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True patriotism

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

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

16th plenary session of sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee concludes

YANGON, 25 Feb—The second day 16th plenary session of the sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin Hall on Thirimingala Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township here this afternoon.

At the second day session, out of the tasks of the sixth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (Third subcommittee), Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suradhaja

discussed Vinaya affairs, Agga Maha Gantha Vasaka Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Dhamma Pala Bhivamsa on religious affairs and Agga Maha Gantha Vasaka Pandita Bhaddanta Muneinda on education affairs were discussed.

Afterwards, matters suggested by member Sayadaws of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha were discussed and confirmed.

Next, matters related to seeking the approval for the agenda of the sixth meeting of the sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha were discussed.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs.

This was followed by a general round of discussion. After Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nandamala (See page 8)

President U Thein Sein assists in free health care services, educative talks on health in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein this morning inspected free health care services at the designated venues in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council area.

The service personnel and their families in the township have received the free health care services provided by medical teams of the Ministry of Health and the Directorate of Medical Services of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief(Army).

During the visit, the President encouraged the patients receiving medical treatment.

The President first visited the 50- bed hospital in Pyinnya Theikdi Ward in Zabuthiri Township where service personnel and their families were receiving free medical treatment and attending an educative talks on health and encouraged the patients.

On arrival at the hospital, the President was welcomed by the Union Ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, medical superintendent Dr Daw Sanda Hlaing, departmental heads, and officials concerned.

Afterwards, the President and his entourage visited the pre-primary school where service personnel and their families from Bala Minhtin Ward were receiving

medical treatment.

They were welcomed there by medical superintendent Dr Daw Phyu Phyu and officials concerned.

The President and party proceeded to

No. 3 Basic Education Post-Primary School in Mingalar Theikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, and inspected the free medical care services there.

They were welcomed by Commandant Brig-Gen Kyaw Min Oo from No. 2 Defence Services Hospital (1000-bed) and officials concerned.

(See page 8)



President U Thein Sein meets a staff member and her family receiving free health care services in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Indonesian Trade Minister calls on Union NPED Minister

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Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister inspects development undertakings

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Sittoung River Crossing Bridge (Shwegyin-Madauk) that brings about better transport and regional development

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PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 26 February, 2012

Gear up for improving English

No one can deny the importance of English in the present time as a global language. With the English language becoming more dominant around the world, some countries use it as their mother tongue while some use it as a second language in their offices or schools. This makes English more widespread.

Indeed, English is a language of communication between people from different countries with different cultures. Moreover, English is used in various fields such as economy, trade, medicine, aviation, space, transport, tourism. Another reason why English is still dominant across the globe is that it is used as a medium of instruction in education and research and on the Net. So, English has become an addendum to the mastery of every area. In other words, it is a crucial requirement in job prospects. When it comes to the dignity of a country, having a good command of English is important for its citizens in terms of international events.

Now that Myanmar is gearing up for hosting the XXVII SEA Games in 2013 and taking ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014, it is a must for our citizens to know English. Only when we can communicate and interact with peoples from ASEAN countries in English, will everything be smooth and easy in every event, thereby bringing dignity and honour to our country. Hence, we Myanmar citizens must be prepared for English language proficiency. Those who have known English to a certain degree need to try to improve more whilst those who are still weak in English should start learning from now on.

As it is never too late to learn, let's get prepared for learning English so that Myanmar can stand on her dignity in such international events through her people's English language competency.

UEC Member meets election sub commissions in Ayeyawady Region

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Member of the Union Election Commission (Ayeyawady Region In-charge) Dr Daw Myint Kyi met members of Ayeyawady Region Election Sub Commission, chairpersons and secretaries of election sub commissions from vacant constituencies in the region—Pathein, Hinthada, Maubin, Pyapon districts and Pathein, Yekyi, Myaungmya, Wakema, Myanaung, Maubin, Pyapon, Dedaye townships to discuss by-elections to be held on 1 April.

Dr Daw Myint Kyi clarified election rules and regulations, announcement and instructions of the UEC and dos and don'ts, calling for free and fair by-elections.

Next, Chairman of Ayeyawady Region Election Sub Commission U Myo Tun explained preparations of Ayeyawady Region for the by-elections and chairpersons of district and township election sub commissions reported on preparations and difficulties, followed by remarks of Dr Daw Myint Kyi.—MNA



Union Religious Affairs Minister Thura U Myint Maung receives Vice Chairman of Chinese Buddhist Association Ven Shi Mingsheng and party yesterday. (News reported) MNA

Indonesian Trade Minister calls on Union NPED Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Indonesian Trade Minister Mr Gita Irawan Wirjawan and party held discussion with officials from Finance and Revenue Ministry and Commerce Ministry led by Union Minister National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein at the ministry here this noon.

They discussed matters related to trade and economic cooperation between Myanmar and Indonesia. The Indonesian Trade Minister has come to attend ASEAN Economic Ministers Informal Meeting



to be held in Nay Pyi Taw on 25 and 26 February, it is reported. MNA

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein holds discussion with Indonesian Trade Minister Mr Gita Irawan Wirjawan.—MNA

Cooperative syndicates needed to cover the entire nation: Union Cooperatives Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—A cooperative syndicate must be endowed with the capacity to enhance socio-economy and livelihood of not only the members but also non-member villagers or residents of surrounding

villages or wards, based on the members stressed Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint in meeting with members of Aung Mingala general dealer cooperative limited in No. 5 Ward, Lashio of

Shan State (North) yesterday. He called upon them to help improve the life of blue collar workers and replied queries of them. Next, personnel of the Cooperatives Ministry and Livestock and Fisheries Ministry explained

manageable-scale livestock breeding and farming, credit unions, cottage industries, cooperatives export and import, technical distribution, educational works, recruitment of new blood, disbursement of capitals, mutual distribution of commodities between Yangon and Mandalay brokerages and Lashio and Muse. MNA

Deputy Sports Minister receives officials of Viewtech & Communication Asia Pacific Pte Ltd



Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu receives Chairman of Viewtech & Communication Asia Pacific Pte Ltd Mr Alex NG and Managing Director Mr Ong Khaik Hean.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Secretary of Leading Committee for Preparing the 27th SEA Games Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu received Chairman of Viewtech & Communication Asia Pacific Pte Ltd Mr Alex NG and Managing Director Mr Ong Khaik Hean at his office this morning.

At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on modern equipment to be provided for security sub-committees of the 27th SEA Games to be held in Myanmar.

Also present on the occasion were the director-general of Sports and Physical Education Department and officials of Police Battalions Control Office in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (C) presides over a meeting of the national science-technology and education leading group in Beijing, capital of China, on 24 Feb, 2012. XINHUA

US Navy launches 3G communications satellite

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb—The US Navy on Friday sent a 3G communications satellite into orbit from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. The MUOS-1, took off at 5:15 pm EST (2215 GMT), would be part of the Mobile User Objective System (MUOS) which provides communications for aircraft, ship, submarine and ground forces with a

capacity over 10 times more than the Navy's current UHF Follow-On constellation.

The spacecraft would settle into a geostationary orbit above the Pacific Ocean, then undergo about six months of checkouts and tests before becoming operational.

The launch had been scheduled for last week and two previous attempts were

called off on both 16 February and 17 February due to strong upperlevel winds.

"MUOS will greatly enhance the capabilities of the warfighter to communicate on the move," said Mark Pasquale, MUOS programme manager and a vice president at Lockheed Martin, which builds the MUOS satellites for the US military.

Internet

Multiple bomb explosions rock Nigerian northern city: sources, witnesses

GOMBE, 25 Feb—Security sources and witnesses said series of explosions have been heard in different part of Nigeria's northern city of Gombe on Friday night, with heavy casualties feared.

A *Xinhua* reporter in the

state said more than 50 explosions were recorded at the Gombe police division near the palace of Emir of Gombe as well as other places.

There is no immediate claim of responsibility from any group. But security sources in the state who also

confirmed the blasts, said it is believed to have been carried out by the Boko Haram sect.

State commissioner of police Orubebe Ebikeme confirmed the incidents to *Xinhua* on phone, saying the situation is still tensed.

Xinhua

Int'l community should help Myanmar as it reforms

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Feb—Vijay Nambiar, special advisor to the UN Secretary-General on Myanmar, said here on Friday that reforms in Myanmar have helped the country progress significantly, but support from the international community is necessary to allow reforms to fully succeed.

"Actively encouraging the current reform efforts by the government and other stakeholders, may be the best way to pre-empt and overcome the risks inherent in such a process," said Nambiar.

"The people of Myanmar expect the UN and the international community to step up to this opportunity and what I believe is also our responsibility. I welcome the government's recognition of the value of the partnership with the United Nations to help Myanmar meet the challenges and opportunities before it," he said.

Nambiar's statements came as he briefed the Press on his recent five-day visit to Myanmar.

"One year after the formation of the new government and the launch of the political and economic reforms under the leadership of the president, President U Thein Sein, the changes currently underway in Myanmar have attained what I characterized in my Press statement at the end of the visit as an unprecedented initiative," he said. "This has been recognized by a wide range of stakeholders across the political spectrum, inside and outside Myanmar."

Since taking office in March 2011, the government has freed political prisoners, eased restrictions on freedom of the Press, opened more dialogue with the opposition, and signed initial ceasefire agreements with several armed groups.

"In many ways what we have seen so far are important first steps to start addressing longstanding challenges," said Nambiar.

MNA/Xinhua



Philippine President Benigno "Noy" Aquino III inspects the honour guard during the commemoration of the 26th anniversary of the People Power Revolution in Quezon City, the Philippines, on 25 Feb, 2012.—XINHUA



A rescuer works at the site of militants attack in northwest Pakistan's northwest city of Peshawar on 24 Feb, 2012. At least four policemen were killed and six others injured when a police station came under attack by three militants in Peshawar early on Friday morning. XINHUA

Blasts at railway tracks disrupt train service in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 25 Feb—Train service was suspended in Pakistan after a series of blasts on Saturday blew up railway tracks near the port city of Karachi and several other cities of southern Sindh Province, said railway officials. No one was hurt in the blasts, they said.

A senior railway official

Zafarullah Kalur said that four blasts damaged nearly four-foot tracks in Sindh Province, of which Karachi is the capital.

Local TV channels reported 12 small blasts at different places early on Saturday in Sindh Province, including Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkar, Nawabshah,

Khairpur and Mirpur Mathilo. TV footage showed damaged parts of the tracks.

Kalur said that trains were stopped after information was received and teams were immediately sent to repair the damaged tracks.

No group claimed responsibility for the blasts.

Internet

Afghan police kill 12 anti-gov't militants, capture six

KABUL, 25 Feb—Afghan police backed by NATO-led forces have eliminated a dozen anti-government insurgents and detained six others during operations in the southern Kandahar and Helmand provinces over the past 24 hours," a statement of Interior Ministry released here Saturday said.

"During the past 24 hours, Afghan National Police backed by national army and the Coalition Forces launched three joint operations in Kandahar and

Helmand provinces during which 12 armed insurgents were killed and six others were captured by Afghan National Police," the statement added.

A number of arms and ammunitions including explosive materials were also seized by police during the operations, it further said.

However, it did not say if there were any casualties on the security forces. Taleban militants fighting Afghan and the NATO-troops have yet to make comment. —*Xinhua*

Al-Qaeda claims deadly attacks on Iraqi cities

BAGHDAD, 25 Feb—Iraq's al-Qaeda branch has claimed responsibility for the latest wave of bombings and other attacks that killed dozens in Baghdad and across the country, raising concerns over the government's ability to provide security after the US troop pullout.

The Islamic State of Iraq said in an Internet message late Thursday that it targeted security forces and government officials in "revenge for the elimination and torture campaigns that Sunni men and women face in the prisons of Baghdad and other cities."

