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True patriotism

- * It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

National reconsolidation

“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.”

President U Thein Sein

(Excerpt from the address delivered at the regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 1-3-2012)

President U Thein Sein felicitates President of Hellenic Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Karolos Papoulias, President of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Hellenic Republic, which falls on 25 March 2012.

MNA

Malaysian Prime Minister and wife to pay goodwill visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—At the invitation of U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, His Excellency Dato Seri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia and wife Datin Siri Rosmah Mansor, will pay a goodwill visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the near future.—*MNA*

His Majesty King of Cambodia extends warm welcome to President U Thein Sein



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni taking salute of the Guard of Honour.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni extended a warm welcome to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein at the square in front of the Throne Hall of Royal Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 4 pm on 21 March.

When President U Thein Sein left for the Royal Palace from his hotel to attend the welcoming ceremony, he was accorded rousing welcome by Cambodian people and students along the road to the Royal Palace holding up the pictures of the Myanmar President and the His Majesty King of Cambodia and waving miniature flags of both countries with traditional dances and music.

At the Royal Palace, His Majesty King of Cambodia cordially greeted the President.

On the dais, the President and the His Majesty King of Cambodia took the salute of the Guard of Honour. Meanwhile, the State Band played the national anthems of the two countries. Then, the President and the King inspected the Guard of Honour.

His Majesty King of Cambodia presented his

entourage— Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace Samdech Chaufea Veang Kong Som Ol, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Hor Namhong, Minister of Ministry of Land Management Urban Planning & Construction Mr Im Chhun Lim, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Mr Chan Sarun, Minister of Information Mr Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Health Mr Mam Bunheng, Minister of Tourism Industry Mr Thong Khon and departmental heads—to the President.

Likewise, the President introduced his delegation members Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung and

Director-General U Min Zaw of the President Office.

After the ceremony, the President and the His Majesty King of Cambodia held a talk at the Throne Hall of the Royal Palace.

Speaking on the occasion, the His Majesty King of Cambodia said that he was glad to have opportunity to welcome the President on his behalf and on behalf of the Royal Father and Mother. The visit of the President was a historic trip. Friendly ties have been strengthening among the governments of Cambodia and Myanmar and between the two peoples. He said that he will always remember mutual respects and contributions between the both sides.

He continued to say that Myanmar and Cambodia are the same in religion, culture and customs. He proposed a toast for successful and smooth visit as the President's visit is a beneficial one.

For his part, the President expressed his thanks for a heartily welcome to the Myanmar delegation by the His Majesty. He was granted audience by His Majesty King of Cambodia three times. For the first time, he himself as Prime Minister

(See page 6)

Health Ministry has been fighting TB with support of WHO and Stop TB Partnership and works have been on right track to meet UN Millennium Development Goals in 2015

NAY PYI TAW, 24 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 to the ceremony to mark World TB Day:-*

Esteemed people,

First, I wish you all good health and happiness.

Now is the time of approaching the first anniversary of the new government that took office on 30 March 2011 after being elected by the people in accord with multi-party democracy system.

During the short period of taking office, the new government has adopted a rural development and poverty alleviation scheme as a national objective and is carrying out 8-point action plan with a view to serving the interests of the citizens.

We are also planning to promote public healthcare services to cover the whole nation with more State fund. In the health sector, national health plan (2011-2016) has been drawn and efforts are being made to meet the millennium development goals by 2015.

Myanmar is taking measures to combat three major common diseases namely HIV/STD, malaria and TB as a national task. Today, the whole nation is marking World

TB Day.

Annually, the world has seen about 8.4 million TB patients and 1.4 million deaths. It is found that 80% of TB patients are most common among those aged between 15 and 54. So it can be deduced from the fact that the disease is spreading among those who are productive force of the nation. Eighty percent of global TB outbreaks happen in 22 countries with the largest number of TB outbreaks in the world. The countries from South East Asia include India, Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh and Myanmar.

Myanmar is listed in 22 most TB-rampant countries out of the 198 countries which send report to the World Health Organization on fight against TB, 27 countries most vulnerable to drug-resistant TB and 41 most TB/HIV-vulnerable countries. TB is the second biggest killer in the world in term of epidemic-caused death. TB is barely given attention in World Health Development Programme. So, it is desperately needed to pay more attention to fight against TB.

To review the anti-TB campaigns conducted by the Health Ministry of Myanmar, it is preparing to extend TB care to rural areas enabling township Health Departments diagnose and cure TB and patients easily receive the treatment.

The Health Ministry has been fighting TB with the support of the WHO and The Stop TB Partnership and the

works have been on the right track to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals in 2015. I would like to urge the people to gear up efforts to meet the goals in time.

The Health Ministry of Myanmar only allocated 14 million kyats for anti-TB campaign in 1995-96 but increased to 626 million kyats in 2010-11. It is the example of cooperation with friendly organizations that Myanmar receives 3D funds and world funds as the government has made proportional contributions for fight against TB.

I would like to urge foreign and local social friendly organizations to join hands in successfully curing every TB patient as the government would increase the health expenditure fourfold in 2012-13 fiscal year.

Therefore, I wish my encouragement today to contribute towards harmonious efforts coupled with full health awareness of the State, the people, health staff, and social organizations at home and abroad in fight against TB for the future younger generations to be free from TB, leading to drastic decline in TB outbreak rate.

In building peaceful, modern, developed new nation, I would like to urge every citizen to participate in anti-TB campaigns in unison with me to make sure that every citizen is healthy and free from TB.

MNA

President U Thein Sein arrives in Vientiane, Lao PDR

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and party on 22 March morning left Phnom Penh, Cambodia by special flight to continue a trip to Lao People's Democratic Republic at the invitation of President of Lao PDR Mr Choummaly Sayasone after paying a goodwill visit to Cambodia.

The President and party were seen off at the Phnom Penh Airport by Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace Mr Samdech Chaufea Veang Kong Som Ol, Minister of Transport Mr Thong Khon and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Aung Naing and embassy staff and staff of military attaché office.

The special flight carrying the President and party left the airport and arrived at the Watty International Airport in Vientiane, Lao PDR at 11 am local time.

Myanmar Ambassador to Lao PDR U Kyaw Soe Win and the Director-General of

Protocol Department of the Laotian Ministry of Foreign Affairs boarded the flight to welcome the President and party while Laotian Minister at the President Office Mr Phongsavath Boupfa, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Vientiane Mayor, the Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar and officials, Military Attaché to Lao PDR Brig-Gen Win Maung and embassy staff waiting to welcome the President and party.

Next, the President and party in a motorcade arrived at the State Guest House in Vientiane where they are going to stay.

MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein being welcomed by Laotian Minister at the President Office Mr. Phongsavath Boupfa and officials concerned at Watty International Airport in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 25 March, 2012

An encouraging sign

Myanmar people have full trust and confidence in their long-accepted indigenous medicine. Actually, Myanmar traditional medicine has a firm foundation as it has won popularity and trust throughout the successive periods. Myanmar traditional medicine is formed with four main branches of subjects (Naya) – Desana Naya, Bhesijja Naya, Natkhatabeda Naya and Vijjadhara Naya. So, it can be said unique when compared with counterparts of other countries.

The country's ultimate goal is to uplift traditional medicine till it becomes a globally accepted therapy and the world to know its delicate nature, and to ensure its perpetuation and propagation.

With government support and encouragement practitioners are uplifting traditional medicine full with essence in all aspects to be on a par with western counterparts and attain global popularity. Additionally, the government has been adopting and implementing policies and means of the national health schemes for the long-lasting of traditional medicine.

Moreover, emphasis is to be placed on development of Myanmar traditional medicine in the long run to develop traditional medicine science, extend post-graduate traditional medicine courses such as master's course and

doctoral course, make utmost efforts for development of treatment and research works till meeting international standard, provide people with quality, genuine and potent traditional medicines, open private traditional medicine hospitals and clinics in line with the prescribed rules, conserve herbal plants and exactly identify scientific names of Myanmar herbal plants.

Thanks to the practitioners' ardent endeavours, we at present are witnessing the constantly rising standard of Myanmar traditional medicine. Apart from rural folks, urban people are also accepting and relying more and more on the medicine. Truly, the development and advancement of the medicine at the service of Myanmar people is an encouraging sign and our pride and joy.

In this 23 August, 2011 photo shows Staff Sgt Robert Bales, (R) 1st platoon sergeant, Blackhorse Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, is seen during an exercise at the National Training Centre in Fort Irwin.

INTERNET



US soldier charged with 17 murders in Afghan killings

KABUL, 24 March—A US Army sergeant was formally charged with 17 counts of murder on Friday for killing eight adults and nine children in a pre-dawn shooting rampage in southern Afghanistan that further eroded US-Afghan relations already frayed by a decade of war.

Staff Sergeant Robert Bales, a decorated 38-year-old veteran of four combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, also was charged with six counts each of assault and attempted murder for attacking two other adults and

four children in the 11 March shooting spree, a US armed forces statement said.

Premeditated murder is a capital offence under the US military justice code, so Bales could face the death penalty if convicted. He would face a mandatory minimum sentence, if convicted, of life imprisonment with eligibility for parole, the military statement said.

Bales is accused of walking off his base under cover of darkness and opening fire at civilians in their homes in at least two different villages in Panjwai District in

Kandahar Province. Defence officials said four men, four women and nine children were killed. A man, a woman and four children were wounded or shot at.

Reuters

Five dead in San Francisco house



Police stand guard at a two-story house near the City College of San Francisco, the United States, on 23 March, 2012. Five people were found dead in the house in the western US port city of San Francisco on Friday, in what police suspected as a gun-related murder-suicide case. Police said they believe it was a murder-suicide case and no suspect was at large.

XINHUA

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 March—Five people were found dead in a house in the western US port city of San Francisco on Friday, in what police suspected as a gun-related murder-suicide case.

The multiple-homicide was reported shortly before 8:00 am local time when a family member visited the two-story home near the City College of San Francisco and found three of the bodies, said local police.

The police, who later found two more bodies, said at least four of all five victims — two men and three women — were members of the same family. They are all Asians and all of them live inside the home.

Police said they believe it was a murder-suicide case and no suspect was at large.

According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the house is owned by software engineer Yingxue Lei and her colleagues said she did not call in on Friday.

Meanwhile, Lena Huang of San Diego told the newspaper that five members of her extended family live in the home. All of them had immigrated from China and no one is answering their phones on Friday.

San Francisco mayor Ed Lee on Friday issued a statement offering the city's condolences.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia's Medvedev warns West over missile shield

Moscow, 24 March—President Dmitry Medvedev said on Friday time was running out for the West to come up with new proposals to secure Russia's agreement to a missile defence shield in Europe.

Ahead of talks with US President Barack Obama next week, Medvedev gave a downbeat assessment of global security and international relations at the end of his four-year presidency, saying the "Euro-Atlantic" security community he had hoped to create remained a "myth".

Medvedev, who will be succeeded by Vladimir Putin in May, said Moscow was

unconvinced by NATO's argument that the planned missile defence shield was intended as protection against a missile attack by countries such as Iran.

"We have time (for an agreement) but it is running out, and I think that it would be in our mutual benefit to reach mutually acceptable agreements," Medvedev told a security conference.

