night due to floods. Authorities said floodwaters had isolated more than 10,000 people across New South Wales, including 9,000 residents of Moree. In Queensland, more than 200 residents in the southern inland town of Mitchell have left their homes and stayed at evacuation centres.

The water level of Maranoa River at Mitchell is at 9.3 metres and is still rising, topping the previous record peak of 9.26 metres set in 1956.—Xinhua

Young croc found in Sydney backyard

An 18-inch-long freshwater crocodile found in a suburban Sydney backyard has a new home at the Australian Reptile Park, wildlife officials said.

Joanne Wenban, a rescue driver for the Wildlife Information and Rescue Service, said the juvenile was "very dehydrated" when a teenager discovered it under a trash can Tuesday night, *The Sydney Morning Herald* reported. The crocodile, found hundreds of miles from the habitat of Australia's crocodiles, is believed to be an escaped pet kept illegally, Wenban said.

"He wouldn't have traveled that far given his small size," Wenban said. "It would have been somewhere reasonably locally that he would have escaped from."

Liz Vella, senior curator at the reptile center, said the

crocodile, nicknamed Chainsaw, is now living in a tub of water with a lamp for warmth.

It is being fed scraps of food suitable to his size, including crickets and bits of fish.

She said Chainsaw will probably be transferred to a zoo or another centre.



Children dressed as Mahatma Gandhi take part in a peace march in Kolkata on 29 Jan, 2012. Four hundred and eighty-five children from the Training Resource and Care for Kids (TRACKS), a charity for single mothers and children living without support at railway stations, took part in a peace march on Sunday in an attempt to create a Guinness World Record for being the largest gathering of people dressed as Mahatma Gandhi.

Woman fought attacker with hot sauce

Police in Iowa said a woman who was attacked by one of three robbers in her home used a bottle of hot sauce to fight off the attacker.

Malisa Gutierrez told Des Moines police she and her boyfriend, Carlos Estrada, were sleeping shortly after 6 am Tuesday when they heard a loud noise, the *Des Moines Register* reported Wednesday.

Gutierrez said she saw three robbers, two tall men and a woman. She said the woman attacked her with a flashlight and she fought back, eventually ending up in another part of the home. Gutierrez said she grabbed a bottle of hot sauce and used it to fend the woman off until police arrived.

The two male suspects escaped, but Lisa Floyd, 41, was arrested on a first-degree burglary charge and jailed in lieu of \$25,000 bond.

FBI breaks in door of wrong apartment

The FBI apologized to a Massachusetts woman after agents mistakenly broke down her door and ordered her to stay on the floor.

Judy Sanchez said the FBI agents busted down her Fitchburg door and forced her to remain on the floor for about 45 minutes while her 3-year-old daughter cried in the next room, the *Boston Herald* reported on Wednesday.

FBI spokesman Greg Comcowich said the agents soon realized they had gone into the wrong apartment.

"The mistake was quickly apparent to the FBI agents who entered the apartment," Comcowich said. "The assistant special agent in charge spoke with the resident to reassure and calm the resident and repeatedly apologized for the mistake."

"The bottom line is, we made a mistake and we apologized," he said.

The spokesman said the agents later raided the correct address and arrested Luis R Vasquez on charges including conspiracy to distribute cocaine base.

Suit seeks retirement of Mass state seal

A Massachusetts man is suing to stop the state from using the official seal because it depicts an American Indian with a sword hanging over his head.

Daniel DeGuglielmo of Cambridge said he wants a judge to force the retirement of the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from official state flags, buildings and papers, the *Boston Herald* reported Wednesday.

"It's unfair to the native peoples," DeGuglielmo said of the deal. A Suffolk Superior Court judge dismissed DeGuglielmo's request for a temporary restraining order to force the removal of the seal 5 Jan.

John Peters, a Mashpee Wampanoag and head of the state's Commission on Indian Affairs, said he supports the goal of the lawsuit, to have the seal re-examined, but he does not support the suit itself because it is seeking \$24 million in damages.

