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**Our Three Main
National Causes**

* Non-disintegration of the Union | * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity | * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

All must try to see national race youths who brandished guns using laptops Government not divided into hard-liners and soft-liners

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—*The following is the translation of the address delivered by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein's at today's third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the section 210 of the Constitution in commemoration of the first anniversary of the government's inauguration.*



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein delivering an address at first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's third regular session.—MNA

Esteemed Speaker and representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,

Under the Section 210 of the Constitution, I am here explaining the policies of the State, accomplishments of the government within a year and future programmes through this Hluttaw for public knowledge.

First, I wish the entire nation, all citizens who became expatriates for certain reasons, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives good health and happiness.

This month marks the first anniversary of the transfer of the administrative power to our government. On this occasion, I through Hluttaw representatives would like to present a brief account of our government's achievements, ongoing tasks and future programmes to our compatriots who have entrusted the State executive power to us.

Our vigorous constitutional democratic transition has now systematically reached a peaceful path. The international media has named our democracy transition 'Burma spring' or 'Myanmar spring'. As our stable and correct transition is gaining more and more international recognition, we need continuous efforts to win further trust. Our country is in the transition to a system of democracy with the constitution as the core. In fact, it is the uniqueness of our country and our people.

Have we already completed building a new nation where genuine democracy and eternal principles flourish? No, we still have much more to do. We will have to make more strides. Actually, it is a long-term endeavour for perpetuity and burgeoning of a Myanmar democratic society. We had achievements as well as challenges during the one-year period. We have been working very hard as we saw a lot of people at home and abroad who had doubts on our government or who had no trust in our government during the previous year. Our people have experienced numerous governments throughout the successive eras. Our practical endeavours and the objective conditions will bear testimony to the quality of our

government. In the meantime, we on our part have already understood and accepted in all seriousness that our present undertakings are on the path vitally important in shaping the future of our country and people.

Our government, in fact, is a turning point to a historic beginning for the next generations. This is our conviction. We also solemnly accept the fact that the extent of success, stability and durability of the transition process of the present government will become the legacy for the future successive governments. When it comes to nation-building, peace and stability, unity, order and steadfastness are of vital importance in changing from one era to another and from one system to another. If we compare our situation with the current global situation, our democratization process is a successful transition which the people can take as a model with great admiration. Who deserves credit? Not only the government, but also all the stakeholders including political parties, civil societies, members of the Hluttaws, the judicial pillar, the fourth estate media, national race leaders, and the Tatmadaw have been harmoniously taking part in the respective sectors to reach this situation. The main players in fact are the people or in other words the entire nationalities of Myanmar. This accomplishment will go down into the annals of our chronicles as a new page of history. Our country has paved the way for a new democratic Myanmar amidst international observers. We must continue to walk on this path paved by all the countrymen in harmony and unison. Our democracy will become firmer and firmer if we walk on this path with the resolve that there is no turning back while setting aside differences and working together on common ground.

Mr. Speaker,

Since its assumption of State duties, our government has made efforts to fulfill the two main wishes of the entire people. **The first wish** of the people is to live in peace and stability. With this public wish in the fore, we have been giving priority to political process for national reconsolidation and eternal peace. We try to implement the "all-inclusive political process" for all the stakeholders to have a place in the process. Nowadays, our political process is showing sound results. We have paved this path with the force of our goodwill and conviction to keep in fore public interest in line with the wish of the entire people. We are happy to see all the internal political forces trying with eagerness to become people's representatives practicing democracy within the framework of the Constitution.

We have already granted amnesty to over 28,000 prisoners during our first-year term with the aim of ensuring all-inclusive opportunity in national reconsolidation and nation-building tasks. It is a new record in terms of the number of amnesties granted in a year. Frankly speaking, we granted amnesty for two times in January alone for all to take part in the coming by-elections. As we have welcomed back Myanmar expatriates living abroad for various reasons, we now witness with pleasure the eager participation and assistance of overseas Myanmarans from various parts of the world. Truly, we need a strong force of new political generation for a mature democracy. The need to build the nation through harmonious efforts by all new and old generations after finding a common ground has direct relevance to the future of the nation and entire people.

The participation of our brethren demanding rights throughout the past successive eras in our all inclusive political process is the most important thing. As we are a Union, the participation of all national races in this process on equal terms is a must. Actually such an opportunity is a never-come-true dream and a fade-away hope of our national brethren throughout the past successive eras. We need to end misunderstandings and doubts that appear due to lack of close relations among us. Like all other national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan, Bamar is also one of the nationalities of the Union. The aspiration of the national races to share the rights among all and enjoy equality is also the desire of our government. Let me take this opportunity to recount the words a national race

(See page 6)

HONOURING THE PEASANTS DAY 2012

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 2 March, 2012

Promote traditional medicine

In some Asian and African countries, 80% of the population depends on traditional medicine for primary health care. The origin of traditional medicine in Myanmar dates back to thousands of years and is the historical heritage of Myanmar. In Myanmar, 70 per cent of the population resides in rural areas and 90 per cent of them rely on traditional medicine. The global use of traditional medicine has been on the increase as it can treat various infections and chronic conditions.

Traditional medicine is derived from medicinal plants, gift of the nature. So, many

people believe that they are safe. It has been the major contributory factor in booming traditional medicine market, leading to an influx of counterfeit or adulterated herbal products into the market. Effective as they are, traditional medicine can cause harmful, adverse reactions if the product is of poor quality, or it is taken inappropriately or in conjunction with other medicines or simply because of overdose.

Even in major cities like Yangon, certain proportion of the population prefer to traditional medicine. Thus, it needs to strictly enforce traditional medicine laws to prevent against counterfeit traditional medicine and ensure people have access to quality-assured traditional medicines. Moreover, the Ministry of Health will have to dissuade people from taking certain herbs and medicines with superficial knowledge.

The Ministry of Health is reported to be

conducting rural region-based researches into traditional medicines. It needs to ensure uniformity of the name of the herbs across different places. At the same time, it should be aware that over-extraction of herbal plants may lead to extinction of endangered plant species, for which we should set up herbal gardens to preserve rare medicinal herbs.

Myanmar has such traditional cure for chronic conditions as food-based remedy, massage and healing for snake bite. The Health Ministry will have to promote such treatment while researching on mixed treatment to produce better results. In addition to conference and paper-reading session like the one recently held in Mandalay, more training, collaboration and communication among providers of traditional and other medicines are needed to push back the frontiers of traditional medicine and ensure patient safety.

Daw Khin Saw Hnin meets members of MCWAs, WAOs in Magway Region



Patron of MWAF and MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin, wife of Vice-President, holds meeting with members of MCWA and Women's Affairs Organization of Magway Region.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Wife of the Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Saw Hnin on 28 February morning met members of MCWA and Women's Affairs Organization of Magway Region at the Region WAO Office.

Speaking at the meeting, Daw Khin Saw Hnin said that the organizations are civil voluntary organizations contributing to the State. She stressed the need for MCWA for improvement of education, economic and social tasks for the women. She noted that she took pride for participation

of association members in development tasks with their utmost efforts.

The Patron of Magway Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee submitted the briefed reports of the committee and the chairperson of Magway Region WAO, the briefed submission on its tasks.

Daw Khin Saw Hnin presented K 300,000 each to WAOs and MCWAs of 25 townships in Magway Region.

On arrival at Magway Township MCWA on 29 February morning, Daw Khin Saw Hnin comforted expectant

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Soe Tint Managing Director Inland Water Transport Ministry of Transport	Director-General Transport Department Ministry of Transport
(2) U Win Pe Director-General Transport Department Ministry of Transport	Managing Director Inland Water Transport Ministry of Transport

mothers. She donated cash to the delivery room of the association and presented nourishing stuff to expectant mothers and pre-primary children.

After visiting the Ayethida Home for the Aged in Yenangyoung, she donated foods, medicines and cash assistance to five grandpas and 26 grandmas.

Ayethida Home for the Aged was established by merchant U Kyi Thein-Daw Myint Myint Kyi of Yenangyoung in 1997. It was recognized by Social Welfare Department in 2000. Up to now, founders U Kyi Thein and wife Daw Myint Myint Kyi are providing assistance to the home.

Daw Khin Saw Hnin and party attended the ceremony to present aids to the aged, organized by Yenangyoung, at the office of Yenangyoung Township GAD, and presented foods, rice, edible oil and medicines to the aged. An older person spoke words of thanks.

The wife of the Vice-President met members of Yenangyoung Township MCWA and WAO.

The chairperson of the Township MCWA and executive of WAO reported on their respective sectors.

After the meeting, she cordially greeted members of WAO and MCWA.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Member of the Committee for Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint on 28 February met staff of Region and Township Cooperative Department, the principal of Weaving High School, executives and members of cooperative syndicates at Monywa Township Cooperative Department.

He urged them to make strenuous efforts with goodwill for development of cooperative societies.

He inspected the weaving high school under the Small-scale Industries Department.

In meeting with poultry farming entrepreneurs, the Union minister gave necessary instructions.

On his tour of Dabayin, YeU and Kanbalu townships, he met departmental personnel and livestock breeding entrepreneurs.

MNA

Entrepreneurs urged to uplift cooperative societies



Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint meets departmental officials and livestock breeding entrepreneurs in Dabayin Township.—MNA

Obama meets with Hill leaders on jobs

WASHINGTON, 1 March—President Obama had a “cordial” and “constructive” closed-door lunch meeting Wednesday with top congressional leaders to talk about jobs, the White House said. It was the first such meeting since debt-ceiling negotiations broke down last summer, *Politico* reported.

The newspaper said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif, attended.

“It was a constructive and cordial meeting over lunch. It was the president, the vice president, and the four leaders,” White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters.



President Obama

“They discussed a variety of topics, a range of topics, both domestic and foreign, and they discussed ways that they could build on the bipartisan cooperation that led to the extension of the payroll tax cut, as well as unemployment insurance....

“As for energy policy, the president stressed that he

will continue to focus on an all-of-the-above approach, and an all-of-the-above approach does not mean just drilling. It includes drilling.... Since President Obama took office, domestic oil and gas production has continued to increase, to a point where we’re now at an eight-year high, and the president’s very

committed to continuing to expand domestic oil and gas production safely and responsibly,” Cantor said.

Absent was House Minority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va. *Politico* said the president and Cantor had a particularly tense face-off during the debt talks. The White House said Cantor repeatedly interrupted Obama.

But *Politico* said Cantor and the president have been working together on a legislative jobs package to help small businesses get access to needed capital.

Boehner left the meeting feeling “hopeful” and “encouraged” Democrats might consider energy and jobs bills passed by the Republican-led House, The Hill quoted his office as saying.

Internet

US concerned about alleged Iran’s links with Latin American drug lords

WASHINGTON, 1 March—US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Wednesday expressed concern about allegations that some Latin American drug trafficking organizations are linked with Hezbollah and Iran.

“We are concerned about the activities of Iran and Hezbollah in the Western Hemisphere,” the top US envoy told the House Committee on Foreign Affairs at a hearing.