"The main thing is that we must hear one simple thing — hear it and receive confirmation: 'Respected friends from Russia, our missile defence is not aimed against Russian nuclear forces.' This must be affirmed,



Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev delivers a speech during the "Euro-Atlantic Security Community: Myth or Reality?" conference in Moscow on 23 March, 2012.

INTERNET

not in a friendly chat over a cup of tea or a glass of wine, but in a document."

Reuters

One killed, 12 injured as building collapses in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 24 March—One woman was killed and 12 others including 6 children were injured when a three-storey building collapsed in Pakistan's central city of Multan on Friday night, said rescue workers and hospital sources.

A local photo journalist in Multan told *Xinhua* on the phone that hospital sources in the city told him that one woman injured in the incident later died at the hospital.

All the 12 others trapped in the collapsed building have been rescued and shifted to local hospital, the source in Multan told *Xinhua* by quoting rescue workers.

Earlier reports by some local media said that 16 people were trapped under the debris after the building collapsed.

Initial investigation revealed that the 90-year-old building located in a congested commercial area in the city collapsed because of its ages.

There was a tuition centre inside the building when it collapsed. The centre provided education for kids aged between 8 and 14, said local media.—*Xinhua*



Pakistani rescuers transfer an injured man to a hospital at the collapsed building site in Multan, Pakistan, on 23 March, 2012. One woman was killed and 12 others including 6 children were injured when a three-storey building collapsed in Pakistan's central city of Multan on Friday night, said rescue workers and hospital sources.

XINHUA

US to appeal WTO ruling against meat labels

WASHINGTON, 24 March—The United States said on Friday it would appeal a World Trade Organization ruling against a law requiring country-of-origin labels on all meat sold in grocery stores, a move that disappointed Canada and Mexico, both of which want the law changed.

The meat labels became mandatory in March 2009 after years of debate. US consumer and mainline farm groups supported the requirement, saying consumers should have information to distinguish between US and foreign products.

Big meat processors opposed the provision, which they said would unnecessarily boost costs and disrupt trade.

A WTO panel ruled in November that the country-of-origin labeling, or COOL, provision violated WTO rules on technical barriers to trade. The case was brought by Canada and Mexico, which have sizeable cattle and hog trade with the United States.

Andrea Mead, a spokeswoman for the

US Trade Representative's office, said the November ruling confirmed the United States has the right to adopt mandatory COOL requirements to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions.

But "we were disappointed that the panel disagreed with the way that the United States designed its COOL requirements with regard to beef and pork. Accordingly, we are challenging the panel's report before the WTO Appellate Body," she said.

In their complaint, Canada and Mexico said cattle and hog shipments to the United States declined sharply after the law took effect. They said the US rules were too stringent and put their livestock at a disadvantage.

"The WTO panel decision recognized the integrated nature of the North American supply chain and marked a clear win for our industry," Canadian Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz said in a statement expressing disappointment with the US appeal.

Reuters

At least two dead in two small plane crashes in Colo

LONGMONT, 24 March—At least two people were killed after crashes of two single-engine planes that may have collided Friday while in the air north of Denver, authorities said Friday. One person survived. The wrecked planes were found six miles apart near the city of Longmont, police Cmdr. Tim Lewis said.

The crashes were being investigated as a possible mid-air collision, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Mike Fergus said.

A *Cessna 180* went down near a small airport in the city, while a *Cessna 172* crashed about a half-mile from a Walmart southeast of Longmont, close to two homes, police said.

"We were very fortunate neither home appeared to be in danger," police Cmdr. Jeff Satur said. Two people died in the plane that crashed near the Walmart, said Gracie Marquez, deputy coroner for Weld County.

Internet



Head Butcher Gary Singleton displays a package of squirrel meat at Budgens supermarket in north London on 6 August, 2010.

INTERNET

TECHNOLOGY

Apple's new iPhone will use bigger 4.6-inch display



A woman takes a picture of US President Barack Obama with her iPhone upon his arrival at Hickam Air Base near Honolulu, Hawaii, 23 Dec, 2011. —REUTERS

SEOUL, 24 March—Apple Inc's new iPhone will have a sharper and bigger 4.6-inch "retina" display and is set to be launched around the second quarter, a South Korean media reported on Thursday.

Sales of the iPhone, first introduced in 2007 with the touch screen template now adopted by its rivals, account for around half Apple's total sales.

Apple has decided on the bigger 4.6-inch display for its next iPhone and started placing orders to its suppliers, the *Maeil Business Newspaper* said, quoting an unnamed industry source.

Its major display suppliers LG Display and Samsung Electronics Co declined to comment.

Samsung, which is also the biggest challenger to Apple in smartphones, uses 4.6-inch OLED display for its flagship Galaxy S II smartphone, introduced in April last year. The high-definition "retina" display—containing several times as many pixels within the same area—is used in the latest iPad released earlier this month.

The latest iPhone 4S was introduced in October last year.

Reuters

Digital skills shortage leaves EU youth a step behind



A woman uses a computer in the lounge area of the 27th Chaos Communication Congress (27C3) in Berlin, 27 Dec, 2010. —REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 24 March—European policy makers have identified a large shortfall in computing and IT skills among young people that threatens to dent Europe's ability to compete and could exacerbate youth unemployment in the coming decade.

While young Europeans may be good at using mobile smartphones and playing video games, they lack basic digital skills that could make them more easily employable in a rapidly digitizing economy, research from the European Commission shows. The Commission estimates the shortfall of school leavers and graduates with required IT and digital skills could hit 700,000 by 2015, a deficit that will particularly affect leading digital economies such as Britain, France and Germany.

The findings add to concerns about growing unemployment across Europe, where 24 million people are out of work. Youth unemployment is a particular concern, with more than 50 percent of young people unemployed in Spain and Greece.

"Young people need to appreciate the professional aspects of the new digital world," said Antonio Tajani, the European commissioner for industry and entrepreneurship, as he launched a series of events labelled "e-skills week" to draw attention to the problem and generate ways of tackling it.—*Reuters*

Mercury spacecraft offers new data

SANTA BARBARA, 24 March—NASA's *MESSENGER* spacecraft has completed its one-year primary mission to study Mercury, revealing new insights into the planet, researchers say.

The spacecraft captured nearly 100,000 images while orbiting Mercury and recorded data that reveal new information about the planet's core, its topography and the mysterious radar-bright material in the permanently

shadowed areas near the poles, the researchers said.

"Mercury is the last unexplored planet," said UC Santa Barbara physicist Stanton Peale, who devised the procedure used for detecting whether Mercury had a liquid core.

The way Mercury was formed, he said, may provide hints about the formation of the solar system.

Mercury's core is larger than expected, almost 85 percent of the planetary



Mercury, as seen by the MESSENGER spacecraft.

INTERNET

radius, whereas Earth's core is just over half of the planet's radius, researchers said.

Other findings include a topographic model of the planet's northern hemisphere that shows a smaller variation in elevations compared to those of Mars or the moon, a UC Santa Barbara release reported.

Radar-bright features at the poles located in areas of permanent shadow have been found to be consistent with a water-ice hypothesis, researchers said, but further tests will be required, using instruments aboard *MESSENGER*.

Internet



USS Ford (FFG 54) successfully transited from the ship's homeport in Everett, Wash, to San Diego, on 2 March, using 25,000 gallons of a 50/50 algae-derived, hydro-processed algal oil and petroleum F-76 blend in the ships LM 2500 gas turbines.—INTERNET

Biofuel passes US Navy voyage test

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 March—The US Navy is turning to the sea as a fuel source for its ships, experts say, successfully testing an algae-derived fuel on long voyages.

The US Navy frigate fleet ship USS Ford sailed from its home port in Everett, Wash, to San Diego using 25,000 gallons of the algae-based fuel blended in even proportions with standard F-76 military diesel, *TG Daily* reported on Wednesday.

Solazyme, a San Francisco-based company that ferments algae to produce oil that can be

refined into fuel, said its Soladeisel fuel performed perfectly on the 1,200-nautical-mile trip. The Navy reported "there was absolutely no difference, whatsoever, in the operation or performance of the ship" using the algae-derived fuel.

"Feedback from the ship's engineers was favourable; the crew reported that operational performance of the fuel system and gas turbine engines on the 50/50 blend was ... comparable to operations on traditional petroleum F-76," Solazyme confirmed in a statement.

Internet

Future of Monarch butterflies a concern

COLLEGE STATION, 24 March—The numbers of Monarch butterflies moving north across Texas from their breeding grounds in Mexico are expected to be down alarmingly this year, scientists say. Texas A&M researcher Craig Wilson said reports by the World Wildlife Fund and Mexico's Michoacan State show Monarch numbers will be down almost 30 percent in 2012 as they make their annual trek north into the United States.

The figures show an alarming decades-long decline in their numbers, Wilson says.

"Last year's severe drought and fires in the region no doubt played a part, resulting in less nectar for the Monarchs as they migrated south," he said in a university release.

"But estimates show that each year, millions of acres of land are being lost that would support Monarchs, either by farmers converting dormant land for crop use — mainly to herbicide tolerant corn and soybeans — or the overuse of herbicides and mowing.

"Milkweed is the key plant because it's the only plant where the female will lay her eggs," Wilson said.

The loss of such lands is a critical issue for the Monarchs' survival, he said. "We need a national priority of planting milkweed to assure there will be Monarchs in the future," Wilson said.—*Internet*



Female Monarch.—INTERNET

New images give clues to asteroid's past

PASADENA, 24 March—NASA says its *Dawn* spacecraft has revealed unexpected details on the surface of the giant asteroid Vesta, including some never seen before on an asteroid.

Vesta is one of the brightest objects in the solar system and is visible to the naked eye from Earth, and the orbiting *Dawn* spacecraft has found that some areas on Vesta can be nearly twice as bright

as others, giving clues to the asteroid's history, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif, reported on Wednesday.

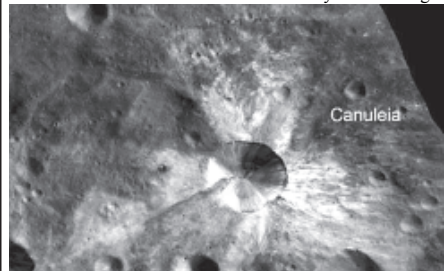
Bright areas appear everywhere on Vesta but are most predominant in and around craters, where cosmic impacts on the surface seem to have exposed and spread this bright material, researchers say.

"Our analysis finds this bright material originates from Vesta and has undergone little change since the formation of Vesta over 4 billion years ago," Jian-Yang Li, a *Dawn* participating scientist at the

University of Maryland, said. "We're eager to learn more about what minerals make up this material and how the present Vesta surface came to be."

Darker areas of Vesta are thought to be from collisions that melted the outer crust of the asteroid, researchers said.

"Some of these past collisions were so intense they melted the surface," Brett Denevi, another *Dawn* participating scientist at Johns Hopkins University, said. "*Dawn's* ability to image the melt marks a unique find. Melting events like these were suspected, but never before seen on an asteroid."—*Internet*



In this image from NASA's Dawn spacecraft, bright material extends out from the crater Canuleia on Vesta. The bright material appears to have been thrown out of the crater during the impact that created it.—INTERNET



President U Thein Sein meets with staff and families of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office in Phnom Penh

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung and wife, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Aung Naing and wife, embassy staff, staff of military attaché office and families and Myanmar overseas trainees at Inter-Continental Hotel in Cambodia at 7.30 am on 22 March.