DeGuglielmo said the money would go toward developing arts and history programmes in schools.

News Album

Pitbull to be honoured in Las Vegas

LOS ANGELES, 3 Feb—Rapper Pitbull will be honoured with the President's Award at the BMI Latin Awards in Las Vegas.

The ceremony, scheduled for 12 March, recognizes songwriters and publishers behind the year's most successful Latin music, contactmusic.com reports.

Some of Pitbull's popular hits include "Give Me Everything", "Hey Baby", "Shake Senora" and "Rain Over Me".

Previous recipients of President's Award include Juanes, Kike Santander and Gloria Estefan.

Internet



Rapper Pitbull



Kate Winslet

Kate Winslet says family always comes first

LONDON, 3 Feb—Kate Winslet may have won a Golden Globe this month, but the actress' most cherished role is her real life one as a mother.

Her children Joe, seven, and Mia, 11, are never far away from her, it seems, although Winslet says that her parents, Roger and Sally, sometimes step in to help out with childcare.

While talking about balancing work and children, the actress said, "you just do it". "I just figure it out and pull it off. But I will say this: I have never left my children to go away to work. I have always been able to figure out a schedule where I am shooting during part of their school holidays," the *Daily Express* quoted her as saying. "I am a mother... That is what I do. Just before I came here today I said out loud, 'OK, famous person hat on.'" This is playing a completely different role. I always find these occasions thrilling but it is so very far removed from my own life," she said.—Internet

Kelly Osbourne dating Matthew Mosshart

LONDON, 3 Feb—Kelly Osbourne is dating Matthew Mosshart. The 'Fashion Police' presenter—who was previously engaged to British model Luke Worrall—met up with the brother of Kills' frontwoman Allison Mosshart at Kate Moss' wedding to Jamie Hince in England last summer, and they have been together ever since.

A source told PerezHilton.com: "Kelly is dating Matthew Mosshart."

"They met at Kate Moss' wedding and are very much in love. Kelly has learned from her previous relationships and wanted to keep this one quiet for as long as possible. She's never been happier!"

Kelly has even introduced her new man to her parents Sharon and Ozzy Osbourne and her friends are said to be keen on him too. The source added: "Matthew is the first guy Kelly has ever brought home that every single one of her friends and family like. And he's also the first boyfriend with whom she's had a close relationship with his family."—Internet



Television personality Kelly Osbourne poses on arrival at the 18th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in Los Angeles, California on 29 January, 2012.—INTERNET

Jennifer Lawrence's spleen injury

LOS ANGELES, 3 Feb—The 21-year-old beauty was running at a wall at maximum speed in order to gain momentum to propel herself up when her foot got stuck and she hit the surface with her stomach, leaving her trainer concerned she had done some serious damage.

She told *The Hollywood Reporter*: "I had to do 10' wall runs, where you run at the wall as hard as you can to get traction. "I ran at it and my foot didn't go up, so I caught the wall with my stomach. My trainer thought I had burst my spleen. I had to get a CAT scan



Jennifer Lawrence thought she had "burst" her spleen during filming for 'The Hunger Games'.—INTERNET

and go into a tube where they put this fiery liquid in your body." Despite fears for Jennifer's health, she was able to continue filming on schedule and wasn't required to do much additional training afterwards as she was already "pretty bulked up" from starring as Mystique in 'X-Men: First Class'. She added: "I was still pretty bulked up from 'X-Men: First Class'. So a lot of the training was getting muscle back, heightening the muscles without building them. I loved the archery - well, I have a love-hate relationship with it."—Internet

Wasted my life on ex-boyfriend

LOS ANGELES, 3 Feb—Singer-actress Selena Gomez says she "completely wasted" a year of her life on an ex-boyfriend.

The 19-year-old, who has previously dated Taylor Lautner and Nick Jonas, didn't enjoy being in a former relationship which meant she had to "hide everything" and do the "craziest things".

"I was in a relationship previously where

I had to hide everything and it wasn't my choice," showbizspy.com quoted Gomez as saying.

