

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Saturday, 18 February, 2012

<b>Our Three Main National Causes</b>	* Non-disintegration of the Union	* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity	* Perpetuation of Sovereignty
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## Pyithu Hluttaw session continues for fifth day Eleven questions asked and answered, one proposal discussed, one proposal submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—The Pyithu Hluttaw session continued for the fifth day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Building here today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 346 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives. At today's session, 11 questions were asked and answered, one proposal was discussed and one proposal submitted.

Speaking on the occasion, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said: his proposal to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 7 February received massive support of the people's representatives. Likewise, it is learnt that people also welcomed the proposal. He said he made the proposal with genuine goodwill in the interests of the nation, people and people's representatives.

All the responsible persons including the ministries were exempted from legal actions for what they did under instructions in the time of State Law and Order Restoration Council and the State Peace and Development Council in accordance with the Section 445 of the constitution. All representatives have to accept that people show the understanding of the situations in the time of Tatmadaw government in accordance with the Section 445 of the constitution as it was ratified by 92.48 percent of the eligible voters. However, after the advent of the new government, duties are to be carried out in line with the constitution and existing laws.

Studying the national project and budget in principle, it is found that the project

includes the plans that are not appropriate to implement now. Roughly, if those projects are suspended for a certain period of time, there would be cash in hand and salary can be increased to a certain percentage for the benefit of the staff facing financial hardship.

The impacts of projects failure was presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in order that lessons can be taken and its consequences can be considered. There may be so-called allowances for civil services in most of the government departments as the salary alone is not enough for them to earn the bread. Actually, those cash paid as allowances are national income. This reality is not good for the nation, department and people, the speaker pointed out of his experience.

So, he said it needs to assess the feasibility of the project in comparison with the budget with goodwill and serious consideration and it should be done in accordance with the law. If the budget brings about bribery, the will be causes leading to the corruption. So, people's representatives have to set an objective of anti-corruption and anti-bribery not only for themselves but also for the people and civil servants. How the new taxation system works and how the tax should be levied is still unknown and it should aware that unreliable taxation system will result in corruption and bribery.

To put it in a nutshell, he said his proposal presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 7 February was out of goodwill



*Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann attends fifth day session of Pyithu Hluttaw.—MNA*

and really intended for the interests of the people and the nation. It needs to make actual reforms towards betterment. He said people's representatives would understand him and the heartfelt support of them is not for his interests but for the welfare of the State and future generations. He said he believed that it is like committing a mistake not to propose and discuss while there is chance to do so. He then vowed to go to the end of the world for the interests of the nation and its

people.  
Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko replied to the questions raised by three Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the query asked by U Aung Thein Lin of South Okkalapa Constituency "the number of INGOs in Myanmar; kinds of works they are engaged and their policies; the number of agreements signed; whether the government monitor their works or not (See page 7)

### Table Tennis Tournament of University of Medicine (1) (Yangon) kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—An opening of Table Tennis Tournament for 2011-2012 Academic Year, organized by Sports and Physical Education Committee of University of Medicine (1) (Yangon), took place at convention centre of the University in Yangon on 10 February. At the ceremony, Rector Dr U Than Cho delivered an opening speech and

Chairman of Table Tennis Subcommittee Professor Dr Daw Win Win Mya opened it.

The tournament started after the skill demonstrations of selected athletes from Myanmar Table Tennis Federation. A total of 50 students are participating in the competition which will go on till 19 February.—MNA

### Ayeyawady River Crossing Bridge (Malun) under construction in the time of new government

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## PERSPECTIVES

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### Changes are inevitable

It has long been established that thinking process has changed with the passage of time. At a time when changes are widely accepted it is a striking idea to establish a changing society.

Globally, there are two kinds of countries—developed countries and undeveloped countries. This can be largely due to natural resources they have, skills, technologies, knowledge and efforts of peoples in those countries.

Blessed with rich natural resources and endowed with patriotic spirit, the country is required to keep abreast of the international community, drawing lessons from the past.

Goal is a set target that is to be virtually reached in a prescribed time. In other words, goal is a roadmap for achieving success. To reach the goal calls for a lot of physical and mental resolve. It is incumbent upon the youths of today to narrow the gap between one generation and another, for changes in life are inevitable.

As change is high on the agenda the people regardless of age are to do their bit in nation-building endeavours making better use of their experiences. It is natural that the olds are replaced with the new ones with the exception of location and topography of the country. Making changes in life is a matter of course. Therefore, keeping pace with changes and developments the youths of today are urged to actively contribute their shares in building a new nation with nationalistic fervour.

### Coordination meeting on tourist's safety in Bagan-NyaungU region held

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—A coordination meeting on tourists safety in Bagan-NyaungU took place at Baganayeya Hotel in Bagan-NyaungU on 15 February, attended by Managing Director U Hla Htay of Myanma Hotels and Tourism under the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. During this season, there is a massive influx of tourists into Bagan Region. He said, "Travel industry owners, drivers and those who run motor boats and pony cart businesses and tourist guides are to make coordination for tourists' safety and convenience." In the afternoon, he met with officials and drivers from transport organizations and inspected motor boats, pony carts and taxis.

After that, he looked into the opening of tourists safety office at NyaungU Airport and coordinated the essentials for smooth functioning of tourists' departure and arrivals with officials from Department of Civil Aviation.—MNA

### Myanmar, Singaporean businessmen meet

YANGON, 17 Feb—Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and missions of International Enterprise (IE) and Singapore Business Federation (SBF) from Singapore met at the UMFCFI Headquarters here on 13 February.

President of the UMFCFI U Win Aung and Chairman of Singapore Business Federation Mr Tony Chew spoke on the occasion and signed MoU on investment and promotion of mutual economic cooperation.

Executive of the UMFCFI U Thuang Su Nyein submitted paper on business opportunities in Myanmar and Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd on consideration of doing business in Myanmar, followed by discussions between Myanmar and Singaporean businessmen.—MNA

### Myanmar, Germany to promote bilateral relations, cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received a goodwill delegation led by Chairman of the ASEAN Parliamentary Friendship Group of the German Bundestag Dr Thomas Gamke at his office at 4.30 pm today.

They exchanged views on promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation.—MNA



Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin receives Chairman of ASEAN Parliamentary Friendship Group of the German Bundestag Dr Thomas Gamke and party.

MNA

### Dy Foreign Affairs Minister attends Delhi Dialogue IV

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint arrived back in Myanmar from the Republic of India on 15 February 2012 after attending the Delhi Dialogue IV held in New Delhi, India from 12 to 14 February.

Deputy Minister Dr Myo Myint made a speech at the inauguration ceremony of the Delhi Dialogue IV on 13<sup>th</sup> February outlining the importance of ASEAN-India relations for Peace, Progress and Stability, economic integration, the implementation of growth areas within ASEAN to improve bilateral relations with India, the importance of ASEAN Connectivity in ASEAN integration. The deputy minister

also informed the Delhi Dialogue of the latest development in Myanmar and reiterated Myanmar's active participation in regional and international community in accordance with its foreign policy and promotion of trade and investment.

Myanmar also welcomes India's proposal to host the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in India, to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEAN-India Summit in 2012.

The Dialogue was attended by more than 200 delegates from government, academic, business circles and NGOs.

MNA

### Flesh introduces sports facilities



YANGON, 17 Feb—Flesh Co Ltd of Japan held a press conference on sports facilities at Sports and Physical Science (Yangon) in Kyaikkasan sports ground, Tamway Township here today. Mr Sekiya Tatsumi from the company explained sports facilities relating to fitness training and replied to queries of the attendees.—MNA

Mr Sekiya Tatsumi of Flesh Co Ltd explains about fitness training equipment at Sports and Physical Science (Yangon).—MNA

### Refresher course for engine room artificers concludes

YANGON, 17 Feb—The closing of refresher course No. 1/2012 for engine room artificer conducted by Inland Water Transport of the Ministry of Transport took place at Ahlon Dockyard here today, with a speech by Managing Director U Soe Tint of the Inland Water Transport.

A total of 40 artificers from various capacities attended the course that covered duty and responsibility of artificer, technical terms and operations, and other key subjects.

MNA



Ward administrator, platoon commander and members of Fire Services Department checked fire preventive measures home by home in Pale Ngweyaung Ward, Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Region on 3 February.

NLM

## India inducts Russian armed helicopters in air force

NEW DELHI, 17 Feb— India Friday formally inducted Russian-made *Mi-17 V5* armed helicopters into its air force.

“The *Mi-17* will help in adding muscle to Indian Air Force (IAF) ’s capabilities to carry out operations assigned to it,” Indian Defence Minister AK Antony said after commissioning the chopper.

India last year ordered 80 such choppers from Russia under the 1.34 billion US dollar deal inked in 2008. All the helicopters will be inducted into the Indian Air Force by 2014.

The helicopters have substantial and effective

firepower with the latest and more powerful engines that will greatly enhance its payload capability at higher altitudes.

These will greatly enhance IAF’s capabilities to carry troops and cargo at higher altitudes and help in combat operations.

The *Mi-17 V5* is an upgrade of *Mi-17*, which India already has, in the medium-lift category and is equipped with state-of-the-art avionics and autopilot as well as on board navigation systems and on board weather radar, and is compatible with the latest-generation night vision goggles

Xinhua



**Somali people stand near the scene of a suicide car bomb that exploded leaving scores killed near Muna Hotel, south of the capital of Mogadishu, on 8 Feb, 2012. A suicide car bomber killed at least 11 people on Wednesday near a hotel where lawmakers gather in the Somali capital, a sign of the fragile security situation in Mogadishu even after Islamist rebels pulled out last year.—INTERNET**

## Thai police: two more suspects in terror case

BANGKOK, 17 Feb—Thai police said Friday they are searching for two more suspects, including a possible explosives specialist, in a botched terror plot against Israeli diplomats that has been blamed on Iran.

One of the two new suspects may have been providing training in the use of explosives to three Iranian men who were detained after the plot was discovered Tuesday in Bangkok, said the city’s police commissioner, Lt Gen Winai Thongson.

Winai said the man was seen on closed circuit camera footage as he left a house that had been used by the Iranians.

The roof of the residence was blown off later the same day after a cache of explosives there detonated accidentally, and the same cameras captured each of the three Iranian men leaving the residence shortly afterward.

Winai said the man was 52 years old and of Middle Eastern descent, but that he

did not know his nationality. He said police also are looking for a suspect who had rented the destroyed home with an Iranian woman who is now believed to be back in Teheran.

Israel, which has threatened military strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities, has accused Iran of being behind the botched plot in Thailand.

Israel alleges it was part of a covert campaign of state terror that included a bombing Monday in New Delhi that wounded a Israeli diplomat’s wife and driver, and a failed



Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.—INTERNET

## Congress will win in UP: Manmohan Singh

KANPUR, 17 Feb—Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday kicked off the Congress campaign from Kanpur on Friday. Addressing the crowds, he said, “We have sent funds under various national schemes to Uttar Pradesh. Rs 24000 crore have been given to Uttar Pradesh government for roads alone. However, none of it has trickled down to the common man.”

He added, “The Congress will win UP elections. Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi will ensure Congress’ victory in UP.” Priyanka Gandhi, meanwhile, campaigned in Raebareilly, where she touched upon a range of issues including the NRHM scam and Congress leader Beni Prasad’s quota remark.—Internet

## Several injured in train-truck collision in Japan

OSAKA, 17 Feb—A train and a truck collided at a level crossing in the city of Akashi, Hyogo Prefecture in western Japan on Friday, leaving several passengers injured, local press reported.

Xinhua

## Israeli embassy dismisses plot to kill defence minister



Defence Minister Ehud Barak.

INTERNET

SINGAPORE, 17 Feb—The Israeli embassy in Singapore confirmed Friday that Defence Minister Ehud Barak had visited the city-state, but dismissed reports of an assassination plot targeting him.

“Minister Barak was in Singapore to attend the Airshow and open the Israeli Pavilion,” the Israeli embassy’s deputy chief of mission Michal Sarig-Kaduri told AFP in an email.

The Singapore Airshow is one of Asia’s biggest aviation trade fairs in which Israel has a major exhibit of its commercial and

defence aerospace industries. The event ends this weekend.

But Sarig-Kaduri dismissed a report in Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Jarida* that Barak had been targeted for assassination by three members of a Hezbollah-Iranian terror cell during his visit from 12-15 February.

The report was widely picked up by Israeli media.

“The ministerial visit went according to plan and no unusual incident occurred. There are absolutely no grounds for this report,” she stated.

The Singapore police and an Israeli defence official have also rebutted the report, which stated that the three culprits had been arrested by local authorities with the help of Israeli spy agency Mossad before they could carry out their attack.

Israeli security agencies are on alert worldwide after the Jewish state blamed Iran over a failed bomb plot in Bangkok, as well as attacks on Israeli embassy staff in India and Georgia. Iranian officials have denied any involvement in the incidents in Thailand, India and Georgia this week, rejecting Israeli accusations that the Islamic republic has unleashed a terror campaign.—Internet

## Malaysia says Thai blast suspect fleeing to Iran

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 Feb—An Iranian national who was arrested in Malaysia for suspected involvement in a botched bomb plot in Thailand had been attempting to fly to Iran when he was detained, the government said Thursday.