First, embassy staff, staff of military attaché office and families paid homage to the President in accord with Myanmar tradition and the President blessed them.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein made a speech. He said that Cambodia and Myanmar

share a common in religion, culture and tradition and they are partners that have been forging mutual friendship and respect, that it is necessary to further cement the existing mutual friendship, and stressed the need for embassy staff to try their best to have a good relation with the partner country and to learn language of the country concerned when they are on duty.

Afterwards, the President presented cash assistance and gifts to embassy staff, staff of military attaché office and families and Myanmar overseas trainees and ten sets of Sky Net receivers for the embassy and the military attaché office.

MNA



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein presents gifts to staff and family members of Myanmar embassy and military attaché office in Phnom Penh.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses World TB Day celebration

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—World TB Day for 2012 was celebrated at Myanmar International Convention Centre here at 9 am today with an address by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of National Health Committee Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, committee members deputy ministers, departmental heads, resident

Out of the 8.4 million patients, those who only go to health departments account for 60% and the rest 40% are found to have received no treatment.

According to Myanmar's general report of 2011, MDG has been reached as a total of more than 140,000 TB patients were found out and cured. This year's motto of World TB Day is



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivers an address at ceremony to mark World TB Day 2012.

MNA

representatives from UN agencies, members of social organizations and officials of the departments under the health ministry.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said: It is learnt that TB started spreading about 6000 years ago. The TB virus was discovered by German scientist Dr Robert Koch on 24 March 1882. March 24 was therefore designated as World TB Day. The day has been celebrated in Myanmar for 17 times starting 1996. TB medicines were first developed in 1947 and it can be cured within 6 to 8 months with the use of fixed dose combination and TB patient kits. As a result, the disease outbreaks and deaths have declined since 2004. However, out of 8.4 million TB infected people in 2011, about 1.4 million died. It is found that 80% of TB patients are most common among those aged between 15 and 54. So it can be deduced that the disease is infected among the age groups who can produce productive strength of the nation. According to WHO, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh and Myanmar are in the list of 22 countries with the largest number of TB outbreaks.

'Stop TB in my lifetime. The TB elimination tasks are:

- To ensure that every person is free from TB since their childhood, that TB causes no deaths and that infected people are cured with DOTS or other quick and cost-effective remedies
- To mobilize TB patients undergoing treatment and



WHO Resident Representative Dr HSB Tennakoon reads message sent by WHO SEA Regional Director.

MNA

and external organizations. In the past, cooperation was made only with WHO but now the country is cooperating with 14 international organizations and five local organizations. In addition, cooperation is being made with GPs from the TB project of Myanmar Medical Association.

When it comes to TB immune medicine, the result came out only two months after TB virus had been cultured. But now results can come out within three days at Yangon and Mandalay advanced TB labs.

The State increased the spending on TB elimination from K 14.5 million in 1995-96 to K 626 million in 2010-11. More efforts will be exerted to produce potent medicine and achieve more success in the task.

World TB Day 2012 is being celebrated not only in Nay Pyi Taw but also in other states and regions. Likewise, TB Week activities will be carried out in every township. Health workers down from townships and social organizations are to take measures such as giving health knowledge, exposing patients with TB suspect and patients who fail to take medicine for their continued treatment and conducting medical check-up on family members of a patient. Myanmar needs to speed up these efforts for TB elimination and to seek better ways to fight the disease.

In conclusion, while all are working together to combat TB, they are also to try to march towards a world free of tuberculosis by the year 2050.

Then, Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin read out the message sent by President U Thein Sein on World TB Day 2012. WHO resident representative Dr HSB Tennakoon read the message sent by the WHO Southeast Asia regional director. Then the ceremony came to a close.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham together with the guests studied the World TB Day commemorative booth.

MNA

Magway Region Chief Minister meets personnel, local people

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe of Magway Region yesterday morning met district and township administrators, chairmen of region, district and township election sub-commissions, departmental officials, staff of General Administration Department, townsenders, and members of social organizations at the hall of Magway Township GAD.

After hearing the reports, the Region Chief Minister attended to the needs.—MNA

cured patients to participate in combating TB together with the people

- To ensure that children are free from cerebral TB
- To monitor every HIV patient whether he is infected with TB and to cure him quickly if he is infected
- To find out TB immune patients and cure them effectively and
- To cooperate with international organizations, local congenial associations, related ministries and private hospitals.

Myanmar started the fight against TB in 1978 and it covered the whole nation in 2003. Door-to-door assistance is being given to TB patients in collaboration with internal

His Majesty King of Cambodia extends warm...

(from page 1)
called on the His Majesty. For the second time, he called on the His Majesty together with leaders of other countries while attending the CLMV Meeting, and that now was the third time.

The President on his behalf and on behalf of Myanmar people proposed a toast for wellbeing of the His Majesty King of Cambodia, royal families and Cambodia people. He showed off his deep belief for further strengthening

friendly relations between Myanmar and Cambodia. He said that both countries have similar histories, customs and religion.

In his address, His Majesty the King of Cambodia said that the Royal Family extended greetings to the President. He was pleased for the goodwill visit of the President to Cambodia. He expressed his hopes for maintaining the friendly ties between Cambodia and Myanmar to be handed down to next generations. He continued to



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni holding talks at Throne Hall of Royal Palace.—MNA



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein lays wreath at Independence Monument in Phnom Penh.—MNA

say that both countries, peoples and governments have assisted each other and especially, in cooperation in economic and social affairs, tourism, trade and investment and they are much beneficial to both countries. He was very glad to hear that Myanmar people are witnessing peace and development under the leadership of the President.

The President said that Myanmar and Cambodia has established diplomatic ties for 60 years. There was no problem between the two countries. He pledged that friendly relations between Myanmar and Cambodia will be handed down to new generations. Myanmar President

expressed his thanks for Cambodia's support on Myanmar in international arena.

His Majesty said that Cambodia always stands by the side of Myanmar, and Cambodia has given support to Myanmar and her seven-step democratization process.

The President said he has learnt that His Majesty is a religious person. Myanmar is a land of pagodas including Shwedagon Pagoda. He invited the His Majesty to pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar at opportune time.

His Majesty expressed thanks for the invitation. He said that he

would like to pay a State visit to Myanmar where Theravada Buddhism is flourishing, promising to visit Myanmar at his earliest convenience. He said that Cambodia is proud of Myanmar for its positive progress. He expressed his belief for promoting bilateral ties and cooperation in the future. In conclusion, His Majesty proposed a toast for prosperity of Myanmar people.

After the call, the President and His Majesty the King of Cambodia posed for documentary photo together with the delegation members.

Later, the President laid a wreath at Independence Monument in Phnom Penh.—MNA

President U Thein Sein leaves Vietnam for paying goodwill visit to Cambodia

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein together with Myanmar delegation arrived at Noi Bai International Airport from Melia Hanoi Hotel in Hanoi on 21 March morning to pay a goodwill visit to Cambodia.

President U Thein Sein and party were seen off at the airport by Chairman of the President's Office of Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Dao Viet Trung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Pham Quang Vinh, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chu Cong Phung, departmental heads of External Affairs Department of the President's Office and Southeast Asia, South Asia and South Pacific Affairs Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Thein Oo and wife, Military Attaché Col Win Hlaing and wife, staff of the embassy and the military attaché office.

At 11.40 am, the President and

party left for Cambodia by special flight and arrived at Phnom Penh Airport of Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 1.20 pm local time.

On arrival at the airport, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung, Director Mr Prak Gounhone of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cambodia boarded the aircraft to welcome the President and party.

Likewise, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace Samdech Chaufea Veang Kong Som Ol of Cambodia, Minister of Tourism Industry Mr Thong Khon and officials, Daw Nan Yin May Win, wife of the Myanmar Ambassador, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Aung Naing and wife Daw May Than Oo, staff of the embassy and the military attaché office.

Later, the President and party arrived at Inter-Continental Hotel in Phnom Penh in a motorcade.

MNA



Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace Samdech Chaufea Veang Kong Som Ol and officials welcome President U Thein Sein at Phnom Penh Airport in Phnom Penh.—MNA



His Majesty King of Cambodia Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni extends greetings at the dinner.—MNA

His Majesty King of Cambodia...

(from page 16)

with main roads facilitated with trees growing in a row. Sharing common culture and religion, Myanmar and Cambodia have been forging friendly ties since yore, and therefore, current friendship and cooperation between the two countries is not

a normal phenomenon. The hospitality extended to Myanmar delegation reflects the growth of existing friendly ties between the two countries. President U Thein Sein said that he had visited Cambodia for the first time in November, 2007, and visited Cambodia again in November, 2010, in his capacity as President, and now he was pleased to visit the country again. Although the trip to Cambodia was short, it had further strengthened existing friendly ties and created an opportunity for Myanmar delegation to witness the recent development of Cambodia. Myanmar government, being a Government

elected by the people, is committed to fulfilling the needs and aspiration of the people to the most possible degree. And the government is constantly implementing tasks for prevalence of peace and stability and economic development aspired by the people. In that regard, it met with local political groups and has been able to bring about local political stability. Meanwhile, it had extended an olive branch to national races armed groups for national reconciliation. With prevalence of peace and stability in the nation, external pressure had been decreased and there is frequent contact and cooperation with outside, thereby creating potentials for international investments. On the other hand, it is in the process of building an industrialized country while laying down and implementing short term and long term projects for human and infrastructure development as well as improving technology, environmental conservation, ensuring an institution on the basis of law, competitive economic sphere, and boosting the ration of private participation.

Myanmar Government is striving for reforms, nation building tasks and promotion of Myanmar society standard at the same time. While it is implementing tasks for prevalence of peace and stability and economic recovery, the Myanmar delegation was on a State-visit to Cambodia, from which it could observe infrastructure development and many improving sectors including tourism industry and communication sector. He praised the Cambodian Government for those progresses, and wished more success and stronger ties between the two peoples.

President U Thein Sein and Cambodian King enjoyed the dinner. During the dinner, Cambodian cultural troupes entertained those present with cultural dances of the two countries.

MNA

President U Thein Sein holds talks...

(from page 16)

President during the summit for sector-wise cooperation and Asia Development Bank's assistance to Myanmar. It was welcoming that the US and EU had positive views on the developments of Myanmar. Cambodia and Myanmar were friendly nations accompanying each other in the time of hardships. He said he was pleased to see the developments of Myanmar today, expressing his belief that Myanmar would successfully take the responsibilities of the ASEAN Chair in 2014.

The Cambodian PM added that he was grateful to the Myanmar President's assistance for promotion of Myanmar-Cambodia ties. Myanmar rendered aid when floods occurred in Cambodia. He said he was glad about launch of direct air transport between the two nations, promoting the tourism industry. He added that he would like to promote economic cooperation further as Myanmar had lots of trade opportunities. He suggested detailed discussion to the Myanmar President for increased economic cooperation.