"I had to go through different exits and take separate cars and do the craziest things, and it just really wasn't worth it.

It was like a year of my life completely wasted," she added.

Internet



Singer-actress Selena Gomez

Premier League clubs sign Sports Charter

All 20 League clubs are committed to tackling homophobia in sport

LONDON, 3 Feb—All 20 Premier League clubs have signed the Sports Charter that tackles homophobia and transphobia in sport. The Sports Charter was launched in June 2011 at 10 Downing Street when Chief Executive Richard Scudamore signed on behalf of the Premier League. On Thursday, all 20 Premier League clubs signed the Charter individually.

“The Premier League and our member clubs believe that everyone should be able to participate in, watch and enjoy sport— whoever they are and whatever their background,” said Scudamore. “When the Sports Charter to tackle homophobia and transphobia in sport was launched in June 2011 the Premier League signed it and we are pleased to re-affirm our commitment to it today with each of our clubs



Premier League clubs have added their signatures to the Sports Charter. INTERNET

signing it individually.”

Equalities Minister Lynne Featherstone added: “Nearly 3,000 individuals and clubs have already signed up and I’m delighted that Premier League clubs have taken a stand by signing the Charter too. “It sends a really strong signal when clubs in the best league in the world say enough is enough.” The Charter is made up of four bullet points, which read:

* We believe that everyone should be able to participate in, watch and enjoy sport — whoever they are and whatever their background.

* We believe that sport is about fairness and equality, respect and dignity. Sport teaches individuals how to strive and succeed, how to cope with success and disappointment, and brings people together with a common goal.

* We are committed to making these values a reality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. We will work together, and individually, to rid sport of homophobia and transphobia.

* We will make football a welcome place for everyone — for those participating in the sport, those attending matches and for those working or volunteering in it. We will work with all these groups to ensure they have a voice, and to challenge unacceptable behaviour.— *Internet*

Bent delighted to join 100 goals club

Aston Villa striker is 21st player to score 100 Barclays Premier League goals

LONDON, 3 Feb—Aston Villa striker Darren Bent has revealed his delight at scoring his 100th Barclays Premier League goal. The 27-year-old reached his century on Wednesday with a typical strike from close range as Villa fought back from 2-0 down to earn a 2-2 draw at home to Queens Park Rangers.

Bent became the 21st player to reach 100 goals since the Premier League began in 1992, a milestone he had been eyeing up for some time.

“I knew I was getting close to it and obviously I’m absolutely delighted to be in that 100-goal club,” said England international Bent.

“I’m hoping there will be a few more for me too. I’ve studied the list ever since I was getting close to it, so for me to be among those names is a fantastic feeling. “It was a typical poacher’s goal, yeah. It was great play by



Aston Villa striker Darren Bent scores his 100th Barclays Premier League goal.—INTERNET

Robbie Keane who fed Alan Hutton, and then I just tried to lose my marker and put it in the goal and I managed to do that.”

Bent joins an illustrious list of names to score 100 Barclays Premier League goals - Alan Shearer was the first to reach the landmark during the 1995-96 season and he remains the quickest to 100, bringing his up in only 124 matches. Shearer finished his career with 260

League goals, with Andy Cole next on the list with 187. Now Bent has reached his ton, Chelsea’s Didier Drogba is likely to be the next centurion as he currently has 98.

Bent has scored his goals for Ipswich, Charlton, Tottenham, Sunderland and Villa, scoring his first for the Tractor Boys as an 18-year-old in a 1-0 win against Middlesbrough in April 2002.—*Internet*

Qatar Masters: Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano leads

John Daly



Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano overcame a desert storm to snatch the lead from John Daly on the opening day of the Qatar Masters in Doha. INTERNET

DOHA, 3 Feb—Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano overcame a desert storm to snatch the lead from John Daly on the opening day of the Qatar Masters in Doha. The Spaniard, who is on course for a Ryder Cup debut, birdied four of the last five holes in shooting a brilliant 66. American Daly, who is 543rd in the world, earlier returned

to form with a five-under-par 67. He said: “It’s one of the best rounds I’ve ever played in a wind like that.”