The arrest Wednesday of Masoud Sedaghat Zadeh at Kuala Lumpur’s international airport showed Malaysia was “very serious and committed” to addressing the threat of terrorism, said Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein.

“The authorities of this

country will never allow Malaysia to become a location, base, or transit point for terrorists or individuals who are wanted by any other country,” he said in a statement. It gave no further details other than to confirm the 31-year-old suspect had fled to Malaysia on Tuesday and was suspected in the Thai incident.

Malaysia’s government and police have been tight-lipped about the case so far, citing an ongoing investigation, and have declined detailed comment on whether the Iranian suspect would be

deported or charged in Malaysia.

He was arrested over unspecified violations of Malaysian immigration rules, the government has said. Two other Iranians have already been charged in Thailand in connection with Tuesday’s bomb incident, the third to shake world capitals in less than 24 hours.

One of the suspects had his legs blown off as he tried to hurl an explosive device at Thai police while fleeing after an apparently unintended explosion at a Bangkok house, officials said.—Internet



**The three Iranian bomb suspects identified by Thai police from a surveillance camera. (L-R): Saied Moradi, Mohammad Kharzei and Masoud Sedaghatzadeh.**

INTERNET

## Alzheimer's may progress like infection

HOUSTON, 17 Feb — Damage done to the brain by Alzheimer's disease may spread like an infection, from brain cell to brain cell, according to a new study by US researchers on Wednesday.

Viruses and bacteria cause infections, and Alzheimer's is neither viral nor bacterial. But Alzheimer's appears to spread in the same manner that infections can do, said Claudio Soto, professor of neurology at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, accord-

ing to the *Texas Medical Centre (TMC)* news released on Wednesday.

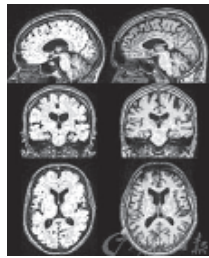
The underlying mechanism of Alzheimer's disease "involves a normal protein that becomes misshapen and is able to spread from nerve cell to nerve cell by transforming good proteins to bad ones," said Soto. "The bad proteins accumulate in the brain, forming plaque deposits that are believed to kill neuron cells in Alzheimer's."

To demonstrate a potentially infectious-like spreading of Alzheimer's

disease in lab animals, Soto and his fellow researchers injected mice with a small amount of brain tissue taken from a human with Alzheimer's, then compared the results to mice injected with normal brain tissue.

None of the mice injected with the normal brain tissue showed signs of Alzheimer's, but all of those injected with Alzheimer's brain extracts developed plaques and other brain alterations typical of the disease, according to Soto.

The mice injected with the Alzheimer's brain tissue



developed Alzheimer's over time as the disease spread to other portions of the brain. The researchers believe that other brain diseases may progress the same way, including mad cow and its human form, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. — *Xinhua*

## Antibiotics does little in easing sinus infections

BEIJING, 17 Feb — Antibiotics does little help for people with sinus infections and its overuse is warned against by US researchers in Wednesday's *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

A new study in journal found that the antibiotics doesn't ease the symptoms of patients with acute uncomplicated rhinosinusitis any sooner than an inactive placebo pill.

"There is not much to be gained from antibiotics," said Jane Garbutt of Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis, who led the study.

The study involved 166 adults with moderate, severe or very severe symptoms such as sinuses and nasal discharge.

In the study, participants were found showing signs of benefit from the antibiotic after seven days, but the effect was small and had vanished another three days later.

After 10 days, 78 percent of the people on antibiotics and 80 percent of the placebo-treated people said they felt a lot better or no longer had symptoms.

Sometimes it is hard for

doctors to tell whether the sinus infections are caused by bacteria or by a virus, in which case antibiotics are useless.

Fewer than two percent of sinus infections are bacterial, said Anthony Chow, an expert in infectious diseases at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.

Chow said most cases are viral and the vast majority don't require antibiotics, warning that antibiotics has been abused, so there is a need to be more cautious in prescribing them and to hold back.

Rather than giving antibiotics, the researchers suggest treating symptoms along with watchful waiting to see whether further treatment is necessary.

*Xinhua*



## 10-hour surgery separates Brazilian conjoined twins

GOIANIA, 17 Feb — Brazil's conjoined twins Israel and Levi were separated successfully at Maternity Hospital of Goiania in a surgery that lasted nearly 10 hours, the twins' doctor told *AFP*. The 14-month-old boys were joined at the



File illustration photo shows a doctor performing a surgery. Brazil's conjoined twins Israel and Levi were separated successfully at Maternity Hospital of Goiania in a surgery that lasted nearly 10 hours, the twins' doctor told *AFP*. — INTERNET

hip and abdomen. They shared intestines, a bladder and genitalia, said pediatric surgeon Zacharias Calil, a specialist in separating conjoined twins. "It was very difficult, very complicated but we managed (to separate them)," Calil said. The brothers "came through the surgery well."

Israel and Levi had four legs but their shared lower bodies made the surgery the second-most complicated for conjoined twins. Twins with shared skulls create the most complex separation surgeries. They traveled to the central Brazilian city of Goiania for the surgery from Fortaleza, capital of the northeastern state of Ceara. The surgical team of about 30 doctors, technicians and nurses separated "the intestines, the urinary part, the hip and we rebuilt two bladders," said Calil, the team leader.

Preparations for the complicated surgery began when the twins were born in December 2010 as their mother received advice from a specialist. In November, the family traveled to Goiania to begin the final phase before the operation, which involved using eight expanders to stretch the children's skin. Calil said the expanders "were instrumental in closing the abdomen." — *Internet*

## Manufacturers providing outsize boost to economy

WASHINGTON, 17 Feb — American factories are humming—and driving the economy forward. Manufacturers have been hiring more consistently than other employers, for jobs with better-than-average pay. They just had their best month of growth in five years. And more factory output has raised demand in some other industries, such as shipping, leading to further hiring. "The manufacturing sector is on a tear," said Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics.

It's an optimistic theme that serves President Barack Obama's political needs. On Wednesday, Obama traveled to Milwaukee to salute a company that brought jobs back to the United States. The president has promoted the nation's manufacturing base as an engine of growth and as evidence of a recovering economy. No one thinks manufacturing will return to its 1950s peak. After all, the factory sector now makes up barely one-tenth of the economy.

But since the recession ended more than 2½ years ago, factories have been contributing disproportionately to the recovery in hiring and the overall economy. A big reason, economists say, is that individuals and businesses are making major purchases they delayed during the Great Recession and its aftermath. Consumers are buying more cars and appliances. Companies are investing in industrial machinery and computers. — *Internet*



In this 13 Feb, 2012 photo, a workman welds a stainless steel tank at JV Northwest, in Camby, Ore. JV Northwest manufactures stainless steel vessels. — INTERNET

## Counterfeit drugs becoming big business worldwide

WASHINGTON, 17 Feb — The discovery that a fake version of the widely used cancer medicine Avastin is circulating in the United States is raising new fears that the multibillion-dollar drug-counterfeiting trade is increasingly making inroads in the US. The criminal practice has largely been relegated to poor countries with lax regulations. But with more medicines and drug ingredients



This product image provided by Genentech shows a vial and package for the cancer drug Avastin. — INTERNET

for sale in the US being manufactured overseas, American authorities are afraid more counterfeits will find their way into this country, putting patients' lives at risk.

The Avastin discovery follows other recent instances in the US of counterfeiting, involving such drugs as Viagra, the cholesterol medicine Lipitor and the weight-loss pill Alli. "We do know there are counterfeits

continuing to try and make their way onto the US supply chain," said Connie Jung, an associate director in the Food and Drug Administration's office of drug security. The FDA announced Tuesday it is investigating fake vials of Avastin that were sold to at least 19 doctors and clinics, including 16 sites in California, two in Texas and one in Chicago.

Tests showed the vials did not contain the active ingredient in Avastin, which is given intravenously in hospitals, clinics and doctors' offices to treat several types of cancer. The contents of the vials are still being analyzed, and the FDA said it has not received any reports of patients who were harmed. FDA officials said the counterfeit Avastin was imported from Britain and distributed by Volunteer Distribution, a wholesaler based in Gainesboro, Tenn. British regulators notified the FDA about the products in December, but the agency didn't confirm they were fake until last week. — *Internet*

## Asian stock markets decline amid Greece fears

BEIJING, 17 Feb — Asian stock markets were mostly lower Thursday, following Europe and Wall Street down amid growing fears the latest deal to resolve Greece's debts is faltering. Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei 225 index shed 0.2 percent to 9,238.63 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng was off 0.8 percent at 21,194.4. Seoul's Kospi fell 1.1 percent to 2,002.60. Global markets rose briefly Wednesday on news China would keep investing in Europe and Greece would fulfill obligations imposed by its creditors. But those hopes waned after a European official warned Greece's assurances might be inadequate, possibly jeopardizing the latest infusion of money from its European partners. Asian investors were put off by the lack of a clear outcome over Greece. "The uncertainty upset the market, especially last night in New York," said Francis Lun, managing director of Lyncean Securities in Hong Kong. "I think people are resigned to the fact that Greece really is a lost cause. It doesn't make sense to throw good money after bad." China's Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.8 percent to 2,361.0. Taipei's Taie was down 0.3 percent at 7,977.08 and Sydney's S&P ASX 200 shed 1.6 percent to 4,183.5. Singapore's benchmark declined 0.7 percent to 2,989.47. — *Internet*



Currency traders work under a screen indicating the Nikkei 225 stock average at a foreign exchange firm in Tokyo, on 15 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET



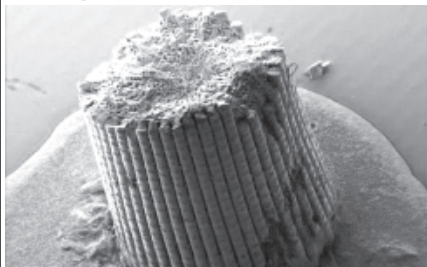
## Sea urchin spine structure inspires idea for concrete

LONDON, 17 Feb—The precise structure of sea urchins' strong spines has been unravelled — and the find may contribute to stronger concrete in the future. The tough spines are known to be made of calcium carbonate, which has a number of naturally occurring forms, some more brittle than others. X-ray studies now show they are built from "bricks" of the crystal calcite, with a "mortar" of formless lime. The results are reported in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The spines serve as a

defence against predators, hard and at the same time shock-absorbing. As a result of these properties, the spines are among the most-studied biomaterials. But efforts to understand exactly how they are put together have yielded confusing results. "Some people were arguing that the spine is a single crystal, and others who were looking at the mechanical properties were arguing that it's more like a glassy material," said senior author on the research Helmut Coelfen, from the University of Konstanz in Germany.

He told *BBC News*: "It



The spines do not break cleanly, suggesting they are not made solely of single crystal.— INTERNET

still hasn't been resolved." If the tough spines were single crystals, they should break cleanly along planes, as does mica or slate — but instead they break roughly, as glass or ceramic might.

Internet

## 'Manly' fingers make for strong jawline in young boys

WASHINGTON, 17 Feb—Hands are keys to the past, even if there isn't much past to tell. A glance at a boy's digit ratio — the relative length of index to ring finger — shows if he was exposed to high testosterone levels before birth. These testosterone levels even lead to "manlier" faces, even before the boy hits puberty, the research suggests.

In the uterus, before a baby is born, testosterone seems to have what the researchers call an "organizing effect" on the face — it helps controls how the face and other parts of the body (including the sex organs and yes, the fingers) develop. This means that researchers can use digit ratio as a measurement of testosterone exposure before birth, which comes from both the mother and the developing baby. A low ratio, where the index finger is shorter than the ring finger, indicates high testosterone levels, and the opposite for a high ratio.

Previous studies of digit ratio and adult male faces indicated that the lower the ratio (and therefore the higher the testosterone levels during development) the more "robust" the man's face is, the study researchers said. This work suggests this robust and masculine face is already present before puberty, since prepubescent boys with low digit ratio have features of a characteristically masculine face.—*Internet*

## Tiny songbird northern wheatear traverses the world

LONDON, 17 Feb — Miniature tracking devices have revealed the epic 30,000km (18,640 miles) migration of the diminutive northern wheatear. The birds, which weigh just 25g (0.8oz), travel from sub-Saharan



The trackers weighed just 1.4 grams and attach via a soft, elastic harness.— INTERNET

Africa to their Arctic breeding grounds. "Scaled for body size," the scientists report, "this is the one of the longest round-trip migratory journeys of any bird in the world. The team reports its findings in the Royal Society journal *Biology Letters*."