The Cambodian PM went on to say that Cambodia was currently taking the alternative chairmanship of ASEAN. It was required all the ASEAN fellows join in discussion to activities the slogan saying "One vision, one identity, one community". It was required the cooperation of ASEAN countries to establish ASEAN Community.

The Myanmar President said that he agreed to the points of the Cambodian PM. His visit was aimed at deepening the amity of the two countries. He added that

it was a privilege for him to receive the red carpet in calling upon the Cambodian King and warm welcome of Cambodian people along the road to the palace. He was grateful to Cambodia for its support to Myanmar in regional and international issues.

There were a lot of prospects for economic cooperation between the two countries. Regarding the transportation, there was only air link and no road link. Myanmar was preparing to build Laos-Myanmar Mekong River-spanning Bridge. Upon completion of the bridge, it can be accessible to Cambodia via Laos. He added that he hoped Myanmar-Laos road link would also be beneficial to Cambodia. It was planned to build railroad after completion of Laos-Myanmar Mekong Bridge. Deep sea ports and special economic zones were being constructed in Dawei region in southern Myanmar linking with Thailand, to link Dawei and Thailand.

A plan is under way to build motor road and railroad from there to Bangkok of Thailand. On completion, the railroad will be linked with one linking Singapore and Kunming of China. When transportation got better, forest products, rubber, meat and fish, rice, oil-palm and other crops could be traded more. The joint-plans of regional organizations GMS and ACMES hardly gathered pace. The government was holding peace talks with ethnic armed groups.

The Cambodian Prime Minister pointed out that there were three points to construct links between Cambodia and Myanmar—through Mekong Bridge via Laos to Myanmar; through Vietnam to Myanmar; and through Thailand to Myanmar. Of those three links, the third route through Thailand to Myanmar was the shortest with potentials of becoming a link connecting India through East Asia.



President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen.—MNA

The Myanmar President expressed his thanks for suggestions of the Cambodian Prime Minister.—MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister meets local people in Wakema

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung looked into river slide in Shwegon and Upper Paygon Villages in Wakema Township on 22 March.

Next, the region chief minister gave offertories to Sayadaws in Alyinyaung Monastery in Upper Paygon Village. Where he met local people and gave bags of cement

and cash assistance.

Moreover, the region chief minister met local people in Shwelaung Local Station Hospital and inspected paddy husk fired power station of the village. He then paid homage to Pyinnyatagon Monastery Sayadaw and presented offertories.

MNA

Age-wise measles vaccination 2012 launched in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—The age-wise measles vaccination 2012 was launched in Rakhine State at U Ottama Hall in Sittway on 22 March morning.

State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin delivered an address. Next, Head of Rakhine State Health Department Dr Than Tun Aung explained matters related to

vaccination.

The State Chief Minister and party viewed vaccination to children and presented gifts to them.

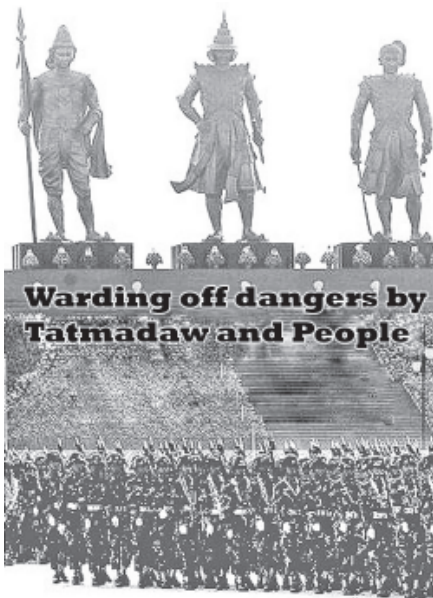
In Tayatheesu and Pyidawtha regional clinics in Sittway, they viewed giving of measles vaccination to the children.

MNA

Hailing the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

Tatmadaw with significant characteristics

Maung Mann Nyo



Taking office of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is going to turn one year on 30 March, 2012. It coincides with 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March. The country sees a lot of democratic reforms during one year. It can be seen that the country's reform process has no turning back. In so doing, the country may face difficulties, challenges, incentives and strife. It is common. It is evident that the new government's undertakings are only for the interests of people.

No doubt that all organizations as well as all citizens recognize the role of Tatmadaw. People are synonymous with Tatmadaw throughout the history. Tatmadawmen in successive eras are our brothers.

Taking a look at Myanmar Tatmadaws in 11th, 16th and 19th Centuries, they were strong and had patriotism and capacities. But, Myanmar was at wars with aliens in 1824, 1852 and 1885. During these wars, Myanmar had lost its territories and then the whole country fell under British Colonial rule. Myanmar lost her independence and Myanmar King was exiled to India. Since then, Myanmar had ended over 800-year-long King Monarch system. Nobody was blamed with respect to the end of Myanmar King system and we must take a lesson from it. It may be because of the disintegration of unity, unacceptability of industrial development in western countries and adherence to the ever-winning sense.

If Myanmar had a strong, patriotic and modern Tatmadaw,...

Respected our brothers served dutifully and tried every possible ways to regain independence, without fear. It was not a rocket science. Since 1824, Taininthyai and Rakhine Regions had been under colonial rule for 124 years; Lower Myanmar, for 96 years since 1852, upper Myanmar, for 63 years since 1885. In so doing, they fought for Independence through political means as well as military means. In its attempt to regain Independence in military way, thirty comrades, which would become first generation of current Tatmadaw, had to receive military trainings. First generation leader of Tatmadaw is General Aung San. He is not only a national leader but also a Tatmadaw leader. It shows that the emergence of Myanmar Tatmadaw is totally different from other countries and Tatmadaw has emerged along with national affairs. It can be seen that People have been in oneness with Tatmadaw. Burma Independence Army (BIA) was formed in Bangkok of Thailand on 26-12-1941 and fought for independence. As true independence had not been achieved, the more powerful colonialists with an excuse to reconstitute BIA came to rename it BDA and PBF to reduce the strength of its members. It seemed that as the nation's independence was dawning, Myanmar leaders had neglected their attempt.

To have characteristics that a Tatmadaw should have, Tatmadaw (Air) was formed on 15-12-1947 and Tatmadaw (Navy), on 24-12-1947 just after Myanmar regained her Independence. It was 4 January, 1948 that Myanmar became an independent, sovereign nation. Our leader General Aung San did not enjoy the fruit of Independence as he was assassinated before Independence. Thirty comrades continued to head Tatmadaw. Unfortunately, civil war broke out along with independence. Then, foreign media dubbed government as Yangon government because they could rule Yangon and its environs only. Tatmadaw could safeguard the country and settle the 1948-49 conflict. After the end of civil war, Tatmadaw could fight against KMT Chinese invasion hand in hand with people. Due to the weaknesses in parliamentary democracy system, ruling parties and governments handed over power to Tatmadaw. In so doing, Tatmadaw held free and fair elections. But, there emerged secessions from the State. As the country was on the edge of collapse, Tatmadaw safeguarded the country as Revolutionary Council Government after taking power. And then Tatmadaw handed over power to Myanma Socialist Programme Party Government that exercised single party system. First generation leaders had been serving country's affairs dutifully. After that, second generation leaders started assuming duties when country's economy was in recession in the 1980s. Myanma Socialist Programme Party was abolished as people called for democracy. After that, the basic foundations were laid for the establishment of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Tatmadaw's second generation was capable to do smooth transition and drafting the Constitution.

The term 'generation' is used as fine traditions and good heritages have been maintained for generations. At a time when the nation is starting democratic practices as the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, leaders of third generation are also upholding the good traditions of the Tatmadaw. Quoting the speech of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Min Aung Hlaing at the 54 intake of Defence Services (Army) Training Course on 9-12-2011, he said: "When it comes to national defence, it includes safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes, the State constitution and the country's territorial land, air and waters as well as protecting the lives and property of the national people." Indeed, the excerpt of the speech has highlighted defence duties the Tatmadaw would shoulder in the change of the nation's system and era. In other words, it means that the Tatmadaw and the people have been in oneness if it is in the national interest. It is the Tatmadaw that will always safeguard the nation's objective called Our Three Main National Causes, the nation's charter called the constitution, the nation's territory called territorial land, air and waters and lives and property of the national people by risking their lives. In the objectives of the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2012, the Tatmadaw has committed itself to uphold Our Three Main National Causes: non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, to participate in the national political role with Union Spirit which is true patriotism, to protect the constitution which is the key to building a modern democratic nation and to build a strong, efficient, modern and patriotic Tatmadaw so as to safeguard the nation's independence and sovereignty.

Today's Myanmar has generated a lot of interest. Looking to the course of history ranging from 14 years of parliamentary democracy era (1948 independence period-1962, to 12 years of revolutionary council (1962-1974) to 14 years of Myanma Socialist Programme Party era (1974-1988), it can be found that a transition period has divided two different systems. And there are many lessons to be taken. Despite different systems and eras, all leaders would have had the same ambition of national interest, in other words, the same goodwill. That is to say, they would have served the cause for wellbeing of the nation and the people. They would have tried to implement a system most suitable to most of the people by weighing everything through their experiences. There would have been a variety of difficulties and hardships. While trying to solve problems in various ways as much as possible, they would have experienced successes as well as failures. As the current constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was

Hailing the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

POEM

Our Tatmadaw with four objectives

- * **Placing always in fore**
Our Three Main National Causes
In safeguarding the people
- * **Noble Union Spirit in heart**
Serving the people
Is the duty of the Tatmadaw
- * **Observing and safeguarding**
The State Constitution
The foundation of democracy
And a developed modern country
- * **Independence and sovereignty**
Safeguarding them for perpetuity
While building a Tatmadaw
That is efficient and modern
- * **Ever alert and dynamic**
Ready to sacrifice everything
With vigor and courage
Always drives out the enemy
Whenever country faces dangers
Ensuring peace and stability
Ever for people it serves
- * **The Tatmadaw is...**
The offspring of the people
- * **In fore the Tatmadaw always places...**
Our Three Main National Causes
- * **The Tatmadaw always safeguards...**
The mother country

Po Yan Naing (Kyaukkyi) (Trs)

drawn in the end of the 20th century and the early 21st century, now is the time when we are in a position to collect sophisticated data and to clearly see the mature democratic nations, the nations that hastily changed into democracies without experience, the course of history Myanmar has passed through and the needs and wishes of its people in democratic transition. We are continuing our journey ensuring check and balance in the three State pillars: executive, legislative and judiciary. The media called the fourth estate will soon develop with fine traditions such as freedom and accountability and freedom and rationality.

"Three powers have been equally shared in the constitution which is a charter framework of democratic transition. After practising 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", said President U Thein Sein in his speech delivered at the third regular session of the first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in the first anniversary of the government's inauguration on 1 March 2012. The speech has clearly shown vision, transparency and truthfulness. The goodwill and farsightedness of the President can

(See page 9)

Tatmadaw with significant...

(from page 8)

clearly be seen as well. Although we cannot deny that choosing and electing is part of democratic practices, appointment also includes in such practices. All political parties which are the main driving forces of the nation's politics are working for the emergence of a modern developed democratic nation while doing democratic practices in the public interest. It can be seen that all stakeholders including the Union government, political parties, civilian societies, Hluttaw representatives, those from the judicial pillar and fourth estate, national race leaders and Tatmadaw members are participating in the effort.