Iraq's Shiite-led government has executed at least 68 prisoners so far this year, a rate that has alarmed human rights groups. Additionally, last fall Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, a Shiite, ordered detentions of hundreds of former Saddam Hussein loyalists, most of whom were believed to be Sunni.

Thursday's attacks killed a total of 55 people and wounded 225, increasing fears of a new surge in sectarian violence two months after the American military pulled out.

"These operations were synchronized and their targets



Residents gather at the site of a bomb attack in Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of Baghdad on 24 Feb, 2012. INTERNET

were accurately surveyed and chosen, including security headquarters, military patrols and senior security, judicial and administrative officials," al-Qaeda said in the statement posted on militant websites.—*Internet*

Health Tip: Exercising during pregnancy

Exercise is a great way to manage the aches and pains of pregnancy, and help prepare your body for the birth of your child.

The Nemours Foundation, noting you should first get your doctor's approval, says the potential benefits of exercising during pregnancy include:

- * Feeling better and alleviating common complaints, such as backache, stress and constipation.
- * Improvements to your physical appearance.
- * Strengthening your muscles and body to prepare for childbirth.
- * Less weight gain and a faster return to your pre-pregnancy physique.

Internet



In the UK 180,000 people with dementia take antipsychotics.

INTERNET

Antipsychotics death risk charted in dementia patients

LONDON, 25 Feb — Some antipsychotic medication may increase the risk of death in patients with dementia more than others, according to US research. The drugs have a powerful sedative effect so are often used when dementia patients become aggressive or distressed.

A study, published on the BMJ website, argued that antipsychotics should not be used "in the absence of clear need". Experts said better alternatives were needed to antipsychotics.

A study in 2009, suggested 180,000 people with dementia were taking antipsychotic medication in the UK and said the drugs resulted in 1,800 additional deaths.

Researchers at Harvard Medical School followed 75,445 people in nursing homes who had dementia and were prescribed antipsychotics. The researchers said some drugs were associated with more than twice the risk of death than risperidone, another antipsychotic which was used as a benchmark to compare the other drugs.

The study concluded: "The data suggest that the risk of mortality with these drugs is generally increased with higher doses and seems to be highest for haloperidol and least for quetiapine."

However, the way the study was conducted meant it could not say definitively that certain drugs actually caused more deaths, merely that there was a link between the two. The Department of Health said antipsychotic use was "resulting in as many as 1,800 unnecessary deaths per year. This is simply unacceptable." — Internet

Bird flu cases more common than thought

NEW YORK, 25 Feb — Bird flu is believed to be a rare disease that kills more than half of the people it infects, but a US study out Thursday suggests it may be more common and less lethal than previously thought. The research could help soothe concerns about the potential for a deadly pandemic that may kill many millions of people, sparked by the recent lab creation of a mutant bird flu that can pass between mammals. Researchers at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York analyzed 20 previous international studies that tested the blood of nearly 13,000 participants worldwide, according to the study in the journal *Science*.

They found that between one and two percent of those tested showed evidence of a prior H5N1 avian flu infection, meaning millions of people may have been infected around the globe. The World Health Organization's figures currently show just 573 cases in 15 countries since 2003, with

58.6 percent of those resulting in death. The researchers said the WHO may be overlooking cases by focusing only on hospitalizations and severe illnesses, and recommended a new approach to calculating the true number of bird flu cases.

The findings could also mean that the death rate from bird flu is underestimated, largely because many of the people who get sick from it live in rural farming areas where medical care may be difficult to come by. "We suggest that further investigation, on a large scale and by a standardized approach, is warranted to better estimate the total number of H5N1 infections that have occurred in humans," the authors wrote. Researchers in the Netherlands and the United States have sparked international alarm with lab research that was successful in creating a mutant form of bird flu that was found to be transmissible among ferrets. — Internet



Bird flu is believed to be a rare disease that kills more than half of the people it infects, but a US study out Thursday suggests it may be more common and less lethal than previously thought.

INTERNET

EU committee makes no decision on oil sands crude



File photo shows an aerial view of a tar sands mine facility near Fort McMurray, in Alberta, Canada. Alberta has the world's third-largest oil reserves after Saudi Arabia and Venezuela - more than 170 billion barrels. Daily production of 1.5 million barrels from the oil sands is expected to increase to 3.7 million in 2025, which the oil industry sees as a pressing reason to build the pipelines. — INTERNET

BRUSSELS, 25 Feb — A European Union committee failed Thursday to reach a definite decision on labeling oil derived from oil sands as worse for climate change than crude oil — a proposal vigorously opposed by officials in Canada, where such oil is produced. The proposal will now ultimately be decided by the environment ministers of EU's 27 member countries, said a spokesman

for EU Commissioner for Climate Action Connie Hedegaard. The spokesman, Isaac Valero-Ladron, said a decision was expected by June. Canada had threatened to take the EU to the World Trade Organization if it singled out that type of oil as worse for the environment than others. But the European Commission, the EU's executive branch, contends that science justifies its proposal. Canadian Natural Resources Minister Joe

Oliver said Canada was pleased so many EU nations were opposed to what he called a discriminatory measure. "We remain strongly opposed to Canadian oil sands crude being unfairly discriminated against without scientific justification," Oliver said in a statement. "If the EU moves ahead in implementing these or any other unjustified, discriminatory measures, Canada will not hesitate to defend its interests."

The proposal would be a revision of the EU's Fuel Quality Directive, which sets a mandatory target for fuel producers and suppliers to reduce the carbon emitted by fuels by 6 percent from 2010 levels by the year 2020. The proposal, while it would not have banned oil from oil sands from being imported into the EU, would have assigned it a bigger carbon footprint than average crude oil. However, opponents of the proposal say that, in practice, that would amount to an import ban.

Internet

Honda to recall nearly 46,000 Odyssey minivans to fix rear doors

CHICAGO, 25 Feb — Automaker Honda is recalling 45,747 Odyssey minivans because the rear doors can fall on people unexpectedly, according to the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on Wednesday.

The NHTSA said on its website that the gas filled struts that help to raise and support the lift gate of vehicles equipped with a power lift gate system may be prone to early life failure due to a manufacturing flaw. The flaw can result in a leak of the pressurized gas, leading to reduced strut performance. As a result, the doors could close unexpectedly, increasing the risk of injuries, according to NHTSA. The problem affects minivans from the 2008 and 2009 model years that have power lift gates. Honda reportedly said the problem has caused two minor injuries. Dealers will replace both power lift gate gas struts for free. — Xinhua



A Honda Accord is on display during the 2012 Canadian International Auto Show at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in Toronto, Canada, on 16 Feb, 2012.

Europe's banks bleed from Greek debt crisis

LONDON/PARIS, 25 Feb — Greece's debt problems drove a slew of heavy losses across the European banking sector on Thursday, and bosses warned the euro zone crisis would continue to threaten earnings. From France to Germany, Britain to Belgium, some of the region's biggest banks lined up to reveal billions of euros lost through writedowns on Greek loans. "We are in the worst economic crisis since 1929," Credit Agricole chief executive Jean-Paul Chifflet said.

Credit Agricole reported a record quarterly net loss of 3.07 billion euros (\$4.06 billion), performing worse than expected from the cost of shrinking its balance sheet and after a 220 million euro charge on its Greek debt. "We

think 2012 is going to still be a tense period," Chifflet said, adding: "We're hoping that our results will be largely better than in 2011. Europe's banks have already written down billions of euros from losses on Greek government bonds and loans, and a deal agreed this week with its creditors will inflict losses of 74 percent on bondholders. — Internet



Passers-by walk in front of a branch of French bank Credit Agricole in Marseille. — INTERNET

Business

Hitches emerge as culprit in 'faster-than-light' particle

GENEVA, 25 Feb — Scientists who last year found particles that appeared to break the Universe's speed limit are looking at two technical issues that could have skewed the controversial finding, CERN said on Thursday. The European Centre for Nuclear Research (CERN) confirmed a report by the US journal *Science* on Wednesday that the team were verifying a cable connection that may have caused a flawed result.

"It may have caused a slight discrepancy, and they are checking to see if this is the case," CERN Press officer Arnaud Marsollier told *AFP* by phone. They are also verifying a timing instrument called an oscillator, he said. "This is a complicated experiment with a multitude of cables and equipment," said Marsollier. "The physicists have checked things out, are continuing to make checks and will check again. It (a technical flaw) is always possible, but they



A scientist looks at part of the Oscillation Project with Emulsion-Racking Apparatus detector (OPERA) at the Gran Sasso Laboratory under Gran Sasso mountain in Assergi, Italy, November 2011. Scientists who last year found particles that appeared to break the Universe's speed limit are looking at two technical issues that could have skewed the controversial finding, CERN said on Thursday.—INTERNET

have been saying this from the very beginning."

The fuss began in September when CERN's so-called OPERA team cautiously announced that sub-atomic particles called neutrinos had travelled some six kilometres (3.75 miles) per second faster than the

velocity of light. The neutrinos were timed at their departure from CERN's giant underground lab near Geneva and again, after travelling 732 km (454 miles) through the Earth's crust, at their arrival at the Gran Sasso Laboratory in Italy.

Internet



Cat-sized horses were the norm in a hotter past

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb — More than 50 million years ago, the Earth was a hotter place than it is today and horses the size of pet cats roamed the forests of North America, US scientists said on Thursday. These earliest known horses, known as Siffhippus, actually grew smaller over tens of thousands of years in order to adapt to the higher temperatures of a period when methane emissions spiked, possibly due to major volcanic eruptions.

The research could have implications for how the planet's modern animals may adapt to a warming planet due to climate change and higher carbon emissions, scientists said. Researchers made the discovery after analyzing horse tooth fossils uncovered in the western US state of Wyoming that showed the older ones were larger, and that the species had shrunk over time. Many animals became extinct during this 175,000-year period,

known as the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum, some 56 million years ago. Others got smaller in order to survive with limited resources.

"Because it's over a long enough time, you can argue very strongly that what you're looking at is natural selection and evolution — that it's actually corresponding to the shift in temperature and driving the evolution of these horses," said co-author Jonathan Bloch of the Florida Museum of Natural History.

Average global temperatures rose by about 10 degrees Fahrenheit during that span due to massive increase in carbon that was unleashed into the air and oceans. Surface sea temperature in the Arctic was about 23 Celsius (73 Fahrenheit), much like the temperatures of contemporary subtropical waters today.—*Internet*

New moth species invades Italy's vineyards



The moth is common in North America and was first spotted in Italy in 2006.—INTERNET

ROME, 25 Feb — A moth with a taste for Chardonnay leaves, which has infested vineyards across northern

Italy, is a new species of leafminer, scientists say. The pest was first discovered by Italian scientists in 2006, but they were unable to identify it. Now, by examining a snippet of the moth's genetic code, researchers have confirmed that it is a previously unnamed species. The team published their findings in the journal *ZooKeys*. The Italian team enlisted the help of insect expert Erik van Niekerken

from the Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity in Leiden. "We first turned to the [scientific] literature to find out what was already known, which was appallingly little for this group [of moths]," Dr van Niekerken told BBC Nature. He and his colleagues used a method known as DNA barcoding to examine a section of the insect's genetic code.

Internet

4G TV interference: Up to a million homes 'need filters'

LONDON, 25 Feb — Almost a million UK homes will need to have filters installed to prevent TV interference from 4G mobile signals — at a cost of £108m. A smaller number of homes — about 10,000 — will need to switch to satellite or cable TV services in order to avoid degraded picture quality. Homes that cannot receive these alternative platforms will receive up to £10,000 each to "find a solution". Costs will be met by the winner of a spectrum auction later this year.

Consultations are currently being held into how spectrum — part of which is used by analogue television — will be offered to mobile operators once airwaves are freed up by the switch to digital. These airwaves are crucial to mobile operators to create next-generation mobile services. The winning bidder, or bidders, will be required to pay for the costs of making sure viewers of digital terrestrial television (DTT) will not be affected by the changes.

