

# The New Light of Myanmar

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## Education promotion, investment in the future: President U Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan— President U Thein Sein accepted Honorary Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Technology Management by Bansomdejchaopraya Rajabhat University (BSRU) at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this evening.

BSRU President Associate Prof Ponlasit Noochoochal and party paid a call on the President before the ceremony.

The meeting was also attended by Vice-President Dr.Sai Mauk Khum, Union Ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads.

The President thanked the university for presenting him the honorary doctorate degree and called for cooperation between BSRU and Fine Arts and Culture Universities of Myanmar.

The BSRU President expressed their wish to improve the people-to-people relations and inter-university cooperation.

The honorary degree acceptance ceremony was attended by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Union ministers, deputy ministers, rectors, pro-rectors and students.

President Associate



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with officials of Bansomdejchaopraya Rajabhat University (BSRU) at honorary doctorate degree presentation ceremony.—MNA

Professor Ponlasit Noochoochal of BSRU said in citation: Southeast Asian countries gear forward to ASEAN Community in 2015 which all the sectors are strategically and systematically fine tuning the cutting-edge circum-stances. As part of the region, the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Kingdom of Thailand are inevitably encountering the new challenge. U Thein Sein, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, is one of the most influential leaders in ASEAN countries effortfully conducting the

country's vital reformation in the political, economical and social aspects.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is honorably appointed the international important positions, namely the host of the World Economic Forum on East Asia, the SEA Games in 2013, including the Chairman of ASEAN in 2014. Certainly, this will be the good opportunity to fasten the nationwide economic liquidity and level up the local quality of life. The countries administrative accomplishment of U Thein Sein is publicly mentioned especially on the international technology cooperation reinforcement.

He fully supports the population's education focusing on the science and technology and setting up the new university under the prime purposes of the Centres of Excellence to enhance the people's knowledge and technology. With the outstanding results of economic, social and technological development distribute to the country, including to the consideration of strengthening the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Kingdom of Thailand

cooperation to aggrandize the region advancement stability. The Council of Bansomde-jchaopraya Rajabhat University has unanimously agreed to award the Honourable Doctorate Degree on Technology Management for Country Development to U Thein Sein, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as a great honour and appreciated his excellent leadership with ultimate goal to reform and develop the country, as well as the foremost relationship of the two countries.

Chairman of BSRU Council Dr Prayong Jutha conferred the honorary degree on President U Thein Sein.

The President said in his words of thanks:

I would like to first of all wish you "Mingalabar" and a very Good Afternoon, I am very grateful to the Chairman of the University of Council, Prof. Dr. Prayong Jutha for presenting me the Degree of Honorary Doctor of Philosophy in technology Management.

I regard this honorary degree as recognition for the strenuous efforts we have made regarding the

democratic transformation and the development of the State. Our citizens are laying a unique historic milestone of transition. We are marching to the democratic goal but we are yet to reach our development target.

We have to make great effort in the future to transform these differences into different kinds of forces for our nation. We need to strive in order that our people have the practical benefit of people-centred reforms laid down by the government.

A new political culture has been introduced to the people to have sustainable development and fair democracy. However, we still need to train our people to have higher capability as society as a whole so that these practices will become traditions and customs.

In observing the present situation, it is found capacity building is necessary in every sector of our country. Nation building and capacity building should be carried out simultaneously as improvements need to be made in different sectors (See page 7)



President U Thein Sein shakes hands with BSRU President Associate Prof Ponlasit Noochoochal.—MAN

## Central Level English Impromptu Talks Competition for undergraduates of University/Degree Colleges/Colleges continues

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan— The Ministry of Education organized the Central Level English Impromptu Talks Competition for students of university, degree colleges and colleges for 2012-2013 academic year with the aim of improving spoken English skill of university students at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall yesterday morning, addressed by Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye.

The Union minister called for promotion of integrated skills in learning English language to be able to contact with developed countries and improvement in spoken English skill for primary students.

The Union minister continued that a panel of judges formed with five native speakers will assess at the central level competition. Thanks to the

competitions, participants would gain further experiences to be able to take part in international level contests, he added.

The fifteen post-graduate level participants and sixteen under-graduate level participants competed at the English impromptu talks and they responded the queries raised by the foreign judges.

MNA

## Spousal quarrel causes house fire in Kayan Township

MYANAUNG, 23 Jan — Kayan Police Station filed a lawsuit against a man for committing an arson attack

in O-wa village of Kayan Township at about 12.45 am on 17 January.