Washington brands Hezbollah, a Shiite militant group in Lebanon, as a terrorist organization, while Iran’s disputed nuclear

programme is putting it on a collision course with Washington and its allies.

“We continue to monitor the situation closely. We are aware of and concerned about allegations that some Latin American drug trafficking organizations are linked with Hezbollah and Iran,” Clinton said, vowing to take “appropriate action” to counter any threat that may arise.

Acknowledging that Washington has not found information to verify “a lot of the allegations,” Clinton drew attention to Iran’s attempted assassination of the Saudi ambassador to the United States, a case unveiled by US authorities in October 2011, calling it “a very large question mark and wake up call.”

“We are continuing to look for direct links and we are engaged very extensively with our partners in the hemisphere, both to educate them about the dangers posed by Iran and Hezbollah and also to work with them to heighten our intelligence sharing,” she said.

Xinhua

Iraq car bombs kill six

BAGHDAD, 1 March—Car bombs in Baghdad and northern Iraq on Wednesday killed six people, including three security force members, and wounded at least 10, security and medical officials said. The blast in the capital struck at around 7:30 am (0430 GMT) in the eastern Ameen neighbourhood, killing three people and wounding at least nine, an interior ministry official and medical officials said.

Another car bomb in the town of Tuz Khurmatu, 175 kilometres (110 miles) north of Baghdad, detonated at around 8:30 am (0530 GMT) as a joint military-police patrol was passing. Three security force members—an

army lieutenant colonel, a policeman and a soldier — were killed, and one soldier was wounded, according to Lieutenant Colonel Jassim al-Bayati of Tuz police and Dr Hidayat Mustafa at Tuz hospital. In Diyala Province north of the capital, gunmen attacked a checkpoint east of the provincial capital Baquba late on Tuesday, killing a member of the Sahwa anti-Qaeda militia and wounding two others, a police lieutenant colonel said.

The Sahwa are made up of Sunni Arab tribesmen and former militants who joined forces with the US military against al-Qaeda from late 2006, helping to turn the tide against the militancy. —Internet



US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta (front) welcomes Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak (C) at Pentagon in Washington DC, the United States, on 29 Feb, 2012.

XINHUA

Gunmen attack tanker off Nigeria: piracy watchdog

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 March—The Panamanian-flagged, Nigerian-owned vessel thwarted an attempted boarding by taking evasive action during the attack, which occurred Wednesday at about 2300 local time (2200 GMT), the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) said.

It came one day after pirates shot their way onto a Dutch-owned cargo vessel in the area and

kidnapped three hostages including the captain, according to the IMB’s Kuala Lumpur-based piracy reporting centre.

Noel Choong, who heads the centre, said no further details were available on the most recent incident, warning that the attackers may still be in the area.

The assault occurred about 80 nautical miles (148 kilometres) south of the Nigerian coast, the centre

said.

The IMB, which is funded by shipowners, warned in September that the area’s waters were emerging as a new piracy “hotspot” due to the weak enforcement capabilities of governments in the region.

Before the latest attack, Choong said the piracy centre had received reports of seven attacks off Nigeria and one off neighbouring Benin since 1 January,

adding that many more may have gone unreported.

The Nigerian Navy said on Wednesday that it had deployed vessels to search for the Dutch-owned cargo ship involved in the attack that saw the hostages taken.

It was not clear who had control of the vessel and authorities have not yet released details on the hostages, such as their nationalities.

Internet

12 Africans arrested in Thailand for drug racket

BANGKOK, 1 March—Thai police, accompanied by US drug enforcement officers, Wednesday arrested 12 Africans on charges of drug dealing in Bangkok, a media report said.

Crystal methamphetamine pills and marijuana were also seized from the Africans in the joint operation in Bangkok, *Xinhua* reported citing *Bangkok Post* online.

An 80-strong team from the Narcotics Suppression Bureau, the Immigration Police Bureau and the US Drug Enforcement Administration executed 12 search warrants in a raid on a five-storey building in Bangkok’s Bang Kapi District.

Officials found five kg marijuana in a room in the building. A 27-year-old man from Guinea who was in the room attempted to escape by jumping from the balcony. He suffered a broken leg and was taken to hospital.

In another room, police found a 32-year-old Nigerian who threw several crystal methamphetamine pills into the toilet.

The Africans’ visas had expired and some of them do not even have passports, police said.—Internet

70,000 killed in Iraq between 2004-2011

BAGHDAD, 1 March—Terrorism and other acts of violence killed almost 70,000 people in Iraq in eight years between April 2004 and December 2011, the government said on Wednesday.

“These figures represent the total number of victims who fell as a result of terrorist attacks and violence and military operations,” government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said in a statement.

Citing numbers provided by the health ministry and the National Security Council, al-Dabbagh said a total of 69,263 people died and 239,133 were wounded.

The figures were from 5 April, 2004, to 31 Dec, 2011.

Baghdad Province suffered the highest number of deaths between 2004 and 2011 at 23,898.

According to *Xinhua*, the highest annual figure of victims was in 2006, when sectarian strife killed 21,539 people and wounded 39,329.—Internet



Men transport a wounded man to a hospital after a suicide car bomb attack in Helmand Province on 29 February, 2012. Six people were wounded including civilians when the suicide car bomber attacked a convoy of foreign troops in Lashkar Gah, capital of the southern Helmand Province, said senior police officer Kamaluddin Sherzad.

INTERNET

Health infrastructures built by new government of Republic of the Union of Myanmar for people of Bago Region

Archive: *Maung Nyein Aye*

People's Hospital (50-bed) in Pyu Township

- * New building of the 50-bed People's Hospital in Pyu Township, Toungoo District, Bago Region was opened on 10 April, 2011.
- * It is RC type facility and equipped with one two-storey ward and three one-storey wards.
- * The hospital is formed with intensive care unit, x-ray room, operation theatre, out-patient unit, drug store, delivery ward, male ward, female ward, meeting room and doctors' rest room.
- * Thanks to the hospital, more health care service can be provided to local people.
- * The region sees outbreak of TB and Malaria. These patients can receive treatment in the short period.



Tawkywein Station Hospital (16-bed)

- * The station hospital in Kyaukdaga Township, Toungoo District, Bago Region was opened on 10 April, 2011.
- * Its structure is RC type facility and built on 4.09 acres of land.
- * It is equipped with out-patient unit, operation theatre, x-ray room, drug store, male and female wards, children's ward and delivery room.

Translation: MT



A Fascinating Glimpse into Bagan Conference: Benchmark for future collaborations

(DG DHR)



Though it is not a retold one by a glib talker, the gloaming at Bagan, our heart of Myanmar has been amazed with dedication and make everyone's trip memorable. In fact, those uncountable visits and research done on it, are very glowing remarks. The Department of Historical Research (DHR) has been committed to promote History of Myanmar systematically with supportive documents; to search for and collect together within the country and from abroad, the supporting documents of the History of Myanmar; to make research of the History of Myanmar based on the supporting documents searched and collected; to promote the History of Myanmar based upon the findings of the research made according to different era; to seek the required assistance relating to the History of Myanmar from the relevant department, organization and people; to promote and publish relevant historical writing or book, treatise and official records concerning the History of Myanmar and to encourage for the emergence of historians. This Bagan Conference is one of the initiatives of the DHR for 2012.

It was convened in collaboration with the Myanmar Ministry of Culture, the Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies with the theme: "Early Myanmar and its Global Connections" at the Bagan Archaeological Museum in Bagan, Myanmar, from 13-14 February 2012. The formal conference on 13-14 February was followed by a further day of site visits in Bagan. An optional bus trip to Bagan from Yangon which was set out from 10 February 2012 made possible to those site visits to ancient Sriksetra and Beikthano.

The study of intellectual exchange between the Department of Historical Research and overseas institutions have been done for more than two or three decades ago, but the significance of this conference was that not only its theme which highlighted about "Early Myanmar and its Global Connections" but also the way to its conference venue which took place at the Archaeological Museum in Bagan, nightstopping at Pyay and passed Taungdwingyi en route from Yangon to Bagan by bus.

The conference brought together scholars from Myanmar and abroad for two days of paper presentations on topics relating to the external connections of early Myanmar polities (up to the 16th century). Since the purpose of this gathering was to examine the external linkages of the major Myanmar polities and their urban centres prior to the 16th century. Those papers presented, to be subsequently published in an edited volume, was expected to offer a state-of-the-field overview of the relations between historical Myanmar polities and other Mainland Southeast Asian political and cultural centres, including those of the Tai, Thai, Mon and Khmer, as well as with the polities of India, China and maritime Southeast Asia.

The Early Myanmar and those concepts and evidences on its global connections advocated by the earlier scholars since many years ago, have been challenged in

various ways over the last four or five decades. The wealth of new emerging trends and those excavated findings and discoveries enable the scholars to have more clearer insights and those interactions made in the past. The scholars who have carried out research on Myanmar came and brought together their ongoing research and those outcomes and reflections in this area of study.

It has often been the case that history of the ancient cities of Myanmar have been examined in splendid isolation, without sufficient reference to their external links which, it must be affirmed, were and remain integral and essential elements for any functioning metropolis in history or today. It is this aspect of regional and broader connectivities of Myanmar polities which it was hoped to underline through this conference.



On the first day of the Conference, it was started with Opening Speech by the Director-General of the DHR and the Welcoming Remarks by the Director of Nalanda Sriwijaya Centre (ISEAS Singapore). There were papers presented by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt, Mr. Bob Hudson, U Win Kyaing, Dr. Pamela Gutman, Dr. Olga Deshpande and Dr. Lei Lei Win. In the evening session, the Keynote lecture by Michael Aung Thwin and three papers by the Dr. Elizabeth Moore, Dr. Goh Geok Yian and Dr. Samerchai Poolsuwan.

The second day of the conference was opened with the *Congratulatory Remarks* by Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan and pointed out those endeavours by the ministry on cultural properties against the theft, illicit and illegal trade and trafficking, and transferring within and outside country.

He also mentioned that under the purview of the enacted laws concern with cultural property protection, national initiatives undertaken in order to meet those commitments still called for more scholarly endeavours, facilitating to foster more collaborative research, to do more archaeological excavations and documentation of inventories, laboratory analysis, etc. At the same time, staff upgrading for capacity building which is also essential so it is seeking more assistance on active projects and ongoing research, conduct research and training and digital archiving of its rare collections concern with archaeology, fine arts and historical research.

He also pointed out the International Relations of early Myanmar with its outer world can be seen through religious, cultural and economic exchanges with the challenges of its security, stability in most of its tangible and intangible heritages. He remarked that papers presented by various scholars from different background mentioning the links and findings, artefacts and architecture, mural paintings and inscriptions which held the essence of Early Myanmar, but still to acquire more data and preliminary conclusions for those still to be explored and do research. In his remarks he said that the Ledo Road was one of the good examples that showed how those interrelationships and exchanges have been done in the past between China-Myanmar and India and those chronicles from China which already mentioned of Pyu mission in 801 AD and those Golden Sheets from Khin Ba Mound with Sanskrit writings showed the relationship of those from Southern India handwritings.