"Think of something smaller than a robin, but a little larger than a finch raising young in the Arctic tundra and then a few months later foraging for food in Africa for the winter," said one of the lead researchers, Prof Ryan Norris from the University of Guelph in

Ontario, Canada. The species is of particular interest to scientists, because it has one of the largest ranges of any songbird in the world; with breeding grounds in the eastern Canadian Arctic, across Greenland, Eurasia and into Alaska. Prior to this work though, it was not clear where the birds spent the winter. Heiko Schmaljohann, from the Institute of Avian Research in Wilhelmshaven, Germany, was a member of the team that carried out this study.—*Internet*



## MIT launches free online 'fully automated' course

WASHINGTON, 17 Feb — Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), one of the world's top-rated universities, has announced its first free course which can be studied and assessed completely online. An electronics course, beginning in March, will be the first prototype of an online project, known as MITx.

The interactive course is designed to be fully automated, with successful students receiving a certificate. The US university says it wants MITx to "shatter barriers to education". This ground-breaking scheme represents a significant step forward in the use of technology to deliver higher education.

There are already online degree courses, but the MIT proposal is unusual in that it is inviting students anywhere in the world, without charge or prior entrance requirements, to study for a certificate carrying the MIT brand. MIT, along with many other leading universities, makes its course



Online courses will be available whenever students want to study.— INTERNET

material available online, but the MITx scheme takes this a step further by creating an accredited course specifically for online students.—*Internet*

## Independent group inspecting Apple suppliers



In this 9 Feb, 2012 file photo, Sarah Ryan, left, and Shelby Knox, with Change.org arrive at the Apple store at Grand Central to deliver petitions asking Apple to change its manufacturing practices and to address criticism of worker conditions at manufacturing partners operating in China, in New York. Apple said on 13 Feb, 2012, that an independent group, the Fair Labour Association, has started inspecting the working conditions in the Chinese factories where its iPads and iPhones are assembled.

INTERNET

NEW YORK, 17 Feb — Apple said on Monday that an independent group, the Fair Labour Association, has started inspecting working conditions in the Chinese factories where its iPads and iPhones are assembled. Amid growing criticism over labour and environmental practices — especially in China — Apple, last month, disclosed a list of suppliers for its popular gadgets for the first time.

The FLA team began the inspections on Monday morning at Foxconn City in Shenzhen, China, Apple said Monday. The complex employs and houses hundreds of thousands of workers. Foxconn, a unit of Taipei's Hon Hai Precision Industry Co employs an estimated 1 million to 1.1 million people in China at a series of huge factory campuses. Foxconn assembles iPads and iPhones for Apple, Xbox 360 gaming consoles for Microsoft and other gadgets for companies including Hewlett-Packard and Dell.

In 2010, there was a rash of suicides at Foxconn's Shenzhen plant. Plant managers installed nets to prevent more people from committing suicide by jumping from the roof. A May explosion at the company's Chengdu, China, plant killed three people and injured 15. A *New York Times* story published 26 Jan reported on accidents and long hours in Foxconn factories, based on workers' accounts. Foxconn disputed allegations of back-to-back shifts and crowded living conditions.—*Internet*

## Nanovalentine: How scientists created the teensiest way to say I love you

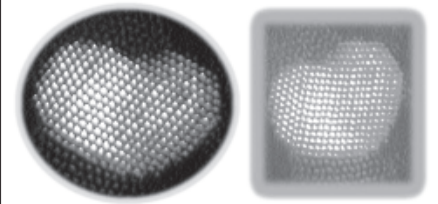
BIRMINGHAM, 17 Feb — Scientists from the University of Birmingham's Nanoscale Physics Research Laboratory have created the teensiest heart in the world — one that can't be seen by the naked eye. The nano-size valentine is made out of gold and palladium atoms on a thin film of carbon that are so tiny you need a microscope to see them.

In fact, not even optical microscopes (the types you see kids commonly use in schools) work. To photograph the hearts you see above, the researchers had to use an electron microscope that can magnify objects up to two million times their size.

In comparison, optical microscopes can only magnify particles from 1,000 to 2,000 times. The small glowing bumps making up the heart are actually heated palladium and gold particles.

This is the second time scientists from the university created a nano-size heart, the first one being back in 2010. According to lead researcher Dr Ziyou Li, the techniques used to create the tiniest valentine in the world could one day be used for other scientific applications, as well as for the creation of optical devices.

Internet



The nano-size heart is made up of palladium and gold atoms, and can only be seen through an electron microscope.— INTERNET



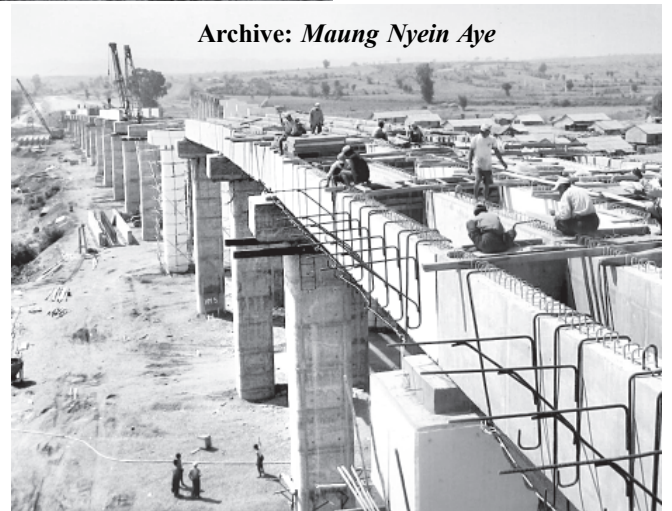
## Ayeyawady River Crossing Bridge (Malun) under construction in the time of new government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

### Salient points of Ayeyawady River Crossing Bridge (Malun)

1. The length of the main bridge is 3215 feet.
2. The total length of the motorway road is 5839 feet.
3. The total length of the rail road is 7156 feet.
4. It has 28-foot wide motorway road and 14-foot wide rail road flanked by 6 feet pedestrian on each site.
5. Its foundation and sub structure is bored pile and post is steel frame and it can withstand 75 tons for each vehicle.
6. The approach structure of the rail road is 3941 feet and the approach structure of motorway is 2624 feet. Its clearance has 320 feet width and 57 feet height.



- \* Ayeyawady River Crossing Bridge (Malun) is situated Ywathit Village in Magway District of Magway Region and between the Michaungye-Phatanago milepost No. 11/4 and mile post No. 11/5 near Sitkoepin Village.
- \* The construction started as of 22 November, 2009 and it is the type of steel truss bridge with two ways motorway and rail road.
- \* On completion, the bridge with rail road can travel to Rakhine via Malun, Minhla, Minbu, Ann in the west of Ayeyawady and to Ayeyawady Region via Thayet, Kyangin, Myanaung, Hinthda.  
(Translation; TLA)



### Indonesia plans to import 240,000 tons of sugar in 2012

JAKARTA, 17 Feb—Indonesia, Southeast Asia's largest sugar consumer, will import 240,000 tons of raw sugar this year to meet domestic demand for white sugar, local media reported on Wednesday.

The plan was made as the domestic demand of white sugar from January to May stood at 860,000 tons, while the country's production would only amount to 598,578 tons of white sugar, leaving a deficit of 261,422 tons, Agriculture Minister Suswono Arsyaf was quoted as saying.

The 240,000 tons of raw sugar would be processed into 220,000 tons of white sugar, the minister said. "We will suffer a deficit for one month, or around 220,000 tons of white sugar," he was quoted by the *Jakarta Post* as saying.

Suswono said that the decision to import raw sugar was partly to allow local mills to increase production. The final decision on importing the sugar would be made during a meeting at the Office of the Coordinating Economic Minister next week, he said.

*Xinhua*

### Cuba says not to return to OAS

HAVANA, 17 Feb— Cuba said on Wednesday that it is willing to attend the sixth Summit of the Americas if invited but does not have the intention to rejoin the Organization of American States (OAS). Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez made the remarks while addressing in Havana the Political Council of the Bolivarian Alternative for the Peoples of Our Americas (ALBA) attended by foreign ministers and senior representatives from the ALBA member countries.

The meeting discussed the common

agenda on economic integration and Cuba's attendance at the Summit of the Americas to be held on 14 to 15 April in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, among other issues. "We reiterate that Cuba will not return to the OAS, and it is not interested in having any relationship with the organization that has served for purposes of domination, occupation and aggression," Rodriguez said. "The OAS serves to the United States as a platform to attack and plunder Latin America and the Caribbean countries," Rodriguez added.—*Xinhua*

## Pyithu Hluttaw session continues...

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and how the government monitor if any, what organization check the foreign currency they carried into the country and how; if the government know some organizations are trafficking in person with some methods; the number of local NGOs and evaluation of their works", the Union Minister answered that although there are 53 INGOs in Myanmar, but only six of them is registered at the Home Affairs Ministry. Of the remaining 47, 13 are in the process of under scrutiny for their registration. Those 53 INGOs are engaging in 67 kinds of works such as education, health, nourishment, drinking water supply, sanitation, agriculture, livestock breeding, food sufficiency, disaster management and social and environmental conservation. As to local NGOs, there are 278 registered.

Formation of organization law enacted on 30 September, 1988 is applied in scrutinizing INGOs and NGOs. As to NGO, its aim must be to help develop the socio-economic life of people and its objectives should not be in violation with the policies and procedures of the ministries concerned.

There are no separate agreements with NGOs as rules and regulations were already described in their organization certificates in accordance with the provisions of formation of organization law. As to INGOs, MoU were signed between them and the ministries concerned which monitored their works. The Home Affairs Ministry in coordination with the ministries concerned holds discussion with executive members and responsible persons of respective organizations at township level monthly and hold discussions at region/state level every four month. The results are reported to the Home Affairs Ministry.



**Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Daw Nan Wah Nu of Kunhing Constituency shooting queries.**

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without political-string attached and it needs to make sure assistance goes to the neediest people.

The process of scrutinizing the INGOs is like this—respective ministries examine the proposal of INGO to render assistance to Myanmar and submitted to the meetings of the Union government. Only after the Union government has approved the proposal, agreement was signed. There is no breach of international laws, local laws, regulations stated in the agreement and regional customs till now as supervision teams in respective regions are closely monitoring their works.

With regard to the foreign currency carried into Myanmar by INGOs and NGOs, the Central Bank of Myanmar was responsible for scrutiny of the foreign currency in accordance with monetary policies promulgated in Myanmar. INGOs have to open a foreign currency account at Myanmar Trade Bank and prior to this, the INGOs has coordinate fund allocation with ministries concerned.

Squads and departments under the Ministry of Home Affairs are monitoring INGOs and NGOs in order that there is no case of human trafficking either in cover of religion, or something else or on the pretext of rehabilitation of orphans and seeking jobs for young women.

INGOs in Myanmar adopt different procedures in cooperating with government departments and local NGOs. It is found that the works joint-works are not effective as



**Hluttaw representatives attending fifth day session of Pyithu Hluttaw.—MNA**

they should be due to false and differing procedures. As the government has aimed to fight poverty and improve rural economy, NGOs and INGOs can achieve their goals by closely cooperating with the government, filling a gap in rural development undertakings and education, health and social life of the people.

U Tha Win of Yankin Constituency asked seeking permit to hold annual religious ceremonies is a long procedure and whether such ceremonies can be organized just with the permit of the respective township administrative body. The Union Minister replied that the citizens have religious freedom and township/district administrative bodies and respective region/state governments scrutinize and allow to hold religious ceremonies, religious funfairs of different religions on respective dates.

The organization wishing to hold the religious ceremony or the responsible person has to apply to the township General Administration Department through ward/village-tract with security measures plan for the occasion, agenda and recommendation letters of respective departments. The respective general Administration Department scrutinizes the application and the deputy commissioner issues the permit if it can be allowed. If the ceremonies are of grand scale, it needs to go to Region/State government which makes decision at the executive board meeting.

It is learnt that the application is usually submitted to region/state governments with recommendation of administrative bodies at different levels, security recommendation and recommendation of departments concerned in advance of the ceremony to take security measures in coordination with the organizers for the public and for the VIPs who will present on the occasion.

Both the religious ceremony and peaceful assembly and procession are crowd activities but different in characteristics. The departments concerned have to supervise and help carefully in religious ceremony if the number of devotees is large. It needs hierarchical recommendation as there are a lot of different works as regional security, fire prevention, health, environmental cleanliness, clean drinking water supply, electric wire installation and designating car parking space.

Except crowd activities and religious festivals, the application to hold annual sermon-preaching ceremonies of different religions and religious is scrutinized by the district General Administration Department and district deputy commissioner issues the permit within one week. In consideration of security, crowd activities and religious festivals are only allowed through the scrutiny of respective district, region/state government to avoid unnecessary troubles.

U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency asked if there is plan to take actions against Kuhltoiseik explosion on 29-12-2011 in Kuhltoiseik Ward in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region to avoid storage of explosive materials and reoccurrence of such explosion; if the government knows there breaks out frequent ammonia explosion in Hongxin Fish Slice Cold Storage on Panyike Street in (Nga/Ka) Ward of Thingangyun Township; if

there is plan to relocate the factories, workshops hazardous to the people.