Naing Win, 34, of the

village set fire to his own house while having a quarrel with his wife, Ma Lat Lat Swe, leaving the house burnt to the ground.

Kyemon

## Fuel bowser overturns on Zalun-Hinthada road

ZALUN, 23 Jan — A fuel bowser skidded out of control and overturned near Thayetchaung village on Zalun Township of Ayeyawady Region on Zalun-Hinthada road at about 2.30 am on 15 January.

The fuel bowser carrying 2000 gallons of diesel and 800 gallons of octane driven by Soe Thein plunged down the

embankment at the place between mile post Nos (10.5) and (10/6) on Zalun-Hinthada road while on its way to a fuel station in Hinthada. The driver and his colleague fled the incident.

Investigation into the road accident is underway and driver So Thein and his colleague Michael were still at large.

Kyemon

## Rising tide capsizes motorized boat in Hline River

YANGON, 23 Jan — According to an information that a motorized boat capsized and sunk near No (1) pontoon bridge in the Hline river at about 4.30 pm on 16 January, Police Sub-inspector Thet Ko Ko Maung and party rushed to the scene.

Ngwesin Toe motorized boat steered by Mya Nyein of Danubyu Township of

Ayeyawady Region capsized and sunk while trying to start its journey against the rising tide. Eleven passengers and Mya Nyein escaped from the sinking boat without injuries, but commodities worth K 50 million on the boat were destroyed.

Bayintnaung Police Station filed a lawsuit against the helmsman.

Kyemon



Photo shows a conveyance of novices by bullock carts at Latpan village which is situated near the road to Mingun Pahtodawgyi in Mingun region recently. — KYEMON

## Lin Yaungni Oo e-library organizes essay contest to mark its founding anniversary

THATON, 23 Jan — Linn Yaungni Oo Library organized an essay contest to make its third founding anniversary, and prize-giving ceremony was held at the library in Theinseik station of Thaton of Mon State on 20 January.

Staff Officer Daw Khin Saw Lin of district Information and Public Relations Department and

responsible persons spoke on the occasion, and presented prizes to winners of the essay contest.

The library was founded on 24 December 2009. As the library where more than 6000 books are kept has the internet access, readers can browse more than 7000 e-book through online at the e-library.

Kyemon

Photo shows the 20<sup>th</sup> 28-Buddha Image conveyance ceremony of Saya San (South) Sanpya ward of Bahan Township which was in progress at 4 pm on 19 January in the ward.

KYEMON



Photo shows express cars which were in the wash by roadside on Thudamma Road in North Okkalapa Township on 14 January. While doing car wash on the motorway with no pavements, pedestrians are to walk along the middle of the road to avoid them, feeling afraid of being hit by motorbikes, passenger buses, bicycles and trishaw running behind.

KYEMON

## Motorist escapes death in road accident in Myanaung Township

MYANAUNG, 23 Jan — A motorbike plunged down into the 20-foot deep Kyaukpyu creek conduit which is under repair on Pathein-Monywa road in Myanaung Township at about 11.30 pm on 10 January.

The motorbike at high speed driven by Aung Myo Htet, 25, together with Zaw Myo Htet of Kanyinhse village of Ingapu Township

from Myanaung to Kyangin fell into the 20-foot deep Kyaukpyu creek conduit which is under repair at a place between mile post Nos (109/0) and (110/0) near Hmyinwayon village.

Shortly after the incident, villagers tried to rescue them from it. Zaw Myo Htet got no injured, but the motorist was wounded on his face.

Kyemon

## Car crash in Kalaw Township

MYANAUNG, 23 Jan — A car crash between the two trucks occurred on the road between Yay Yaungma and Wetpyu villages in Kalaw Township at about 5 am on 15 January. A twelve-wheeled Nissan truck driven by Nyein Chan Moe, 25, of Shwepyitha Township of Yangon Region veered out of control and collided a head-on with a stationary twelve-wheeled truck by

roadside on the opposite lane at the place between mile post Nos (62/2) and (62/3).

The driver was unhurt but the conductor, Thein Than of Muse, of Nissan truck got minor injuries in the accident. Kalaw Township Police Station sued the driver, Nyein Chan Moe, for his reckless driving.