The Paper Presenters on the second day were Professor Rila Mukherjee, Dr Tilman Frasch, Ms Amandine Lepoutre and Professor Dr Arlo Griffiths, Dr. Claudine Bautze-Picon, Daw Mya Oo, Dr. Hema Goonatilake, Dr. Myint Myint San, Dr. Kyaw Lat and Professor Dr John Miksic.

Among the Papers Presenters, according to their specialization, the two main types: Archaeological experts and historians were included. Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt, former Professor of History Department and International Relations and former Director-General of Department of Historical Research, Archaeology Department and Fine Arts Department now who is International Buddhist Missionary University in Myanmar but also Executive Committee member of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association presented "Bagan and its Global Connections: Pre and Post Buddhist Periods" In this paper he focus on successfully arrive of Buddhism and we find ample evidences of Myanmar's global contacts. Here we may briefly narrate how Buddhism came from India.

(To be continued)

All must try to see national...

(from page 1)

leader said recently. He said, "18- or 19-year old armed youths told me **they too wanted to use laptops and computers**". I was really disheartened to hear that. So, I have made a firm commitment to end all suspicions and anxieties during our tenure. And this is the conviction of our government. We have the duty to heal the bitter wounds and sufferings and fulfill the lost dreams. It is the historic duty for all of us. We understand that it is a demanding task. But we have full confidence to shoulder this duty well. After making contacts with national races leaders our confidence grows stronger.

In truth, trust is a vitally important factor in our national reconsolidation process. Sincerely, we will make no deception in our stride to the goal of eternal peace. We will do the job with trust based on Panglong spirit. Questions about Kachin groups are coming from home and abroad. The people would also like to know about this matter. The question here is why the ceasefire cannot be in force even though I myself have ordered the Armed Forces to terminate all military offensives or attacks other than self-defence purposes. The Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services has already relayed my order to all the troops under his command. Orders and directives are the lifeblood of the Armed Forces. The remaining skirmishes will not end just by pointing a finger at one another. First both sides should cease all hostilities to start a political dialogue. **There must be mutual assurances and pledges to end all hostilities. It is the duty of our government and the Kachin leaders to fulfill the aspirations and hopes of the people. We have been providing aids and carrying out rehabilitation arrangements for local war victims and paving the way for domestic, foreign and international organizations to render assistance.**

Our government has adopted three steps to realize eternal peace. The **first step** is to hold the dialogue at state level. In this level both sides must stop all hostilities, stay only at the agreed areas, not to hold any arms in other places except from those agreed areas, open liaison offices in the mutually agreed places, and fix the venue, time and date for Union level dialogue. No political dialogue is included in this level. A sincere and genuine wish for peace is the only requirement to complete this level. The scope of the level is just to make an agreement for dialogue after terminating all hostilities.

Second step is the Union level. The points to be discussed at this step are to secede from the Union by no means, accept Our Three Main National Causes, cooperate in economic development tasks, cooperate in elimination of narcotic drugs, take part in political process following setting up of political parties, discuss at length with other national races at Hluttaw and amend the constitution, and coordinate existence of only a single armed force in accord with the constitution. After both sides reach agreement, we will enter third step.

At the **third step**, agreement will be signed at the Hluttaw comprising all main political players like the government, national race leaders, political parties and political forces and people's representatives. We must make resolution wholeheartedly to keep undying peace in the Hluttaw. In doing so, we need to bring peace in order that the government, national races and all citizens can achieve a goal by way of three pillars—mutual understanding, equality and development. It is required to amend the constitution by common consent so as to address our needs.

The three steps are **the roadmap of the State to ensure eternal peace**. This roadmap will entail such many strategies as infrastructures, economic opportunities, industrial zones, resettlement and rehabilitation measures, and social structures as education and health. It is compulsory for national race leaders, political parties, people's representatives and civil society organizations to stand united with our government until national races under the shade of peace can stand tall. We all must try our hardest to **see national races youths, who had brandished guns, using laptops**. By inviting local and foreign investments and welcoming assistance, we must fulfill their requirements from every conceivable angle. Our Union, home to over one



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein cordially greets those present at 17th day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

hundred national races, must promote the characteristics of diversity with honour in line with the **equality** which is the standpoint of our government.

Our government as elected by the people has been carrying out bounden duty of national reconsolidation aspired by all national people. It was not because of push and pressure of any person and any organization, but the desire of our people.

Mr Speaker,

The bottom line process along with eternal peace is to **develop the Myanmar economy most quickly**. The **second wish of the people** is for our nation to develop with strong economy. In the time of our government, reform measures are being taken for macro-economy by laying down short- and long-term projects so that a market economic system suitable to the nation's prevailing conditions can emerge clearly. When the global economy is still instable, when our nation has not had the economic sanctions lifted and when our domestic businesses have not been strong enough with lack of competitiveness, we have had to prioritize the prompt issuance of work business licenses and export/import licenses with a view to enabling our citizens to do business easily and conveniently. We relaxed export-related taxes. The new exchange rate of foreign currencies has been set temporarily according to the outside market situation. At the same time, plans are under way to adopt a durable and strong foreign exchange rate that will do no harm to our citizens in cooperation and coordination with local and foreign experts as well as international monetary organizations. In wiping out barriers to the administrative mechanism so as to reduce unnecessary costs and expenditures, we have given permission to export rice freely and taken measures to significantly reduce prices of fuels, telephones and cars. Similarly, we are taking steps to reduce transactional costs. As regards the matter of **mobile phone**, which is the most interesting issue among the people, we will seek best ways and means to fulfill the wishes of the people. We are making plans to amend and pass laws for the proper evolution of market economy. In order to reduce transport charges in the long run, we will take action to reduce **car prices** in parallel with those of the international community.

While encouraging the promotion of the private sector in economy, we are conducting institutional reforms for capacity-building of state-owned businesses. Changes and reforms are also taking place in collaboration with international organizations for the flourishing of capital market and financial market as well as for the emergence of conglomerates. In addition, we are encouraging private banks to be economically strong, and light and medium industries to acquire capital and technologies. We will make our continued efforts to reduce the monopolization of public services and to make sure every citizen has the right to enjoy those services. We are taking measures with care and

consideration to ensure that privatization is not in the hands of only a handful of people and that there are no inequality and no barrier to capacity-building.

For the emergence of transparent and predictable firms, we are adopting projects that can facilitate business transactions and promote competency. We are indeed promoting the role of private sector seeking valuable advice and suggestions from local and foreign experts in the economic field. The national development strategy of our government is not aimed at developing a class or a community but aimed at developing every aspect of all walks of life, all classes or all the people of the Myanmar polity. We are doing so not only to develop our GDP but also to improve the people's living standards, the public services like education, health and security and to make sure that the natural environment is not affected by development. While trying to increase the population of middle class that plays a key role in national development, we are creating a sound economic environment by inviting technical know-how, capital investment, expertise and management at home and abroad in order to improve per capita income of the grassroots, create more job opportunities and develop the whole national economic structure in various sectors such as agriculture, industry and service.

Mr Speaker,

All the dignitaries including me, the two vice-presidents, Tatmadaw leaders, union ministers, state/region chief ministers, state/region government members and those responsible for legislative and judicial pillars have a sense of oneness to serve the best interests of the nation and the people. We have also known that we are facing various criticisms from various places. We have heard some rumours with negative attitude. As said by some others, our government is not divided into a hard-line camp and soft-line camp. Apart from different aspects of management depending on gene, habit and character of individuals, we are all doing our best with confidence adhering to the policy of our government. At a time when we are in transition to a new era and new system and we are developing the whole society of Myanmar into a democratic one, it is important for the government to be strong. The government shouldering the duty of transition needs to take reform measures step by step in a united and stable manner. So, we need to make sure that the road to our reform process is strong and subtle. Now, we are trying to reduce unnecessary procedures of our cabinet meetings and waste of time as little as possible so as to promote the interests of our nation and people. Government ministries and organizations and state/region governments are to put all their energy into providing public services for the people's satisfaction and happiness by trying not to waste time holding series of meetings. The corruption rooted in successive eras as a national challenge had been conceived

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All must try to see national ...

(from page 6)

through eras and systems. In this time of system change, we are taking educative measures and persuasion, giving warnings and take action with all possible approaches to morality, conviction, ethics, worksite welfare, monitoring, law, principle and procedures. The restructuring of the administrative mechanism down to ward/village level calls for firm rules and laws that can remove the thorns of successive eras. With the system change and era

As our civil servants can enjoy better living conditions due to increased salaries, the 58 million of people who are not government employees will face the consequences for sure. As we are not in a position to prioritize our own mechanism alone, we will have to take all-round consideration in taking steps to increase salaries and allowances.

Since taking office, our government has been putting on the priority list the people from rural areas and in the agricultural field. As this

according to our national reconsolidation process.

In increasing taxes necessarily in the short term, we are taking measures with care and consideration in order not to affect the people's socio-economy whilst we are acting with good governance so as to mend defects and weaknesses of the State. But in the long term, we will try to pass a new tax law that can not only guarantee equality and fairness but also cause no burden to our low-income people. And that **new law will make all the citizens including the President pay taxes.**

Industrial zones are being established across the

universities in addition to their traditional libraries. Our government, which is doing the job based on knowledge-oriented economy, has to constantly promote the quality of our teachers and schools with the help of international universities. We are also setting up Internet networks and telecommunication networks so as to wipe out our digital divide in this age of technology and knowledge. For national development, we have earmarked money to increase spending of the health sector by fourfold and that of the education sector by twofold in the coming financial year. With subtle reformation process plus

doing so, we have opened the door to investment and assistance from inside and outside of the country.

Investment and assistance of one dollar in Myanmar by the international community amounts to contribution of one dollar for the flourishing of democracy and the interests of Myanmar people. So, the international community is urged to extend a helping hand to Myanmar with in-depth understandings of actual conditions so that our country with democracy still in its infancy will not collapse.

Mr Speaker,

The consolidation

Formation of **National Press Council** is under way in order that media sector, the fourth estate, can ensure liberty and accountability with the check and balance system in accord with the democratic practices.

At the same time, our country has lagged behind in globalization. In our attempt to make more integration with global nations, we need to try not to lose Myanmar values—culture, tradition, customs, fine arts, theatrical arts, literature and music of all our national races—which our forefathers have been keeping to further strengthen the soft power that prevails in Myanmar values.

In its attempt to make integrations with the globe along with the new system, CSOs, playing an important role in promoting the standards of films, music and theatrical arts which can symbolize Myanmar values, are trying to highlight and keep the Myanmar values.