The Union Minister replied that the fire outbreak took place on 29 December, 2011 in Kuhltoiseik Ward in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region. Then special investigation team was formed with representatives of related ministries, led by the Home Affairs Ministry to probe the cause of the fire outbreak. Yangon Region government also formed a nine-member investigation team headed by the secretary of the Yangon City Development Affairs Committee. Those investigation teams exposed the five in connection with the fire outbreak who are on trial at Mingala Taungnyunt Township Court. In addition, advice was sought from Yangon Region East District Law Office to file a lawsuit against the three responsible persons. The offenders have been charged with catastrophic fire outbreak and brought to trial along with firm evidences at Mingala Taungnyunt Court to take punitive action against them.

The ammonia gas pipeline used in the fish slice cold storage of Bay of Mottama Company on Panyike Street in (Nga/Ka) Ward of Thingangyun Township leak ammonia gas on 16 September, 2011 from the joint and it could be repaired by factory workers thirty minutes later. The Livestock and Fisheries Ministry inspected the cause and found that it was because of the safety valve of the condenser which was then replaced with the new one. There was no similar case before and it was the only time. The gas leakage terrified the people of squattering ward in the west of the cold storage and a person with heart attack was sent to Sanpya Hospital but he recovered then. No other one including the factory was harmed and it was just gas leakage and not the gas explosion.

It is found that cold storage is holding rcertificate of registration as private industry issued by the Industry Ministry, food production recommendation certificate issued by the Health Ministry and work permit of the YCDC. It is learnt that the Livestock and Fisheries Ministry would issue the factory license only after it has checked the repair of the cold storage.

The list of the number of warehouse in being taken in respective townships to make sure that there is no storage of hazardous chemicals in warehouses and factories and reckless use of them. Yangon Region government is taking steps to remove the dangerous warehouses to the place far from resident wards and where security measures are possible. Moreover, the Industry Ministry has written prevention against dangers of chemicals and related materials law (draft) and taking actions for the promulgation of that law.

Industrial zones are being established, gradually gathering the industrial economic enterprises. In so doing, related department/organization draws city development plan and township development plan not only for major cities but also for towns and factories and workshops are being relocated in groups in accordance with the layout in the those plans. In addition, Yangon Region government is taking steps to move the dangerous warehouses farm from resident wards.

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## Pyithu Hluttaw session continues...

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Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein replied to queries raised by three representatives.

Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Namkham Constituency asked **if there is plan to allow establishment of private pharmaceutical factories** and the Union Minister replied that Myanmar Investment Commission is helping to establish western pharmaceutical factories at home with to view to reduce importation of western medicines using foreign currency, to reduce foreign currency use and to obtain modern medicine production techniques. It has been allowed to establish seven western pharmaceutical factories in Yangon Region in principle. In addition, there are Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industry (Yangon), Myanmar Pharmaceutical (Sagaing), Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industry (Inyaung) and Hepatitis-B Medicine Industry under the Industry Ministry as Stated-owned factories and Armed Forces Pharmaceutical Industry (Hmawby) and Myanmar Pharmaceutical factory (PyinOoLwin) which are manufacturing and distributing western medicines.

Regarding the question of Dr Daw Aye Myint of Shwetaung Constituency on "Is there any plan to designate an industrial zone in Shwetaung due to environmental degradation caused by stone crushing machines, rice mill, beam mill and jam industry in Shwetaung", Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein replied: one industrial zone has been set up in Pyay of Bago. So, it would be more convenient at present if small industries are moved to Pyay industrial zone. Departments and organizations start planning to adopt city development plan and township development plan. Upon completion of development plans, the works in all sectors would run systematically. To have development, cities and towns would be built after drafting future plan.

Regarding the question on U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency on "How would the government deal with the problems of main road damages and noise due to the pile factory by GEO Tech Pile Co., Ltd in 24 Ward of Thuwunna in Thingangyun Township and Is there any plan to move factories in wards to respective industrial zones", Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein said: That pile factory stopped its running on 18-1-2012 because of the remonstration of people in the ward. Yangon City Development Committee has already sent letter to close factory on 20-1-2012.

Yangon Region Government has already arranged to remove machines, finished goods and the stocks by 28-2-2012 and repair the damaged road by Geo Tech Pile Co., Ltd not later than 31-3-2012.

Yangon Region Government would take responsibilities for move of factories after carrying out enough land reclamations, repair of roads, supply of electricity, measures to reduce damage of natural environments in respective industrial zones.

As part of the government's programme to have harmonious development in cities and towns, respective departments and organizations are planning to adopt City Development Plan & Township Development Plan. Factories and workshops will emerge in group after the development plan has been prescribed, he added.

Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win replied five questions raised by five representatives on information.

Regarding the question raised by U Khin Maung Shwe of Tamu constituency on "When will MRTV transmission in Myothit Sub-Township of Tamu District start", the Deputy Minister said: Construction works have been carried out with the use of the 2009-2010 departments' budget. The budget for 50 W TV Transmitter and 30 meter tower includes in 2011-2012. Tender and price matter have been carried out and buying contact, signed.

The arrival of these machines would be in March, 2012. Plans are under way to carry out installation and transmission in April.

U Win Myint of Pyay Constituency on "**Whether or not is there any plan to renovate damaged Shwe Phone Pwint Pitakat Library Chamber in Pyay, to extend wards of museum/library, to install internet and to upgrade it to E-Library level**" and Dr Daw Aye Myint of Shwetaung Constituency on "Is there any plan to provide old Leti

**Library" with modern system.**", the Deputy Minister replied: Ministry of Information started establishment of self-reliant village libraries since 2004 with three aims.

The first aim is to educate rural people. Myanmar where 70% of its population live in rural areas, is an agro-based country. Development of education, health, economic and social would synonymous with the country's development. Knowledge lies at the core of development of rural people. So, the basic factor to get knowledge is literacy. A number of self-reliant village libraries are set up in order that people can get easy access to books and publications.

The second aim is that rural people can choose right and wrong and conserve the tradition of national characters. Nowadays, the world sees the rapid technology development and media penetration are massive. Print media and electronic media bring benefits to people as well as having negative impacts on people. People need to have full reasonable knowledge so as to choose good things among



**Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik makes clarification.**  
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those news. A number of self-reliant village libraries are set up in order that people can get easy access to books and publications.

The third aim is to exercise the democratic system of Myanmar rightfully and thoroughly. To flourish democracy system in Myanmar, it needs to develop democracy practices in Myanmar society as well as in Administrative bodies and legislative bodies.

Only then people can act their rights in line with law and the rest pillars be monitored through check and balance system. To reach that stage, rural people needs to be full of knowledge. So, self-reliant village libraries are being set up.

Ministry of Information has been setting up self-reliant village libraries across the country with the three strengths—the government, local people and wellwishers. In late 2007, self-reliant village libraries have been set up in more than 50,000 out of more than 60,000 villages in Myanmar.

But, not all these libraries are in the sustainable development condition. Since 2008, self-reliant village libraries have been set up with the assistance of the government so as to meet five standards. Nowadays, more than 30,000 libraries are meeting the five standards and in the sustainable development condition.

Sustainable development of the self-reliant village libraries cannot be carried out only with the strength of the government and local people. So, wellwishers established Myanmar Libraries Foundation in 15-5-2010 in order to assist in the works like promoting reading-habit and the emergence of libraries meeting five standards. Its funds have reached over K 700 million, of which are being used for the said works.

So, Myanmar Libraries Foundation is carrying out tasks for sustainable development of the self-reliant village libraries in cooperation with local people. At the same time, Ministry of Information will provide the funds, give lectures on library course through Information and Public Relations Department and donate books and publications to the libraries occasionally. And experts from the IPRD would conduct library courses if necessary.

Regarding the question of U Sai Hla Kyaw of Linkhe Constituency on "Is there exact plan to transmit national

aces programme of languages in all TV channels", the Deputy Minister replied: Myanma Radio and Television (branch) of Ministry of Information is transmitting national races programme in different languages.

In 1988, national races programme was transmitted in eight different languages—six from 5 to 9 pm and two from 8:15 to 9:30 pm. One language lasted 30 minutes each. Its total time was four hours and its meter band, 63.49.

On 4 January, 1990, its programme was transmitted from 4 pm to 8 pm. On 13 July, 2009, its programme was transmitted for 45 minutes each from 2 pm to 8 pm, totaling six hours. On 1 May, 2009, transmission of its programme started from Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon). Since then, Wa language was added to its programme. Programme was transmitted for 45 minutes each from 2 pm to 8:45 pm through 50 KW short wave transmitter (50.71 meter band, 5919 K Hz) in Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon).

On 1 July, 2009, its programme was divided into two sessions- morning and evening session. It was transmitted in five languages from 50 KW short wave transmitter (50.71 meter band, 5919 KHz) in Nay Pyi Taw. Its transmitting time was ten hours. Yangon (Yayku) radio station transmitted programme in four different languages for ten hours through 100KW middle wave transmitter (411.52 meter and 729 K Hz).

On 12 Feb, 2010, five more languages were added in addition to existing nine languages. Shortwave transmitter from Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) and shortwave transmitter of Yangon (Yayku) radio station transmitted the programme for 12 hours daily. Now, languages transmitted from Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) are Kachin, Shan, Phalan Chin, Mindat Chin, Rakhine, Wa and Kokant and from Yangon (Yayku), Sakaw Kayin, Po Kayin, Mon, Kayah, Gaykho and Gaybar, totaling 14.

Nay Pyi Taw Myanma Radio transmits 14 different languages programme while FM radio stations like Pyinsawady, Padamyar FM and FM Bagan broadcast their respective language programme. Likewise, MRTV broadcasts dances and songs of Union National Races as a daily programme. And Sky Net channel which is a private-owned TV channel broadcasts the New Year celebration of national races as well.

With respect to the question of U Tin Maung Oo of Shwepyitha Constituency on "**How to deal with the disappearance of one-side features of media houses which is the country's fourth estate, emergence of journals that can actually reflect the people's wishes and desires, getting rid of self-interested people for the publication of journals with affordable investments and measures to protect young reporters for promoting their skills and qualifications,**" the Deputy Minister replied:

Since the new government takes office, Ministry of Information has been supervising the media world through press scrutiny policies for the disappearance of one-side features of media houses which is the country's fourth estate. Media men on their parts are to do their works with the sense of liberty and accountability, rationality. When the press law comes out, works are to done in line with the law. Such biased articles and news might disappear from media world if media men and people do not enjoy it.

There should be freedom and accountability and freedom and rationality for quality fourth estate for publishing unbiased periodicals expressing the people's desire with dignity. Based on national interest they must present an issue from various angles for public information. Five policies have been laid down to ensure unity in democracy in the literary world. In the future an organization like Press Council formed in accord with the law will supervise the work.

At present measures are being taken in accord with the rules to enable people with correct attitude to publish journals with small capita and to curb undisciplined businesses and offenders. When the new publishing law comes into force people will have to control the literary world within its framework.

The Ministry of Information and Myanmar Writers and Journalist Association are jointly conducting basic journalism course, and special journalism course. International scholars as well as internal experienced journalists have been invited to give lectures. Three basic journalism courses have produced about 150 young

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## Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues...

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holders from Community Health University (Magway) would be appointed to vacant positions if there is permission coming out.

U Khin Maung Htay of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 10 asked **whether there is a plan for extension of 50-bed Traditional Medicine Department in regions and states.** In response, the Union Minister said that according to National Planning Goal of Traditional Medicine Department from 2011-2012 to 2015-2016, the Union government have agreed to upgrading of two 50-bed traditional medicine hospitals to 100-bed ones in Yangon and Mandalay, and 16-bed hospital to 50-bed one in Monywa. As said in the National Planning Goal, arrangements for hospital upgrading works would be made.

U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region Constituency No. 3 asked **whether locally-made liquors are suitable to health and there is a plan to make surprise check on them as laboratory test.** In response, the Union Minister said that everybody knows drinking liquor damages health. The Health Ministry has been giving educative talks to disseminate knowledge to people about side effect of liquor, and carrying out curative and rehabilitation measures.

The ministry has been making laboratory test on liquors for meeting set standards.

U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 6 asked **whether there is a plan to open rural health centre (branch) in Khabaunggon Village in Kyaukpadaung Township.** In response, the Union Minister said that one 50-bed hospital, three 16-bed hospitals, six rural health centres, and 36 rural health branches have been opened in Kyaukpadaung Township.

Not yet to plan for establishment of a new rural health centre (branch) because Takhundaing rural health centre (branch) under Letpanpya station health department, about one mile far from it, is giving medical treatment.

Union Minister for Sports and for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan replied to the queries raised by three Hluttaw representatives.

Concerning with the proposals **whether or not there is any plan to upgrade football ground, gymnasium, swimming pool and tennis court in Yenangyoung Township** submitted by U Aung Nyein of Magway Region No. 2



*Amyotha Hluttaw representatives at the fifth day session of Amyotha Hluttaw.—MNA*

Constituency and **whether or not there is any plan to construct a new play ground in Muse Township for public recreation** presented by U Sai Win Maung of No. 5 Constituency of Shan State, Union Minister answered that since Myanmar will host the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, the ministry has been carrying out necessary construction sites;

especially, constructions for sports village, gymnasiums and sports grounds; for successfully holding the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games in Nay Pyi Taw in coming December, 2013, with international level standard while making efforts to achieve victory.