Kyemon

## Smuggling illegal hardwood seized in Kyaukme

KYAUKME, 23 Jan — According to a tip-off that illegal timber logs were being smuggled into the neighbouring country, a combined force led by Assistant Director U Kyaw Myo Htwe of Kyaukme District Forest Department under the supervision of Kyaukme District Deputy

Commissioner U Soe Naing and the head of district Police Force seized 59.184 tons of illegal hardwood worth K 100 million while conducting a search of a twelve-wheeled truck at Kyaukme Asia World Tollgate on Mandalay-Muse Union Highway at about 7 am on 19 January.

Kyemon

## WORLD

## Obama to sign short-term debt limit bill

WASHINGTON, 23 Jan— The White House on Tuesday said they welcomed the House Republicans' proposal of a short-term extension of debt limit and the President would sign the bill if it could reach his desk.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said in a news briefing that US President Barack Obama would prefer a long-term raising of the debt limit, but the GOP's shift from their hard-line stance was "certainly something that we welcome."

"We want to see the debt ceiling sort of removed from the process of the very important debates that we have over what we pay for, how much revenue we bring in, how we get our fiscal house in order," said Carney. "What happened... was a very significant development in terms of de-escalating the sense of conflict over this."

While cautioning that the bill has to overcome some concerns expressed by members of the House and the Senate before it

can pass both chambers and reach the President's desk, Carney said Obama would not stand in the way of the bill becoming law.

The United States has already reached its 16.4-trillion-dollar debt limit, and the Treasury Department has said it could run out of extraordinary measures to pay the government bills by mid-February.

Top Republican lawmakers said on Friday that the House would vote on a bill this week to extend the nation's borrowing authority by three months in order to force the Senate to pass a budget to cut government outlays.

They have backed down from the demand that any debt ceiling increase be accompanied by comparable spending cuts.

The bill, which is likely to be approved by the House on Wednesday, would extend government borrowing authority until May, and set a deadline for the House and Senate to pass a formal budget.

Xinhua



Security officials inspect the blast site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 22 Jan, 2013. At least two people were killed and seven others were injured in gas cylinder blast on a fuel station in Karachi on Tuesday, local media reported. —XINHUA

## Top US commander in Afghanistan cleared in Pentagon inquiry

WASHINGTON, 23 Jan— General John Allen, the commander of US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, was cleared by Pentagon investigators of allegations of professional misconduct over email exchanges with a Florida socialite, US officials said on Tuesday.

The decision by the Defence Department's Inspector General helps lift a cloud that has hung over Allen, who is married and has two daughters, ever since he became indirectly ensnared in the scandal that forced David Petraeus to resign as CIA Director in November.

It could also resurrect the four-star general's military career—although a US

official told Reuters that, as of late Tuesday, no decision had been made on whether to proceed with Allen's nomination to become the top US military commander in Europe.

President Barack Obama put that nomination on hold when the investigation was announced in November, even as he expressed confidence in Allen's ability to serve out the final months of his command in Afghanistan.

"With the investigation having only recently concluded, no decisions have been made on moving the nomination forward," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.



Bolivia's President Evo Morales speaks during an interview with journalists at the presidential residence in La Paz on 13 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

LAPAZ/CARACAS, 23 Jan—Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez is undergoing physical therapy to hasten his return from Cuba after surgery there last month for the cancer jeopardizing his 14-year rule, Bolivian President Evo Morales said on Tuesday.

The comments by Morales, a fellow leftist and close friend of Chavez, added

## Netanyahu turns to Iran after narrow election win

JERUSALEM, 23 Jan— Hawkish Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu claimed victory in Israel's parliamentary election, shrugging off surprise losses to centre-left challengers and vowing on Wednesday to stop Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. However, Tuesday's vote, which also disappointed religiously inspired hardliners, may deflect the premier's focus on confronting Teheran and resisting Palestinian demands as Israel's secular, middle-class demanded new attention to domestic issues.

That, in turn, might draw Netanyahu toward a less fractious relationship with his key ally, US President

Barack Obama, who himself embarked on a new term this week with great ambitions.

Exit polls showed the Israeli leader's right-wing Likud and the ultra-nationalist Yisrael Beiteinu would remain the biggest bloc in the 120-member assembly, but with only 31 seats, 11 fewer than the 42 the two parties held in the last parliament. If the exit polls compiled by three local broadcasters prove correct — and they normally do in Israel — Netanyahu would be on course for a third term in office, perhaps leading a hardline coalition that would promote Jewish settlement on occupied land.

But his weakened showing in a vote which

giving more details.

There were rumours around New Year's Day that the socialist Chavez, 58, was on life support. They have given way in the past few days to speculation he may soon return to Venezuela.