Mr speaker,

Three powers have been equally shared in the Constitution which is a charter framework of democratic transition. After practicing these powers equally, the media sector which is fourth estate and our government, people and the Tatmadaw which form fifth estate, are to march towards the democratic transition with full understanding and trust. Only then, would our country become a modern, developed and democratic one we all want. Rule of law is at the core for emergence of a glorious democratic society. Our respective Hluttaws have prescribed laws, our government rules the country in accord with these laws and judicial pillar is to stick to these laws. Rule of law is a must for our administrative mechanism, businesses, social welfare, political processes, international relations and judicial system. If rule of law prevails in our society, human rights, liberty and democracy would flourish automatically. Consolidation of every step of national building endeavors depends on rule of law. So, we all are to serve that duty in unison and in concert.

At the same time, our Myanmar society needs to change our mindsets and behaviors in line with the democratic practices. The old thoughts, ideas and behaviors would gradually disappear with the check and balance system if all believe that the country's era and system have changed.

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Representatives seen at 17th day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

alongside subtle work plans, corruption and bribery will die down. Thus, we are taking time to restructure our administrative mechanism.

We will try to increase salaries and allowances at a right time depending on our macro-economic situations such as our current financial situation, foreign debts and deficits. **Since taking office, our government members did not accept high salaries and have been taking the same salary rates of the previous government.** When our nation still has class disparity, widening rich-poor gap and low per capita income, I would like to say that we, civil servants, need to shoulder our duties with goodwill and patience in order to fully provide public services and reduce the burden of extra costs and expenditures. As the number of service personnel accounts for only 3.3 percent of the nation's total population, we have to consider the 96.7% of the population who are just ordinary wage earners. Now that there are discussions of pay rises, commodity prices have skyrocketed suddenly.

duty is easier said than done, we are trying with a new approach to government-private cooperation. Despite knowing that it is not easy to fight poverty quickly in a short time, we are striving to reduce poverty rate of our nation from 26% to 16% in 2015 and remove our nation from the list of least-developed countries in accord with the MDG of the UN with the help of local and international private organizations, NGOs and INGOs so that our needy people can live with dignity through assistance, job opportunities and health and social security benefits. For the health care of those needy people, we are planning to adopt a **universal health insurance system** in collaboration with private organizations. In order to create jobs outside the agriculture sector, we are taking measures to develop more industries relying on regional conditions by including industrial planning in the national development projects. In those projects, we are trying to include the future development of our young national people who will be reunited

nation to create more job opportunities. Moreover, our government is planning to make sure that local and foreign investments flow rapidly to the country and to firmly protect those investments. While building a democratic society, we need to reform our political and economic processes at the same time. We are also striving for harmonious development of human resources, an essential prerequisite for emergence of a democratic society and development of national economy. For reforming educational institutions like universities and schools, reform measures are being taken not only for school curriculums and syllabuses but for management sector in accord with the new system. Although every college and university will be under the control of the ministry concerned, plans will be made for them to operate under their self control one day. Every basic education school must have its own library. Similarly, all colleges and universities need to have online libraries connected to accredited international

increased State fund, we will encourage more development of human resources.

In the time of our government, new policies have been adopted to substitute natural resource extraction-based foreign investment with production-based foreign investment and we are seeking assistance from local and foreign technicians and experts. While trying to build strong macro-economy, we are laying down short- and long-term projects that are filled with basic infrastructures, human resources, skilled workforce, high technology, environmental conservation, legal organizational structure, competent economic area and improved private participation. Our government is shouldering three major duties—nation's transition, building of a new nation and improvement of the whole Myanmar society.

Our government is striving for national development with three basic policies that is to say our national development must be environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. In

of Civil Society Organizations is the most important thing in the process of democratic transition and nation building endeavors. According to Myanmar culture, our national races have the philanthropic spirit deeply rooted in Myanmar society under the influence of religious teachings. It is very heartening to see emergence of the Civil Society Organizations with momentum from social works to emergency rescues and in the fields of economy, development and environmental conservation. Systematic emergence of foundations and organizations is a pride for our society.

These Civil Society Organizations play an important role in flourishing and strengthening of Myanmar democracy system. Plans are underway for emergence of class unions and organizations that can protect the rights of farmers and workers. National Human Rights Commission was systematically set up in order to provide effective protection to fundamental rights of citizens in our society.

All must try to see national race youths...

(from page 7)

To change the mindsets and behaviors of the whole society through rule of law, we need the support of CSOs. Cooperation of national brethren with equal-minded senses is crucial. In addition, encouragements and supports of global countries are of great importance.

Our government will make cordial and friendly cooperation in the developing international arena. In our effort to serve and promote the national interests of our country and people, we will stick to the independent and active foreign policy that has been exercised throughout successive eras. In making our continued effort for the political, economic and social reforms with added momentum, we will maintain amity regardless of East or West as well as extending a warm welcome to international support, cooperation, investment and aids. At the same time, we will constantly safeguard the national interests of our country and people and the country's sovereignty.

Mr Speaker,

In conclusion, our government is now serving the duties entrusted by the people after sharing powers with a sense of responsibility and accountability between the upper and lower levels. We had to face a lot of difficulties and challenges over the year. The most important thing in building up a new government is to see our rapid changes and reforms. The consolidation of these changes and reforms is of special importance. Our country has lagged behind in the globalization current. So, we need to carry out anything after taking lessons of home and abroad.

Our respective pillars and societies are to be well aware of challenges that come along with opportunities at a time when our country opens door to the globe. Our historic transitional process is so enormous and difficult. In addition to the challenges that the countries in transition like our country have to face, we need to root out the evil legacies deeply-entrenched in our society. To ensure more consolidation of it, continued efforts are to be made by our people and our society, not only in the time of our government but also the coming successive governments. We need to put more efforts into it. We need to try harder to increase capacity of our mechanism, to expand legislation of the

respective Hluttaws, to ensure more consolidation of rule of law, to promote the private sectors' capacity, to increase the number of CSOs, improve the quality of basic infrastructures and social security schemes and promote the living standards of our people.

Our government will continue to try harder till a Myanmar society where the rule of law is firm and people living with peace of mind and dignity is emerged in our democratic country enjoying increased per capita income and well-rounded development in addition to economic growth, which are the wants and wishes of people. I would like to urge the remaining pillars to extend a helping hand to our government for more consolidation by means of mutual understanding, trust and cooperation, and people are also urged to steer our government and all stakeholders to consolidate our society. Our government continues putting more efforts into it in order that our reforms can bring about tangible outcomes in a short period of time, which our people want. For the time being, even though our government has yet to fulfill all the needs of our people, here I would like to reaffirm to our commitment to serving the interests of our people and country with all-out effort even by sacrificing our lives.

Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for ninth day

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Ninth Day third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw took place at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 2 pm today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 201 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

At the proposal discussion session, proposal of U Nyan Lin of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.3 submitted yesterday on **"urging the Union government to add political subject at arts and science universities under the Ministry of Education as additional subjects"** was discussed by Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.6, Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No.1, U Hmat Gyi of Mandalay Region Constituency No.9, Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No.8, U Htay Yel of Kayah State Constituency No.7, U Than Swe of Taninthayri Region Constituency No.2, U Win Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No.2, U Zone Hlal Htan of Chin State Constituency No.2 and U Aung Nyein of Magway Region Constituency No.2.

Their discussions are that political science subject should be added in the syllabus of basic education middle level, high school level and higher education level in order that Myanmar's students have full knowledge of true political outlook and are equipped with political thoughts. In particular, it should be taught at university level as additional subject after a political science department is opened. The students who will become the future leaders of the

country need to have political viewpoints and nationalistic fervors. Political science can cultivate political viewpoints and nationalistic fervors that keep Our Three Main National Causes—Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of National Solidarity and Perpetuation of sovereignty. So, it should be added to the course syllabus.

Regarding the proposal, Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe said that Education Ministry has been taking approach to method of right thoughts, good behaviours and habits to produce new generation youths equipped with right thoughts and good morals. To ensure good behaviours in plasticizing discipline-flourishing multiparty democracy in order to have honesty, cherish and preserve traditional culture, and have brotherly spirit and sympathy, Aspects of Myanmar subject is taught as a compulsory one in all first year classes in universities and degree colleges.

History Departments lectures on subjects of Land and People, Foreign Policy and Relations, Economy which are contents of AM-1001 Aspects of Myanmar with two hours' lecture and two hours' demonstration in first semester. Myanmar Departments lectures on Literature, Language, Tradition and Culture which are contents of AM-1002 Aspects of Myanmar with two hours' lecture and two hours' demonstration in second semester. Moreover, two-hour exam on rational and reasonable questions is set.

To nurture well-versed intellectuals and intelligent-sia capable of helping improvement of socioeconomic sta-



Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Hmat Gyi of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 9 holding discussion.
MNA

tus of the State, Aspects of Myanmar subject is taught in all first year classes by offering chance to pursue education at universities and degree colleges under the Ministry of Education. So, the proposal was put on record.

As there were majority of Hluttaw representatives in favour of the proposal, it was decided to approve the proposal.

The ninth day of third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw ended at 3.20 pm.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee Chairman meets Chairman of Human Rights and Democracy Flourishing Department of Canada

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March— Pyithu Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee Chairman U Htay Oo received Mr. Gerard Philippe Latulippe, Chairman of Human Rights and Democracy Flourishing Department of Canada at Phithu Hluttaw Committee No. 1 Building of Hluttaw Building this afternoon.

The meeting focused on progress of flourishing democracy, human right and citizens' fundamental rights that are being internationally carried out.

It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Protocol Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Oo, Hluttaw national races representatives and officials concerned.

MNA

CBM Governor meets Executive Vice President of Kasikorn Bank Public

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein met Execu-

tive Vice President of Kasikorn Bank Public Company Limited of Thailand and party at his office this

MNA

Seventh day's third regular session of the first Bago Region Hluttaw goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March— The seventh day third regular session of the first Bago Region Hluttaw continued at 10:00 am on 29 February.

It was attended by Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Speaker of the Region Hluttaw U Win Tin, Deputy Speaker of the Region Hluttaw U Win Myint Soe, members of region level organizations and hluttaw representatives.

At the session, there were a total of 23 queries shot by the representatives and answered by the region ministers, two proposals approved and one proposal temporarily suspended. It came to an end at 2:00 pm with the concluding remarks of the Region Hluttaw Speaker.

MNA

Fourth day's third regular session of the first Kachin State Hluttaw continues

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March— The fourth day the third regular session of the first Kachin State Hluttaw continued at noon today, with the attendance of Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsaing, Speaker of the State Hluttaw U Rawan Jone and hluttaw representatives.

At the session, there were a total of 12 queries shot by eight representatives and answered by the region ministers, the bills "to implement general project in 2011-2012 fiscal year and to carry out general project in 2012-2013 financial year" tabled, and the Hluttaw announced that the bills was agreed to be discussed. The representatives discussed the three proposals tabled on the other day, and the members of State level organizations replied to them. After three new proposals were presented to the Hluttaw, it ended in the afternoon.—MNA

Rejecting age-old ideology of our ancestors...