In Muse, there are Pyidaungsu sports ground with a 400-meter-long track, a two-storey stand with a seating capacity of about 3000 fans, and a township-level training sports ground.

Therefore, there hasn't been any plan to construct new sports ground, gymnasium and swimming pool in Yenangyoung Township. But they will be constructed only when the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games will have been finished, and in Muse, there has been no plan to build a new sports ground.

About the proposal **whether or not there is any plan to reduce a limitation on tourists' travelling** presented by U Thein Hlaing of No. 8 Constituency of Sagaing Region, Union Minister U Tint Hsan said that the ministry has to get a permission of the higher department for the tourists with tourist visa, who pay a travel to Myanmar, so as to make trips to the places in Myanmar, where need for them to be permitted, and the ministry is to carry out that matter in line with instructions of the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the Ministry of Home Affairs has allowed tourists who visit

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*Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No (6) raising question.—MNA*



*Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Thein Hlaing of Sagaing Region Constituency No (8) raising question.—MNA*

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journalists. Two basic writers' courses have also produced about 100 new writers. In the future an organization like Press Council and MWJA will conduct courses, workshops, seminars. Moreover, publishers and printing houses will also contribute to enhancing qualifications of journalists. Journalists themselves will have to strive with conviction for emergence of a true fourth estate and efficient journalists.

Information Ministry is carrying out supervision work in accord with 12 rules at present. Preparations are being made to enact a publishing law in conformity with the constitution. Publishing laws of about 20 countries have been studied to stipulate rights, ethics, responsibilities, policies in the law. All will have to observe this law.

The proposal on the enactment of National University law submitted by Thura U Aung Ko of Kanpetlet Constituency on 15 February was discussed by nine representatives.

U Kyaw Naing Htay of Indaw Constituency said legal and special cases assessment commission should be assigned to promote education of Myanmar.

U Than Nwe of Budalin Constituency said if a National University where various subjects can be pursued is established, first it must be a research university. Scholars should be sent abroad for further studies as a National University needs qualified teachers. So only the initial work should be carried out at present.

Dr Mya Oo of Ngazun Constituency said the

foundations are good and they are on the path to reach the level of National University. Arrangements are under way to modernize the University Law. So the proposal is not necessary.

U Aung Hsan of Singu Constituency said the establishment of such a university should be taken into consideration only at the time when nation's financial power is strong. It is unnecessary at present. It must be put on record.

Daw Nan Wah Nu of Kunhing Constituency said it is time powers should be entrusted to universities to have opportunities to produce qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia for the nation.

U Ba Shein of Kyaukpyu Constituency said necessary laws should be enacted to set up a National University for the nation's university education to develop according to the advancement of time.

Dr Daw Aye Myint of Shwedaung Constituency said a politics-free and independent National University law should be enacted at an appropriate time to set up the university.

U Mahn Maung Maung Nyan of Pantanaw Constituency said such a university is appropriate and the work to set up the university should be based on the financial situation of the Ministry of Education.

U Tin Maung of Chanmyathazi Constituency said the idea is good but the time is still early. There will be difficulties to realize the goal at a time when the nation is facing a budget deficit for fiscal year 2012-2013.

Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe replied saying the nation needs global level national universities for national pride. Hence Yangon University and Mandalay University have been designated as research universities. Like the international autonomous universities, they too have independent administration.

It would be better if the two universities (Yangon and Mandalay) should have been transitioned into autonomous universities for the first step to turn into a model one. If so, it is needless to cost the mentioned cost for those. That is why the proposal is to be recorded.

Thura U Aung Ko submitted the proposal to the Hluttaw to be discussed. The Hluttaw would put the proposal on record for there were "no" ballots more than "yes".

U Soe Win of Sangyoung Constituency submitted the proposal "gems and jewellery shouldn't be sold as raw materials, but value added ones."

In his response to the proposal, Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik said that though incomparable jades, gems and pearls can be seen in Myanmar due to its favourable conditions, our country is weak not only for making jewellery and decorating modernized objects but also skillfulness and investments, and tourism industry in Myanmar is less than our neighbouring countries and ASEAN member countries, and it is still becoming developing condition; and that only when those are put on sale in foreign countries not only as natural state but also as jewellery by decorating objects, it would get better for Myanmar if compared with current condition, besides keeping in creating job prospects and making gems market of Nay Pyi Taw firmly permanent.

Union Minister U Thein Htaik urged U Soe Win of Sangyoung Constituency to withdraw his proposal because it differs from present conditions and seems to weaken gems market of Nay Pyi Taw.

The Hluttaw decided to add the proposal into a record list to be put into action at the time when it is needed.

Today's meeting ended at 4:20 pm and the Hluttaw announced starting time and date of the sixth day's meeting.

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## Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues...

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Myanmar in various types of matter to travel with a limitation to Alaungthaw Kathapha, Phowun Mountain, Monywa, Twin Mountain, Budalin, Kyaukkar, Yinnabin and wetlands, Khamhni, Homalin and Kalay, but not allowed to step in anywhere of Chin State.

But, tourists have a chance to make a trip to some limited places, with a recommendation of the related ministries after getting a permission of the higher department, and Kalay region, Chin Mountain region and the regions along with Chindwin River are the limited areas because they have no smooth transportations.

He said that the more increase tourism industry gets, the more infrastructures the country needs. Only then, will tourism industry improve more and more. In line with policy of Union government, limitation of tourist travelling will be dropped off just as many infrastructures with smooth transportations are implemented to get improvement in tourism industry.

Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min replied to questions of two Hluttaw representatives on rail transportation sector.

U Sai Tin Aung of Kachin State Constituency No. 5 asked **whether there is a plan for raising number of tickets for ordinary, upper and sleeper classes at Mohnyin railway station in Mohnyin district, Kachin State.** In response, the Union Minister said that there are five down trains with 12 tickets for sleeper class, 11 tickets for ordinary class, 24 tickets for first class and 131 tickets for ordinary class in Myitkyina-Mandalay route stopping over at Mohnyin Station.

The number of passengers who took trains hit 9555 at Mohnyin Station in December 2011, so the station counts 136 train passengers per day. Thus, passengers for Mohnyin Station will be allotted with 22 more seats at upper, ordinary and sleeper classes of four trains.

U San Pyae of Kachin State Constituency No. 7 asked **whether there is a plan to extend more numbers of trains along Mandalay-Myitkyina route and whether there is a plan to construct the dual railroad between 74 miles long Namkham and Mohnyin stations where trains face many traffic jams.** The Union Minister replied that ten passenger trains daily run along Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad section for rail transportation for Kachin State.

Sharing the seats of trains depend on number of passengers at state, district, township and village levels. Some stations sell tickets without seats to passengers at ordinary class due to larger number of passengers than the seat quota.

According to the requests to increase number of seats, arrangements have been made to share 23 more seats in Mogaung Station, 22 more seats in Mohnyin, 19 more seats in Katha, 12 more seats in Naba, six more seats in Mawlu, four more seats in Nantsiaung and eight more seats in Wuntho.

Beginning 9-1-2012, two coaches of 33-up and 34-down express trains run along Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad section daily. A total of 30 new passenger coaches will be built at Myitnge Locomotive Shed in 2012-2013 and a plan is under way to import passenger coaches. On their arrival, the two trains will be added one more passenger

coach.

Due to gradient limitation on 74 miles long Namkham-Mohnyin section, seven-mile Namkham-Bonchaung section and 10-mile Mawhan-Kadu section face railroad blocks because present runs of trains are beyond the line capacity of the above-mentioned sections.

Major upgrading works are being carried out at the two sections, spending K 11.2 million in 2011-2012 fiscal year and K 20 million on 2012-2013 fiscal year. Completion of major upgrading works will affect the delay of trains, so it is not necessary to construct the dual railroad at present. If necessary, the plan will be submitted to the State.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Hmat Gyi read the report of the committee on the **Republic of the Union of Myanmar Social Security Bill.**

Amyotha Hluttaw representatives Dr Mya Oo of Bago Region Constituency No. 9 and Dr Win Myint Aung of Sagaing Region Constituency No. 4 participated in the discussions on the bill. They supported the bill drafted in conformity with the current situation. All the people should realize the social security system. It is necessary to use compact use of vocabulary in line with the legal affairs. The social security project plays an important role in building a developed nation. The bill is in conformity with the current situation and international social security laws. It can be seen that the bill was drafted inclusive of the entire people.

The Hluttaw decided the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee to re-discuss the bill.

With regard to the report submitted by the Amyotha Hluttaw Financial and Legal Affairs Commission to **undertake promulgation of Intellectual Property Rights Laws such as Innovative Property Rights Law, Industrial Design Law, Trademark Law and Property Rights Law,** U Win Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 2 said that more and more innovation and creativity can be found in the countries that grant rights of innovation and creation. In Myanmar, it should grant rights of innovation and creations and Intellectual Property Rights Laws such as Industrial Design Property Rights, Trademark Law and Fine Arts Property Rights Law and he said he supported the report.

The Hluttaw approved the report.

With regard to the report on **joining the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral as a member and enacting the law in line with the convention** submitted by the Amyotha Hluttaw Financial and Legal Affairs Commission, U Ye Myint of Bago Region Constituency No. 4 participated in the discussions, saying that it was an important matter for inflow of foreign investment into the nation. As the international investors have much experience, their investments can bring development to the State. The country with much inflow of foreign investment will achieve economic growth. The foreign direct investment can be accepted as a remedy to cure economic crisis of developing countries. If the country is yet to join the convention as member, larger amount of investment cannot flow into the nation. And, he expressed his opinion in support of the report.

The Hluttaw approved the report.

Regarding the proposal submitted by U Zaw Naing Oo of Mon State Constituency No. 12 **urging the Union government to send columns for rendering assistance as much as possible to the local people from the villages near the urban areas with lack of peace,** Hluttaw representatives U Bo Yel

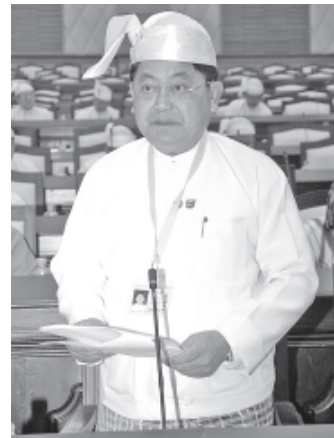
of Kayah State Constituency No. 3, U Mahn Kan Nyunt of Kayin State Constituency No. 2 and U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12 participated in the discussions. They said that applying wider knowledge and experiences, the national races are trying hard to develop their respective regions in competitiveness. If all departments provide them with necessary assistance through column, it will be the best. Progress of each region can contribute much to development of the entire nation. Now is the situation to restore peace across the nation. Thus, the task is coincided with the period of peace-making process. At first, it should clear mines in these regions. After that, it should carry out issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards, health care services, education promotion, environmental conservation and assistance to local people for long-term livelihoods. And, he supported the report.

Concerning the proposal, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko said that the previous government held peace talks with armed groups in and out the legal folds for restoring eternal peace. Since its assumption of the State power, the new government has been striving for building peace with armed ethnic groups. Thus, peace talks were held with 11 armed ethnic groups that have not yet built peace. Of them, the basic agreements were signed with six groups, and peace talks continue with the remaining five groups. While conducting peace-making process, the government cooperates with NGOs and INGOs in providing food, pharmaceuticals, clothes and utensils to the local people who evaded from the conflict areas. Likewise, the government manages field trips of departments under the ministries in five columns to the various areas including border regions to implement the short-term and long-term plans of the State.

He said that as the armed ethnic groups create better peace-making process, not only functions of five columns of departments but also eight-point rural development and poverty alleviation tasks are being undertaken on a wider scale in the rural regions of national races with the participation of the Union government, the Union ministers, region/state governments, NGOs, INGOs and all the national people.

The Hluttaw announced to approve the proposal.

With regard to the proposal submitted by U Win Naung of Yangon Region Constituency No. 5 on **urging the Union government to adopt a suitable short-term plan without fail to actually reduce traffic accidents and casualties in traffic accidents across the nation,** Hluttaw representatives U Kan Nyunt of Sagaing Region Constituency No. 5, Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No. 1, Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 6 and U Win Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 2 said that there were a large number of traffic accidents due to breaking the traffic rules, drunkard driving, mechanical errors and careless driving. As traffic accident becomes more terrible threat than crimes in the society, it is necessary to effectively enforce the people to abide by the traffic rules. Traffic accidents can be seen not only in Yangon but also in regions and states daily. Officials of the departments concerned are to pour out greater efforts for supervision for reduction of traffic accidents. They should conduct strict supervision on issuance of driver licence, distribution of driver manuals, holding educative talks, handing down of deterrent punishment and systematic installation of traffic lights.