Local media reports have said a military hospital in Caracas is being prepared to receive Chavez.

In the absence of detailed medical information, Venezuelans are debating whether Chavez may be able to recover well enough to continue governing or whether he wants to come home to smooth a handover of power or simply to say farewell. After Morales' comments, Information Minister Ernesto Villegas said no return date was yet planned for Chavez.

Though still in a

"difficult" and "complex" battle for his health, the latest news from Havana was promising and Chavez was in "good spirits", the minister said in comments carried live on TV after a cabinet meeting in Caracas.

"Commander Chavez is in Havana in the process of full re-establishment of his health," Villegas said. "The (latest) report was very encouraging ... There is no return date yet."

Before going to Cuba, Chavez named Vice President Nicolas Maduro, a former bus driver who rose through the ranks to become one of Chavez's most faithful allies, as his preferred successor should he be incapacitated. Maduro would, though, have to win a new vote.

Reuters



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (C) waves to supporters as he stands with his party members at the Likud party headquarters in Tel Aviv on 23 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

he had called nine months early in the hope of a strong mandate for his struggle with Iran, could complicate his

efforts to forge an alliance with a stable and substantial majority in parliament.

Reuters

## Russia says it is not planning full Syria evacuation



Russian nationals evacuated from Damascus arrive in a convoy at Beirut international airport on 22 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Moscow, 23 Jan— Russia said on Tuesday it had started evacuating scores of citizens who wanted to leave Syria but denied the move was the start of a mass exodus. Two senior diplomats played

down the significance of decision, announced on Monday, to send aircraft to bring Russians home almost two years after the start of the revolt against Syria's President Bashar al-Assad.

"We are not talking

about a full evacuation ... It is not planned that everyone will leave," Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Denisov said, according to state-run news agency Itar-Tass.

"We are helping those who want to leave," Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov said on the sidelines of a meeting in Moscow between Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev and Lebanese President Michel Suleiman.

Russia has been Assad's most powerful foreign protector, vetoing three UN Security Council resolutions aimed to push the president out or press him to end the bloodshed.— Reuters

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Scientists convene to study impact of Gulf of Mexico oil spill

HOUSTON, 23 Jan—More than 1,000 scientists and public officials gathered Monday in the US state of Louisiana to review the short and long-term effects of the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference, the largest of its kind, is looking into the effects of pollution resulting from the spill and its effects on natural systems in the gulf and along the shoreline, and on the people who live and work there, according to news website NOLA.com.

The conference was kicked off by Thad Allen, the federal government's former national incident commander during the BP oil spill in 2010. Allen discussed his experience in coordinating oil spill responses and what research

was needed to improve the response from a management perspective.

Even though the US government and industry attempted to clear some scientific issues likely to be raised during a major oil spill response, sometimes those efforts were not adequate, such as the approval of dispersants and the use of burning to keep as much oil as possible from reaching the shoreline, Allen said.

Responders also were ill-equipped to deal with health issues, ranging from concerns about the quality of testing to seafood safety, to the suicide of an Alabama boat captain participating in the Vessel of Opportunity program, he added.

To overcome many of these problems, Allen suggested the Oil Pollution Act and other laws be changed to develop a more unified

structure that could work across legal and political boundaries.

Allen also recommended scientific information collected before and during the response be released to the public, in order to avoid misunderstanding about the effects on the environment or public health.

During the three-day conference, hundreds of scientific presentations will be made, ranging from socioeconomic effects of the spill to developments in dispersant science and technology. A public forum was planned for Tuesday on the gulf's ecosystems and prospects for recovery.

The 2010 blowout of BP's Macondo well in the Gulf of Mexico triggered an explosion that killed 11 rig workers and unleashed the worst oil spill in US history.—Xinhua

## Google to kill passwords and bring physical keys embedded with smart chips



NEW DELHI, 23 Jan—Search giant Google is set to kill off passwords and is experimenting with USB keys, mobile phones and even jewelry that can act as a physical 'key' to give users access to their account.

The firm's security experts including an Indian are set to publish their findings next month, the 'Daily Mail' reported.

In the upcoming issue of IEEE Security & Privacy Magazine, Google Vice President of Security Eric Grosse and engineer Mayank

Upadhyay will detail what is basically a physical key with a 'smart chip' embedded inside it.

Along with many in the industry, we feel passwords and simple bearer tokens such as cookies are no longer sufficient to keep users safe," the pair write in their paper, according to Wired.