The Tatmadaw, a significant organization of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has its defence services personnel representatives shouldering the duties entrusted by the people in the Hluttaws as it was born as a Tatmadaw

67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- * To firmly uphold the objectives, namely, non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
- * To play a leading role in national politics of the State with Union Spirit, the true patriotic spirit
- * To safeguard the constitution, the main responsibility of the Tatmadaw in building modern, developed democratic nation
- * To build a strong, competent, modern patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard the independence and sovereignty of the State

to serve for the national cause. While shouldering these national duties, the Tatmadaw side by side with the people are safeguarding the motherland for its perpetuity till the end of the world. I have written this article to hail the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.
(Translation: ST+MT)

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan addresses emergency meeting of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association

YANGON, 24 March—Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association convened an emergency meeting at University of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Street here this morning. Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivered an opening speech at the meeting.

Also present at the convention were Yangon Region Finance and Revenue Minister Daw San San Nwe, Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein, departmental heads and officials of the Information Ministry, patrons, chairman and CEC members of MWJA, members of organizing committee of the informal convention, special guests, media and observers.

MWJA Secretary U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Sethmu Tetkatho) acted as MC and Joint Secretary (1) U Myat Khaing (Myat Khaing) as joint MC.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said in his address that the informal convention was called in accord with fundamental principles of MWJA as it was summoned in the time of calling fifth central leading committee meeting after fifth convention.

Within one year of Myanmar's democracy, sweeping reforms were initiated in accord with the constitution, he said. It is everybody's knowledge that these reforms were made in the interests of the country and the people, not for any individual or any organization, he said.

Existing civil societies are being reorganized to cope with democratic society, the minister said. The convention was summoned for emergence of organizations which are commensurate with the age and the media federation formed with these organizations, he said.

MWJA was derived from Myanmar Literary Workers Organization, he recalled. It was the association serving the interests of the State and the people with the pens, he said. The association was formed with authors of novel, article, poem and research papers, reporters, news editor, photo journalists, cartoonists, publishers printing a variety of publications and distributors, he said. To help them do works in each sector, it was learned that the approval of the convention would be sought for formation of associations, he said.

More systematic and stronger media federation would be formed, based on reorganized associations, he said. Formation of associations with sound foundations, drafting organizational structure and fundamental principles and electing the CEC members democratically are important steps, he said.

Only in the national interest, MWJA created the world of letters which brought



Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivers an address at informal convention of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association.—MNA

about the good to the country and the people, he said. It also fulfilled the necessities of men of the world of letters in technical and human resources development and provided social services, he said. He said he would like to urge to strive for emergence of associations which would serve the national interest and contribute to the development of the world of letters.

We need to take lessons from the past experiences in forming the associations, he said. To think of the future, we also need to consider what happened in the past, what we are doing at the present and what is happening, he said. In post-independence period from 1948 to 1962, there are above 20 organizations related to the literature, he said. Although the men of letters had firstly worked for patriotism and nationalism, they were then split up following, political allegiance, personality cult and sectarianism, he said. Then the power struggle followed as they wanted to control all the organizations in the world of letters, he said. In that period, they could not serve the interest of the country, the people and the literary world effectively, he said.

Being NGOs, literary associations need to distance themselves from party politics, sectarianism and personality cult, he recommended. To form genuine fourth estate, every association must have firm policies, rules and regulations, and codes of conduct, he said. The government has already acknowledged its stance that it values and confides in the literary world. He urged the men of letters to establish genuine fourth estate, which is highly qualified and ethical and can serve the interest of the country and the people.

In building democratic nation, there are three estates—legislation, executive and

judicial estates, he said. The fourth estate or media is to check and balance these three estates, he said. There is still another estate, the people, who decide everything in democracy, he said. The fourth estate and any other estates need to inform and help the people make right decisions, he said.

He said he would like to repeat five principles he always demanded from journalists for realization of the genuine fourth estate. The first one is being free from bias, he said. The second one is writing an event from various angles to let the people make right decisions, he said. The third principle is exercising freedom and accountability, freedom and rationality in parallel. We could freely think, believe, judge and differ in democratic system, he said, saying Unity in Democracy is needed. The fourth one is Unity in Democracy, he said. The last one is the national interest in realizing unity in democracy, he said. In moving towards democracy, the media estate key to the nation should apply these five principles, he said.

He urged to carry out procedures systematically with firm policies, right stance and procedures with the view to emerging literary organizations esteemed and trusted by the people and the government.

The first session of the convention was adjourned and Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted those present and posed with them for documentary photo.

MWJA Chairman U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit) presided over the second session and Members of the panel are U Kyaing Myint (Maung Yan Shin), U Aye Kyi (Maung Nyo Aye-Mawyawady), U Myint Swe (Swe Nwe Oo), U Htain Min (Min Aye Nyein Sae), U Khin Aung (Shwebo Bamahiti Khin Aung) and U Tin

Tun Ohn (Mahn Cheint Phale), MWJA Joint Secretary (3) U Aung Thein Win (Maung Khaing Khant) acted as MC and Joint Secretary (2) Dr Than Tun Oo (Dr Tha Tun Oo) as joint MC.

MWJA Chairman U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit) delivered a speech.

Secretary U Ko Ko read out the report of the central executive committee and treasurer U Muang Maung Aye (Maung Haymar), the financial report.

MWJA Vice-Chairman (1) U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lanmadaw) explained organizational set-up of Myanmar Writer Association and Vice-Chairman (3) U Ko Ko Hlaing (Ko Ko Hlaing), organizational structure of Myanmar Journalist Association.

U Thein Win (Min Yin Su) submitted the CEC report and U Khin Maung Lay (Maung Ye Min) the financial report. U Win Aung (Htet Thu Aung) and U Soe Aung (Soe Aung-Tamway) respectively seconded organizational set-ups of MWA and MJA.

Secretary U Ko Ko read out the lists of members of committees for formation of MWA, MJA and Myanmar Publisher Association. Then the convention passed.

Secretary U Ko Ko, on behalf of CEC members, made clarifications on discussion of convention representatives. The concluding remarks of the MWJA chairman brought the convention to an end.

MWJA hosted dinner to the reps at Panda Hotel.

The convention decided to form MWA, MJA and Myanmar Publisher Association based on existing Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association.

MNA

Union Foreign Minister sends message of felicitations to the counterpart of Hellenic Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Stavros Dimas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Hellenic Republic, which falls on 25 March 2012.—MNA

Final Match and prize presenting ceremony of Myanmar CP Open Tennis held

YANGON, March 24—Jointly organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation and Ministry of Sports, the prize presenting ceremony and final match of Myanmar CP Open Tennis with

the assistance of Myanmar CP Livestock Co., Ltd was held at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon on 23 March.

MNA

Health infrastructures in Ayeyawady Region to provide local national people with health care services



The General Hospital in Pyapon that is providing health care services to local people in Ayeyawady Region.



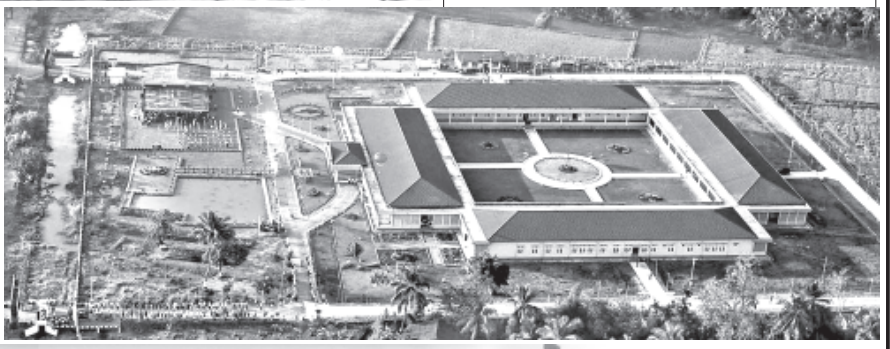
The Maubin People's Hospital in Maubin, Ayeyawady Region.

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye

Translation: AKK

An aerial view of the 100-bed Mawlamyinegyun Township People's Hospital, Ayeyawady Region (Top), and the hospital (bottom)

* With the emergence of the 200-bed hospital in Labutta Township, the 200-bed hospital in Pyapon Township, the 25-bed hospital in Pyinsalu Township, and the 100-bed hospital in Mawlamyinegyun Township, Ayeyawady Region, local people in the region are able to receive medical treatment within their reach.
* Meanwhile, the status of health care services in the region become higher than ever before.



Writing test on knowledge about Buddhism on 8 April

YANGON, 24 March—The writing test on knowledge about Buddhism at middle school level youth for the first step will be held on 8 April.

The application may be submitted through e-mail or application form, not later than 31 March.

The application must be filled with name of

applicant, age, date of birth, father's name and address (e-mail, telephone).

The applicants must study the book entitled A good Buddhist and the Buddhism Desana (basic level) published by the Religious Affairs Department.

Outstanding applicants will have to sit for the writing and oral tests. For further

information, may contact branch of Sky Net TV, Tel: 09-7319331, webs dhammaschools.com.e-mail; thutasonelin@gmail.com and Dhamma Yaungchi Dhamma Dhana, Theingyi Market C Complex, Building 4, (first floor), Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Tel: 01-382935, 09-5079674, 09-5143998 and 09-5015446.—Hlaing Bwa

Certificates presented to trainees in mercantile deck officer course



YANGON, 24 March—With the aim of emerging the qualified mercantile officers, the certificate presentation for the mercantile deck officer skill course, conducted by Directorate of Marine Administration, was

held at the Traders Hotel, here on 12 March morning.

Yangon Region Minister for Kayin National Race U Saw Tun Aung Myint presented the best trainee award to Maung Aung Paing Paing Kyaw, Deputy Director

of Directorate of Marine Administration U Thet Htay, Maung Akkar Tin Myint, and Principal U Myo Nyunt Aung, completion certificates to the trainees.

The training course was conducted in the compound of Directorate of Marine Administration under the Ministry of Transport in Dawbon Township.

Those of under-40 who had passed matriculation examination in health and fitness with designated sea service may sit for the examination comprising sailor knowledge, English and Computer subjects.

Ma Nwe

Citizenship cards issued to people in Budalin Township



MONywa, 24 March—According to Moe Pwint-2 Plan being implemented by

Sagaing Region Immigration and National Registration Department, the

Head of Region INRD, the head of Township INRD and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards and made household registrations to the local people in Kantha Village of Aungchantha Village-tract in Budalin Township on 14 March.

Director of the Region Department U Nyi Nyi Thein Zan explained rules and regulations of the Myanmar Citizenship Law and plan of Moe Pwint-2 and then presented 65 citizenship scrutiny cards to the eligible people.—Myo Zaw

Talk on age-wise vaccination of measles given

YANGON, 24 March—A township level talk on age-wise vaccination of measles 2012 was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department

in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region on 15 March.

At first, Township Administrator U Ngwe Doe made a speech. After that, Head of Township Health

Department Dr Khin Maung Tin explained matters related to vaccination of measles for children from nine months to five years old.

Myanma Alin

Linyaungchi Library opened in Chauk Township

CHAUK, 24 March—A ceremony to open Linyaungchi self-reliant library was held in Natsinkan Village of Poppakan Village-tract in Chauk Township of Magway Region on 4 March.