(from page 16)

Of food, clothing and shelter which are basic needs for daily survival, food is of paramount importance. Food sufficiency is critical to daily growing numbers of people. Today's world population hits 7000 million. But size of the world remains unchanged. So, it is necessary to produce foods twice and thrice to satisfy growing population.

As our country is blessed with temperate climate and rich land and marine resources, we need to make all-out efforts to produce foods not only to meet food sufficiency for 100 million people of the country to be in the years to come but also to export them to foreign countries.

To do so, only when there are changes in mindset and farmland, transformation to mechanized farming and high yield strains can the aims to create an agro-based industrialized country be achieved.

For further improvement of the agriculture sector, emphasis is being placed on economically cost-effective

measures, ensuring strong market, using quality strains to have reasonable price, using good agriculture pattern, organic and natural fertilizer as well as water at exact time and ratio.

Esteemed peasantry,

To step up efforts for building up a peaceful, developed and democratic nation aspired by all citizens, I would like to urge you all citizens including peasants from across the country to take part in nation-building tasks with unity and in harmony.

MNA

Third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw...

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behalf of all the people, requested the government to help the country and its citizens rise above poverty.

U Aye Mauk of Mahlaing Constituency discussed that he urged the government to put existing investments into effective application; to reinforce it if needed; to suspend new and unnecessary projects; to stop and reduce the capacity of construction, irrigation, industry and rail transportation projects; to postpone them to next FY if needed or to switch into good system as they could be submitted at RE; to stop ordering system and undertakings which are not accorded with the constitution and the law; and to thoroughly manage the budget in accord with the constitution.

U Aung Thein Lin of South Okkalapa Constituency discussed that concrete is more preferable option than asphalt in upgrading roads in the country to international-standard ones in accord with the changing political system of the country as the country's climate, low cost, easy accessibility to raw materials, completion on schedule and sustainability are to be considered.

He reviewed that concrete roads would minimize fund wastage by slow progress of new roads running round in circles of repairing tarred roads if a plan for upgrading roads into concrete ones well-matched with the weather of the country with heavy rainfall.

He said requested budget for each department of the Ministry of Science and Technology should be reduced by 20 per cent and human resources development, providing teaching aids needed by technological universities and equipping students with sufficient numbers of computers should be prioritized in policy, objectives and procedures of the said ministry.

U Khet Htein Nam of Kachin State Constituency (1) suggested that plans should have been laid by the Ministry of Information for air programmes of ethnic races from MRTV as prescribed in Paragraphs (a) and (b) of Section (22) of the constitution to help develop language, literature, arts and culture of national people, national unity,



Representatives attend 17th meeting of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

camaraderie and friendship.

In drawing the 2012-2013 project, the ministry of culture should include the traditional performing arts and cultures of national races in the Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competitions at various levels in accord with the constitution so that the cultural heritages of the national people can be maintained and promoted.

It will be beneficial that the education ministry plans to teach Myanmar first to young children of national races who have little or no exposure to the Myanmar language and then to teach them understandable national race languages so that they can achieve success in their education at pre-primary level. Only then, can good education foundation be built. As this can activate the role of the constitution, a system in which local national race language is taught together with the Myanmar language at the pre-primary level should be included in the education plan.

The ministry of religious affairs needs to include accounts headings for every national race in the budget of the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The Union level peace-making group has approved a fund to be used in the effort for building eternal peace with the national race armed groups. It is hoped that assistance can be received to a certain

degree in Myanmar's important effort for lasting peace. Therefore, it is advisable to include those accounts headings for national races in the coming fiscal year.

In his discussion, U Kyaw Ni Naing of Laukkai Constituency said the Ministry of Immigration and Population according to its goals needs to adopt a project in which the entrances and exits of airports and border gates are to be installed with IT networks. It should also consider issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards and household membership certificates that reach out to all parts of the country.

Dr Nay Lin of Seikkan Constituency said in his discussion that out of the tasks of the foreign affairs ministry, repairing and renovation of the residences and staff housings of diplomats is necessary as they are concerned with the image of the nation. Moreover, drawing of clear demarcation lines is a must for the State. Regarding necessities of office equipment, furniture and vehicles, it is required to make assessment based on the needs.

The session was adjourned at 12.55 pm and it will resume on 5 March. At the session, the President delivered a speech and the national planning bill was discussed.

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Basketball Tournament kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan this morning delivered an address at the opening ceremony of the 5th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Basketball Tournament 2012 at the basketball ground of Sports Complex in Zabuthiri Township.

He urged the athletes to happily and

friendly take part in the tournament with the aim of ensuring health and fitness and pleasure.

In the debut, the Union minister enjoyed competitiveness of Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Education. Altogether nine basketball teams are taking part in the tournament up to 12 March.

MNA

Union EC & Forestry Minister receives Myanmar Honourable Consul of Ankara, Turkey

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun received Myanmar Honourable Consul to Myanmar Mr Ercom Aygun of Ankara, Turkey at his office at 3.30 pm yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters on investment in the forest sector.

Also present at the call were Director-General U Sann Lwin of Planning and Statistics Department and Acting Director-General U Aye Myint Maung of Forest Department.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force arrives in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—A delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force Air Chief Marshal Itthaporn Subhawong and wife arrived here by air this morning. They were welcomed at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Chief

of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and wife, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, senior military officers, Thai Air Force Military Attaché to Myanmar Group Captain Songpon Jangsi and officials.—MNA

Deputy Defence Minister meets Permanent Secretary for Defence of Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Deputy Minister for Defence Captain Aung Thaw received General Sathian Permtongin, Permanent Secretary for Defence of Thailand and party at his office at 10.30 am

today.

They cordially discussed bilateral cooperation between the two Tatmadaws of the nations.

MNA

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo on inspection tour of Myanmar-China natural gas and crude oil pipelines construction site

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo held a meeting with Magway Region government, Region/District and Township level departmental heads, social organization members and townselders at the town hall of Magway Region on 29 February morning.

At the meeting, Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe reported to the Vice-President on matters relating to the needs of education and health sectors, and undertaking tasks for rural development.

During the meeting, a townselder reported to the Vice-President on necessities for education and health care and rural development in the region.

Deputy Ministers U Ba Shwe and U Ohn Than gave a response to the needs and the tasks which would be carried out by the departments under the respective ministries.

After hearing the reports, the Vice-President urged the respective ministries to fulfill the needs for education, health and agricultural sectors in the region. And he explained the policies of the State to them.

He urged Magway Region Government to fulfill the needs for education and to place emphasis on health care services for the rural people and he stressed the needs for raising rural economic sector to be accomplished in line with the State's policies and called on the regional government to inform the public about efforts of the Union Government.

Then, the entrepreneurs, who include in the Vice-President's trip, donated K 50 million to Magway Region Eye Foundation as the first installment.

The Vice-President cordially greeted those present at the event, asking their wishes for rural development.

The Vice-President and Party proceeded to Magway



Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo explains connection of Myanmar-China natural gas and crude oil pipeline to locals, social organization members and villagers in Sagu pipeline connection site.—MNA



Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects connection of Myanmar-China natural gas and crude oil pipeline in Sagu pipeline connection site in Magway Region.—MNA

Hospital where they were warmly welcomed by medical superintendent and officials concerned.

They inspected progress of the construction site at the place chosen for a new building of the hospital.

At the hospital, the entrepreneurs donated K 1 million for a medical fund of the hospital.

Then, with Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, the Vice-President and his entourage flew to Sagu Myanmar-China natural gas and oil pipeline plumbing site. They were welcomed by Vice Chairman Mr. Cui Xin Hua of South East Asia Pipeline Co Ltd of CNPC, workers and locals and social organization members.

At the briefing hall of the site, the Vice-President heard the reports presented by Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay on the detailed facts about the progress they had made in Myanmar part of Myanmar-China natural gas and crude oil pipeline project.

Vice-Chairman of SEAP Co Ltd Mr. Cui Xin Hua reported to the Vice-President on progress of laying down natural gas and oil pipelines, undertaking tasks and measures being taken for socio-economic development in the region.

After the Vice-President had heard the reports, he clarified them by citing that there are three steps for carrying

out natural gas and oil pipelines—the first is sea pipeline construction; the second is inland pipeline and the third, natural gas and crude oil pipelines construction in the part of China—, which must be completed at the same time; that measures for raising socio-economic living standard of the rural people in the region linked to the site should be taken with all-out efforts, as well as for social care; that at the time when the now-doing pipeline constructions, it is needed to create job prospects for the locals and the project is to be able to start running in the deadline (March,2013).

Afterwards, the Vice-President presented a fruit basket to the vice-chairman of SEAP Company as a gift.

The Vice-President met with local people and members of the social organizations and clarified current measures in the region, aims of the projects, arrangements for the local people so that they could not suffer disadvantages due to the projects and for creating job opportunities for the local people.

The local people replied that they would cooperate with the government to accomplish the objectives of the State.

Afterwards, the Vice-President and party inspected laying pipe lines in Sagu and flew to Pwintbyu in Minbu

District.

At the meeting with departmental officials, local people and members of social organizations in Pwintbyu Township, the Vice-President expressed his delight for exceeding food sufficiency in Magway Region thanks to the dams, reservoirs and river water pumping stations built by the State and called for making preparations for feeding the increasing population which is expected to reach around 10 million in the region in 14 to 15 years from around 5.5 million today.

In Minbu District, about 90 percent of the farmland were irrigated land and 256 per cent of the farmland had been put under crops in this cultivation season and the achievement was put on record, he said. He called for making efforts for meeting the targeted per acre yield as the region had fertile farmland, he said.

To uplift the agricultural sector, the government laid down a plan to encourage an agro-based industry, he said.

He continued to say that it found that cotton, a raw material for industries, flourish in that region and it would help to establish more factories, creating more job opportunities.

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Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo...

(from page 10)

Thanks to the irrigation water, local farmers had earned more income and they should use the irrigation water effectively, he added.

After the meeting, the Vice-President and party proceeded to Pwintbyu Township People's Hospital and chose a site and assisted in building an extension ward.

During tour of inspection of the hospital, businesses who accompanied the vice-president contributed K 5 million to the funds of the hospital.

The Vice-President and party flew to Yenangyoung to inspect the programme for uplifting socio-economic status of the local people.

First, he inspected a new school building for the No. 21 Basic Education Primary School in Sartaing Village.

The school which is under construction is funded by the Myanmar-China natural gas and oil pipelines project as part of efforts for uplifting socio-economic status of local people.

During the meeting with local people, he called for the local people to maintain the facility for the people.

The businessmen contributed cash to the funds of the primary school. The one storey school is being built on the 120x30x12 ft plot funded by by SEAP Co LTD.

Afterwards, the Vice-President and party went to Yenangyoung Township and inspected laying pipelines project. The Vice-President presented a fruit basket to a responsible personnel of the SEAP.

The Vice-President and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw in the evening. —MNA



Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo cordially greets locals in Sartaing Village, Yenangyoung Township.