In a consultation document released in August last year, media regulator Ofcom estimated that about 760,000 homes

could be affected. However, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) told the BBC that further research had suggested that number was likely to be closer to 900,000. Homes falling within a certain range of transmitter towers will automatically have a filter issued, while a helpline will be set up to deal with interference cases outside of the predicted areas. The filter, which is fitted to a digital TV box, blocks out unwanted noise from the 4G signal.

It can be fitted without



The 4G signal will be used by the next generation of smartphone.—INTERNET

the help of an engineer — but over-75s and disabled people will be given assistance if needed. The DCMS said that in a very small number of homes, the filters would not be sufficient. A platform change — to satellite or cable — will be required, the cost

of which will also be covered by the mobile operator. It is estimated that about 10,000 homes may need to take this measure. It is also predicted that about 500 homes affected by interference will be unable to receive satellite or cable services.—*Internet*

Design team creates electric skateboard controlled by brain waves

NEW YORK, 25 Feb — Built by the same development group that created the Kinect-controlled Board of Awesomeness, the research division of Chaotic Moon Studios has announced the Board of Imagination. While wearing a wireless neuro-headset designed by Emotiv, the rider on the electric skateboard simply visualizes a point off in the distance and think about how fast they want to travel in order to reach that point. The signal from the brain is "translated" by the

headset and communicated to a Samsung, Windows 8-enabled tablet via a USB connector. The software on the tablet interacts with the all-terrain skateboard and sends the rider flying down the road up to 32 miles per hour. In order to stop the board, the rider thinks about the upcoming point of arrival.

Identical to the design of the Kinect-powered skateboard, the board is powered by a 800-watt electric motor that can run up to 10 miles at full speed before requiring a recharge.

However, the rider has to continue to focus on directing the skateboard and cannot allow the mind to wander during a trip. In addition, the headset has to be adjusted on the head so all contacts are positioned correctly; something that may become difficult to control under windy conditions. It's unlikely that the electronics would be safe during inclement weather conditions such as heavy rain or snow without some form of all-weather protection.

Internet

Dish Network shutting down a third of all remaining Blockbuster stores

NEW YORK, 25 Feb — As reported initially during January, Dish Network has finally decided on the amount of Blockbuster retail locations to close. Mentioned within Dish Network's announcement regarding fourth quarter profits earlier today, the satellite service provider will be closing 500 Blockbuster stores across the United States during the first half of 2012. This will reduce the amount of remaining Blockbuster stores by roughly 33 percent, dropping from 1,500 locations down to just 1,000 storefronts. Store closures were made for a number of reasons, but the most prominent was a downturn in store-level financial performance due to competition from Redbox and Netflix.

When Dish Network purchased Blockbuster during April 2011, the company stated that it would keep 90 percent of the 1,700 retail locations open to the public. After

announcing the closure of 200 stores during July 2011, the additional 500 stores brings the total number of retail locations left at just 59 percent of the original figure. With the closure of these additional 500 stores, Dish Network plans to let go approximately 4,000 to 5,000 employees working in retail locations. Prior to the bankruptcy procedure and subsequent Dish Network buyout, Blockbuster had over 4,000 retail locations and employed over 60,000 employees at the company's peak of profitability.

While the Blockbuster segment of Dish Network is currently operating at a break even point, Dish Network officials are looking to the Blockbuster Movie Pass and Blockbuster@Home streaming video to make up for losses at retail locations as well as losses in the total number of Dish Network subscribers.

Internet



Loans disbursed in Hlegu Township for development rural areas



YANGON, 25 Feb—Yangon Region Government disbursed loans for development of rural region small-scale productions at the office of Ngahsutaung Village administrator in Hlegu Township on 8 February as part of efforts to undertake rural development and poverty alleviation.

At the ceremony, Chairman of the Yangon Region Rural Region Small-scale Production Development Subcommittee Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Than Myint

delivered an address.

Chairperson of the Yangon Region Small-scale Private Micro-credit Institutions Development Subcommittee Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe explained the purpose of disbursing loans to small-scale industries and other necessary matters.

Later, Region Minister Daw San San Nwe handed over K 15 million loans for the first time to the small-scale productions of rural areas in Ngahsutaung Village through Township Administrator U Aung Ko.

Township IPRD

Prevention against trafficking in person and crime reduction talked

KAWTHOUNG, 25 Feb—An educative talk on prevention against trafficking in person and crime reduction was held at the Women's Vocational

Training School in Kawthoung of Kawthoung District on 13 February morning.

Commander of

Township Police Force Police Captain Kyi Aung explained formation of community-based surveillance groups for human trafficking, combating anti-human trafficking as national duty and participation of the people in the anti-trafficking in person.—District IPRD

Cooperative Accounts Bookkeeping Course opened

AUNGLAN, 25 Feb—Organized by Aunglan Township Cooperative Department of Magway Region, the Cooperative Accounts Bookkeeping Course was opened at the hall of the Aunglan Township Cooperative Syndicate on 28 January.

Township Administrator U Khin Maung Win, Staff Officer of the Township

Cooperative Department Daw Thu Thu Han and Chairman of the Township Cooperative Syndicate U Nyunt Maung made speeches.

The training course lasted three days. It was attended by 87 trainees from 46 cooperative societies in Aunglan Township, including members of the Board of Directors.

Township IPRD

Loans disbursed to livestock breeding societies

KYAIN-SEIKKYI, 25 Feb—According to the rural development and poverty alleviation plan, the disbursement of loans to livestock breeding groups was held for the third time at Thontaing Village monastery in Kyain-seikkyi Township on 9 February morning.

Administrator of Kyain-seikkyi Township U Win Hlaing made a speech. Head of Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Soe Lwin explained matters related to the loans.

The township administrator presented

K 5.05 million to Shwe Pyaw Paw Goat Breeding Society and Shwethontaing Pig Breeding Society.

So far, the disbursement to five livestock breeding groups has amounted to K 7.16 million.

Township IPRD

Multiplier course on revenue management computer application kicks off

MAGWAY, 25 Feb—The multiplier course on revenue management computer application was opened at the hall of Magway Region Internal Revenue Department in Mayway on 20 February morning.

Head of the department U Soe Myint explained the purpose of applying e-RTS computer system and application of the e-RTS computer system.

District IPRD

Fire drill exercised at Hmawby Myoma Market

YANGON, 25 Feb—With a view to taking fire preventive measures at Hmawby Myoma Market, staff of Township Development Affairs Committee and Township Fire Brigade participated in the fire drill on 21 February.

DISTRICT NEWS

WETLET, 25 Feb—A ceremony to launch the 33/11 KV5 MVA sub-power station, built on a self-reliant basis, was held in front of the sub-power station in Wetlet of Shwebo District in Sagaing Region on 10 February.

Region Hluttaw representative U Ye Tint, Deputy Commissioner of

Sub-power station launched in Wetlet

Shwebo District U Hla Oo and Shwebo District electrical engineer U Khin Maung Aye formally opened the sub-power station.

Region Minister for Transport U Tin Ngwe unveiled the signboard of the sub-power station and delivered an address.

Chairman of the power

supply committee U Ba Myint handed over documents related to the station to the District Electrical Engineer.

The 33/11 KV5 MVA sub-power station was built with transformer and related equipment by Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 and K 270 million by the local people.—Township IPRD

CONCRETE ROAD OPENED: Kanyinchaung concrete road, built by Thabaung Township Development Affairs Committee and local people, was opened in Thabaung Township on 8 February. Township level departmental officials and Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw representative U Saw Lay Htaw formally opened the road.

Township IPRD



New library building opened in Hinthada

HINTHADA, 25 Feb—A ceremony to open Lunge Ahman Library was held in Leikchaung Village of Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Region, at 10 am on 11 February.

At the ceremony,

Township Administrator U Tin Aung Win, Staff Officer U Win Shein of District Information and Public Relations Department and administrator of Leikchaung Village-tract U Maung Maung Htay formally opened

the library.

First, Township Administrator U Tin Aung Win spoke on the occasion. Staff Officer U Win Shein of District IPRD explained matters related to five-point standards of libraries and their development.

Later, wellwishers donated K 500,000 and 850 books and publications.

The building of the library is 20 feet long and 15 feet wide built at a cost of K 2.5 million.

District IPRD



The opening ceremony of Lunge Ahman Library in progress in Leikchaung Village of Hinthada Township.

Vaccination provided to cattle in Hopin

HOPIN, 25 Feb—The animal vaccination was provided in Talwin, Thegon and Nyaungbintha villages of Hopin Sub-township in Mohnyin District of Kachin State from 8 to 13 February.

Staff Officer of Mohnyin District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Win Oo, Deputy Head of Department Dr Aung Aung, Head of the Sub-township LBVD Dr Zaw Myint Naing and Assistant Supervisor U Sa Nay Tun vaccinated 1012 herds of farming cattle.—Township IPRD

The fire drill was supervised by Deputy Commissioner U Nay Lin of the Yangon North District, the township administrator, the commander of the Township Police Force and members, the head of Township Electrical Engineer and staff, market elders and shop owners participated in fire drill.

Township IPRD

REFRESHMENT FED: Wellwisher Ma Shwe Pan Thee (Baby Vita) family and teachers feeding students at Basic Education Primary School No. 19 in Sangyoung Township of Yangon West District on 17 February.—MYANMA ALIN



Sittoung River Crossing Bridge (Shwegyin-Madauk) that brings about better transport and regional development



- * The bridge was constructed to link Shwegyin and Madauk crossing Sittoung River.
- * With the opening of the bridge, one can be assessable to Shwegyin in short time via Nyaunglebin-Madauk Road from Yangon-Mandalay Highway.
- * In the past, those from Shwegyin had to cross Sittoung River with the use of motorboats and manual boats spending a lot of times and energy. At present, such a kind of trouble has been overcome.
- * Now, thanks to the bridge, one can make a day-trip which is about 100 miles from Yangon to Shwegyin at any time.
- * Due to poor transport in the past, transport charges were high, triggering unstable commodity prices. And the bridge has now contributed much to swift and smooth commodity flow and regional development.



Salient points of the bridge

1. The upper structure of the bridge is of opened concrete and reinforced concrete and the lower structure of the bridge is of reinforced concrete.
2. Piers of the bridge are of reinforced concrete.
3. The total length of the bridge is 1500 feet. It is complete with 28 feet wide motorway flanked by two four feet wide pedestrian lanes.
4. Its water clearance is 80 feet wide and 12 feet long.
5. It can withstand 60 tons of loads.
6. The construction of the bridge started on 5-12-2000, and it was put into commission on 11-2-2003.

Translation: TLA

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye

Indonesia needs \$40.7b for infrastructure projects in 2012

JAKARTA, 25 Feb—The Indonesian Government requires 368.6 trillion rupiah (about 40.7 bln US dollars) of funds to finance 110 infrastructure projects under its acceleration and expansion development master plan (MP3EI) programme, a minister said here on Friday.

National Development Planning Minister Armida Alisjahbana said that the funds would be gathered from the central government's coffers plus allocation from regional governments and investors. She said that infrastructure projects this year would be focused on projects that are being constructed at the moment and new projects in eastern region.

"Besides that government intends to speed up

projects that give major impacts to the public this year, like double railway tracks in Java," she told a Press conference. According to the minister, her ministry has allocated 71.3 trillion rupiah to finance 34 infrastructure projects in Sumatra and 216.5 trillion rupiah for 31 projects in Java this year.

Meanwhile, the ministry also allocated 5.9 trillion rupiah and 3.8 trillion rupiah for 10 and 9 infrastructure projects in Kalimantan and Sulawesi respectively. For Bali and Nusa Tenggara provinces, the ministry has allocated 15 trillion rupiah to finance 8 projects.

In Papua and Maluku provinces, government has allocated 56 trillion rupiah to finance 18 projects, she said.—MNA/Xinhua

Ex-footie star jailed for tipping off burglars about empty properties

LONDON, 25 Feb—A former footballer turned postman has been jailed for tipping off burglars about house owners on holiday. Former Bristol City defender Andrew Llewellyn, 45, leaked private information from Royal Mail files.