Staff Officer U Than Htay of Magway District Information and Public

Relations Department, Township Administrator U Nyein Maung Maung, wellwisher U Win Tin and village administrator U Than Doe formally opened the library.

Students of Naysinkan Village Basic Education Primary School unveiled the signboard of the library.

The Township Administrator and the Staff Officer of the Township IPRD made speeches. Wellwisher U Win Tin explained the

purpose of the donation.

The Staff Officer handed over books and publications donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation to the chairman of Linyaungchi Library Committee of Natsinkan Village and the chairman of Thuta Nyanyaung Library of Nalinkan (East) Village.

Linyaungchi Library, 34 feet long, 21 feet wide and 14 feet high, was built at a cost of K 7.9 million.

Myanma Alin

Development of fresh water fish breeding undertaken

YANGON, 24 March—Focusing on development of livestock breeding and meat and fish production, Head of Yangon Region Fisheries Department U Myo Aung, the head of Kawhmu Township Fisheries

Department, officials of fresh water research section and fish and prawn disease control branch made a field trip to Rakhinesu Village of Mahsineik Village-tract in Kawhmu Township recently.

They inspected health condition of fish and prawn, quality of fish breeding ponds and performed talks on control of disease and rural development tasks.

Fisheries Department

Firewood distributed to local people in Shwedaung

SHWEDAUNG, 24 March—Under the supervision of Shwedaung Township Forest Department of Pyay District in Bago Region, a ceremony to present firewood from the village plantation was held in Ywathitgon Village of Shwedaung Township on 4 March.

Deputy Director U Kyaw Lwin of Pyay District Forest Department spoke on the occasion.

Assistant Director U

Than Oo of Pyay District Forest Department explained distribution of firewood and posts. Head of Township Forest Department talked about environmental conservation.

Later, 144 wooden poles and five tons of firewood from 200 acres of village plantation established in 1999 were distributed to local people as an act of rural development and poverty alleviation.—Myanma Alin



DISTRICT NEWS

Crabs released into natural mangrove forest



Local people actively participate in releasing ceremony of crabs into mangrove forest in Pyapon.

PYAPON, 24 March—A ceremony to donate crab pedigrees to Pyapon District Fisheries Department of

Ayeyawady Region was held in Pyapon on 14 March morning.

Shwe Min Thar Crab

Broker U Khin Maung Win and wife Daw Thida Khaing donated over 10,000 crabs weighing 620 kilos in total to Head of District Fisheries Department U Thet Aye.

The crabs were released into the mangrove forest on 14 March morning. It was attended by Head of District Fisheries Department U Thet Aye and staff, Principal U San Aung of Pyapon Fisheries Training School, the Shwe Min Thar Crab Broker and local fishermen.

Myanma Alin

Cash donated for cost of Moe Pwint-2 Plan

YANGON, 24 March—In implementing Moe Pwint-2 Plan of the Immigration and National Registration Department, wellwishers donated cash to the fund for cost of the applicants of Yangon Region in blood test, taking photos and charge for citizenship scrutiny cards to be paid to the State.

Five Great Service Co Ltd donated K 500,000, City Golf Resort & Natural Link K 300,000, Oriental House

K 300,000, IQ Vision K 300,000, Asia Winner Industrial Co Ltd K 200,000, and Angle Tour Co Ltd K 200,000.

The wellwishers donated cash at the opening ceremony of Car Showroom of Five Great Service Co Ltd at the corner of Bayintnaung Road and Hline Ywama Kyaung Road in Hline Township of Yangon Region on 18 March morning.

Zaw Naing Oo

MLF invites donation for cash, books

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (063)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (063) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.3.2012 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

A man operates computer to do remote control of an unmanned vehicle at the campus of Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), on 22 March, 2012. IAI exhibited its unmanned vehicle production to visitors Thursday.—XINHUA



London shares close just higher

LONDON, 24 March—London shares closed higher on Friday at the end of a week of steady losses driven by concerns of a slowdown in global growth.

The benchmark FTSE 100 index inched up 0.16 percent to end at 5,854.89 points—but was down 1.86 percent overall from the previous week.

This represents the FTSE's worst week this year and came amid global economic growth worries caused by weak data out of China and the eurozone.

It follows a strong first-quarter rally for world stock markets thanks to robust US jobs data. Lloyds Banking



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INTERNET

Drug-resistant TB blamed on Indian treatment flaws

NEW DELHI, 24 March—India's inadequate government-run tuberculosis treatment programmes and a lack of regulation of the sale of drugs that fight the disease are responsible for the spiraling

number of drug-resistant cases that are difficult to treat, health activists said Friday. India adds an estimated 99,000 cases of drug-resistant TB every year, but only a tiny fraction of those infected receive the proper drugs to treat the stubborn disease through the government-funded programme. Saturday marks World Tuberculosis Day.

The original form of the disease can be easily cured by taking antibiotics for six to nine months. But if that treatment is interrupted or the dose is cut, the bacteria battle back by mutating into a tougher strain that can no longer be killed by standard drugs, making it harder and more expensive to treat.

The easy availability of

TB drugs in the private market and the casual over-the-counter sale of antibiotics is fueling the development of drug resistance, Piero Gandini, head of Doctors Without Borders in India, said in a statement.

"There is an urgent need for regulatory control of sale and administration of TB drugs in the private sector," he said. The organization and other health groups also said India's TB control program provides treatment to patients only on alternate days. They argue it increases the risk that patients, most of whom are poor daily wage laborers, will miss doses, another factor responsible for drug-resistant strains of TB.—INTERNET

Electric cars risk losing green sheen in Japan



In this Sunday, on 18 March, 2012 photo, Japanese composer Ryuichi Sakamoto, left, speaks as Nissan Motor Co's Corporate Vice President Hideaki Watanabe listens, in front of the automaker's Leaf zero-emission electric vehicle at 'The New Owner's Meeting' in Tokyo.—INTERNET

TOKYO, 24 March—Electric car owners who prided themselves on being green now find themselves in a bind as Japan's government maneuvers to restart dozens of nuclear power plants idled after last year's meltdowns.

For decades, nuclear generation has been a crucial source of power here, but the tsunami-triggered meltdowns

at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant have spurred a debate over how to supply Japan's electricity in the future.

Long touted as a clean, zero-emission alternative to vehicles powered by dirty fossil fuels, electric cars are now at risk of being tainted by their association with nuclear.

If, as is possible, nuclear remains a key source of power, "then the green image of the electric car will get bashed to bits, maybe to the extent it will be irreparable," said Ryuichi Kino, who has written books on nuclear power and hybrid technology.

"I have the feeling it's quite possible that might happen." Not long after the tsunami swept through the plant on 11 March last year, the government backed away from plans to lift nuclear power from supplying a third of Japan's electricity needs to half. But Japan isn't abandoning nuclear power altogether.—INTERNET

Scotland to have 150 mn euro wind turbine factory

EDINBURGH, 24 March—Gamesa, the Spanish maker of wind turbines, is to build a major manufacturing facility in Scotland, helping to create 800 jobs, the governments said on Friday.

"Wind turbine manufacturer Gamesa today gave a huge vote of confidence to the UK offshore wind industry by announcing their plans to build a major manufacturing facility," next to the port town of Leith, the Department of Energy and Climate Change said in a statement.

"The project could be

worth up to 150 million euros of investment and is expected to support over 800 direct jobs." Prime Minister David Cameron added: "This is fantastic news for Scotland and shows that the UK remains an attractive place for foreign investment."

The UK already leads the world in the amount of offshore wind installed, according to the Department of Energy and Climate Change and has ambitions to increase it to as much as 18 gigawatts by 2020? a more than 10 fold increase on current levels.

INTERNET



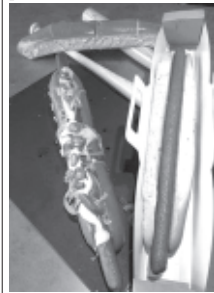
File picture of the Scottish Government building in the Leith area of Edinburgh. Gamesa, the Spanish maker of wind turbines, is to build a major manufacturing facility in Leith, Scotland, helping to create 800 jobs, the government says.—INTERNET

Texas Rangers to serve up 2-foot-long hot dog

ARLINGTON, 24 March—As the Texas Rangers belt home runs this season, some fans may be loosening theirs.

The team is introducing the Great Dane of hot dogs: a 2-foot-long beast that busts the scales at one pound. The Texas-sized dog is also topped with sautéed onions, shredded cheese, jalapenos and chili and served with a side of French fries.

"That's the next kapow," Steve Peterson, the president of Fort Worth-based Classic Foods, said as he gestured to a sample of the hot dog. His company produced the meat.



The Texas Rangers introduced The Champion Dog, a 2-foot-long hot dog at the Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas on 23 March, 2012.

INTERNET

The Champion Dog, to be served at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, will reign supreme over the mere foot long dogs. At a price of \$26, the entrée is meant for sharing with three or more people.

"It wasn't our intention for this to be what one person would eat. I know there will be folks out there who can handle that and that's their business," said Shawn Mattox, the general manager of the team's food contractor, Sportservice.

The Rangers' home opener is Friday, 6 April, against the Chicago White Sox. Fans will see this description on the menu: "The Champion of all hot dogs big enough to feed a few players on your team."

The inspiration behind the massive meal is the half-pound dog introduced during last year's World Series, which the Rangers lost to the Saint Louis Cardinals.

After the season—when a 3-pound pretzel was also introduced—they wondered, "How do we top what we already did?"

Mattox said the Rangers teamed up with a local bakery to supply the 2-foot-long buns and asked Peterson if his company could help.

Reuters

Baby born at side of highway

Emergency responders in Phoenix said a baby was born at the side of the freeway when the parents realized they wouldn't make it to the hospital.

Scott Walker of the Phoenix Fire Department said the parents, whose names were not released, were driving on the Loop 101 freeway near Seventh Avenue on their way to a hospital when they realized they would not make it in time for the birth, KPHO-TV, Phoenix, reported on Thursday.

Walker told KNXV-TV, Phoenix, the father was delivering the baby at the side of the road when paramedics and fire crews arrived.

KTVK-TV, Phoenix, reported the mother and baby boy were taken to Arrowhead Hospital where they were said to be doing fine.



Emergency responders in Phoenix said a baby was born at the side of the freeway when the parents realized they wouldn't make it to the hospital.

NJ city dodges toilet paper crisis

Officials in Trenton, NJ, said a toilet paper crisis at city buildings has been staved off with a \$16,000 emergency order of paper products.

Supplies of toilet paper and paper towels at City Hall and other city-run facilities including police headquarters and senior centres are nearly depleted due to Mayor Tony Mack's administration being unable to get City Council approval for a \$46,000 contract to keep the facilities supplied for the next year, *The Times of Trenton* reported on Wednesday.

Acting city purchasing agent Marchelle Marshall said relief is now on the way in the form of \$16,000 worth of toilet paper and paper towels.

"Some of the supplies were supposed to be delivered at 5 o'clock today, and some of the rest will be delivered tomorrow," Marshall said on Tuesday.