MNA

General Min Aung Hlaing receives Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force



NAY PYI TAW, 1 March— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing met with Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force Air Chief Marshal Itthaporn Subhawong, at Zeyathiri Beikman here this afternoon.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion. Also present at the meeting together with General Min Aung Hlaing were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win, Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Office of Commander-in-Chief, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers and the Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force was accompanied by Air Vice Marshal Chaiyapruk Didyasarin, the Thai Air Force Military Attaché to Myanmar and officials.

After the meeting, they exchanged commemorative medals and posed for documentary photo.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
General Min Aung Hlaing meets with
Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air
Force Air Chief Marshal Itthaporn
Subhawong, at Zeyathiri Beikman
in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Sagaing Region Chief Minister attends opening of new tarred roads

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March—To hail the third regular session of the first Sagaing Region Hluttaw, the opening ceremony of Yetkankaung road and Dawna road self-reliant tarred roads in Dawnachan Ward in Monywa was held yesterday, with the attendance of Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, the region ministers, region Hluttaw representatives, departmental persons, townselders, members of social organizations and dwellers.

The length of Yetkankaung Road is 1792 feet, and 12 feet wide and Dawna road is 600 feet long and 12 feet wide.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister meets staff

YANGON, 1 March—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint met staff of Hluttaw and Residential Buildings Maintenance Group (Yangon) of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development and staff of Public Works Main Workshop (Ywama) and inspected the maintenance of machinery.

Afterwards, the deputy minister also met trainees of refresher driving course at Technical High School (Ywama) and staff of Public Works Central Store Depot (Yankin) and he then inspected keeping materials in.

MNA

Yangon Mayor receives Brazilian guests

YANGON, 1 March—Yangon Mayor Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs U Hla Myint received Ambassador Ms Maria Edileuza Fontenele Reis, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the Brazilian Ministry of External Relations of Brazil together with Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Jose Carlos da Fonseca Junior at his office, here, at 11 am today.

Also present at the call were Secretary of Yangon City Development Committee U Kyaw Soe, Joint Secretary U Tin Tun and members U Nyi Nyi and U Hla Aye.

MNA

Mandalay Region CM's Cup Inter-Township Golf Tournament launched

NAV PYI TAW, 1 March—The Mandalay Region Chief Minister's Cup Inter-Township Golf Tournament 2012 kicked off at Yedaguntaung Golf Course in Pathingyi Township on 25 February morning, launched by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint.

First, the Region Chief Minister cordially greeted the

golfers. The Region Chief Minister, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Aung, Region Minister for Finance and Revenue U Phone Zaw Han and Managing Director U Tint Oo of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd teed off the balls at the tee No. 1.

Next, they enjoyed the

participation of golfers in the tournament. Altogether 156 golfers from 39 gold clubs of the region, districts and townships participated in the golf tournament.—MNA



Selected Myanmar volleyball players initially agree to take part in Vietnam League



YANGON, 1 March—Three selected Myanmar volleyball players from Myanmar National Volleyball Team that had secured one bronze medal in the XXVSEA Games held in

Indonesia left here by air for Vietnam to join men's volleyball clubs as professional players in the first leg of Vietnam League 2012, on 26 February evening.

Selected Myanmar player Ye Min Aung will play at Phu Tho Club, Kyaw Shwe at Army (4) Club and Win Tun Oo at Army (9) Club and they will earn US\$ 2500 each per month as salary. Those three Myanmar players initially agreed to take part in the second leg Vietnam League to be held in November 2012.

Moreover, selected Myanmar player Aung Thu, who is playing at Thailand League Volleyball Tournament, and Army (9) Club have initially agreed to compete in the second leg Vietnam League. Aung Thu will be paid US\$ 4500 per month as salary.—MNA

Rural concrete road commissioned into service

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 1 March—A new concrete road was put into service in Yaylein Ywama Village of Mawlamyinegyun Township of Ayeyawady Region on 16 February morning.

The 6620 feet long concrete rural road was built at a cost of K 6.2 million by local people and Township

Resource Department. Township Administrator U Htay Maung and in-charge of the Leprosy Mission (Myanmar) Daw Zin Mar Win formally opened the road.

Thanks to construction of the new road, the local people have easy access to Mawgyun-Maubin-Yangon motor road.—Myanma Alin



CSC ISSUED: Moe Pwint-2 Plan is being implemented by Immigration and National Immigration Department. Head of Township INRD U Than Aye and ward administrator U Myint Swe issued citizenship scrutiny cards and household registrations to the eligible people in Ward B of North Okkalapa Township on 22 February.—MYANMA ALIN

Beware of Fire

MEIKTILA, 1 March—Under the directives of Mandalay Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Hsan, wire meshes were fenced at Meiktila Lake from

Meiktila Lake ringroad fenced

PhaungdawU Karaweik to Junction of Meiktila-Myingyan Roads on 18 February.

The task was aimed at protecting the ancient lake against undisciplined activities and behaviors such as taking bath, fishing, washing and throwing garbage and at supplying safe water to the local people.

A total of 3800 feet long wire mesh was fenced on the bund of the lake by Township Development Affairs Committee under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner U Sein Oak of Meiktila District and Township Administrator U Kyaw Swe.—Kyemon



Hinthada Township gets self-reliant library

HINTHADA, 1 March—The self-reliant library, entitled Khitthit Shaychi Myat Parami, was put into service in Okpon Village of Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Region, at 1 pm on 19 February.

Township Administrator U Tin Aung Win, Staff Officer of District Information and Public Relations Department U Win Shein and wellwisher U Kan Myint cut the ribbon to open the library.

It is 36 feet long, 22 feet wide and 15 feet high facility.

The building was constructed at a cost of K 1 million provided by the State and K 7.8 million contributed by wellwisher U Kan Myint-Daw Tin family of Okpon Village.

Moreover, ten wellwishers donated K 110,000 to the fund of the library through officials.

Myanma Alin

Billboards on anti-human trafficking put up

THANBYUZAYAT, 1 March—Jointly organized by Thanbyuzayat Township Committee for Prevention Against Trafficking in Person, Township Anti-Human Trafficking Special Squad and World Vision (Myanmar), a ceremony to put up the billboards bearing the motto "Stop Human Trafficking" was held at five places in Thanbyuzayat Township on 17 February morning.

Chairman of the Township Committee for Prevention Against Trafficking in Person Township Administrator U Ye Kyaw Khaing and Vice-Chairman Police Captain Aye Shwe cut the ribbons to unveil the billboards.

The billboards were put up at the park in downtown Thanbyuzayat, junction of Thanbyuzayat-Ye-Dawei railroad, Kyaikkhami, Setse and Panga villages.

Township IPRD



Rural earthen road commissioned

KYAUKDAGA, 1 March—The rural earthen road linking Kyaukdaga and Inpatle, built by Kyaukdaga Township Development Affairs Committee of Bago Region in 2011-2012 fiscal year, was inaugurated at the road on 5 February morning.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr Khin Maung Swe, Bago Region Hluttaw representatives U Thein Swe and U Kyaw Hsan Oo and Executive Officer of Township Development Affairs Committee U Myint Lwin opened the road.—Township IPRD

New school building handed over in Singu Township

SINGU, 1 March—A ceremony to hand over a school building worth K 18 million donated by wellwisher U Aung Ko Myint-Daw Nwe Nwe Aye and family to the Education Department was held at the Basic Education Primary School in Nyaungbintha Village of Shwegin Village-tract in Singu Township of Mandalay Region on 16 February morning.

Township Administrator U Sai Maung Lu, Township Education Officer U Paung Zanan and village administrator U Kyaw Aye formally opened Myint Yadana Aung school building.

The Township Administrator and the Township Education Officer made speeches.

Wellwisher U Aung Ko Myint explained the purpose of donation and handed over documents related to the school building to Township Education Officer U Paung Zanan.

Myanma Alin

CRIME REDUCTION TALKED: An educative talk on crime reduction in Ayeyawady Region was given at Shwephonemyint Basic Education Primary School on B-2 Road in Mya Yadana Ward of Myaungmya on 18 February. Commander of Myaungmya District Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Kyaw Moe gives talks on reduction of criminal cases.—DISTRICT IPRD



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (479)

Consignees of cargo carried on MVKOTA TABAH VOY NO (479) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.3.2012 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: MS/ ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

PPhone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**U Than Maung, Advocate,
Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.
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Yangon, Republic of the Union of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com**

**For Diners Club International Ltd.
By their Attorneys
Lall & Sethi Advocates
New Delhi - 110 049, India**

2 March 2012



Tourists pose for photos with local children near the field of cole flowers in Luoping County, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 29 Feb, 2012.
XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (627)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (627) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.3.2012 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Citizen Holdings Kabushiki Kaisha (also trading as Citizen Holdings Co., Ltd.) a Japanese corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of Japan, of 1-12, 6-chome, Tanashi-cho, Nishi-tokyo-shi, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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Reg. No. 1173/2012

in respect of "Class 14: Watches, clocks and parts and fittings thereof".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.I.
for Citizen Holdings
Kabushiki Kaisha
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 2 March 2012

Woman who faked cancer fined \$100

FREDERICKSBURG, 1 March—A 42-year-old Virginia woman was fined \$100 and given five years of probation for faking cancer to raise money for herself. Martha Ann Nicholas of Mechanicsville pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor charges of obtaining money by false pretenses, the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported.

Nicholas also was given a suspended sentence of a year in jail on each charge and ordered by Frederickburg General District Judge John R Stevens not to take part in any charitable causes. Stevens accepted the plea recommended by prosecutors. Defence attorney Sam Simpson had said earlier Nicholas had paid restitution of \$1,700, the amount she collected. She had claimed at rallies she was a cancer victim. She had been suffering from a psychosomatic condition that led her to believe she had a cancer-like illness, Simpson said.—*Internet*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CHANG CHUAN VOY NO (168)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CHANG CHUAN VOY NO (168) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-6 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 FORTUNE SHIPPING
AGENCY PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

NOTICE

The General Meeting of the members of The Rander Sunni Vohras Panchayat of Yangon will be held on Sunday the 25th: March, 2012 at 9:30 am at THE RANDEHALL No. 165, Shwe Bontha Street, Yangon to transact the following business:-

- To read and confirm the minutes of the last General Meeting held on 9th: March, 2003.
- To pass the Annual Audited Accounts and Balance Sheets for the period from 1st April, 2003 to 31st March, 2011.
- To consider any other business of which due notice has been given under clause 32(a) of the scheme.
- As per clause 8 of the scheme to elect five trustees for the next five years.
- To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year and fix their remuneration.

E.C.Ismail.
Managing Trustee.

N.B:- Account books can be inspected during the office hours from 10:00 am to 12 noon and from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm for 10 days effective from 1st March, 2012 at the office of the Panchayat No.163, Shwe Bontha Street, Yangon.

Members of the Panchayat are requested to kindly obtain copies of the Report and Annual Audited Accounts and Balance Sheets from the Panchayat office during office hours.

Members of the Panchayat who are eligible and are desirous to stand for the post of Trustees are requested to obtain the application form from the Panchayat office during office hours.

Last date for filling the application form is 15th: March, 2012 at or before 4:00 pm.