Three months after walking out of the Australian Open, saying he had run out of balls - several of them had just been hit into a lake - 45-year-old Daly surprised even himself with five birdies and no dropped shots. He added: “You feel like you are eating a lot of sand - it was brutal. I’m pretty shocked myself. I had five and a half weeks off and really didn’t touch a club much.”

Daly won the 1995 Open at St Andrews in similarly windy conditions, but his last victory was eight years ago and he no longer has a PGA Tour card in his home country.—*Internet*

Dortmund’s players celebrate after Shinji Kagawa (2nd L) scored during their German first division Bundesliga match vs 1899 Hoffenheim, in Dortmund, western Germany, on 28 January. Defending champions Dortmund are looking to turn up the heat on league leaders Bayern Munich when they take on Nuremberg on Friday even though arctic temperatures are forecasted.—INTERNET



Dortmund aim to put heat on Bayern despite freeze

NUREMBERG, 3 Feb — Defending champions Borussia Dortmund are looking to turn up the heat on German league leaders Bayern Munich when they take on Nuremberg on Friday even though arctic temperatures are forecasted. Dortmund are second in the Bundesliga, but level on 40 points with both leaders Bayern Munich and third-placed Schalke and Borussia have the chance to steal a march on their rivals.

A win at Nuremberg would see Dortmund go top

and put the pressure on Bayern to win at Hamburg, whose coach Thorsten Fink has said his team will have to ‘scratch, bite and fight’ if they want to beat Munich. A cold front is sweeping across northern Europe and the temperature is expected to be between minus 10 and 12 degrees in the Nuremberg stadium come kick-off on Friday night.

The German Football Federation (DFB) has said postponed games are not expected as all Bundesliga clubs have under-soil heating. The thermometer dipped to -13 in Dortmund’s 1-0 win over Freiburg in December 2009, but Borussia’s brand of attacking football is running hot and has caught the eye recently.—*Internet*

International Sports

Real defend lead, Barca try to catch up at Primera Liga

MADRID, 3 Feb — Both Real Madrid and FC Barcelona play their BBVA Primera Liga matches this Saturday night on another fascinating weekend of football in the country. Real Madrid, who don’t have to leave the capital to play a league match for the entire month of February, make the short trip south to Getafe. Jose Mourinho’s side defend their seven point lead at the top of the table and welcome back Sergio Ramos after suspension and Angel Di Maria following a thigh injury.

Getafe have recovered from a poor start of the season and are currently in mid table. They are also the only side to have defeated FC Barcelona this campaign. Barcelona meanwhile have no option but to stretch their tired legs following Wednesday’s Copa del Rey semifinal in Valencia and prepare to receive Real Sociedad in the Camp Nou Stadium.—*Xinhua*

Ryan Palmer leads Phoenix Open

SCOTTSDALE, 3 Feb — Ryan Palmer parred his final hole at dusk for a 7-under 64 and the lead Thursday in the suspended first round of the Phoenix Open.

The start of the round was delayed an hour because of frost, and play was suspended because of darkness at 6:05 pm with 42 players unable to finish. Last year, frost and frozen greens delayed play nine hours during the week, forcing a Monday finish.

“I knew I was going to be here in the morning for the second round, so I wasn’t worried about it if we had to come back and restart,” Palmer said.—*Internet*



Ryan Palmer watches his approach shot into the ninth green during the first round of the Phoenix Open golf tournament on 2 Feb, 2012, in Scottsdale, Ariz.—INTERNET

Tottenham confirm Nelsen signing

LONDON, 3 Feb — Tottenham Hotspur have confirmed the signing of veteran defender Ryan Nelsen.

The 34-year-old has been able to join the White Hart Lane outfit outside the transfer window because he was released from his contract at Blackburn Rovers on Tuesday and was a free agent.