The City Council initially rejected the \$46,000 bid from Pennsylvania-based firm Amsan in September due to the company wanting \$4,000 for a supply of hot drink cups. Marshall asked the council Tuesday night to reject a contract with Amsan so the city can solicit bids from other companies. The council voted as Marshall recommended.



Police seek pizza costume thief

Authorities in Florida said they are searching for a man who walked into a Papa John's and left wearing the eatery's pizza costume.

Polk County sheriff's deputies said the suspect, described as a white man around 18-years old, was wearing a white button-up shirt, dark pants and a dark tie when he walked into the Lakeland restaurant with six other people and put on the 6-foot-tall pizza slice costume, WFTS-TV, Tampa Bay, Fla, reported on Wednesday.

Deputies said the man was still wearing the costume when he left the store with his companions.

Patrick Stewart to be Peabody host

ATHENS, 24 March— British actor Patrick Stewart is to serve as host of the 71st annual George Foster Peabody Awards for broadcasting in New York, organizers said on Wednesday.

The winners of the Peabody Awards for original broadcast, cablecast and Web-cast programmes presented in 2011 will be announced via Web-cast

April 4 from the University of Georgia. The prizes are to be presented 21 May at a ceremony at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in Manhattan.

"Patrick Stewart, the first actor to host the Peabody Awards Presentation Luncheon, brings a career that perfectly illustrates the breadth of the Peabody Award," Horace Newcomb, director of the Peabody Awards at the University of Georgia, said in a statement.

"He starred in 'Star Trek: The Next Generation,' which was recognized with a Peabody in 1987. Just last year, he gave us his superb Macbeth, another Peabody Award production. The Peabody recognizes excellence in journalism and news, documentary and public service, and in all forms of entertainment in electronic media. We are truly honored to have Sir Patrick as our host."—*Internet*



Patrick Stewart, the voice of Bill Shakespeare in the animated 3D comedy motion picture "Gnomeo & Juliet", arrives for the premiere of the film at the El Capitan Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 23 January, 2011.—*INTERNET*

Russell Crowe to play Noah in film

LOS ANGELES, 24 March— New Zealand-born actor Russell Crowe will play the titular Old Testament figure in director Darren Aronofsky's movie "Noah," *Deadline* reported. Production on the epic about the man who heeds God's warning and builds an ark to save as many creatures as possible when a disastrous flood comes is expected to start in July, the entertainment industry news Web site said.

Crowe is best known for his work in the films "Cinderella Man," "A Beautiful Mind" and "Gladiator."

Aronofsky's big-screen credits include "Black Swan," "The Wrestler" and "The Fountain."

Internet



Russell Crowe, a cast member in the motion picture crime thriller "The Next Three Days", arrives for a screening of the film at the Directors Guild of America (DGA) in Los Angeles on 16 Nov, 2010.

INTERNET



Actor Matt Smith arrives on the red carpet before a screening of the British film "Fish Tank" at the 62nd annual Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France on 14 May, 2009.

INTERNET

Coleman to be new 'Doctor Who' companion

LONDON, 24 March— Jenna-Louise Coleman will play Doctor Who's latest companion, the British science-fiction series' producer announced on Wednesday.

Matt Smith portrays the titular Time Lord.

Coleman, 25, has had roles in the British soap "Emmerdale," the movie "Captain America" and the upcoming miniseries "Titanic."

"Doctor Who" executive producer Stephen Moffat said the actress will join the cast after current companions Amy and Rory, played by Karen Gillan and Arthur Darvill, leave the show later this year, EW.com reported.

"It's not often the Doctor meets someone who can talk even faster than he does, but it's about to happen," Moffat said in a statement. "Jenna is going to lead him on his merriest dance yet. And that's all you're getting for now. Who she's playing, how the Doctor meets her, and even where he finds her, are all part of one of the biggest mysteries the Time Lord ever encounters. Even by the Doctor's standards, this isn't your usual boy-meets-girl."

Internet

Katy Perry promises honesty in her lyrics

WASHINGTON, 24 March— Katy Perry has said that she always wants her lyrics to be honest, "no matter how much it hurts."

The "Firework" hitmaker, who split from husband Russell Brand in December, promised fans that she will always tell the truth on her records, and finds going into the studio is often "cathartic".

"People see the lyrics are a bit vulnerable sometimes, but I think that is what everybody wants to hear, they want to hear the truth, no matter how much it hurts," Contactmusic.com quoted her as telling BBC Radio 1.

"Writing songs is cathartic, it's definitely like I'm pushing something out. Whenever I feel I'm getting toward breaking point, rather than going into a bad place I just get my guitar, or get myself



Katy Perry

into the studio and free verse, freestyle," she said.

The 27-year-old singer added that she always carries a recorder wherever she goes in order to capture all the funny and interesting phrases, words or descriptions that come to her in her everyday life.

"I have this little red recorder I have with me at all times, and if I'm walking around the streets it's in my purse and I just pull it out. It's all about catchphrases and people and conversations and

what I'm feeling.

"I love language, especially when you write a pop song, a lot of people think your pop songs are just pop and whatever, but if you listen to the lyrics, each one has a meaning and a purpose, and sometimes has two meanings, two purposes.

"Basically what I'm trying to say is I'm super deep. But I'm also a pop star," she said.—*Internet*



Actress Penelope Ann Miller arrives on the red carpet for the 84th Academy Awards at the Hollywood and Highlands Centre in Los Angeles on 26 Feb, 2012.—*INTERNET*

Penelope Ann Miller and husband split up

LOS ANGELES, 24 March—Actress Penelope Ann Miller has filed for legal separation from her husband James Huggins, Los Angeles

Superior Court documents show. The former couple were married nearly 12 years and have two children.

People.com said the star

of "The Artist" and "The Freshman" cited irreconcilable differences as the reason for the breakup.

Internet

Deschamps desperate to end Marseille losing streak



Marseille's head coach Didier Deschamps (C), seen here during their French Ligue 1 match vs Dijon, on 17 March, at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille.—INTERNET

MARSEILLE, 24 March—The future of Didier Deschamps as Marseille coach is set to come under more intense scrutiny this weekend when the stricken French league giants bid to end an unprecedented series of defeats. And the 1998

World Cup winner expects his players to help get their dire domestic season back on the right path. While league leaders and arch-rivals Paris Saint-Germain continue the business of winning a first league title since 1994, the plight of 2010 champions Marseille is sure to dominate Saturday's league programme.

Marseille's hopes of playing in next season's Champions League were virtually ended last week by a fifth consecutive league defeat, to relegation-haunted Dijon. Another humiliation came Tuesday in the shape of a French Cup quarter-final defeat to part-timers Quevilly, prompting a stark overall appraisal from former World

Cup winner Deschamps. "We're in a hole. Either we stay there, or we get our heads together and get out," Deschamps said Thursday.

"All defeats are horrible, but this one was particularly hard to swallow." So far, Deschamps has been spared the kind of intense speculation that brings down managers in other top leagues, with club president Vincent Labrune calling on the players to pull their socks up. "Everyone has to face up to his responsibilities," warned Labrune, who has already lamented the loss of cash Marseille could have potentially earned from inclusion in next season's Champions League.

INTERNET



Tiger Woods plays a shot on the second hole. Woods served notice that he has regained top form with the Masters less than two weeks away, grabbing the clubhouse lead on Friday at the PGA Arnold Palmer Invitational.—INTERNET

ORLANDO, 24 March—Tiger Woods served notice that he has regained his top form with the Masters approaching, firing a seven-under par 65 on Friday to share the lead at the USPGA Arnold Palmer Invitational. The 14-time major champion fired seven birdies in a bogey-free second round to finish 36 holes level with South Korean Charlie Wi on 10-under 134 at

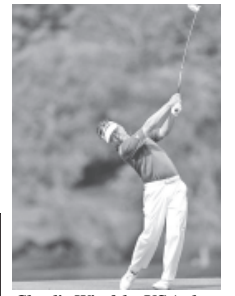
Tiger, Wi share 36-hole lead at Bay Hill

the \$6 million event. And Woods didn't even think he played that well on the same Bay Hill course where he has won six prior USPGA titles.

"I putted well. I didn't feel like I hit it all that good," Woods said. "My misses are better, I just played smart all day. I didn't make any bad mistakes. That's what I'm working on. My bad days aren't as bad as they used to be. "I feel comfortable on this golf course. For some reason I just understand how to play it." Northern Ireland's Graeme McDowell and American Jason Dufner shared third on 135 with England's Justin Rose a distant fifth on 138.

Woods produced his lowest score after 36 holes since the USPGA Buick Open

in July of 2009 and did it in his last event before the year's first major event, the Masters, starts on 5 April at the famed Augusta National Golf Club. What remains for former world number one Woods to accomplish, however, is putting together two more great rounds over the weekend and snapping his current losing streak in tour-sanctioned events that began in November of 2009.—INTERNET



Charlie Wi of the USA plays his tee shot at the par 5, 16th hole during the second round of the 2012 Arnold Palmer Invitational in Orlando, Florida.—INTERNET

'Forget Olympics', Wenger tells Wilshere

LONDON, 24 March—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has told injury-plagued Jack Wilshere to forget about playing in the Olympic Games and target a full Premier League season instead. Wilshere hasn't played at all in the current campaign due to a stress fracture of his right ankle although he could feature in the closing stages of the season as Arsenal look to clinch a Champions League spot.



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has told injury-plagued Jack Wilshere, to forget about playing in the Olympic Games and target a full Premier League season instead.—INTERNET

An impressive run-in may also put the 20-year-old in line for a place in the England squad for Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine. "Wilshere going to the Euros is a decision that fortunately I don't have to make," said Wenger. "I would only intervene if I believe that medically he's at risk." And the Frenchman added: "The Olympics destroys the start of the season for us. If he could play, we'd rather he went to the Euros than the Olympics."—INTERNET



Dortmund's players celebrate after scoring a goal during their German Football League DFB Cup semi-final match against SpVgg Greuther Fuerth in Fuerth, southern Germany, on 20 March.—INTERNET

Cup finalists Dortmund, Bayern resume Bundesliga fight

MUNICH, 24 March—Having both secured their places in the German Cup final in midweek, Bundesliga rivals Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund resume their battle for the league title this weekend. With a five-point lead at the top of the table, Dortmund are at Cologne on Sunday while second-placed Bayern host Hanover on Saturday in a rich vein of form having scored 13 goals in their last two league games.

Bayern are hunting a treble of titles this season and face Marseille in the Champions League quarter-finals. With eight points separating Dortmund and third-placed Moenchengladbach, Bayern are realistically the only team who can catch the leaders with eight games to go.

The league title race could well be decided on April 11 when Munich face Borussia at Dortmund and the teams will also contest the German Cup final a month later on May 12 at Berlin's Olympic Stadium. Just as he did last season, Dortmund coach Jurgen Klopp has discouraged his team from talking about the title, but captain Sebastian Kehl has said false modesty will do them no favours.—INTERNET



Bayern Munich's goalkeeper Manuel Neuer (L) celebrates with his teammates after winning their German Football League DFB Cup semi-final match against Borussia Moenchengladbach in the western German city of Moenchengladbach, on 21 March.—INTERNET

Look out ladies — a new Sharapova is coming

SARASOTA, 24 March—Three-time Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova is tough enough for the top players in women's tennis, but now the Russian beauty is about to be joined by another Sharapova, her 16-year-old cousin.