A gang then ransacked 18 houses, stealing 100,000-pound worth of goods. Judge Julian Lambert at Bristol crown court told Llewellyn that he had been part of a "wicked conspiracy".

"I struggle to see how you took leave of your senses," the *Mirror*

quoted the judge as saying.

Llewellyn, who was jailed for three years after admitting conspiracy to theft, enjoyed a 12-year career as a right-back with City from 1982 to 1994. But he turned to crime after 10 years as a postman in nearby Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

The court heard he passed the addresses from Royal Mail's scheme to withhold post for people away to criminal Adam Holmes, 47, also from Weston-super-Mare.

Internet

16th plenary session of sixth 47-member State ...

(from page 1)

explained the reports on Viniya matters and academic matters presented by Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Ovasabhivamsa and Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Pantita.

After seeking approvals from senior Sayadaws, the 16th plenary session of the sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was successfully concluded.—MNA

Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung supplicates religious affairs at 16th plenary session of the sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.—MNA



President U Thein Sein encourages military specialists giving free treatment to staff and their families from Mingala Theikdi and Bawga Theikdi wards at No. 3 BEPS in Mingala Theikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township.—MNA

President U Thein Sein assists in free health care...

(from page 1)

During the visit, they viewed an educative talks on health and encouraged the service personnel from Mingala Theikdi Ward and Bawga Theikdi Ward and their families receiving medical care.

During the educative talk, the President stressed the importance for the longevity of the people as it plays an important role in measuring the development of a country. He also stressed the importance of the health knowledge and called for harmonious work of dissemination of knowledge on health, prevention and treatment of diseases for the development of the health sector. He also urged each and every citizen to have knowledge on health.

It was learnt that over 5500 patients received free medical treatment provided by the respective specialists in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. The free health care services and educative talks on health activities will continue tomorrow.

MNA

Commercial tax exemption over garden fruits and vegetables

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—As a measure for encouraging State exportation, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue issued Notification No.68/2012 dated 24-2-2012 giving exemption from commercial tax over export earning for garden fruits and products including various kinds of fruits and vegetables. According to the notification, the exemption period is from 1-3-2012 to 14-8-2012.

Acting under the authority entrusted in accord with Commercial Tax Law Section 8 Sub-section (d), the ministry issued the notification after getting permission from the Meeting (8/2012) of the Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held on 23 February.

Thanks to the issuance of the notification and changing policies of the State, there will be many benefits such as exporters being able to reduce their tax burden, Myanmar's export products gaining a competitive advantage in global market, helping expedite exports and growers being able to sell their products at a reasonable price.—MNA



Specialists providing free medical treatment to staff and their families at Township People's Hospital (50-bed) in Pinnya Theikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.—MNA



Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay receives Mr. Dong-Hee Lee, CEO & Vice-President of Daewoo International Corporation. (News reported) MNA

Bago University hones students' English skills

YANGON, 25 Feb — With the aim of improving skills of English, an extempore talk and essay contest in English was conducted at Bago University in Bago yesterday.

Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win delivered an opening address. Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Rector of the university U Kyi Soe and responsible personnel awarded winners of the contests.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham...

(from page 16)

The associate state superintending engineer and the head of the township Land Records Department reported to the Vice-President on terrain of the proposed axes of Lashio bypass, distance, estimated cost and layout of villages along the axes.

Next, the state chief minister and Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay discussed the suitable axes out of the proposed axes. The Vice-President then stressed the needs. The Lashio Township administrator reported to the Vice-President on proposed site for reclamation of new land plots and resettlement of squatter wards.

Next, the executive of the state Development Affairs Committee reported on number of vehicles passing through current express bus stations and arrangements for construction of Express Bus Station (Namakaw), followed by supplementary report of the state chief minister.

Next, Shining Myanmar Construction Co Ltd which has proposed to construct the express bus station explained proposed model and buildings included. In response, the Vice-President called for putting the express bus station construction to open tender in line with rules and regulations, low cost and high quality of the buildings. He then inspected the chosen site and left necessary instructions.

The Vice-President then inspected the



President U Thein Sein gives instructions to staff and their families during the educative talks at No.3 BEPPS in Mingala Theikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township. (News on Page 1)
MNA

certain development but without satisfactory economic growth. Hsipaw has population of about 130,000 and produces such agricultural produces as orange, damson, pineapple, watermelon. Once, teaks and hardwoods grew in abundance in Hsipaw Township but now teaks can be seen only besides the roads. Due to the changing era, system and situations, Lashio has become the town opening state level government departments and accessible by plane. Muse has also seen rapid economic growth. Meanwhile, the growth of Kyaukme and Muse is slow as there was

about 17 billion dollars; Republic of Korea's, 50 billion dollars and China's, 175 billion dollars. So, this wide disparity makes Myanmar's economy far different from others'.

Like Thailand and Indonesia, in the Philippines, the money its citizens working abroad are sending back to their country amounts to about 1.5 billion US dollars per month. Bangladesh that has experienced more natural disasters than Myanmar has about a billion dollars a month sent back by its citizens working in foreign countries, said the Vice-President.

continued that he and his entourage came there to render assistance for Kyaukme and Hsipaw townships to be able to produce value-added items rather than producing traditional tea and raw fruits and vegetables and to know and address any barriers and difficulties. The neighbouring countries on their part are shifting from agro-based economy to industry- and service-based economy. So, assistance would be provided to develop those two sectors, he said.

Another point is the rural development and poverty alleviation scheme being carried out by the government. The majority of the people live in rural areas and they are living under poverty line. There are also needy people living in urban areas. The scheme has eight tasks. Kyaukme Township is engaging in the businesses of preserved dried damson, Khawbok (steamed and pounded glutinous rice) and tea. For rural electrification, power lines can be connected only regional peace and stability prevails. So, the local people are to cooperate in ensuing regional peace and stability, said the Vice-President.

He then stressed the need for Kyaukme Township to launch a service for tourism development in the region. Now, it is not difficult to get visas and plans are under way to issue on-arrival visas. Due to the development of tourism called smokeless industry, Laos has received about 2 million tourists and Thailand about 20 million. Andorra which has 80000 population only and a land-locked country relies mainly on tourism.

Kyaukme can boast its tea plantations where tea is grown traditionally, plantations where tea is grown with modern technology and tea harvesting time. Guphteik Bridge, which attracts the British, has been in old age but it looks serviceable.

He also urged them to consider the tourist attractions including Bawkyo Pagoda in Hsipaw Township, historic places related to Sawbwas and Mogok and Momeik.

He also urged them to make arrangements for teaching and learning literatures of the national races within the framework of the constitution as the State was planning to help teaching and learning of literatures of the national races.

The Vice-President called for participation of the people in implementing poverty alleviation tasks and more investment in businesses in the industrial and service providing sectors which were suitable to the development of regions concerned.

(See page 10)



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham inspects proposed site for construction of Express Bus Station (Namakaw) near Namakaw Village, Lashio.—MNA

proposed axis for construction of Lashio bypass near Mehan Village and gave necessary instructions.

In his speech to the district and township level departmental personnel, members of social organizations, ward and village-tract administrators, senior citizens and locals on his tour of Kyaukme and Hsipaw, the Vice-President said he and the members of Union and Shan State governments came there to learn social and economic status of Kyaukme and Hsipaw and to fulfill the requirements as much as possible.

Kyaukme around 30 or 40 years ago was a boom town in Northern Shan State on a par with Lashio. It was even more popular than Lashio for it was closer to Mandalay as it had smooth motor road while motor roads in Lashio were in critical condition that time, it can be easily accessible both by car and rail, it has very popular products like Kyaukme dried tea leaf, world-famous Guphteik Bridge, picturesque Kyaukme-Gupdwun motor road, and it lies closely to Mogkok, land of ruby and Momeik, land of sapphire.

Likewise, Hsipaw was witnessing

no expansion of business in them.

The Vice-President said while meeting with businessmen from Shan State (North), he also met with businessmen from Kyaukme. He said he asked the difficulties and requirements of them and fulfilled the requirements and held discussion in detail. He said he invited businessmen from Kyaukme and Hsipaw townships to participate in industrial zone or special economic zone project near the border town Muse.

He said although the businessmen from Myaukme District reported to him that there is only tea industry in the district and no other businesses, he would like them to take part in the proposed industrial zone or special economic zone project. Social works cannot be carried out so long as the economy is sluggish. The economic growth can be seen clearly by looking to the export volume of the nation.

The nation's export amount of 2010-2011 fiscal year is worth only US\$ 8.8 billion. But, neighbouring Thailand earned US\$ 17 billion from its exports only in November, 2011. Similarly, Indonesia's monthly export earnings amounted to

This is why the government is taking measures for amending profit tax laws and easing procedures. In the past, 10% income tax was levied and now only 2% is being levied. In addition, monetary procedures are being relaxed in order that remittance can be carried out legally.

Only if there are changes and reforms in all aspects, will the nation be able to catch up with others. As the whole country still relies on agro-based economy, Kyaukme Township and Hsipaw Township still have to depend on cultivation of tea and greens respectively.

The Vice-President added that although agriculture business is enough for human basic needs, the nation must transform itself into an industrialized one if it really wants to see development. Today, there are two types of economy – economy based on natural resources and economy based on human resources. Countries with the technological strength and rich human resources like Singapore, Malaysia, ROK and Japan have become really developed, industrialized nations.

It is therefore necessary to manufacture value-added products. The Vice-President

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham...

(from page 9)

The Vice-President attended a meeting to review the reports of the local people during his tour of Shan State north at the Shweli Guest House in Lashio today.

During the meeting, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thein Htay, U Ohn Myint and U Khin Yi, Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, deputy ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, U Kyaw Lwin, U Win Than, Dr Win Myint, Dr Kan Zaw, U Aung Than Oo and U Khin Zaw reported on measures to be taken to assist in reports of the townsenders and village and township administrators.

The Vice-President said that regarding the reports, some measures had been taken during his current trip and some would be taken after coordination as they should be carried out in accordance with the rules and regulations.

After the meeting, the Vice-President and party visited a ceremony to broadcast fertilizer on the 200-acre farmland of Farmer U Tun Lu in Sonekwe Village in Lashio Township.

During the visit, he met with farmers



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham views farmers broadcasting fertilizer at model high yield paddy farm in Sonekwe Village, Lashio Township.—MNA

and called on officials concerned for assisting in timely distribution of paddy strains that farmers wanted to grow to them and irrigation and stressed the importance of gaining trust from farmers.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Ohn Myint explained matters related to forming of farming associations and ways for getting

agricultural loans.

During the meeting, the chairman of Shwehnintaung Company presented 50 pesticide sprayers to the farmers from Lashio, Hsenwei, Tangyang and Mongyaw townships in Lashio District who had produced high crop yield and 50 sprayers to the North-East Command.

Afterwards, the Vice-President inspected the three possible routes chosen to construct the ring road of Lashio and urged officials concerned to carry out detailed assessment to the axis of the road.

The Vice-President and party left there by air and arrived back here this afternoon.

MNA

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, meets WAOs and MCWAs in Kyaukme and Hsipaw



NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, met members of Kyaukme Township Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association at Mitta Mon Hall in Kyaukme yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion she said that the successive governments have carried out works for security and development of women and so did the new government. Wellwishers and social organization are also providing financial assistance for development of local people. She then urged the local national cultural organizations to guard women against trafficking in person and to actively take part in regional development undertakings together with local authorities, maternal and child welfare associations and women's affairs organizations. Money is

being loaned to women at low interest rate to enable them to lead better life, added Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, calling them to have contact with related organizations.

Next, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon donated 0.5 million each for Kyaukme District WAO and Kyaukme Township MCWA. She then conversed with national race cultural organizations and posed for documentary photo with them.