Miami man charged with threatening to assassinate Obama

WASHINGTON, 1 March—A 20-year-old Miami man has been charged with threatening to assassinate US President Barack Obama, media reports said on Tuesday.

In a 21 Feb posting on Facebook under the name of "Jay Valor," Joaquin Amador Serrapio required others' help to assassinate Obama during the president's on 23 Feb visit to the University of Miami (UM).

Serrapio made another posting on 23 Feb, saying: "If anyone's going to UM to see Obama today, get your phones out and record. Because at any moment I'm gonna put a bullet through his head and you don't wanna miss that! Youtube!" Agents of the US Secret Service responsible for protecting the president searched Serrapio's home last Thursday and found an iPad which he used to make the postings.

Xinhua

US congratulates Iranian director on Oscar win

WASHINGTON, 1 March—The US government Monday congratulated Iranian director Asghar Farhadi after his film "A Separation" won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.

"On behalf of all of us, to congratulate Iranian film director Asghar Farhadi on his Oscar win," told reporters at a briefing.

The film was honoured

at the 84th Academy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles Sunday night, *Xinhua* reported.

State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said the film, first Iranian film to win Oscar, "really gives the world an invaluable picture of life in Iran". "We applaud his achievement and celebrate

the vibrancy and historical greatness of the independent film industry in Iran," Nuland told reporters. "Children of Heaven" in 1998 was the only other Iranian film which had been nominated for Best Foreign Language Film. The widely-hailed movie also won the best foreign film at the Golden Globes.

Internet



Emergency crews comb through some of the damage after a severe storm hit in the early morning hours on 29 Feb, 2012, in Harrisburg, Illinois, the United States.
XINHUA

Arsenal and Man City to play in Beijing

Barclays Premier League rivals to compete for inaugural China Cup at iconic Olympic venue

LONDON, 1 March — Arsenal and Manchester City will play a pre-season friendly in Beijing's iconic 'Bird's Nest' stadium. The Barclays Premier League rivals will compete for the inaugural China Cup at the spectacular Olympic venue - on the same day as the London 2012 opening ceremony.

The match kicks off at 8pm local time on Friday, 27 July, which is 1pm in the UK and six-and-a-half hours before the eagerly awaited start of the London Games. The Gunners are going to China for the second year in a row, following a successful tour in July 2011, which saw them play in Hangzhou.

City are making their third visit to China, although this is their first trip to Beijing. The club made a pre-season tour to Shanghai under former boss Stuart Pearce. Arsenal chief executive Ivan Gazidis said: "We enjoy huge support in Asia and by playing a match in Beijing, we will once again be

bringing the club close to our loyal fans in China. He added: "The match against Manchester City is sure to be an exciting spectacle, with many great players from both sides playing in front of thousands of supporters in the wonderful 'Bird's Nest' Stadium.

"It is also fitting that two English clubs are playing each other on the opening day of the London 2012 Olympics, in the stadium which hosted the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games." Manchester City's interim Chief Executive John

MacBeath, said: "The 'Bird's Nest' Stadium is a truly iconic world sporting stadium, and it will be a fitting venue to host a classic encounter between two of the English Premier League's greatest clubs.

"It is clear that there is huge appetite for the Premier League in the Far East, and we are very much looking forward to taking our talented squad there to witness the excitement and put on a sporting spectacle for our fans in China."

Internet



Manchester City beat Arsenal 1-0 in the Barclays Premier League in December.— Internet

Poland and Portugal fail to shine in stadium debut

WARSAW, 1 March — Euro 2012 hosts Poland and qualifiers Portugal were unable to deliver a thriller for fans on Wednesday, drawing



Portugal's striker Cristiano Ronaldo (C) fights for the ball with Poland's defender Damien Perquis during an international football friendly match between Poland and Portugal at National Stadium in Warsaw.—INTERNET

0-0 here in what was billed as one of the meatiest friendlies of the Poles' tournament preparation campaign. Home supporters expecting a flood

of goals at the first ever game in Poland's new National Stadium — venue on 8 June of the opening match of Euro 2012 — were sorely disappointed. While the Poles' defence looked improved compared with previous outings, they showed up attacking weaknesses.

"After this match against Portugal, I'm as calm about things as I was before the match," said Poland's much-criticised manager Franciszek Smuda. "What can we do better? Score goals of course... Given that, I think the set pieces in our performance today weren't as they should have been," he acknowledged. Poland clearly missed injured star

striker Robert Lewandowski, who has been riding high with his German club Borussia Dortmund, earning the nickname "Lewangolski".

Portugal, who were forced to earn their Euro 2012 berth via the playoffs, also displayed a lack of finesse, failing to build on their dominance of possession and a string of free kicks and corners. In a repeat of their English Premier League battles, Portugal's Manchester United striker Nani sparred with Arsenal goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny, firing a shot which the Pole saved easily in the third minute, and following up with two less-convincing efforts.

Internet

Soldado stars as Spain rout Venezuela

MALAGA, 1 March — Roberto Soldado, in his first international run out since 2007, conjured up a hat-trick in Spain's 5-0 drubbing of last year's surprise Copa America semi-finalists Venezuela in a friendly here on Wednesday. The reigning world and European champion's win was completed by goals from David Silva (41) — his first this year for club and country — and Andres Iniesta (37) as the hosts dominated this warm-up to Euro 2012. This was Spain's last appearance before coach Vicente del Bosque announces his squad for Poland and Ukraine in May. Valencia's Soldado came on after the break to leave his mark on the game with goals in the 49th, 52nd and 83rd minutes and advertise his claims for inclusion in the squad perhaps at the expense of Fernando Torres, who was left out of the squad. Venezuela were reduced to 10 men in the 66th minute with the sending off of Fernando Amorebieta for felling Soldado. — Internet



Spain's forward Roberto Soldado celebrates after scoring during the friendly football match Spain vs Venezuela at La Rosaleda stadium in Malaga. Soldado, in his first international run out since 2007, conjured up a hat-trick in Spain's 5-0 drubbing of last year's surprise Copa America semi-finalists Venezuela. INTERNET

Queen Elizabeth II to open 2012 Olympics



Backdropped by the historic Tower Bridge, a giant Olympic Rings floats on the River Thames in London in the run-up for the Olympic games, during its launch to mark 150-days until the start of the London 2012 Olympic games, on 28 Feb, 2012.

INTERNET

LONDON, 1 March — Queen Elizabeth II's busy summer calendar just got a bit more crowded. Buckingham Palace said the monarch will open both the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics this summer, signaling that both events will be celebrated as great state occasions — something the British are famous for. It is the first time the queen has opened the Paralympic Games, though she has often honoured Paralympians for their achievements in the past. Elizabeth and her husband, Prince Philip, will perform the ceremonial role at the 80,000-seat Olympic Stadium when the Olympic games begin on 27 July, and for the Paralympic Games on 29 August. "I think that this is great news for the games,"

said Tanni Grey Thompson, one of Britain's most successful Paralympic athletes, in an email. "I'm sure that it will make it very special for the athletes. It really raises it to another level."

The queen follows in the footsteps of her father, the late King George VI, who opened the 1948 London Olympics, and her great grandfather, King Edward VII, who opened the 1908 London Olympics. Elizabeth also opened the 1976 Games in Canada, where she is the head of state, while Philip did so on her behalf at Melbourne,

Australia, in 1956.

The decision to open both ceremonies caps a very busy year for the queen, whose Diamond Jubilee this year marks her 60 years on the throne. The monarch, 85, and Philip, 90, are planning an extensive tour of the United Kingdom during the celebrations, including visits to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Philip is planning to stick to the schedule despite his December heart scare, which required the insertion of a stent to keep his coronary arteries open.— Internet

Isner reaches Delray Beach quarterfinals



Top seed John Isner

DELRAY BEACH, 1 March — Top seed John Isner captured a 6-3, 6-4 win over fellow American Ryan Sweeting on Wednesday to move into the Delray Beach International Tennis Championships quarterfinals. The 11th-ranked Isner struggled through his first round win over wildcard recipient Jesse Levine on Tuesday because of the humidity, but was in better shape playing Sweeting. "Whenever, in the past, when I've played tournaments in humidity I've always struggled because I hadn't

acclimated yet." Isner said. "But tonight I felt so much better than I did yesterday.

"I'm still not all the way there. I could feel better out there but it was so much better." Isner broke Sweeting's serve twice in the match—in the second game of the first set and the fifth game of the second set—which was all he needed to take the win. Sweeting was unable to capitalize on five break points when Isner kicked his potent serve into overdrive to save the points.

"A lot of times for me to be successful I'm going to have to have my serve and I did today when I needed it," Isner said. "I served well, went for my second serve, wasn't going for broke, but I hit my spots and it got me out of a couple of jams." Isner will face eighth seed Bernard Tomic in the quarterfinals on Friday.—Internet

Drogha-less Ivory Coast held by Guinea

ABIDJAN, 1 March — Ivory Coast were held 0-0 at home by Guinea Wednesday in their first appearance since losing the Africa Cup of Nations final on penalties to Zambia in Libreville this month. The Elephants lacked Didier Drogha and Salomon Kalou of Chelsea and brothers Yaya and Kolo Toure of Manchester City and the English Premier League quartet were sorely missed at Felix Houphouet-Boigny Stadium in Abidjan. Guinea were fortunate to survive early Ivory Coast pressure during which Arsenal striker Gervinho and Russia Footballer of the Year Seydou Doumbia from CSKA Moscow squandered chances.

Ivory Coast coach Francois Zahoui introduced Max Gradel and Didier Ya Konan for the second half, but it was Cup of Nations first round casualties Guinea who gradually took control of midfield with Thierno Bah impressive. Senegal, who went to the Cup of Nations in

Gabon and Equatorial Guinea as third favourites behind Ivory Coast and Ghana only to make a humiliating early exit after three consecutive losses, forced a 0-0 draw with South Africa in Durban.—Internet



Ivory Coast's Keita Abdoul (L) vies with Guinea's Thierno Bah (R) during the Friendly football match between Ivory Coast and Guinea at the Felix Houphouet Boigny stadium in Abidjan. INTERNET

Ibrahimovic, Larsson spur Sweden to Croatia win

ZAGREB, 1 March — Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Sebastian Larsson starred for Sweden in their well deserved 3-1 win over Croatia in an international friendly here on Wednesday. Ibrahimovic scored the first goal in the 13th minute from the penalty spot after Croatian goalkeeper Stipe Pletikosa tackled Rasmus Elm. Croatia levelled in the 44th minute by Jonas Olsson who accidentally lobbed his own goalkeeper. Sebastian Larsson then put the game to bed with goals in the 46th and the 69th minute.

"It was a good game. We played against a very good team, we are very happy and hope that we can continue (playing) like this in the games to come," Ibrahimovic told Croatian national television. Asked about Sweden's chances at Euro 2012 Ibrahimovic said: "We'll do our best like any other team and you can never know what can happen at Euro but we hope for the best. "For sure we will prepare and hope to go as far as possible." Sweden have been paired alongside England, France and co-hosts Ukraine in Group D at Euro



Sweden's players celebrate their team's score during their friendly football match against Croatia in Zagreb.