Dasha Sharapova, who has been fine tuning her tennis talents at Florida's IMG Bolletieri Academy, has been announced in the field of the Sarasota Open, a 16-player event to be played April 14-22 on the US developmental



Dasha Sharapova

circuit. "(Dasha) began playing at the age of five and moved to America from Russia when she was nine,"

Sarasota Open spokeswoman Sandra Rios said.

"Notwithstanding the cultural changes of such a move, Dasha found the most significant change was the increased amount of tennis she plays." The younger Sharapova says her role model is her cousin Maria, currently ranked World No 2 and coming off a runner-up showing at Indian Wells as she plays in the WTA and ATP hardcourt event in Miami that runs through next week.—INTERNET

I'm not Chelsea 'boss', says Terry



Chelsea captain John Terry, pictured in March 2012, insisted on Friday that coach Roberto Di Matteo is not a Stamford Bridge puppet and that the Italian is firmly in control of team affairs.—INTERNET

LONDON, 24 March—Chelsea captain John Terry insisted on Friday that coach

Roberto Di Matteo is not a Stamford Bridge puppet and that the Italian is firmly in control of team affairs.

"In response to comments suggesting that I think I'm the manager, I'd like to say Robbie has stepped up and been immense," Terry told the Evening Standard newspaper. Terry, standing to the side of Di Matteo, was spotted screaming orders at his teammates from the bench after being substituted in last week's dramatic Champions League win over Napoli. "I am

Chelsea through and through, whether I am on the pitch or off it," added the 31-year-old.

"Had I still been on the pitch, I would have been saying the same things that I was from the bench. That is my role as captain of this club. "Just because I have come off the pitch, it doesn't mean to say my mentality changes. "People might see it in the wrong way, but I care about this football club - we all do - and Robbie and his backroom staff deserve full credit."—INTERNET

Real's Pepe gets two-match ban, Ramos red card rescinded

MADRID, 24 March—Real Madrid defender Pepe was handed a two-match ban on Friday for insulting the referee after the 1-1 league draw at Villarreal. Sergio Ramos, however, was given a reprieve with one of his two yellow cards from Wednesday's match over-ruled by the Spanish football federation's competition committee. The Real defender will be free to play when the leaders host Real Sociedad on Saturday.

Coach Jose Mourinho and Germany midfielder Mesut Ozil were shown red cards in the game, after Villarreal snatched a late equaliser, and received the standard one-match suspension. Mourinho's assistant Rui Faria was given a two-game ban after being sent from the dugout midway through the second half at the Madrigal.—INTERNET



Real Madrid's Pepe (R) and Villarreal's Marco Ruben fight for the ball during their Spanish first division soccer match at the Madrigal Stadium in Villarreal, on 21 March, 2012.—INTERNET



Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(25-3-12 09:30 am ~ 26-3-12 09:30 am) MST

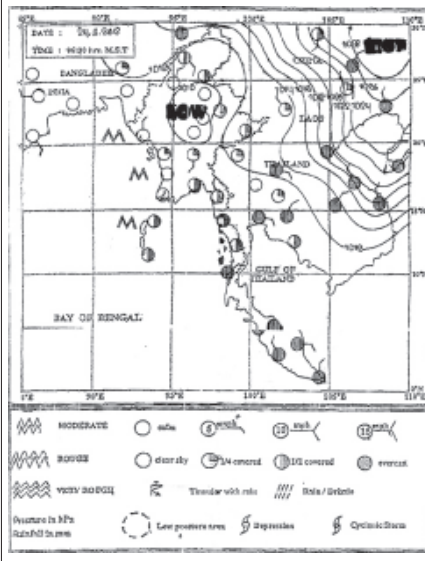
- News
- Honouring the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day "History of the NOBLE TATMADAW (1941- 1988)"
- News
- Music Gallery
- News
- Paypin Bridge: Connecting the Future
- News
- Their Experiences & Impression "Fashion"
- News
- MI People's Celebrities "Chit Thu Wai"
- News
- Sittway, Evergreen Seaside Town
- News
- True Desire out of Enthusiasm
- News
- Workshop on Programme for Economic Development
- Myanmar Movie "By Means of Love"

MYANMAR TV

(25-3-2012)(Sunday)

- 7:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:40 am 2. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:20 am 3. Teleplay (Htar)
- 8:40 am 4. International News
- 11:00 am 5. Martial Song
- 11:30 am 6. TV Drama Series
- 12:15 pm 7. How it's Works
- 12:40 pm 8. Myanmar Movies
- 4:05 pm 9. Dance Of National Races
- 4:45 pm 10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 6:00 pm 11. Evening News
- 6:35 pm 12. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm 13. News
14. Cartoon Series
15. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 25th March, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	35/95	20/68	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
2	Kayah	35/95	19/66	Partly cloudy	
3	Kayin	39/102	22/72	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
4	Chin	25/77	09/48	Generally fair weather	
5	Upper Sagaing	36/97	20/68	Partly cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	41/106	23/72	Generally fair weather	
7	Taintharyi	36/97	25/77	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
8	Bago	36/97	24/75	Partly cloudy	
9	Magway	41/106	25/77	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	41/106	27/81	Partly cloudy	
11	Mon	37/99	24/75	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
12	Yangon	37/99	23/72	Partly cloudy	
13	Rakhine	33/91	22/72	Generally fair weather	
14	Southern Shan	32/90	18/64	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
15	Northern Shan	34/93	15/59	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
16	Eastern Shan	35/95	19/66	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60%
17	Ayeyawady	36/97	24/75	Partly cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nya Pyi Taw	40/104	23/73	Partly cloudy	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	37/99	22/72	Partly cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	41/106	27/81	Partly cloudy	

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

Bay Inference

State of the Sea

Outlook for subsequent two days

Citizenship cards issued in Panglong

PANGLONG, 24 March—As part of efforts for implementing Moe Pwint-2 Plan, a ceremony to issue citizenship scrutiny cards to local national races was held in Tantel Village-tract in Panglong of Loilem District, Shan State, on 29 February.

Head of Loilem District Immigration and National Registration Department Deputy Director U Than Tun O handed over 112 cards to officials.

District INRD



MEASLES CAMPAIGNED: The campaign of age-wise measles vaccination was launched at the administrative office in Ward 1 of Kamayut Township on 22 March. Head of Township Health Department Dr Thin Thin Khaing, Nurse Grade I Daw Thin Thin Aye and staff inject measles vaccination to children.

MYANMAALIN

EPL Results on Saturday, 24 March, 2012

Chelsea	0 - 0	Tottenham H.
Arsenal	3 - 0	Aston Villa
Bolton W.	2 - 1	Blackburn R.
Liverpool	1 - 2	Wigan Athletic
Norwich C.	2 - 1	Wolverhampton W.
Sunderland	3 - 1	Queens Park R.
Swansea C.	0 - 2	Everton

**NLM-ner Joke
A Really Bad Day**

There was this guy at a bar, just looking at his drink. He stays like that for half of an hour.

Then, this big trouble-making truck driver steps next to him, takes the drink from the guy, and just drinks it all down. The poor man starts crying. The truck driver says, "Come on man, I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I just can't stand to see a man cry."

"No, it's not that. This day is the worst of my life. First, I fall asleep, and I go late to my office. My boss, outrageous, fires me. When I leave the building, to my car. I found out it was stolen. The police said that they can do nothing. I get a cab to return home, and when I leave it, I remember I left my wallet and credit cards there. The cab driver just drives away."

"I go home, and when I get there, I find my house burnt down. I leave home, and come to this bar. And just when I was thinking about putting an end to my life, you show up and drink my poison."

**Answers for Yesterday's
Crossword Puzzle**



Chelsea fail to close gap after 0-0 draw with Spurs



LONDON, 24 March—Chelsea missed an opportunity to close the gap on fourth-placed Tottenham Hotspur as the lunchtime derby in the Premier League ended 0-0 at Stamford Bridge

on Saturday. Tottenham remain five points above Chelsea in the race for a top-four spot although they wasted the best opportunities in a fixture they have not won since 1990.

A draw moved them level on 55 points with third-placed Arsenal who are at home to Aston Villa later on Saturday. Chelsea, who rarely threatened, have 50.

After a soporific first half in which the best chance fell



Hotspur's Gareth Bale (L) is challenged by Chelsea's Ramires during their English Premier League soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London on 24 March, 2012.—REUTERS



to Tottenham's Rafael van der Vaart in stoppage time the second was much livelier with both sides hitting the woodwork.

Juan Mata curled a free kick against the post for Chelsea while Gareth Bale's header struck the crossbar at the other end.

Emmanuel Adebayor spurned a great chance for Spurs when he rounded goalkeeper Petr Cech but had his weak shot cleared off the line by Gary Cahill.

Cech also saved a dangerous Bale free kick in stoppage time.

Reuters

His Majesty King of Cambodia hosts dinner in honour of President U Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—Cambodian King Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni hosted a dinner to President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at Preah Reach Damnak Serei Mongkol at Royal Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia at 7:15 pm on 21 March.

Also present at the dinner together with President U Thein Sein were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung, and departmental heads.

Cambodian King was accompanied by Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, Speakers of upper and lower houses of Cambodia, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Ministers Council, and departmental heads.

On the occasion, Cambodian King extended



President U Thein Sein extends greetings at dinner hosted by His Majesty King of Cambodia.—MNA

greetings and blessed those present.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein made a speech, expressing special thanks to His Excellency the King, the Prime Minister, the Cambodian Government and the people for their

warm welcome and hospitality since his arrival at pleasant and beautiful Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh is situated where the four rivers meet and
(See page 7)

President U Thein Sein holds talks with Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen



President U Thein Sein and Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen hold talks at Peace Palace in Phnom Penh.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—President U Thein Sein and Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen held talks on matters of mutual interests of the two countries at Peace Palace in Phnom Penh in Cambodia on 21 March.

President U Thein Sein was accompanied by Deputy

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Myint Hlaing, U Khin Maung Myint, U Win Tun, U Win Myint, U Tint Hsan, the Shan State Chief Minister, the deputy Health Minister, the Myanmar Ambassador, departmental heads.

The Cambodian PM was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Economic and Finance Minister Mr Keat Chhon, ministers and heads of departments.

First, the Cambodian Prime Minister extended a warm welcome to the Myanmar delegation and said the Myanmar President in his capacity as Prime Minister visited Cambodia a number of times and that the Myanmar President's visit would tighten the bonds of the two countries.

The Myanmar President said it was the first meeting with the Cambodian Prime Minister after the GMS Summit held in Myanmar and he was glad to see the Cambodian Prime Minister again in the pink.

The Cambodian Prime Minister said he was glad that Myanmar delegation comprised high-ranking officials from respective departments. The GMS Summit held in Myanmar is of great importance. He added that he held discussions with the Myanmar
(See page 7)

Hailing the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

Tatmadaw with significant characteristics

Although we cannot deny that choosing and electing is part of democratic practices, appointment also includes in such practices.

PAGES 8+9

MAUNG MANN NYO

POEM

Our Tatmadaw with four objectives

- * Placing always in fore
- Our Three Main National Causes
- In safeguarding the people

PO YAN NAING (KYAUKKYI) (TRS)

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan addresses emergency meeting of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association

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