Nelsen bolsters Spurs’ defensive options going into the final few months of the Barclays Premier League season, after they allowed



Defender Ryan Nelsen in Barclays Premier League action for Blackburn Rovers in August. INTERNET

Sebastien Bassong to join Wolves on loan on deadline day. New Zealand international Nelsen, who captained his country at the

2010 World Cup, has ended a seven-year association with Blackburn by leaving Ewood Park.

He joined Rovers in 2005 from DC United and went on to make 172 Barclays Premier League appearances, scoring eight goals in the process as well as being the club captain.

Nelsen has played only once for Blackburn this season, but he is expected to go straight into the Spurs squad for their vital match at Liverpool on Monday.—*Internet*

NLM-ner Joke

Try to get some rest

A man had been driving all night and by morning was still far from his destination. He decided to stop at the next city he came to, and park somewhere quiet so he could get an hour or two of sleep. As luck would have it, the quiet place he chose happened to be on one of the city's major jogging routes. No sooner had he settled back to snooze when there came a knocking on his window. He looked out and saw a jogger running in place.

"Yes?"

"Excuse me, sir," the jogger said, "do you have the time?" The man looked at the car clock and answered, "8:15". The jogger said thanks and left. The man settled back again, and was just dozing off when there was another knock on the window and another jogger.

"Excuse me, sir, do you have the time?" "8:25!"

The jogger said thanks and left. Now the man could see other joggers passing by and he knew it was only a matter of time before another one disturbed him. To avoid the problem, he got out a pen and paper and put a sign in his window saying, "I do not know the time!" Once again he settled back to sleep. He was just dozing off when there was another knock on the window.

"Sir, sir? It's 8:45!"

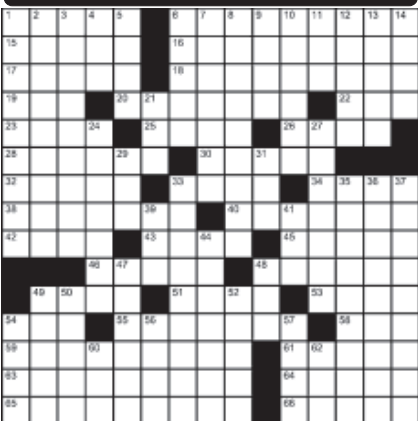
Run over the rooster

A man was driving down a quiet country lane when out into the road strayed a rooster. Whack! The rooster disappeared under the car. A cloud of feathers.

Shaken, the man pulled over at the farmhouse, rang the door bell. A farmer appeared. The man, somewhat nervously said, "I think I killed your rooster, please allow me to replace him."

"Suit yourself," the farmer replied, "you can go join the other chickens that are around the back."

Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. Handle the party food
6. Auditorium's sound qualities
15. Convex molding
16. Port city in SE France
17. Merry old times
18. Space between margin and line of text
19. Conk out
20. Hutzpah, e.g.
22. Amazon, e.g.
23. Smeltery refuse
25. Freshman, probably
26. "___ bitten, twice shy"
28. Waterproof hip boots
30. Mrs. Bush
32. Black
33. Put up, as a picture
34. Ball field covering
38. "So soon?"
40. "The Canterbury Tales" author
42. Makeup, e.g.
43. ___ line (major axis of an elliptical orbit)
45. Brunch serving
46. Estuary
48. Moors
49. Clip
51. Acellivity
53. Harp's cousin
54. Gloomy
55. Unhurried walkers
58. PC linkup (acronym)
59. Branch that connects with capillaries
61. Cast out
63. One who drools
64. Hindu queen
65. Those who boldly state an opinion
66. Ornamental embroidery