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon then viewed the training at tailoring course opened by the township MCWA at Mitta Mon Hall. She then visited Aungmyay Thaya Nunnery and donated cash for the nunnery.

Next, she met members of Hsipaw Township WAO and MCWA at the township hall and heard reports on works of the township MCWA and WAO. She presented 0.5 million each to Hsipaw Township WAO and Kyaukme Township MCWA. She then conversed with national race cultural organizations and posed for documentary photo with members of national race cultural organizations.—MNA

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham presents fund to Kyaukme District Women's Affairs Organization.—MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister inspects development undertakings

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung encouraged the provision of free mobile medical treatment at Taungtangan Village in Myingakwin Sttaion of Pathein Township yesterday.

The region chief minister in meeting with locals heard reports on requirements of

the region presented by the village-tract administrators. The region forestry and mines minister presented solar bulbs to the village-tracts.

Wellwishers presented K 0.6 million to the fund of Myingagwin Village Basic Education High School (Branch), the township administrator K 0.7 million to

take necessary actions to ensure high matriculation examination rate of the school and the region forestry and mines minister sports gear for the students.

The region chief minister then inspected the school and donated cash for all-round renovation of Dipayon Pagoda of the village.—MNA

Sagaing Region Hluttaw continues



The fourth day third regular session of First Sagaing Region Hluttaw in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—The fourth day third regular session of the first Sagaing Region Hluttaw took place yesterday, attended by Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Thin Hlaing, region ministers

and 101 Hluttaw representatives.

Seven questions were asked and answered, four bills discussed and approved and rural firewood forest bill was discussed at the session.

MNA

Mandalay Region INRD gives interview to journalists

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Mandalay Region Immigration and National Registration Department gave an interview to journalists at the department on 22 February.

Head of the department U Htay Hlaing explained issuance of national scrutiny cards

and taking censuses and distributed information pamphlets to the guests and journalists.

Next, 23 journalists from 18 journals shot questions about the works of the department to him who answered in detail.—MNA

Traditional Boat Race held in Labutta



An official awarding winner in traditional boat race.

LABUTTA, 25 Feb—The Myanmar traditional boat race was held in Labuttalok Creek in Labuttalok Village of Labutta Township, Ayeyawady Region on 12

February morning.

Among the spectators were Region Hluttaw representatives, district and township level departmental officials and members of

social organizations.

Altogether 16 rowing teams competed in the five-oar event and 10 teams in the three-oar event.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Deputy Commissioner U Aye Maung Kyi of Labutta District General Administration Department presented the first prize to Baingdauntchaung team in the five-oar event and Commander of District Police Force Police Major Win Kyi, the second prize to Hlwaza Team, Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thaik, the first prize to Kyaukhmaw Team in the three-oar event and Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Tin Lu, the second prize to the South Labuttalok Team.—District IPRD

LOCAL SPORTS

Pwintbyu Township gets Aungmyin Library

PWINTBYU, 25 Feb—The new building for Aungmyin Library in Sanpya Village in Thayetok Village of Pwintbyu Township was held at the library on 8 February morning.

Assistant Director U Win Khin of Magway Region Information and Public Relations Department, Township Administrator U Thet Oo Swe and Commander of Myoma Police Station IP Hla Myint of Township Police Force formally opened the library building.

The township administrator spoke on the occasion. After that the Assistant Director of Region IPRD explained the purpose of opening the libraries in the region and

perpetuity of the libraries.

The township administrator and the assistant director presented 150 books on various subjects, and IP Hla Myint, K 10,000 for purchase of books and publications to Chairman of the Library Committee U Maung Maung Thu, Committee members U Nyan Lin and Daw Mya Mya San.

The building was constructed at a cost of K 2 million contributed by the State and the local people.

The one-storey building is 20 feet long, 18 feet wide and nine feet high.

Township IPRD

Home Affairs clinches national championship shield in Track & Field C'ships

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—The Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman's 60th Inter-Ministry National Track & Field Championship was held at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna from 8 to 12 February.

Yangon City Development Committee team secured the men's championship shield while Ministry of Home Affairs team, the women's championship shield. The Ministry of Home Affairs held up the over-all championship shield.

In the men's event, YCDC stood first at the standing table by bagging 13 gold, four silver and three bronze medals with 138 points. Defence team at the second position secured two gold, six silver and three bronze medals with 100 points. Home Affairs scored 58 points at the third position by winning two gold, two silver and four bronze medals.

In the women's event, Home Affairs led the championship with 128



YCDC team seen with national championship shield in Inter-Ministry Track & Field Championships.

points at the first position with nine gold, seven silver and six bronze medals. Commerce stood second with seven gold, four silver and four bronze medals on 102 points. Agriculture & Irrigation stood third with three gold, three silver and

seven bronze medals on 92 points.

In the two events, Home Affairs secured the first position with 186 points, YCDC, the second with 177 points and Commerce, third with 162 points.

Shine Htet Zaw

Six-storey medical ward to be opened at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital

YANGON, 25 Feb—A six-storey medical ward to admit over 100 members of the Sangha will be opened at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital on Komin Kochin Street in Bahan Township of Yangon Region soon.

The six-storey building was constructed at a cost of K 1000 million donated by wellwishers.

Jivitadana Sangha Hospital is giving

health care services not only to members of the Sangha and nuns but also to the people. It opens four units of out-patient ward and special care out-patient ward from 8 am to 4 pm daily. Specialists, nurses, skillful staff and volunteer doctors participate in free health care services to the people. Wellwishers donate cash to the hospital.

Ohnmar Thant (MNA)

Vehicles checked at Highway Bus Terminal in Kengtung

KENGTUNG, 25 Feb—Head of Shan State (East) Directorate of Road Transport U Kyaw Lwin (Deputy Director) and party of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, members of a combined team concluding Directorate of Road Transport, Myanmar Police Force (Traffic Police) and All Private Bas-line Control Committee, checked vehicles that will leave for Tachilek and Taunggyi from Highway Bus Terminal in Kengtung on 31 January.

DRT



Students take part in national race dancing contest

YANGON, 25 Feb—Families of the Education Department in Shwepyitha Township held the national race dancing contest of basic education schools at Basic Education High School No 1 in Shwepyitha Township on 12 February evening. A total of 34 student teams participated in the dancing contests at high, middle and primary school levels.

Township Education Officer U Hla Yi and officials presented prizes to the winners.—Myanma Alin

Nyein Chan (A&I) stands first in Myanmar Traditional Chess Singles' Contest

YANGON, 25 Feb—Jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Chess Federation, the Myanmar Traditional Chess Singles' Contest was held at Theinbyu Gymnasium at the corner of Theinbyu and Kanyeiktha Streets in Yangon at 2 pm on 23 February.

Next, Executive of Myanmar Chess Federation U Myo Min Aung presented cash award to Ma Wint Zargyi (Ye Naing Aung Club-Sangyoung) who won the consolation prize in the contest.

Officials gave cash awards to the winners from first to 10th positions.

Vice-President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Win Aung presented second and third prizes to Ko Ko Gyi (Mandalay) and Lin Naing Oo (Ministry of Transport).

President of the federation U Maung Maung Lwin awarded Nyein Chan (A&I) who stood first in the contest.

The winners from first to eighth positions are allowed to take part in the Myanmar Traditional Chess Championship to be held on 22 March.—MNA

Outbreak of fire leaves 215 people homeless in Patheingyi Township

MANDALAY, 25 Feb—A fire broke out at Thamada Wwaygyi Village of Patheingyi Township of Mandalay Region at 11.30 am on 23 February.

A total of 43 houses were destroyed in the fire that started from negligent cheroot fire from the house of U Win Aung.

Altogether 43 members of Mandalay Central Fire Station and 198 members of Auxiliary Fire Brigades from townships used 43 fire engines participated in the fire fighting and they put out

fire at 12.15 pm.

The fire burnt 43 houses, leaving 215 people from 53 households homeless. The fire victims are being accommodated at relief

camp at Anadagonyi and Myitzimagonyi Monasteries in Patheingyi Township. U Win Aung died in the outbreak of fire.

The outbreak of fire is opened file Pa (38)/2012 at the police station under Section 285 under the law.

Kyemon



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO (035)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO (035) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.2.2012 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1208)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1208) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.2.2012 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



A couple consult a wedding service agency during the fourth edition of the Suzhou wedding expo held in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 24 Feb, 2012. More than 100 exhibitors of the wedding industry attended the three-day expo which opened on Friday.

XINHUA

15 killed in north China bus plunge

TAIYUAN, 25 Feb—Fifteen people have been confirmed dead after a tourist bus plunged into a ravine on Saturday morning in north China's Shanxi Province, said local authorities.

The accident happened at 9:25 am at a section of the State Highway 207 in the county-level city of Gaoping, administered by Jincheng City, according to the provincial traffic police authorities.

The 35-seat bus, carrying 33 people, was en route to Jiyuan City in central Henan Province from Jincheng, said the authorities. The bus is operated by the Transportation Corporation of Sanmenxia City in Henan. Rescue efforts are underway. The cause of the accident is under investigation.—Xinhua



Vehicles move on a fog-shrouded road in Changsha, capital of central China's Hunan Province, on 24 Feb, 2012. The city was covered in fog on Friday as a result of a cold wave moving southwards.—XINHUA

Nearly half UK pilots admit to dozing off while flying

MELBOURNE, 25 Feb — Almost half the pilots in Britain have admitted to falling asleep while flying, a survey has revealed.

The situation is more alarming as a third of those who confessed to dozing off have woken up to find their co-pilot also sleeping, according to the *Daily Mail*.

The survey by the British Airline Pilot's Association (BALPA) found that 43 per cent of those questioned have fallen asleep while flying at some point in their career.

The findings come after pilots voiced concerns over EU proposals to relax British flying rules, allowing pilots and crew to take on more frequent and longer shifts, *News.com.au* reported.

The European Aviation Safety Agency has proposed to standardise safety rules across Europe, despite BALPA's claims that they fall short of British aviation practice.

Pilots say passengers' lives will be at risk if regulations allowing them to land a plane after up to 22 hours without sleep are approved.

BALPA general secretary Jim McAuslan said the planned changes are "contrary to scientific advice" and would let pilots work seven consecutive early-start shifts.

He said such conditions are "desperately fatiguing".

Chair of the House of Commons transport committee Louise Ellman said the Government had noted the pilots' protests and was looking at it from a public safety point of view.

Internet

Hitler's silver tray given to him on his 50th b'day expected to fetch GBP 1K at auction

LONDON, 25 Feb—A silver tray presented to Hitler on his 50th birthday is set to go under the hammer next month, and the auctioneer expects it to fetch over 1,000 pounds.

The tray, given by Hitler's chief architect Albert Speer, is embossed with the Nazi leader's personal German eagle crest and his 'AH' initials, the *Daily Mail* reported.

The tray was part of 3,000 items, which were divided into six sets, and distributed at Hitler's various bases including the Reich Chancellery in Berlin, the Nazi Party HQ in Munich, Hitler's Berghof and Eagle's Nest mountain homes in Bavaria, the Gasthaus at Obersalzberg and his Prinzregentenplatz apartment in Munich.

It is due to go under the hammer at leading auctioneer Dreweatt's militaria sale in Bristol on 6 March.

20 April, 1939 was a high-point in Hitler's rise to power, and was just six months before the devastating war that would keep the world in crisis for the next five years.

The German leader has been driven at the head of a motorcade of 50 white limousines, as 50,000 troops paraded Nazi Germany's military might in Berlin.

The tray was then presented by Speer, who later became the Fuhrer's Minister of Armaments, with the 3,000 separate items sent to Hitler's various bases for use when entertaining.

"The tray is part of the six 50th birthday silver

presentation dinner services which were commissioned for Hitler and was made by Bruckmann, Germany's finest manufacturer of silver tableware," said auctioneer Malcolm Claridge.