**Union Minister for Sports and for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan replying to questions.—MNA**

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko explained that Myanmar is exercising 5 Es System for traffic accident reduction. Especially, Education System, Enforcement System and Engineering System are being applied. Observation is being made for applying remaining two systems namely Environment System and Emergency Medical Service System.

The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Rail Transportation are conducting coordination not to lose human resources and actually decline casualties in traffic accidents throughout the nation. While the ministries concerned are undertaking tasks on safety of traffic danger, traffic rules enforcement supervisory committees in regions and states are supervising the functions of similar committees at region/state, district and township levels. Thanks to concerted efforts of the Union ministries and region/state governments, casualties in traffic accidents can be reduced across the nation in 2015 in line with the Goal of ASEAN.

ASEAN member countries are implementing the Action Plan to decline traffic danger and traffic accidents. Likewise, Myanmar is analyzing the future tasks and its accomplishments in three sectors of the tasks such as one-year term, 2-3 year-term and five-year term of the Action Plan.

Under the supervision of Yangon Region government, the Action Plan was initially implemented in Yangon from 12 December 2011 to 31 December 2011 as an educative period for the pedestrians to use pavements and the overpasses. Beginning 1 January 2012 beyond the educative period, the people were informed with the notice papers at the traffic lights and through media that deterrent action will be taken against the offenders. Moreover, a total of 210 zebra-crossings were renovated in downtown Yangon.

In reviewing the root courses of the traffic accidents during three-year period from 2009 to 2011, most of the accidents were based on careless driving. Thus, the ministry assessed that preventive measure is the best for avoiding the traffic accidents. And, it takes deterrent action against the offenders under law beginning 1 January 2012.

The Hluttaw announced to approve the proposal.

After the fifth day third regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw came to an end at 4.30 pm.

At today's session, cash donation was put on record; respective Union ministers replied to 10 questions; one bill was discussed and four proposals were discussed and approved.—MNA

## Special Adviser to UN Secretary-General and Under-Secretary-General meets Kayin State Chief Minister and party

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—A delegation led by Special Adviser to the Secretary-General and Under-Secretary-General Mr Vijay Nambiar met with 21 Kayin, PaO, Shan Bamar national races at the meeting hall of Kayin State Government Office on 15 February.

At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on attitude and recognition of local people towards peace-making process in Kayin State and aids to be provided by the UN and UNHCR to the needs of national races and regional development.

This was followed by the meeting between Chief Minister of Kayin State U Zaw Min, members, state level department officials and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General and Under-Secretary-General Mr Vijay Nambiar and party.

The meeting touched upon peace-making process in Kayin State and development, bringing Myanmar people who are in refugee camps for a variety of regions to Myanmar, meals and accommodation for those people, assistance to be given by the UN and the UN agencies to education and health in the region.—MNA



**Ven Supot Pamudho and party on 16 February donated megatron phaco machine used in eye surgery and accessories worth Thai baht 2829786 for Jivitanana Sangha's Hospital (Yangon) through Chairman of the hospital management U Maung Maung.—MNA**

## Over 8.7m stimulant tablets, tablet machines, chemical powder, four small arms, rounds of ammunition seized in Tachilek Township

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—Over eight million stimulant tablets, tablet machines, chemical powders for producing the tablets, four small arms and rounds of ammunition were seized in Tachilek of Shan State (East) on 13 February.

Officials of Tachilek District Police Force seized 2,394,000 stimulant tablets from the house of Ah Mu; 185,600 stimulant tablets and 52.8 kilos of Caffeine powder from the house of Ah Dar; 4,476,400 stimulant tablets, 2.8 kilos of tablet powder, 3.84 kilos of Caffeine, 3.3 kilos of Codeine, two bottles of Best Quality brand 1000 ml incense, 35 bottles of Procodyl 100 ml cough syrup, 15 boxes containing 50 sachets each of food colour, 81 moulds for producing the tablets, 19 lower structure moulds and one 999 brand mould for

producing heroin blocks, one M-16, two magazines, one M-22, one magazine, 10 rounds of ammunition, one AK-47, one magazine, 160 rounds of ammunition and one .38 revolver from the house of Ah Gar in Pakha Village of Loitawkham Village-tract in Tachilek Township, and 1,100,000 plastic bags in 6x8 cm size to

be used in packaging stimulant tablets from the house of Ah Me in Tawkaw Inner Ward of Haungleik Village-tract and arrested Ma Mie Chu, wife of Ah Mu.

A senior police officer told the new agency that the seizure of 8,726,400 stimulant tablets was the second largest amount of seizing the stimulant tablets in Tachilek

District, and over 14 million stimulant tablets seized in 2005 was the largest amount of its kind in Tachilek District. He noted that the youths at home and in all global countries should not taste and abuse the narcotic drugs after understanding its dangers. He stressed the need to share knowledge about danger of narcotic

**Photo shows stimulants and chemical powder used in making tablet seized from Pakha Village, Tachilek Township.**



MNA



**Photo shows stimulant tablets and tablet-making equipment seized from Pakha Village, Tachilek.**

MNA

drugs to the youths from the wrong track and rehabilitate them. He said that the Myanmar is with might and main eradicating the danger of narcotic drugs that is posing a major threat to the mankind by joining hands with the neighbouring countries, global countries, UN agencies, NGOs and NGOs.

In fact, he said that seizure of narcotic drugs and destructions are designed to save the lives of global people.

MNA

## Timetable on radio and TV talk programmes for political parties on policies, stances and programmes announced

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—The Union Election Commission has informed 17 political parties, which nominated their Hluttaw candidates to participate in political campaign for the by-election on 1 April 2012, about the talk programmes on their policies, stances and programmes to the people through radio and TV and has issued the following timetable.

Sr. Date	Political Party
1. 7-3-2012	National Unity Party
	Lahu National Development Party
2. 8-3-2012	Kokang Democracy and Unity Party
	Pa-O National Organization (PNO)
3. 9-3-2012	Democratic Party (Myanmar)
	All Mon Region Democracy Party
4. 10-3-2012	Shan Nationalities Democratic Party
	Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics
5. 11-3-2012	Modern People's Party
	Union Solidarity and Development Party
6. 12-3-2012	National Democratic Force
	People's Democracy Party
7. 13-3-2012	New National Democracy Party
	Unity and Peace Party
8. 14-3-2012	National League for Democracy
	Myanmar New Society Democratic Party
9. 15-3-2012	Myanmar National Congress
	National Unity Party
10. 16-3-2012	Lahu National Development Party
	Kokang Democracy and Unity Party
11. 17-3-2012	Pa-O National Organization (PNO)
	Democratic Party (Myanmar)
12. 18-3-2012	All Mon Region Democracy Party
	Shan Nationalities Democratic Party
13. 19-3-2012	Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics
	Modern People's Party
14. 20-3-2012	Union Solidarity and Development Party
	National Democratic Force
15. 21-3-2012	People's Democracy Party
	New National Democracy Party
16. 22-3-2012	Unity and Peace Party
	National League for Democracy
17. 23-3-2012	Myanmar New Society Democratic Party
	Myanmar National Congress

The political parties are to seek permissions attached to the transcripts for talks from the Union Election Commission at least seven days ahead of the timetable of radio and TV talks.

The Union Election Commission announced that the Ministry of Information will telecast the talk programmes of the political parties two days ahead of the timetable and broadcast the talk programmes in line with the timetable.

MNA

## Four killed in small plane crash in northern Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 17 Feb—A small plane crashed on Thursday in Cameta, northern Brazil's Para state, killing four people on board.

According to the local police, the Beechcraft Baron twin-engine plane, which belongs to air charter company Norte Jet, crashed minutes after taking off from the Cameta Airport. The plane, which had transported a shipment of money for a bank in Cameta, was returning to Para state's capital city Belem. The four people on board, including the pilot, the co-pilot and two security guards, died instantly after the crash.

The local Air Force office sent a team from the Aeronautical Accidents Investigation and Prevention Centre (Cenipa) to investigate the causes of the accident.

It was the second accident with a twin-engine plane in Para state in a week. On 9 January, a plane carrying four people crashed on the Guarujá Bay, near the Belem Airport, but no one was killed.

MNA/Xinhua

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV CHANG CHUAN VOY NO (167)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CHANG CHUAN VOY NO (167) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-5 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: FORTUNE SHIPPING AGENCY  
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BIENDONG FREIGHTER VOY NO (1208)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG FREIGHTER VOY NO (1208) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING  
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV OEL BLESSING VOY NO (154)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OEL BLESSING VOY NO (154) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2012 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 BLPL LOGISTICS PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (294)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (294) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER  
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (12003)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (12003) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S T.S LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV JINDAL TARA VOY NO (117N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JINDAL TARA VOY NO (117N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S CARRIER KING  
LOGISTIC SERVICES LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**Bangkok bomb suspects 'partied in Pattaya'**

BANGKOK, 17 Feb—Three Iranians suspected in a botched bomb plot targeting Israeli diplomats in Bangkok holidayed in the Thai resort of Pattaya just days before the blasts, an official said on Friday. "The three suspects stayed in different hotels in Pattaya," an immigration officer in the coastal city who did not want to be named told AFP.

Police have tracked down a Thai woman known as "Nancy" who escorted one of the men, Mohamad Khazaei, during his stay, he added.

"The most important evidence we found are pictures in Nancy's mobile phone taken on the night of 11 February which prove that these suspects

know each other," the officer said. According to the *Bangkok Post* daily, the Thai woman was also in the suspect's hotel room "but didn't detect any irregularities except one time when he barred her from approaching a closet in the room."

The English-language daily published a photograph that it said showed the three suspects relaxing in a hotel bar with two Thai female companions, under the headline: "Suspects partied in Pattaya."

Thailand has charged Khazaei and another suspect Saeid Moradi on Wednesday in connection with the third bomb incident to shake world

capitals in less than 24 hours, but Tehran has rejected Israeli accusations that it is behind a terror campaign.

Bangkok is still seeking the extradition of third suspect Masoud Sedaghatzadeh who was arrested on February 15 in Malaysia after fleeing the kingdom.—*Internet*



*Thai immigration officers escort detained Iranian Mohammad Kharzei (C) at the immigration headquarters in Bangkok.—INTERNET*

**Socialite Zelda Kaplan, 95, dies at NY fashion show**

NEW YORK, 17 Feb—Zelda Kaplan, a colourful character on the New York fashion and nightclub scene, collapsed and died at a Manhattan catwalk show, witnesses said. She was 95.

The *New York Post* quoted attendees as saying Kaplan was carried out of the Joanna Mastroianni show at The Studio at Lincoln Centre after she slumped forward in her seat Wednesday. Paramedics responding to the scene were unable to revive her, the *Post* reported.

"Zelda passed away, right there, in the front row. Security carried her out, but the show just carried on. Everybody is distraught," one witness told the newspaper.

Passing away in the front row was how it was meant to be. Zelda loves fashion, so she died for fashion.—*Internet*

**North Korea marks late leader Kim Jong-il's birthday**

PYONGYANG, 17 Feb—North Korea is marking the 70th birthday of late leader Kim Jong-il, also dubbed the "day of the shining star". Despite the frigid weather, people gathered early on Thursday morning at the main Kim Il-sung Plaza in the capital, Pyongyang.

They left red "kimjongilia" begonias and other flowers at his portrait. Activities venerating Mr Kim, who died of a heart attack in December 2011, have been stepped up in recent weeks.

North Korea said on Wednesday it has awarded him the highest title of Generalissimo, the same rank as that held by his father, the country's founding

leader. A 6-metre bronze statue of him was unveiled on Tuesday depicting him riding a horse next to his late father, Kim Il-sung, also on horseback. A series of commemorative items and tributes have been released since his death.

These include a giant slogan carved into a mountainside, postage stamps, medals and gold and silver coins bearing his image.

New songs praising Mr Kim have been composed for the occasion. Concerts and events were held for the celebrations, including a synchronised swimming programme on Wednesday.

*Internet*



*A large bronze sculpture of Kim Jong-il (right) and his father has been unveiled in Pyongyang.—INTERNET*

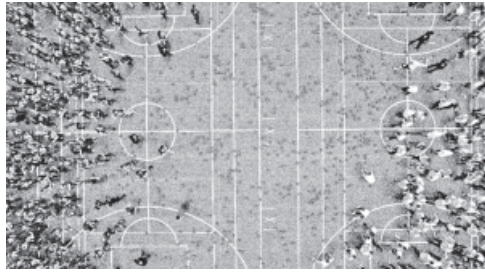


*Los Angeles firefighters battle a house fire from an adjacent building that began as a shooting call with 4 victims in the east Hollywood area of Los Angeles, California 16 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET*

## Dog and monkey wrestling

Dogs and monkeys are two of mankind's favourite animals. They're cute and clever and often-times funny. But in the wild, these two creatures are mortal enemies. Witness the dramatic battle royale between primate and canine captured in this video. All that's missing is some epic opera music.

Okay, so maybe these two are play-fighting rather than royally battling. That actually makes this video even better. Dogs and monkeys playing together. Mass hysteria!