Down

1. Physical reaction to fear (2 wds)
2. At hand
3. Bullfighters
4. ___ Grove Village, Ill.
5. Like Santa's cheeks
6. Organic compound containing CONH2 radical
7. Unit of luminous intensity
8. City government statute
9. A Swiss army knife has lots of them
10. Portugese Mr.
11. Little bird
12. ___ artery
13. Copy
14. Transmitted
21. "___ alive!" (2 wds)
24. Inherited, such as disease
27. Musical mark
29. Swedish shag rug
31. "Bleah!"
33. Exaggeration
35. Metal welding gas
36. Expressed in different words
37. One who is given something
39. 10 liters
41. Trick taker, often
44. ___ and Meara comedy team
47. Closer
48. "___ Town Too" (1981 hit)
49. Runs smoothly
50. Con men?
52. Clairvoyants
54. Arp's art
56. Soft roe
57. Balkan native
60. "The Three Faces of ___"
62. Long-jawed fish

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(4-2-12 09:30 am ~ 5-2-12 09:30 am) MST

Oversea Transmission

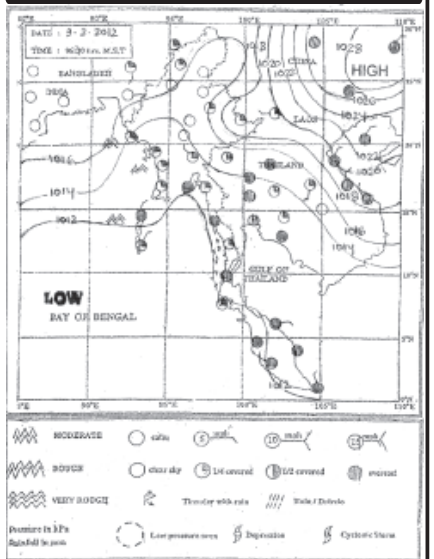
- * News
- * Flowing along e-commerce with iBiz
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Ancestor And Successors
- * News
- * Travel To The Southern Part Of Shan State "Ka Law"
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * Places of Interest around Dali and Lijiang
- * News
- * The Divine Beverage For You!
- * News
- * Secret Palaces for Yummy Food "Myanmar Rice Meal"
- * News
- * Promoting Tourism Through Sports
- * Myanmar Movies "An Oath by Than Lwin River"

MYANMAR TV

(4-2-2012) (Saturday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:50 am
- 2. Health Programme
- 8:10 am
- 3. 65th Anniversary Union Day Programme
- 8:40 am
- 4. International News
- 11:00 am
- 5. Martial Song
- 11:10 am
- 6. 65th Anniversary Union Day Programme
- 2:00 pm
- 7. TV Drama Series
- 2:40 pm
- 8. Dance Of National Races
- 4:30 pm
- 9. Cultural Dances
- 4:55 pm
- 10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
- 11. International Science News
- 5:35 pm
- 12. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 6:45 pm
- 13. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. Cartoon Series
- 16. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 4th February, 2012

No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)	Forecast	Percent
1.	Kachin	27/81 / 09/48	Partly Cloudy	
2.	Kayah	30/86 / 12/54	Partly Cloudy	
3.	Kayah	32/90 / 22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
4.	Chin	17/63 / 06/32	Partly Cloudy	
5.	Upper Sgawing	26/79 / 09/48	Partly Cloudy	
6.	Lower Sgawing	30/86 / 11/52	Partly Cloudy	
7.	Taintharyi	32/90 / 22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
8.	Bhamo	31/88 / 22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
9.	Magway	31/88 / 13/55	Partly Cloudy	
10.	Mandalay	30/86 / 12/54	Partly Cloudy	
11.	Maw	33/91 / 22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
12.	Yangon	34/93 / 21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
13.	Bahine	30/86 / 12/54	Partly Cloudy	
14.	Southern Shan	25/77 / 06/43	Partly Cloudy	
15.	Northern Shan	26/79 / 03/37	Partly Cloudy	
16.	Eastern Shan	29/84 / 10/50	Partly Cloudy	
17.	Ayeyawady	32/90 / 22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
18.	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	33/91 / 13/55	Partly Cloudy	
19.	Neighbouring Yangon	34/93 / 21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
20.	Neighbouring Mandalay	33/90 / 12/54	Partly Cloudy	

During the past (24) hours, light rain or thunderstorms have been recorded in Taintharyi Region, isolated to Bago and Yangon Regions, Kayah and Mon States, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Upper Sgawing and Magway Regions, Shan and Chin States, (5°C) below February average temperatures in Mandalay Region and Kachin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taintharyi Regions, Kayah and Mon States, (6°C) above February average temperatures in Bhamo Region and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Haha (1°C), Lashio (2°C), Patheingyi and Haha (3°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Longsho (0.59) inch.