"After the fall of Nazi Germany the Reich Chancellery and Hitler's homes were ransacked and many of the 3,000 silver pieces were looted and have subsequently found their way on to the market.

"The tray bears Hitler's personal German eagle device astride a wreath encircling a swastika and his initials AH.

"We have put a conservative estimate of 600 pounds to 800 pounds on the tray, but it could easily sell for more than 1,000 pounds," Claridge stated.—Internet

Five killed by tornado in Indonesia's in S Sulawesi, N Sumatra

JAKARTA, 25 Feb—Five people were killed by tornado in Indonesia's in South Sulawesi and North Sumatra province that has attacked on Friday evening, an official said here on Saturday.

Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, head of Centre of Data

Information and Public Relation at the National Agency for Disaster Management (BNPB), told *Xinhua* that the number is final, in which five people died while 98 houses, schools and several local government office were ruined.

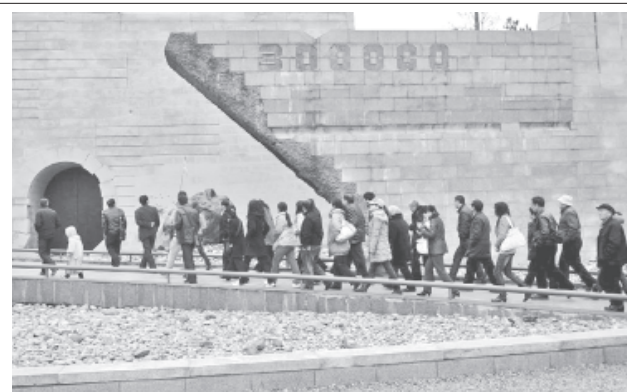
"Casualties were hit by collapsed trees and buildings," said Nugroho.

He said that four people were killed and 59 houses were damaged in Sidrap regency of South Sulawesi while 1 person was killed and 39 houses were ruined in Pakpak Barat regency of North Sumatera.

"In Sidrap, 215 people are taking refuge," he said, adding that the Regional Agency for Disaster Management (BDPB) of South Sulawesi Province and BDPB of Sidrap regency are coordinating with other government institutions to mitigate the disaster.

He said that emergency response posts had been erected in those areas.

"The Quick Response Unit of BDPB, the Red Cross, SAR team, military and police as well as local people are deployed to the scenes to provide helps," said Nugroho.—Xinhua



People visit the Memorial Hall of the Victims in Nanjing Massacre by Japanese Invaders in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 24 Feb, 2012. A Japanese official's remarks that the 1937 Nanjing Massacre "probably never happened" has aroused protest in Nanjing recently. Takashi Kawamura, mayor of Japan's Nagoya, said on 20 February that the 1937 Nanjing Massacre "probably never happened" while meeting with a delegation from Nanjing.—XINHUA

US Senator Lieberman's office victim of mail attack

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb—US Senator Joe Lieberman's office in his home state Connecticut was targeted by suspicious mail, the latest in a string of similar incidents, US media reported on Friday.

The *Hill* newspaper, which specializes in reporting Congressional affairs, quoted Lieberman's spokeswoman Whitney Phillips as saying on Thursday afternoon, that staff at Lieberman's district office in Hartford, Connecticut, received a suspicious package. The package had specific address information matching a warning given to Congressional offices earlier this week.

According to an email sent to Congressional offices by Senate Sergeant at Arms Terry Gainer on Wednesday, letters postmarked from Portland, Oregon, or with a specific return address

containing The MIB, LLC may contain "a suspicious powdery substance". The warning was prompted by threatening mail that contained the substance received on Tuesday by a Senate State office and a House District office.

"Yesterday when our staff in our state office was sorting the mail—around the lunchtime hour—they came across a package with the same return address," Phillips was quoted as saying. She said the staff secluded the package, closed off the room, and notified local authorities and the FBI. Authorities then evacuated the office, and initial tests of the envelope's contents came back negative for harmful material. Phillips said Lieberman himself was out of the office, but in the state, at the time of the evacuation on Thursday.

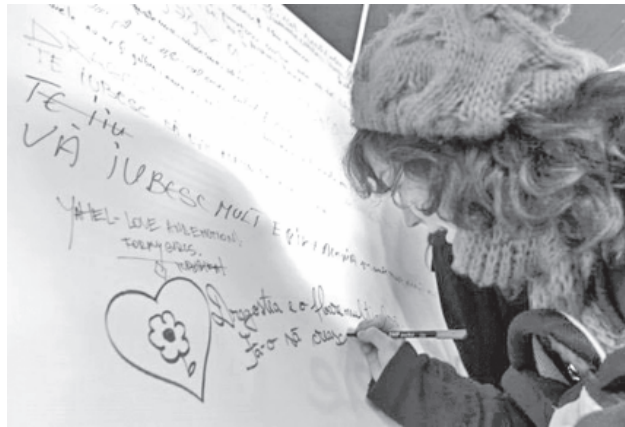
Xinhua

Minneapolis take a presidential walk

Thirty of the country's 44 presidents are immortalized in Minneapolis' Northeast neighbourhood, where Presidents Day is marked with a trivia contest and a walk.

Sheila Biernat, who helped coordinate the activities, said walkers during the weekend event occasionally stopped their meandering to discuss presidential biographies and the evolution of the area, the *Star Tribune* reported.

About 30 streets in Northeast are named for US presidents.



A girl writes a love message which reads, "Love is like a multi-coloured flower, Make it grow" as she takes part in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the longest love letter in Bucharest on 24 Feb, 2012, during Dragobete, the traditional Romanian lovers' day which is similar to Valentine's Day. The previous record for the longest love letter was set in the US in 2008 and involved 1,075 contributions.

News Album

Ad: 'Nurses wanted, must be hot'

A hospital in Stockholm, Sweden, said on Monday an ad looking for nurses who are "TV-series hot" is an "attempt to catch people's attention." "We're looking to recruit competent nurses above all, but we wanted to stick out a bit with our advertising campaign, and we managed to do that," Nursing Manager Jorgen Andersson of the Stockholm South General

told *The Local*.

Head nurse Elisabeth Gauffin said the recruiting campaign was looking for people who maintained a sense of curiosity and imagination along with the other, more subjective qualities they say they're looking for.

"You will be motivated, professional and have a sense of humour. And of

course, you will be TV-series hot Throw in a nurse's education and you are welcome to seek a summer job at Sodertjukhuset's emergency department."

Andersson said the ad is not meant to be exclusionary and an applicant's photo was not required with an application.

Man has 'Beetlejuice' museum in apartment

A New York man said the museum he created in his apartment to honour 1988 film "Beetlejuice" has more than 75 pieces. Bruce Christensen, 48, said his Hell's Kitchen apartment contains

items including plastic toys, bobblehead dolls, trading cards, a beach towel, a full copy of the movie script and even a six-pack of wine coolers called Dr Thirsty's Beetlejuice Alcoholic Fruit

Crush, the *New York Daily News* reported on Monday. "This is definitely one of the top 10 attractions in New York City," said Christensen, who said more than 200 people have toured the "Bruce & His Beetlejuice Collection" museum since he opened just before Halloween.

George Clooney's wax statue gets pre-Oscar Hawaiian makeover



George Clooney

LONDON, 25 Feb—Just like George Clooney will want to look his best for Sunday's Oscar awards

ceremony, Madame Tussauds is making sure his wax figure also looks good.

The 50-year-old actor has been nominated for Best Actor for his role in 'The Descendants' and hopes to add the statuette to his Best Supporting Actor Oscar for 'Syriana'.

It could be third time lucky for Clooney who was previously nominated for the best actor prize for roles in 'Michael Clayton' and 'Up in the Air'.

Clooney's waxwork

double at the London attraction will be swapping its usual dark suit for a black and white Hawaiian shirt in homage to his Honolulu-based character Matt King.

Hair stylist Gemma Sim and colourist Gemma Fee also gave the figure a makeover to bring it up to date.

Clooney's figure first appeared in 2004 when his hair was much darker, so it has been updated to reflect his current "silver fox" look.

Internet

Angelina Jolie writes foreword to ex hubby's memoir



Angelina Jolie

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb—Angelina Jolie has written the foreword to ex-husband Billy Bob Thornton's upcoming memoir. The couple, who were married for three years before going their separate ways, have always insisted on being at friendly terms with each other.

Now, the 36-year-old actresses' thoughts will feature in the book titled 'The Billy Bob Tapes: A Cave Full of Ghosts', Contactmusic reported. Thornton co-wrote the tome with country music singer and author Kinky Friedman. Publishers at Harper Collins insist the tell-all will detail the actor's upbringing, his infamous phobias, his movie career and even his five marriages.—Internet

David Morrissey joins 'Walking Dead' cast

ATLANTA, 25 Feb—British actor David Morrissey will join the cast of "The Walking Dead" for the zombie drama's third season, AMC said on Friday.

Morrissey is to play The Governor, a character from the Robert Kirkman graphic novel on which the series is based. He is the leader of Woodbury, a small settlement of survivors, and will become the chief antagonist for Rick Grimes, played by Andrew Lincoln, and his group, the cable network said.

The 16-episode third season is to begin production this spring in Atlanta.

A BAFTA Award nominee, Morrissey has appeared in many acclaimed British series, including "State of Play," "Meadowlands," "The Deal" and "Blackpool." He is also known for his leading roles in feature films such as "The Reaping," "The Other Boleyn Girl," "Centurion," "The Water Horse," "Nowhere Boy" and "Blitz." Season 2 of "The Walking Dead" airs Sundays on AMC.—Internet



British actor David Morrissey attends the "British Academy Television Awards" at The Palladium in London on 20 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Gerard Butler discharged from rehab

RANCHO MIRAGE, 25 Feb—Gerard Butler's manager says the Scottish actor was discharged on Friday from the Betty Ford Centre in California.

Butler underwent three weeks of treatment at the Rancho Mirage facility for prescription drug abuse, TMZ reported.

"Gerard left Betty Ford early this morning and he's healthy," the actor's manager Alan Siegel told the celebrity

news Web site on Friday.

Butler's problems initially began during his physically demanding 2006 action picture "300," observers said. The actor had since been struggling with pain management, but the problem became worse when he was hurt in a surfing accident in December while filming "Of Men and Mavericks."

TMZ cited unnamed sources close to Butler as



Actor Gerard Butler arrives at the 69th annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 15 Jan, 2012.

INTERNET

saying the actor realized he was relying too much on prescription drugs and wanted to kick the habit before it became a full-blown addiction.—Internet

'The Artist' shines at French film awards

PARIS, 25 Feb—Silent movie "The Artist" shone at home on Friday, netting best film and a string of other awards at France's annual Cesars, held two days before the Oscars in which the black-and-white film is a top favourite.

Michel Hazanavicius won both best film and best director for his tribute to Hollywood's golden age, about a silent movie star struggling after the arrival of the "talkies", at the 37th Cesars ceremony at the Chatelet Theatre in Paris.

His partner the actress Berenice Bejo was visibly moved to accept the best actress Cesar for her part as an up-and-coming starlet in the movie, two days before competing for the best supporting actress Oscar in Hollywood.

"The Artist" also picked up best score for the 1920s and 30s-inspired soundtrack by composer Ludovic Bource, as well as best set design and best cinematography.—Internet



French actress Berenice Bejo and French actor Omar Sy pose with their trophies after winning Best Actress and Best Actor Cesar awards for French director Michel Hazanavicius' film "The Artist."—INTERNET

Shane Warne poses with look-alike 'cuddly' lion

LONDON, 25 Feb — Elizabeth Hurley has posted a snap of her fiance Shane Warne, in which he is seen posing with a toy lion.

The Aussie sportsman's dyed blond locks make him a dead ringer for the furry feline with its dark yellow mane, the *Sun* reported.

And even Liz, 46, couldn't seem to tell them apart, tweeting the pic alongside the cheeky message: "Spot the difference." The one-time wildman was in recent times spotted in girlie Ugg boots, confirming his newfound love for the metrosexual look.