Four-thousand, nine-hundred, eighty-three students, faculty and staff try for the Guinness World Record for the largest dodgeball game at the University of Alberta on Edmonton, Alberta on Friday, 3 Feb, 2012.

## Man drinks 'poison' when verdict is read

Authorities in Florida said a man drank a bottle of liquid he claimed was poison when his guilty verdict was announced.

Marin Stroia, 60, was found guilty of bringing a gun to the Broward County courthouse on 14 Jan, 2011, and threatening to kill himself because he was upset about a child support case, WFOR-TV, Miami, reported. Stroia brandished a medicine bottle

filled with liquid when the verdict was read and drank its contents before announcing it was poison and collapsing on the floor. Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue spokesman Matt Little said Stroia was taken to the Broward General Medical Centre, where his condition had not been reported.

The substance Stroia ingested has not yet been identified.

## Researchers identify hottest chile pepper

Researchers at New Mexico State University said they have identified the Trinidad Moruga Scorpion pepper as the hottest pepper in the world. The school's Chile Pepper Institute said researchers grew several breeds of chile peppers reputed to be among the hottest in a plant science research field and the mature peppers were then harvested, dried and ground to powder.

The capsaicinoids, the compounds that produce the heat sensation, were removed from the peppers and examined. The Trinidad Moruga Scorpion was

measured at more than 1.2 million Scoville Heat Units, while the second-hottest pepper, Chocolate 7-pot, was found to have nearly 1.17 million.

"Part of the reason we conducted this research is that rigorous scientific testing is required to ensure accurate determination of super hot heat levels," researcher Danise Coons said. "The Chile Pepper Institute, as the leading authority on chile peppers, was a logical place for this research to be conducted."

### News Album



Singer Kelly Clarkson

## "Stronger" tops US record chart

LOS ANGELES, 17 Feb— Kelly Clarkson's "Stronger (What Doesn't Kill You)" is No 1 on the US record chart for a second week, Billboard.com reported on Thursday.

Coming in at No 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 is Adele's "Set Fire to the Rain," followed by fun's "We Are Young" featuring Janelle Monae at No 3, LMFAO's "Sexy and I Know It" at No 4 and Flo Rida's "Good

Feeling" at No 5.

Rounding out the top tier are Rihanna's "We Found Love" featuring Calvin Harris at No 6, the late Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You" at No 7, David Guetta's "Turn Me On" featuring Nicki Minaj at No 8, Tyga's "Rack City" at No 9 and Madonna's "Give Me All Your Luvin'" featuring Nicki Minaj and MIA at No 10.

Internet

## Streep, Roberts to star in 'August: Osage County'

NEW YORK, 17 Feb—The Weinstein Co says Julia Roberts and Meryl Streep are to headline the film adaptation of the Broadway play "August: Osage County."

John Wells is to direct the big-screen version of Tracy Letts' Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning drama, TWC Co-Chairmen Harvey and Bob Weinstein announced on Thursday. "After seeing Meryl Streep's mesmerizing portrayal as Margaret Thatcher in 'The Iron Lady,' it has me even more excited and proud to co-star with her," Roberts said in a statement.

"I'm delighted and feel very privileged to have the opportunity to direct Meryl and Julia in this magnificent piece written by Tracy Letts," said Wells. "Meryl's extraordinary body of work made her the



Actress Julia Roberts

only conceivable choice to play Violet. Coupled with Julia's effortless mastery of every role she undertakes and her fearlessness as an actress, I'm confident this first-ever collaboration with Meryl and Julia will produce an exciting and moving film."

Internet

## Kevin Costner to speak at Whitney Houston's funeral

NEWARK, 17 Feb—Kevin Costner is to say a few words at the New Jersey funeral of Whitney Houston, his co-star in the 1992 blockbuster "The Bodyguard," sources told People.com.

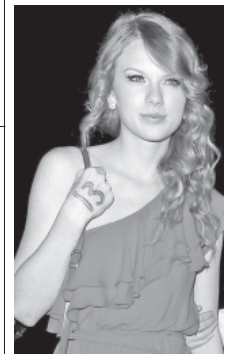
The film's soundtrack featured Houston's signature song "I Will Always Love You." In the movie, Costner plays a former Secret Service agent who falls in love with



Kevin Costner

Houston's character, a pop star he was hired to protect from a dangerous stalker. Aretha Franklin and Stevie Wonder are expected to sing at Houston's invitation-only funeral service Saturday, while Houston's longtime mentor, record producer Clive Davis, also will give a eulogy, Houston's representative told the celebrity news Web site.

Internet



Taylor Swift

The 22-year-old singer has previously dated stars including Taylor Lautner, Jake Gyllenhaal and Joe Jonas and insists that she will always be inspired by her relationships. "I think that love is always going to be a huge theme in what I write about just because there are no two similar relationships, there are no two times that you feel love the same way or hurt the same way or [feel] rejection in the same way. It's all different and I'm fascinated by that," Contactmusic quoted her as telling MTV News. "I really love to go back to human interaction and the way we make each other feel.

But that at 22 is different than it was at 18 or 19 when I made my last album and 16 and 17 when I made 'Fearless'.—Internet

## Oldman's 'Tinker' glasses up for auction

LOS ANGELES, 17 Feb—The eyeglasses worn by Gary Oldman in the British thriller "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy" have been donated for a charity auction, organizers said.

The sale through the Variety Foundation and its "CharityBuzz" page began this week and will close 27 Feb. Oldman earned his first Academy



Gary Oldman, pictured in this scene from "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy", was nominated for best actor for the 84th annual Academy Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 24 January, 2012.

INTERNET

Award nomination for Best Actor for his portrayal of Cold War-era spy George Smiley.

"In conceiving the actor's characterization of the iconic character, Mr. Oldman conferred with director Tomas Alfredson and costume designer Jacqueline Durran over just which would be the right pair of glasses for Smiley to wear throughout," Focus Features said in a news release.

"He found the desired pair in the US and brought them to England for filming there. The glasses up for auction are the ones that Smiley acquires and begins wearing in the film, after the prologue and flashbacks, for the duration of the 1970s-era story as he tracks a double agent compromising Britain's highest espionage ranks."—Internet

## Guns N' Roses to reunite for Hall of Fame

CLEVELAND, 17 Feb—All of the original members of Guns N' Roses are to attend the band's induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, keyboardist Dizzy Reed said. Lead singer Axl Rose is the only founding member of the band still performing under the Guns N' Roses name. The group, which was established in 1985, is to be honored at the Hall of Fame ceremony 24 April. Reed has been playing with the band for about 20 years.

"I know that all the original band is going to be there," Reed told Billboard.com. "I don't know exactly what's going to go down. It's one of those things I'm sure will all come together and be really cool. I'm just going to go in with a good attitude and a clear head and a grateful heart." Reed said he and Rose haven't discussed their expectations for the night yet. "Honestly, we haven't spoken about it," Reed said. —"I don't know when or why or how to bring it up. It's not an everyday sort of thing. So we haven't really talked about it—but I'm sure we'll have to at some point."—Internet



Axl Rose, the lead singer and only original member of the current rock band Guns N' Roses, performs "Welcome to the Jungle" at the Forum in Inglewood, California on 21 December, 2011.

INTERNET

## Man City stun Porto but Stoke beaten

**City come from behind to win in Porto, but Topal's stunning strike sinks Stoke**

LONDON, 17 Feb — Porto 1-2 Man City. Sergio Agüero scored the winner as Manchester City produced a brilliant comeback to beat Porto in the away leg of their Europa League last 32 tie.

The Europa League holders took the lead against the Barclays Premier League leaders when Silvestre Varela nipped in to guide Hulk's cross past Joe Hart.

Micah Richards hit the post for City before Mario Balotelli leapt with Alvaro Pereira to reach a long ball, with the ball coming off the

Uruguayan's shoulder and bouncing into the net. And in the closing stages, Agüero pounced on Yaya Touré's cross amid chaos in the home defence to seal an excellent victory. Stoke 0-1 Valencia.

A sensational strike from Mehmet Topal was enough to give Valencia a victory at Stoke which leaves Tony Pulis's side facing an uphill task in the second leg.

Topal smashed in to the top corner from 35 yards to secure victory for the Spanish side ahead of next week's return.—*Internet*



Manchester City were the winners of a tough match in Portugal.—*INTERNET*

## Man Utd ease to Europa victory

**Young and Hernandez put Sir Alex Ferguson's side in command against Ajax**

LONDON, 17 Feb — Ajax 0-2 Man Utd. Ashley Young and Javier Hernandez scored as Manchester United took command of their Europa League last 32 tie against Ajax. Young opened the scoring just before the hour as he beat Vernon Anita before producing a cool finish past Ajax keeper Kenneth Vermeer.

And Hernandez finished Wayne Rooney's pass at the end of a flowing United move towards the end. United were the better side after the interval, but they were thankful to keeper David de Gea in the first half for an excellent save from Siem de Jong. The second leg takes place at Old Trafford on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.—*Internet*



Javier Hernandez sealed the victory with his late goal for Manchester United.—*INTERNET*

## International Sports

## Darcis dumps fourth-seed Stepanek at ATP San Jose

SAN JOSE, 17 Feb — Belgian Steve Darcis upset Czech fourth seed Radek Stepanek 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/2) to reach the quarter-finals of the \$531,000 ATP San Jose Open. Darcis, ranked 72nd in the world, will next face French fifth seed Julien Benneteau, who ousted Luxembourg's Gilles Muller 6-2, 6-4 in another second-round match on Thursday, at the indoor hardcourt event. In his 10th professional season, 27-year-old Darcis is seeking his third ATP title after a



Belgian Steve Darcis, upset Czech fourth seed Radek Stepanek 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/2) on Thursday to reach the quarter-finals of the \$531,000 ATP San Jose Open.

*INTERNET*

2007 triumph in Amersfoort and a 2008 victory in Memphis.

French top seed Gael Monfils withdrew with a right knee injury and was replaced by US lucky loser Blake Strode, who was eliminated by Bulgarian Dimitar Kutrovsky 7-5, 6-3. South African sixth seed Kevin Anderson dispatched Australian Matthew Ebden 6-1, 6-2 to book a quarter-final date against defending champion and third seed Milos Raonic of Canada.

*Internet*

## Azarenka, Safarova, Stosur advance at Qatar Open

DOHA, 17 Feb — Top-ranked Victoria Azarenka defeated Simona Halep of Romania 6-3, 6-1 to reach the Qatar Open quarterfinals, while Lucie Safarova stopped Svetlana Kuznetsova 7-6 (6), 6-3. Third-seeded Sam Stosur took advantage of shaky serving from Petra Cetkovska for a 6-3, 6-2 victory in the third round and earned her first



Lucie Safarova

consecutive wins of the year. Azarenka fell behind 3-1 to Halep, then won eight straight games to lead by a set and 3-0.

Azarenka finished the match with another break on a forehand winner down the line.

The Australian Open champion will face Yanina Wickmayer, after the Belgian beat Ksenia Pervak of Kazakhstan 6-4, 6-0. Two-time Grand Slam winner

Kuznetsova lost to Safarova for the second time this year.

The 28th-ranked Safarova backed up her win a day earlier over former No 1 Caroline Wozniacki. After saving two set points and closing out the first set, Safarova broke Kuznetsova to go up 5-3 in the second. Safarova will meet fifth-seeded Marion Bartoli, who beat Tsvetana Pironkova of Bulgaria 6-3, 6-3.

Stosur, who lost in the first round at the Australian Open and Sydney, used her kick serve to keep the 30th-ranked Cetkovska off balance. She was helped by Cetkovska, who double-faulted three times in the eighth game to trail 5-3.

Stosur closed out the first set when Cetkovska's return went long.

Stosur broke Cetkovska three times in the second set, helped by more double-faults from the Czech. She will play Romanian Monica Niculescu, who beat Ukrainian qualifier Kateryna Bondarenko 7-6 (5), 6-4.

*Internet*



Samantha Stosur

## Luke Donald makes positive start in PGA Tour opener

SAN FRANCISCO, 17 Feb — World number one Luke Donald got his PGA Tour season off to a solid start with a first-round 70 in the Northern Trust Open in California. Donald was tied ninth with fellow Englishman Justin Rose at one-under on the par-71 course.

"This morning it was freezing, and it was not easy, I'm excited about my ball-striking, the way I'm controlling the flight," said Donald. "This course is tough so I'm pretty pleased with what I did."—*Internet*



## Dereck Chisora 'better than David Haye' — Vitali Klitschko

MUNICH, 17 Feb — Vitali Klitschko expects a tougher fight against Dereck Chisora this weekend than the one David Haye put up against his brother Wladimir. British challenger Chisora meets Vitali for his WBC heavyweight title in Munich.

The contest follows Wladimir's dominant victory against Haye last July. "David Haye didn't want to fight," the Ukrainian said. "I expect a better fight from Dereck Chisora, he's actually a fighter."

It will be Zimbabwe-born Chisora's 18th bout of his professional career. Vitali is the red-hot favourite and he used an attempt to talk up Saturday's contest to continue the Klitschkos's long-running feud with Haye.