Summary of observations at 09:00 W to MST on today

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the North and Southeast Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Strong Easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at time Delta, Gulf of Motama, off and along Mon-Taintharyi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (30) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated light rain or thunderstorms in the Southern Myanmar areas.

New asphalt road inaugurated



HSENWI, 3 Feb—Hsenwi Township Development Affairs Committee opened Zizawa asphalt road in Ward 4 in Hsenwi on 4 January.

Local authorities formally opened the road. The 1600 feet by 12 feet facility was built at a cost of K 6,210,000 by Township DAC.

Myanma Alin

DISTRICT NEWS

Namkham BEHS gets new building

NAMKHAM, 3 Feb—A ceremony to open the two-storey four-classroom building was held at Basic Education High School in Namkham Township on 3 January.

Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Soe, Pyithu Hlutaw representative Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn, Township Education Officer Daw Than Hla and Patron of School Board of Trustees U Sai Than Nyan cut the ribbon to open the building.

The chairman of the construction committee handed over documents related to the township education officer.

Township IPRD

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Senate President of Kingdom of Thailand and party

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received President of the Senate of the Kingdom of Thailand Gen Teeradej Meepien at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 9.30 am today.

Also present at the call together with Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann were Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, the secretary and members.

The President of the Senate of the Kingdom of Thailand was accompanied by Charge d' Affaires ai of the Thai Embassy Mr Kallayana Vipattipumiprates.

At the call, they focused on actual progress of political and economic sectors of Myanmar, drawing and promulgation of the bills at the Hluttaw, process of national solidarity, cooperation with international parliaments and bringing essence of democratization to the people though Myanmar has little experience in democratization process.

Afterwards, the Senate President of Kingdom of Thailand viewed the convening of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives President of the Senate of the Kingdom of Thailand Gen Teeradej Meepien and party at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Building.—MNA

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint receives Senate President of Kingdom of Thailand and party



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint receives President of the Senate of the Kingdom of Thailand Gen Teeradej Meepien and party at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by President of the Senate of the Kingdom of Thailand Gen Teeradej Meepien at the Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 8.30 am today.

Also present at the call together with Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint were Deputy Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, chairmen and secretaries of the Amyotha Hluttaw Committees and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

The Thai delegation was accompanied by Charge d' Affaires ai of the Thai Embassy Mr Kallayana Vipattipumiprates.

At the call, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint explained matters related to Hluttaw affairs and they discussed promotion of bilateral ties between the two countries and cooperation in tasks of Hluttaws between the two countries.—MNA

Cash donated for renovation of Pakhangyi Archaeological Museum

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Cash donation ceremony for renovation of Pakhangyi Archaeological Museum in Pakhangyi Ancient Region in Yesagyo Township of Magway Region and of walkways in the compound of Shwesandaw Pagoda in Bagan Region, took place at Pakhangyi Archaeological Museum. At the ceremony, Chief Manager U Myo Min of Bagan Myanmar Manufacturing Company donated k 2.5 million through Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin. And the deputy minister spoke words of thank.—MNA

Self-reliant natal ward opens in Thaton Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Feb—Opening of self-reliant natal ward took place at the rural health centre in Naungkala Village-tract in Thaton Township, Thaton District today, in the presence of District Health Officer Dr Tin Maung Nyunt and Township Administrator U Aye Naing.

Specialist Dr Maung Maung Myint, pediatric Dr Myint Myint Yi and village assistant health officer explained health issues and future tasks.—MNA

Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) to emerge as 11th bridge in the time of new government



Page 2

ASEAN-Australia Asialink Conversations held



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Tottenham confirm Nelsen signing



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