Elizabeth Hurley

However, the former spin bowler has taken some serious criticism for his new style, recently being named UnAustralian of the Year by

the Aussie version of *Zoo* magazine.

The title, for bringing "shame, ridicule and humiliation" to his home nation, was awarded to his 42-year-old because of his "woeful makeover."

"He's a bloke who went from eating baked beans to being the same colour as them. He looks like Teri Hatcher's stunt double," Zoo editor Tim Keen said.

"We're all for punching above your weight but you've got to go in the ring with the same body you had at the weigh-in," Keen added.

Internet

Defending champion Wozniacki beaten in Dubai semis



Caroline Wozniacki from Denmark returns the ball to Julia Goerges from Germany during their semifinal match at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 24 Feb, 2012.— INTERNET

DUBAI, 25 Feb —Defending champion Caroline Wozniacki lost in the semifinals of the Dubai Tennis Championships on Friday, her game undone by mistakes in a 7-6 (3), 7-5 defeat to Julia Goerges. Goerges will play for the title on Saturday against Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska, who beat Serbia's Jelena Jankovic 6-2, 2-6, 6-0 in the first semifinal. Wozniacki led 4-2 in the second set before Goerges regained control to close the match. "Made way too many unforced

errors, and Julia took advantage of that," Wozniacki said.

Wozniacki, a Dane once ranked No 1 and seeded third, struggled with her serve while Goerges never let her find her rhythm. "I felt I had all the opportunities in the world today and didn't take advantage of them. If you don't take your chances, there is no way to win," Wozniacki said. "It's easy to say I should have done this and could have done that. But, you know, as well for Julia she took her chances. If I came with a weak shot she was there straight away and she punished me." Goerges, an unseeded German, now has a 3-2 head-to-head record against Wozniacki. "It's never easy playing her," Goerges said. "It's always a lot of balls, a lot of rallies. We played over two hours for two sets." Goerges downed Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia, Casey Dellacqua of Australia and Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia in the previous rounds. Dellacqua replaced top-ranked Victoria Azarenka, who pulled out of the tournament with an ankle injury on Wednesday before she was to open against Goerges.— *Internet*

Top seed Isner upset at Memphis tennis

MEMPHIS, 25 Feb — Top seeded American John Isner was sent crashing out of the ATP and WTA Memphis Open after losing to Austrian Jurgen Melzer 6-3, 7-6 (8/6) in a quarter-final match. Isner, who hammered 48 aces in his first two matches in Memphis, fired 11 aces against Melzer in the 81 minute match at the \$1.1 million indoor hardcourt tournament at The Racquet Club of Memphis. Isner also had two double faults and won just 67 percent of his first-serve points.



Top seeded American John Isner, was sent crashing out of the ATP and WTA Memphis Open after losing to Austrian Jurgen Melzer 6-3, 7-6 (8/6) in a quarter-final match.— INTERNET

Melzer won 80 percent of his first-serve points, had seven aces and saved both of his break point chances. Third seeded Czech Radek Stepanek also cruised into the semis surviving a first-set tie break then dominating the second set to beat Sam Querrey 7-6 (7/5), 6-0. Stepanek, who finished second here

three years ago, posted four service breaks, compared to just one service break for the wild card and 2010 Memphis champ Querrey.— *Internet*



Liverpool's striker Craig Bellamy (C) celebrates with teammates, Jordan Henderson (L) and Charlie Adam, after scoring during their English League Cup semi-final second leg match against Manchester City, at Anfield, Liverpool, north-west England, on 25 January.— INTERNET

Animal instincts drive 'new man' Bellamy

LONDON, 25 Feb — Rejuvenated striker Craig Bellamy has credited a mind-management guru with helping him keep his volatile temper under control as the Welshman looks to claim a League Cup winner's medal. Bellamy, who hopes to lead Liverpool to silverware against his hometown club Cardiff in Sunday's showpiece at Wembley, revealed that he has worked hard both on and off the field.

The results have been there for all to see. In the second leg of the League Cup semi-final at Anfield, the 32-year-old was warmly applauded by Manchester City's travelling fans despite the fact he had scored the goal which ended their hopes of a Wembley appearance. "The 'chimp' still comes out every now and then but I have to think about the rational, human being side," said Bellamy in reference to his new outlook on football. The chimp reference is in relation to a mind-management book by Dr Steve Peters, whom Bellamy has spoken with. The Chimp Paradox explains how to separate the human from the ape element in the brain and therefore control your responses.— *Internet*



Freddie Ljungberg played in the Barclays Premier League with Arsenal and West Ham.— Internet

Barclays launch Global Fans Survey

LONDON, 25 Feb — Supporters across the world have the opportunity to say how they view the Barclays Premier League in the third Barclays Global Fans Survey. The survey has been launched by former Arsenal and West Ham winger Freddie Ljungberg and aims to gather the views of fans around the globe. The survey will look to discover how social media has allowed supporters to get closer than ever to their favourite clubs while it will also question fans on a range of topics including viewing habits and traditions.



Chelsea striker Fernando Torres

Fernando Torres left out of Spain squad for Venezuela game

MADRID, 25 Feb — Chelsea striker Fernando Torres has been left out of a Spain squad for the first time in five years. Spain coach Vicente del Bosque dropped Torres for their friendly against Venezuela in Malaga this Wednesday.

But Del Bosque said it did not mean Torres would be omitted from the squad for this summer's European Championship in Ukraine and Poland.

"Torres is not in good form and we believed in this case it was better if he didn't come," Del Bosque said. "He is a lad we appreciate a lot and it pains me to leave him out but I wanted to be fair.

"But this doesn't mean anything. This is not a definitive list for Euro [2012]" The Spain boss had said in December that Torres needed to turn his season around to ensure selection for Euro 2012. The 27-year-old has scored four goals in 29 Chelsea appearances this season.— *Internet*

Man City go five clear, relief for Chelsea

MANCHESTER, 25 Feb — Manchester City opened up a five-point lead at the top of the Premier League with victory over Blackburn on Saturday as Chelsea beat Bolton to ease the pressure on manager Andre Villas-Boas.

With second-placed Manchester United not playing until Sunday's trip to Norwich, City took full advantage of the opportunity to crank up the pressure on their cross-town rivals by taking all three points at Eastlands.



Manchester City's Bosnian striker Edin Dzeko (2nd L) celebrates scoring his goal with Argentinian striker Sergio Aguero (L) and Spanish midfielder David Silva (R) during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Blackburn Rovers at Etihad Stadium in Manchester.—INTERNET

Goals from Mario Balotelli, Sergio Aguero and substitute Edin Dzeko duly sealed a 3-0 win for Roberto Mancini's side, who extended their remarkable 100 percent record at home this season to 13 matches.

Meanwhile Chelsea boss Villas-Boas breathed a sigh of relief after watching his team down struggling Bolton 3-0 at Stamford Bridge. Second-half goals from David Luiz, Didier Drogba and Frank Lampard gave Villas-Boas something to smile about after a difficult week which saw the Blues pushed to the brink of elimination from the Champions League.— *Internet*

Ferguson takes blame as United scrape past Ajax



Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson leaves the pitch after his team's Europa League round of 32 second leg match defeat against Ajax at Old Trafford in Manchester, north-west England, on 23 February.— INTERNET

LONDON, 25 Feb — Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson took full responsibility for his team's unconvincing passage into the last 16 of the Europa League and a potential meeting in the later stages with Manchester City. The veteran manager saw his team beaten 2-1 at Old Trafford by Ajax but a 2-0 first leg lead carried United through in nervous fashion although it took a magnificent late save from David de Gea from a Christian Eriksen header to ensure his side did not exit on away goals.

United now face Spanish side Athletic Bilbao in the next phase with neighbours, and Premier League titl rivals, City also still in strong contention. "It would be a fascinating prospect if we got to the final,"

said Ferguson. "But it doesn't matter how you get to a final or who you play there. The important thing for us is to try and get to the final."

United have never won the Europa League, in any of its various forms, and there appeared the very real danger of that record continuing as Ajax turned in a magnificent second half display. Aras Obiliz equalized an early goal from United's Javier Hernandez before a late header from Toby Alderweireld secured a 2-1 win on the night for the Dutch side. United paid for fielding an inexperienced line-up that featured four defenders and a goalkeeper with an average age of just 21. "I've got to accept the responsibility tonight myself," said Ferguson.— *Internet*

International Sports

Better relationship

A man walked into a therapist's office looking very depressed. "Doc, you've got to help me. I can't go on like this." "What's the problem?" the doctor inquired. "Well, I'm 35 years old and I still have no luck with the ladies. No matter how hard I try, I just seem to scare them away." "My friend, this is not a serious problem. You just need to work on your self-esteem. Each morning, I want you to get up and run to the bathroom mirror. Tell yourself that you are a good person, a fun person, and an attractive person. But say it with real conviction. Within a week you'll have women buzzing all around you." The man seemed content with this advice and walked out of the office a bit excited. Three weeks later he returned with the same downtrodden expression on his face. "Did my advice not work?" asked the doctor. "It worked alright. For the past several weeks I've enjoyed some of the best moments in my life with the most fabulous looking women." "So, what's your problem?" "I don't have a problem," the man replied. "My wife does."—Internet

NLM-ner Joke Doctors meeting

A group of psychiatrists were attending a convention. Four of them decided to leave, and walked out together. One said to the other three, "People are always coming to us with their guilt and fears, but we have no one that we can go to when we have problems." The others agreed. Then one said, "Since we are all professionals, why don't we take some time right now to hear each other out?" The other three agreed. The first then confessed, "I have an uncontrollable desire to kill my patients." The second psychiatrist said, "I love expensive things and so I find ways to cheat my patients out of their money whenever I can so I can buy the things I want." The third followed with, "I'm involved with selling drugs and often get my patients to sell them for me." The fourth psychiatrist then confessed, "I know I'm not supposed to, but no matter how hard I try, I can't keep a secret..."—Internet

Chavez flies to Cuba for urgent tumour removal

CARACAS, 25 Feb—President Hugo Chavez bid an emotional farewell laced with references to Jesus Christ and independence hero Simon Bolivar as he departed Venezuela on Friday for Cuba for urgent surgery to remove a tumour he says is probably malignant. Clasp the hand of his youngest daughter, Chavez addressed allies of his socialist political movement and troops standing at attention at the Miraflores presidential palace.—Internet



Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez, center, greets supporters during a caravan from Miraflores government palace to Simon Bolivar airport in Caracas, Venezuela, Friday, 24 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

Tottenham boss Harry Redknapp wants to be top London club

LONDON, 25 Feb — Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp says his priority for the season is to finish above north London rivals Arsenal. The sides meet at Emirates Stadium on Sunday with 13 Premier League games remaining and Spurs 10 points ahead. "That's the most important thing for me this year to be honest, to be the top London club," said Redknapp. Spurs, who won the reverse fixture 2-1 in October, last finished above Arsenal 17 years ago in the 1994-95 season. Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger has bettered the league finish of his various Spurs counterparts in his 15 previous seasons at the club and has refused to give up hope of doing so again. "You can only see at the end of the season. The only thing you can say is in the last 15 years Spurs have finished behind Arsenal," he said. The last time Tottenham trumped Arsenal in the league, George

Graham was sacked as Gunners boss in February 1995 as he failed to keep pace with a Spurs side that came seventh on the back of Jurgen Klinsmann's 21 goals. The current Arsenal team have failed to score in their last two matches, losing 2-0 to Sunderland in the FA Cup after a 4-0 trashing by AC Milan in the Champions League, and former defender Lee Dixon has described Sunday's match as the most important of Wenger's reign. Redknapp hopes his side can make the most of Arsenal's current troubles and cement third spot ahead of the Gunners and fellow Londoners Chelsea, who are also 10 points behind them.

Internet



Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp.