Vitali said: "He [Chisora] wants to go in and fight and to go the distance. He tries to challenge his opponent and I didn't see that in the last fight between David Haye and Wladimir Klitschko.

*Internet*

## What Zlatan Ibrahimovic whispered to Thierry Henry

MILAN, 17 Feb — I am Zlatan. I have the power of eight million Spartan soldiers and the hairstyle of a deadly samurai who works at a hibachi restaurant on the weekends. Pep Guardiola smells so bad that his signature cologne would be made of the slime in a kangaroo's pouch and old people. I wrote a book called "I am Zlatan" because I am the world's foremost expert on being Zlatan. Pep Guardiola is not an expert on being Zlatan because he is the human equivalent to a pond of gonorrhoea.

Your shirt is the same colour as Pep Guardiola's pants after he wets himself while thinking about how much better I am than him in all facets of life. Including Will Smith trivia. I am going to be the Prime Minister of the universe and I will make you my Secretary of Ninjas and Health Care.—*Internet*



Following Milan's 4-0 win against Arsenal on Wednesday, Zlatan Ibrahimovic whispered something in the ear of his former Barcelona teammate, Thierry Henry. Thierry found it quite funny.—*INTERNET*

## New driver's license

Martin had just received his brand new drivers license. The family troops out to the driveway, and climbs in the car, where he is going to take them for a ride for the first time. Dad immediately heads for the back seat, directly behind the newly minted driver.

"I'll bet you're back there to get a change of scenery after all those months of sitting in the front passenger seat teaching me how to drive," says the beaming boy to his father.

"Nope," comes dad's reply, "I'm gonna sit here and kick the back of your seat as you drive, just like you've been doing to me all these years."

## Poachers kill 200 elephants in Cameroon



In this February 2012 photo released by Boubandjida Safari Lodge, the carcasses of elephants slaughtered by poachers are seen in Boubou Ndjida National Park, located in Cameroon, near the border with Chad.

INTERNET

JOHANNESBURG, 17 Feb—Poachers have slaughtered at least 200 elephants in the past five weeks in a patch of Africa where they are more dangerously endangered than anywhere else on Earth, wildlife activists said.

The money made from selling elephant tusks is fueling misery throughout the continent, the International Fund for Animal Welfare warned.

Many elephant calves orphaned by the recent killings have been spotted in Cameroon's Bouba Ndjida National Park, and activists fear the animals may soon die of hunger and thirst.

"Their deaths will only compound the impact of the poaching spree on the Cameroon's threatened elephant populations," the organization said Thursday in a statement.

It is not known how many elephants remain in the West African nation. The latest figures from the International Union for Conservation of Nature estimated there were only 1,000 to 5,000 left in 2007.

The fund blamed poachers from Sudan, who it said were crossing through Chad to reach the remote northern Cameroonian wildlife reserve. Ongoing shooting is making it impossible to conduct a detailed assessment, activists said.—Internet

## Two barges collide on Miss River, spilling oil

LAPLACE, 17 Feb—An oil tanker barge collided with another barge Friday on the Mississippi, spilling oil and leading officials to close a five-mile stretch of the river, the US Coast Guard said.

Officials said the collision happened around 2 am about 50 miles upriver from New Orleans. The wreck tore a gash into the double-hulled tank of the tanker barge, which was being pushed by a tugboat.

Neither vessel sank and no one was hurt, Chief Petty Officer John Edwards said. He said the leak has been contained, and the Coast Guard is trying to determine how much oil spilled.

A cleanup company has been hired to deal with the spill.

St Charles Parish shut down both of its water intakes from the river, though officials said there is no threat to the public.—Internet

## NLM-ner Joke

### I often feel guilty

Sheri, the pert and pretty nurse took her troubles to a resident psychiatrist in the hospital where she worked. "Doctor, you must help me," she pleaded. "It's gotten so that every time I date one of the young doctors here, I end up dating him. And then afterward, I feel guilty and depressed for a week."

"I see," nodded the psychiatrist. "And you, no doubt, want me to strengthen your will power and resolve in this matter."

"NO!!!" exclaimed the nurse. "I want you to fix it so I won't feel guilty and depressed afterward!"

## Focus Myanmar TV Programme

### MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(18-2-12 09:30 am ~ 19-2-12 09:30 am) MST

#### Oversea Transmission

\* News  
\* Tin Maung Oo's Solo Art Show in Trish Gallery

\* News  
\* Songs for you

\* Road to 27th Sea Games  
\* News

\* Myanmar-Singapore Investment Conference  
\* News

\* Travelogue in Popa  
\* News

\* Myanmar Social and Charitable Association (Episode-2)

\* News  
\* The Beauty and Lifestyle of Taung Yoe Tribe

\* News  
\* 33rd Career Anniversary of Phyu Thi

\* News  
\* 100 Shuttle Silk Fabric and its Key Notes

\* Myanmar Movies  
\* "Whom do you love most?"

### MYANMAR TV (18-2-2012) (Saturday)

7:25 am  
1. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am  
2. Nice & Sweet Song

8:00 am  
3. Health Programme

8:20 am  
4. Poem Garden

11:25 am  
5. Game For Children

11:50 am  
6. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News

2:30 pm  
7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performings Arts Competitions

4:05 pm  
8. Cultural Dances

4:25 pm  
9. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performings Arts Competitions

4:30 pm  
10. 2012 University Entrance Examination (Economic)

5:20 pm  
11. International Science News

5:30 pm  
12. Beautiful "ASEAN"

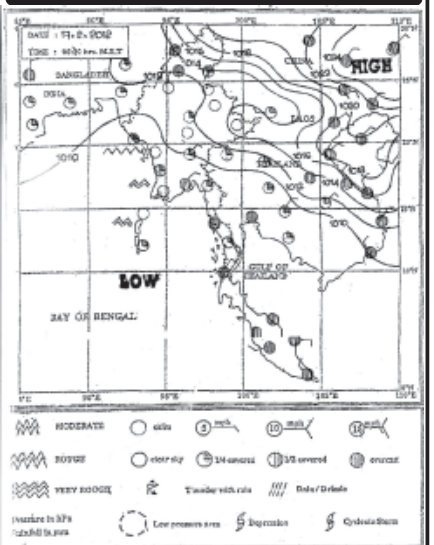
6:40 pm  
13. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm  
14. News

8:00 pm  
15. Cartoon Series

16. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

## Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## Weather forecast for 18th February, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	31/88	14/57	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
2	Kayah	33/91	12/54	Partly cloudy	
3	Kaym	37/99	19/66	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	25/77	07/45	Partly cloudy	
5	Upper Sagaing	31/88	16/61	Partly cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	35/95	18/64	Partly cloudy	
7	Tanintharyi	34/93	23/73	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
8	Bago	37/99	20/68	Partly cloudy	
9	Magway	38/100	19/66	Partly cloudy	
10	Mandalay	36/97	18/64	Partly cloudy	
11	Mon	37/99	22/72	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
12	Yangon	37/99	20/68	Partly cloudy	
13	Rakhine	33/91	19/66	Partly cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	28/82	10/50	Partly cloudy	
15	Northern Shan	29/84	07/45	Partly cloudy	
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	12/54	Partly cloudy	
17	Ayeyawady	37/99	21/70	Partly cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	39/102	18/64	Partly cloudy	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	37/99	20/68	Partly cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	36/97	18/64	Partly cloudy	

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past (24) hours, weather have been generally fair in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions and partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) above February average temperature in Magway Region and about February average temperature in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures was Pinshung (3°C).

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

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the Central Myanmar areas.

## DISTRICT NEWS

### Repared road commissioned



PYAPON, 17 Feb—The repaved Danitaw 1st Street was put into service in Pyapon on 12 February.

Local authorities formally opened the road.

The 900 feet long and 12 feet wide facility was built at a cost of K 10 million by local people and K 14.8 million by Township Development Affairs Committee.

Myanma Alin

### Generator donated to rural health branch

KYONPYAW, 17 Feb—A ceremony to donate a generator to the rural health branch was held in Kanyinhsaing Village of Kyonpyaw Township on 8 February.

Wellwisher U Khin Maung Win (Inyegyi Lake entrepreneur) presented a generator and related equipment worth K 410,000 to officials.—Township IPRD



## Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for fifth day Cash donation put on record, ten questions replied, one bill discussed, four proposals approved



*Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint attends fifth day third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—The fifth day third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw was held at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10.15 am today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 191 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Hluttaw recorded cash donation of U Man Kan Nyunt of Kayin State Constituency No. 2 to Amyotha Hluttaw library.

U Stephen Tha Bait of Chin State Constituency No. 4 gave **advice to increase salary of government employees and asked whether there is a plan to review the policy on appointment of personnel from defence services in departments.** In response, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung

said that every employee must be dutiful. Only if government employees are devoted to their duty, will they have chance to pluck fruit of the country. It is necessary for everyone to enthusiastically work at respective sectors using their full capacity. Only if they love their job, will they be good employees. Only if they love their own land will they be ones endowed with nationalistic spirit. Only if they love mother land will they be good citizens.

As to high commodity price, service laid down by the State is almost zero per cent. Due to urgent need for proposal of own business and permission, they bribe service personnel into doing their interests. That way has become deeper and deeper, supporting bribery and corruption circle. So, the President

said that as bribery and corruption tarnish the image not only of individuals but also of the country, punitive action will be taken against those people enlisting public helps.

As the order of the President, the Ministry of the President Office received 6660 letters addressed to the President during the period from 5-4-2011 to 31-1-2012. Of them, 2780 case letters have been scrutinized and 1951 letters are under scrutiny, and 1929 letters are found ineligible and repeated. Required actions have been taken against undisciplined people. Arrangements are being made to do so. Only the case with concrete evidence will be taken. Those who came up with incorrect case were given warnings and action will be taken against those bearing jealousy, plot and stigmatization.

The government is taking step to enforcement of laws, bylaws, rules and regulations, and amendment to laws, bylaws, rules and regulations in order to ensure good governance and clean government. All citizens including service personnel need to live within the laws, bylaws, rules and regulations.

Not only the government but also the people are responsible for high commodity price. By reducing outgoings of family and imports of the country, family will have surplus that help the country to have raw materials to produce finished products and then export to foreign countries.

Directive has been issued to change sealed tender and sealed auction into open tender and open auction to show transparency. Arrangement to issue directive on BOT systems not to collect more money than prescribed rate is being made. Arrangements for collection of toll gate fees,

road using fees, air, train and car ticket fees to be posted at designated places are being made.

Arrangements for ensuring full rights of government employees, appointment of employees and promotion, increment, increment in advance, taking leave, honorarium, cash reward, pension allowance were being made.

The Union government is running the mechanism with the force of government employees to bring about rapid development in the country. In doing so, to ensure successful organizational works, service personnel are to be transferred from a ministry to another.

Qualified people get deserved position. There will be different quality among service personnel based on their industriousness, loyalty, devotion and sacrifice. With the age of democracy, there will be chance for competition. According to requirements of the country, qualified service personnel have been appointed.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin answered health questions of four Hluttaw representatives.

U Than Myint of Taninthayi Region Constituency No. 10 asked **whether there is a plan to appoint a dentist at People's Hospital in Taninthayi Township and a health assistant at rural health centre in Theindaw Village-tract.** In response, the Union Minister said that if fresher dentists after ending officer course report, they will be considered to appoint to the vacant position at Taninthayi People's Hospital.

Thirty-eight out of 41 positions for assistant health officer rank have been appointed in Taninthayi Region. Degree  
(See page 9)

## UEC Chairman meets Nay Pyi Taw Election Sub-commission, Ottarathiri, Pobbathiri, Zabuthiri and Dekkhinathiri Election Sub-commissions members

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—A meeting between Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Tin Aye and members of Nay Pyi Taw Election Sub-commission and members of Ottarathiri, Pobbathiri, Zabuthiri and Dekkhinathiri Election Sub-commissions took place at Zabuthiri Township General Administration Department this afternoon with an address by the UEC chairman.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Election Sub-commission Dr Aung Than, chairmen of the Township Sub-commissions and secretaries reported on progress of works for by-elections and future tasks.

Next, member of UEC U Win Kyi reported on matters related to electoral experiences.

After that, the UEC chairman gave concluding remarks, saying that the UEC and Election Sub-commissions at different levels are important bodies, that the



participation of people, Hluttaw representatives, parties, sub-commissions at different levels is a prerequisite for ensuring a free and fair election, that it is required for people to be able to vote for the

representatives of their choice and to ensure that their ballots are not cancelled ones.

Moreover, the UEC chairman added that the Hluttaw representatives and parties are to canvass for votes in accordance with

the political parties law, to refrain from breaching election procedures, and the sub-commissions at different levels and polling stations are to try to be well-versed and competent in the electoral process.—MNA

*Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye meets members of Nay Pyi Taw Election Sub-commission and members of Ottarathiri, Pobbathiri, Zabuthiri and Dekkhinathiri Election Sub-commissions.—MNA*