INTERNET

2012, which runs from June 8 to July 1 in Poland and Ukraine.

Croatia coach Slaven Bilic said that his opponents "played a tough, firm and well organised game." "In the first half we were ok, but in the second we deteriorated. Simply we were not good.—Internet

Clinical French see off depleted Germany

BREMEN, 1 March — France gave themselves a pre-Euro 2012 boost with a 2-1 friendly win over an injury-depleted Germany in Bremen on Wednesday as the Germans suffered their first defeat in 11 games. A first-half goal by France's Olivier Giroud, who then set up substitute Florent Malouda for the second, inflicted the first defeat on Joachim Loew's Germany since they were beaten by the same margin by Australia last March.

of our better performances since I took charge," said Blanc, who replaced Raymond Domenech as coach after the 2010 World Cup debacle.

"From our point of view, everything went well, I was pleased with the way we pushed forward and, of course, I'm very pleased with the win."

Internet



French captain Hugo Lloris (R) and defender Mathieu Debuchy react after the International friendly football match Germany vs France in the northern German city of Bremen.—INTERNET

Germany's Brazil-born striker Cacau scored a late consolation for the hosts, but the French deserved the win. It was a disciplined performance from France who open their Euro 2012 campaign against England in Donetsk on 11 June and Laurent Blanc's side dominated a weakened German team lacking five first-choice players. "I am very pleased with the game my team played, this was one

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(2-3-12 09:30 am - 3-3-12 09:30 am) MST

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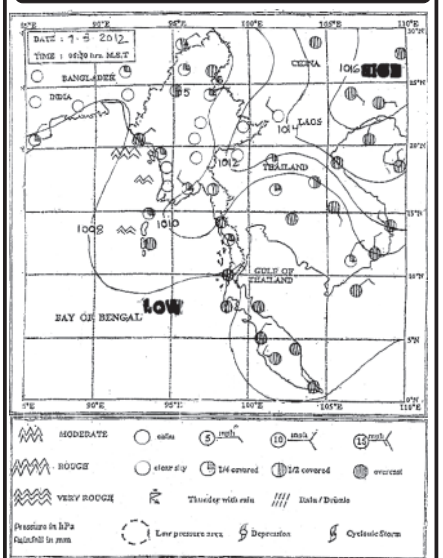
- * News
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- * A Day in A Farmer's life
- * News
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- * News
- * Lifestyle of Toddy Palm Climbers
- * Myanmar Movies "New Bosom"

MYANMAR TV

(2-3-2012) (Friday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
- 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
- 4. The Mirror Image Of The Musical Oldies
- 8:25 am
- 5. Songs in honour of (67th) Anniversary Armed Forces Day
- 8:45 am
- 6. Musical Programme
- 4:05 pm
- 7. Musical Programme
- 4:15 pm
- 8. Song Of National Races
- 4:50 pm
- 9. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 4:55 pm
- 10. Songs Of Yester Years
- 5:25 pm
- 11. Joint Performance by State Orchestra & The Radio Myanmar Morden Music Troupe
- 6:20 pm
- 12. Internet Garden
- 6:45 pm
- 13. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. Just For Laughs (Gags Asia)
- 16. TV Drama Series
- 17. Song Lovers

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 2nd March, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	25/77	14/57	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
2	Kayah	30/86	12/54	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayah	39/102	18/64	Generally fair weather	
4	Chin	17/63	10/50	Partly cloudy	
5	Upper Sagaing	20/86	13/55	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
6	Lower Sagaing	37/99	15/59	Generally fair weather	
7	Tainthayi	36/97	19/66	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
8	Bago	36/97	18/64	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	39/102	20/68	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	38/100	17/63	Generally fair weather	
11	Moa	37/99	20/68	Partly cloudy	
12	Yangon	37/99	19/66	Generally fair weather	
13	Rakhine	31/88	22/72	Generally fair weather	
14	Southern Shan	28/82	12/54	Partly cloudy	
15	Northern Shan	30/86	08/46	Partly cloudy	
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	12/54	Partly cloudy	
17	Ayeyawady	36/97	18/64	Generally fair weather	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	38/100	16/61	Generally fair weather	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	37/99	19/66	Generally fair weather	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	38/100	17/63	Generally fair weather	

Summary of observations at (09:30 hr MST) on today: During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, scattered in Kachin State, isolated in Chin State and weather has been partly cloudy in Mandalay and Tainthayi Regions, Rakhine State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (6°C) below March average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperature was Chind (40°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfalls recorded were Myitkyna and Haka (0.24) inch each and Homalin (0.20) inch.

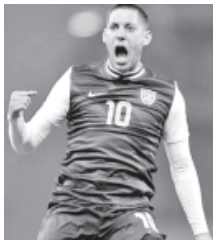
Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair in the elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of day temperatures in Northern Myanmar areas.

Dempsey scores as US beats Italy for first time

GENOA, 1 March — American players applauded each other and their fans. Their supporters cheered loudly and proudly waved the red,



US forward Clint Dempsey celebrates after scoring during a friendly soccer match between Italy and USA, at the Genoa Luigi Ferraris stadium, Italy, on 29 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET

white and blue. Gaining a rare victory over a soccer power, the United States beat Italy 1-0 Wednesday night on Clint Dempsey's goal in the 55th minute for the Americans' first win over the Azzurri in 11 games over 78 years. "It's a work in progress," Dempsey said. "I liked to think that we're closing the gap and hopefully one day we can do something special."

A Texan who has become an increasingly important element of the American team, Dempsey put a right-footed shot from just inside the penalty area past an outstretched hand of goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon. Fabian Johnson had crossed to Jozy Altidore, who with

his back to the goal against Italy's Andrea Barzagli touched the ball back toward the top of the area. "I think we look like a top team in the sense where we have one chance and we're going to make it count," Altidore said. "I think it's a big step in the right direction."

After returning to the World Cup for the first time in 40 years in 1990 and advancing to the quarterfinals in 2002, the Americans have struggled to make additional progress. They were knocked out in the first round of the 2006 World Cup and the second round of the 2010 tournament, eliminated both times with defeats to Ghana.

Internet

England fightback thwarted by Dutch



Former Chelsea winger Arjen Robben fires the Netherlands in front against England.—INTERNET

LONDON, 1 March — England produced a thrilling fightback against World Cup finalists Netherlands at Wembley only for the Dutch to win the friendly in injury time. The visitors had taken a 2-0 lead before England pegged them back in the final six minutes, but deep into stoppage time Arjen Robben saw his shot deflected into the England net to win it.

Stuart Pearce took charge of England

for the first time after Fabio Capello resigned earlier this month, the 49-year-old handing the captaincy to Tottenham Hotspur midfielder Scott Parker.

England went close twice in the first half when Manchester City's Adam Johnson had a shot deflected wide and then Chelsea's Daniel Sturridge saw his left-foot shot saved by Martin Stekelenburg. But the 2010 World Cup runners-up went in front thanks to a moment of individual brilliance from former Chelsea winger Robben, who ran from inside his own half and fired past Hart from the edge of the box.

Less than two minutes later it was 2-0, as Liverpool's Dirk Kuyt sent over a superb cross from the right for Klaas-Jan Huntelaar to head into the England net.

England, who handed a debut to Sunderland's Fraizer Campbell, had plenty of chances of their own, with Stewart Downing volleying wide and the impressive Sturridge shooting straight at Stekelenburg.—Internet

Rejecting age-old ideology of our ancestors, “engaging in farming as a result of no education”, the government is helping develop socio-economic status of peasants and agricultural sector of the State through “engaging in farming with education”

NAY PYI TAW, 2 March — *The following is the translation of the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Agga Maha Thayay Sithu, Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma U Thein Sein on the occasion of the Peasants Day.*

Esteemed peasantry,

Today is the Peasants Day designated to honour Myanmar peasantry. On this auspicious occasion, I wish you the entire peasants physical and spiritual well-being and a success in your farming.

Today, time is approaching for the new government which was elected by the people and took office democratically on 30 March, 2011, to turn one year.

Since it took office, the new government has been implementing the eight tasks after laying down the rural development and poverty reduction plan as a national objective in the interests of the people, and has been implementing the task for development of the agricultural sector of the peasants which make up the 70 % of the population as the first priority.

As Myanmar is an agro-based country, the government has stepped up its efforts for promoting the socio economy of the peasants and development of the agricultural sector with the aim of building the strength of the country.

The new government has also been making efforts for making the best use of the dams and river water pumping projects implemented by the former government, and for cent per cent completion of the irrigation systems which are under construction to boost agricultural produce of the peasants and their income.

As building the irrigation system would pave the way for double-cropping and mix-cropping patterns for the farmland which are relying on favourable weather and rain peasants would find job opportunities and earn more income.

Besides, as part of efforts for transition to the mechanized farming from the traditional farming system, the government drew short-term and long-term plans and has been implementing the plans step by step.

For increasing yield and improving marketability and quality of various crops including paddy, the staple crop of the State, it is being encouraged for producing and distributing strains for hybrid paddy, hybrid corn, hybrid sunflower, hybrid beans and pulses, and hybrid fruits with the help of technology. Peasants take enviable positions as

private sector assumes a dynamic role in this attempt.

Formulating good agriculture patterns for producing high yield of crops, agriculturalists are discharging duties of training peasants first-hand in paddy fields, side by side with local farmers. It is establishment of sound foundation for agricultural development.

Esteemed peasantry,

After rejecting the age-old ideology of our ancestors, “engaging in farming as a result of no education”, the government is helping develop socio-economic status of peasants and agricultural sector of the State through “engaging in farming with education”.

The scholars have compiled the agriculture subject in the curriculum for families of farmers in pursuing primary, middle and high school education all over the country. As basic education schools will educate them in an effective way starting from the 2012-13 academic year, agriculture sector can be transformed from manageable into commercial scale across the country.

(See page 9)

Third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues for 17th day

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein addressed 17th day regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today.

The session was also attended by Vice-Presidents Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe, Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya



17th day regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in progress.—MNA

Nyein, Union ministers, the attorney-general of the Union, the chairman of Union Civil Services Board and 556 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

At today’s session,

President U Thein Sein addressed third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in commemoration of first anniversary of assumption of duty under Section 210 of the

constitution. (The President’s address is reported separately.)

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw put the address of the President on record.

Six Hluttaw representatives discussed National Plan Bill for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

U Win Oo of Yebyu Constituency discussed that he urged the Union

ministries and State-owned enterprises to ask for budget for bona fide necessity, to manage the budget to ensure less wastage and to do what is really worth to and he, on (See page 9)

Entrepreneurs urged to uplift cooperative societies

PAGE 2

Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Basketball Tournament kicks off

PAGE 9

Health infrastructures built by new government of Republic of the Union of Myanmar for people of Bago Region

PAGE 4