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

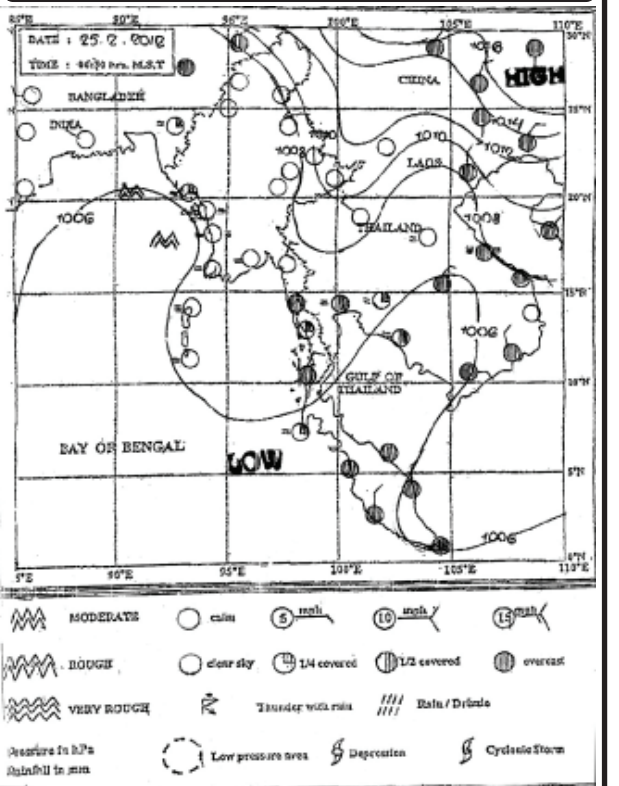
(26-2-12 09:30 am ~ 27-2-12 09:30 am) MST Oversea Transmission

- * News
- * Traditional Handicrafts from the Golden Land
- * Seminar on Myanmar Character Map
- * News
- * A visit to today's A Laung Taw Kathapa
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * Myanma Melody on Screen "Striking Sound of Weaving (Ma Lay Lat Khat Than)"
- * Community Forest
- * News
- * Product of Myanmar (Power Ring)
- * MI People's Celebrities "J me & Wut Mhone Shwe Yi"
- * Welcome to Ngwe Hsaung Beach Resort
- * Myanmar Potent Herbal Medicine, Pennywort
- * News
- * A Cordial Welcome to the Myat Mingalar Hotel
- * Myanmar Movies "An Ugly Fate"

MYANMAR TV

- (26-2-2012) (Sunday)
- 7:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
 - 7:40 am 2. Nice & Sweet Song
 - 7:50 am 3. Health Programme
 - 8:25 am 4. Teleplay (Agri)
 - 11:10 am 5. Musical Programme
 - 12:30 pm 6. Myanmar Movies
 - 2:30 pm 7. Join Performance by State Orchestra & State Traditional Orchestra
 - 2:50 pm 8. Singing In Different Version
 - 4:15 pm 9. Teleplay (Health)
 - 4:25 pm 10. Dance Of National Races
 - 4:30 pm 11. 2012 University Entrance Examination (Biology)
 - 5:10 pm 12. Documentary
 - 5:20 pm 13. Sing & Enjoy
 - 8:00 pm 14. News
 - 15. Cartoon Series
 - 16. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 26th February, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	30/86	17/63	Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers	40%
2	Kayah	34/93	10/50	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayin	40/104	15/59	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	23/73	10/50	Generally fair weather	
5	Upper Sagaing	31/88	14/57	Partly cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	38/100	16/61	Generally fair weather	
7	Taninthayi	38/100	19/66	Partly cloudy	
8	Bago	36/97	19/66	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	39/102	17/63	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	36/97	17/63	Generally fair weather	
11	Mon	38/100	20/68	Partly cloudy	
12	Yangon	37/99	20/68	Partly cloudy	
13	Rakhine	32/90	17/63	Generally fair weather	
14	Southern Shan	29/84	10/50	Generally fair weather	
15	Northern Shan	31/88	05/41	Generally fair weather	
16	Eastern Shan	32/90	10/50	Generally fair weather	
17	Ayeyawady	37/99	21/70	Partly cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	38/100	19/66	Generally fair weather	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	37/99	20/68	Partly cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	36/97	17/63	Generally fair weather	

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today: During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Taninthayi Region and Rakhine State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (5°C) below February average temperatures in Kayin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures Kachin, Rakhine and Mon States and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Namisan and Pinlaung (5°C) each and Lashio, Heho and Mogoke (6°C) each.

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

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Patrick wins pole for Nationwide race at Daytona

DAYTONA BEACH, 25 Feb—In about 24 hours, Danica Patrick went from her biggest crash to her biggest moment in a stock car. The former IndyCar star won the pole Friday for the season-opening Nationwide Series race at Daytona, becoming the first woman to secure the top qualifying spot in NASCAR's second-tier series since Shavna Robinson at Atlanta on 12 March, 1994. It came a day after she wrecked on the final lap of a qualifying race for the Daytona 500. "It's a good turn of events," she said. It also set off a flurry of Twitter traffic that included words such as "Dansanity," "Danimosity," "Danimite," and "Dantastic." "I really don't think about it from a girl perspective," she said with her proud parents standing a few yards away. "I've been taught from a young age to want to be the best driver. ... It was about being the best driver and not the best girl." Patrick won just once in 115 IndyCar starts. She had seven podium finishes, and two of them came when she began dabbling in NASCAR two seasons ago. She moved to NASCAR full time this season, and is scheduled to drive 10 Sprint Cup races for Stewart-

Haas Racing and run every Nationwide race for JR Motorsports. She will make her Sprint Cup debut in the Daytona 500 on Sunday.— Internet



Danica Patrick, right, talks with Tony Stewart, left, after qualifying for Saturday's NASCAR Drive4COPD 300 auto race in Daytona Beach, Fla, on 24 Feb, 2012. Patrick won the pole position for the race.—INTERNET

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets departmental personnel, members of social organizations, ward and village-tract administrators, senior citizens and locals in Kyaukme and Hsipaw



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greets local national race people at Kyaukme Town Hall.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, accompanied by Union ministers, the state chief minister, deputy ministers, and departmental officials visited Kyaukme yesterday.

The Vice-President met departmental personnel, members of social organizations, ward and village-tract administrators, senior citizens and local national races at the town hall. The ward and village-tract administrators, townselders, a trader and a Palaung national reported to the Vice-President on requirements of the region.

Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thein Htay, U Ohn Myint, U Khin Yi and Dr Mya Aye, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat and Deputy Ministers U Khin Zaw and U Aung

Than Oo explained works of the respective ministries and replied to the reports of the locals.

Union Minister Dr Mya Aye, on behalf of the Vice-President presented 30 sample solar lanterns to the village-tracts.

Next, Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Asia World Co, Cooperatives Bank, Shwe Thanlwin Co and New Star Light Co donated K 8 million to Shan, Palaung, Mongwun and Kokang Literature and Cultural Organizations. Chairman of DGH Battery Co U Maung Maung Win presented 41 boxes of R 20 batteries to the village-tracts. Chairman of Shwe Thanlwin Co U Kyaw Win presented 40 sets of Sky Net receivers to hospitals, basic education schools, township libraries, social

organizations, general administration departments, Mogok meditation centre, literature and cultural organizations, police offices, and the township development affairs committee.

Chairman of Shwe Hnintaung Co U Sai Ai Maung presented 50 crop sprayers to the village-tracts. Next, the chairman of Shwe Thanlwin Co donated a fire engine for Kyaukme Fire Services Department. The Vice-President then cordially greeted the attendees and proceeded to Hsipaw together with his entourage.

The Vice-President met departmental personnel, members of social organizations, ward and village-tract administrators, townselders and locals and spoke on the occasion.

Next, senior citizens and administrators reported to the Vice-President on requirements of the region, followed by the replies of the Union ministers, the state chief minister and deputy ministers concerned.

Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, on behalf of the Vice-President, presented 30 sample solar lanterns to village-tracts. Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Asia World Co, Cooperatives Bank, Shwe Thanlwin Co and New Star Light Co donated K 6 million to Shan, Lisu and Palaung Literature and Cultural Organizations. Next, the chairman of DGH Battery Co presented 67 boxes of R 20 batteries and the chairman of Shwe Hnintaung Co 68 crop sprayers to the village-tracts. Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Asia World Co, Cooperatives Bank, Shwe Thanlwin Co and New Star Light Co collaboratively donated an ambulance for Hsipaw Township Hospital. The Shwe Thanlwin Co chairman presented 26 sets of Sky Net receivers to rural health centres, basic education schools, social organizations, the township General Administration Department, the township Information and Public Relations Department, literature and cultural organizations and the township Police Office. The Vice-President then cordially greeted those present and flew back to Lashio in the evening, from which to the briefing hall of Express Bus Station (Namakaw) Project in Namakaw Village in Lashio.

(See page 9)

Relief for Villas-Boas as Chelsea down Bolton

LONDON, 25 Feb—Chelsea eased the pressure on beleaguered manager Andre Villas-Boas on Saturday with a 3-0 victory over Bolton to get the club's Premier League campaign back on track.

Second-half goals from David Luiz, Didier Drogba and Frank Lampard gave Villas-Boas something to smile about after

a difficult week which saw the Blues pushed to the brink of elimination from the Champions League. The victory — Chelsea's first in five league matches — saw Villas-Boas's side move back into the Champions League qualification places, three points ahead of fifth-placed Arsenal, who face Tottenham on Sunday.

After a poor first-half display, Chelsea's nerves were settled moments after half-time when much-maligned Luiz shot the Blues ahead. The Brazilian international picked up a loose ball and took his time before rifling into the bottom corner past Adam Bogdan. Chelsea made the game safe on 61 minutes when Drogba headed in Lampard's corner for 2-0.—*Internet*



Chelsea's Brazilian defender David Luiz (R) celebrates scoring with Ivorian striker Didier Drogba (L) during the English Premier League football match between Chelsea and Bolton Wanderers at Stamford Bridge in London.

INTERNET

Shwe Ayeya Library gets new building

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—The new building of Shwe Ayeya Library in Mongna Village of Waimaw Township of Kachin State was opened on 23 February along with donation of publications and fund to the library and opening of rural health branch new building.

Personnel of Kachin State, district and township Information and Public Relations Departments and township Health Department, social organizations and wellwishers donated publications and periodicals, 21-inch colour TV and K 150,000 for the library.

The township administrator, the head of township Health Department and the village administrator formally opened the rural health branch constructed by the villagers on their own.—*MNA*

Premier League Results

Chelsea	3 - 0	Bolton
Newcastle	2 - 2	Wolverhampton
QPR	0 - 1	Fulham
West Bromwich	4 - 0	Sunderland
Wigan	0 - 0	Aston Villa
Man City	3 - 0	Blackburn

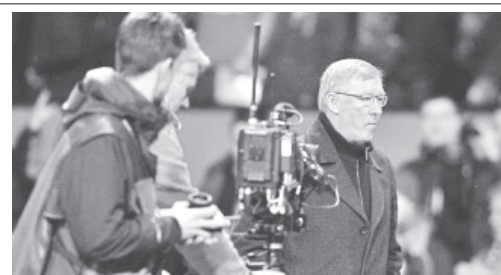
Int'l community should help Myanmar as it reforms

PAGE 3

Antipsychotics death risk charted in dementia patients



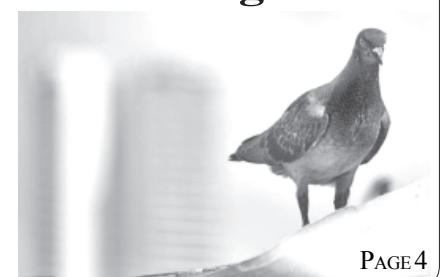
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Ferguson takes blame as United scrape past Ajax

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Bird flu cases more common than thought



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