To log, users simply place the tiny Universal Serial Bus (USB) drive into their computer. The firm is also believed to be experimenting with wireless chips that are already built into some mobile phones, and can even be built in jewelry. "We'd like your smartphone or smart-card-embedded finger ring to authorise a new computer via a tap on the computer, even in situations in which your

phone might be without cellular connectivity," the team writes.

"One option uses a tiny USB key called a YubiKey. When the user plugs the key into a laptop, they are automatically logged into all of their Google accounts - without ever having to type in a password," they explain. "Another option uses a 'smartcard-embedded' finger ring to authorise a new computer via a tap on the computer," they said.

The firm is also believed to be addressing the obvious problem with the system users losing their 'key' and is thought to be developing a simple system to replace them.

However, the pair admit that they will have to rely on websites to support the scheme. "Others have tried similar approaches but achieved little success in the consumer world," they write. "Although we recognise that our initiative will likewise remain speculative until we've proven large scale acceptance, we're eager to test it with other websites," they say.—PTI

## 5-inch LG Optimus G Pro official with 1.7GHz quad-core, 13-megapixel camera



The Optimus G Pro L-04E features a 5-inch full-HD (1920x1080) display and comes with Android 4.1.2 Jelly Bean out of the box. It houses a 13-megapixel rear camera and a 2.4-megapixel front camera.

Under its belly, the smartphone is powered by a snappier 1.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon S4 Pro processor with 2GB RAM. It has internal storage of 32GB with microSDXC expansion support, LTE support and comes with a 3,000mAh battery.

The new smartphone will compete in the same league as the recently launched Sony Xperia Z (and ZL), Huawei Ascend D2 and the unannounced HTC M7, and Samsung's Galaxy S IV.

NTT DoCoMo has also announced 11 more devices

as part of the Spring 2013 lineup. The smartphones in this lineup include AQUOS PHONE EX SH-04E, MEDIAS X N-04E in the 'docomo with series', ELUGA X P-02E, Xperia Z SO-02E, ARROWS X F-02E, Ascend D2 HW-03E and MEDIAS W N-05E as part of the docomo NEXT series.

LG's Optimus G seems to be doing pretty well with company recently revealing that it sold 1 million units since its debut a couple of months ago as reported by Yonhap News Agency.

Recent rumours suggest LG is planning to launch another full-HD smartphone in the first quarter of 2013. Codenamed 'GK', the device is expected to feature a 5.5-inch screen and run on a quad-core processor.

PTI

## Government to auction 700Mhz spectrum for 4G services in 2014

NEW DELHI, 23 Jan—The government on Monday said it will auction spectrum in 700Mhz band, which is used for offering high-speed Internet services through fourth generation technologies, in 2014.

"We are going to auction the 700 band in any case by 2014," Telecom Minister Kapil Sibal said during the commissioning of country's first lab for measuring specific absorption rate (SAR) for mobile handsets.

The 700Mhz spectrum band ranges from 698Mhz to 806Mhz and has been identified by the International Telecommunication Union for telecom services. "We have set up a lab in the country so that mobile phones can be tested here for electromagnetic radiations," Sibal said.

He added more such labs will be set up across the country starting with Mumbai. The Telecommunication Engineering Centre SAR lab, which has been commissioned at a cost of Rs. 2.5 crore, is the first lab in the country for independent audit of SAR



Telecom tower

value, self-certified by mobile handset manufacturers and importers in India.

The lab is capable of making SAR measurement for CDMA, GSM 2G and 3G mobile handsets in the frequency band of 800MHz, 900MHz, 1800MHz and 2100MHz.

The lab is also capable of making measurement of SAR value against the International Commission on non-Ionising Radio Protection (ICNIRP) limit of 2 Watt per kg measured over 10 gram of tissue as well as the recently adopted 1.6 watt per kg measured over 1 gm of tissue. Sibal also commissioned a Next Generation Network (NGN) lab in TEC, which serves the objectives of testing and certification as well as network related study for any Internet Protocol (IP) based equipment.—PTI

## Samsung's T9000 smart refrigerator runs on Android, includes apps like Evernote and Epicurious

MUMBAI, 23 Jan—Refrigerators are getting smart. A new model released earlier this month runs apps to help users browse recipes, create shopping lists and manage the expiration dates of items like yogurt and milk.

The T9000 refrigerator by electronics company Samsung has a 10-inch Wi-Fi-enabled touchscreen and includes apps such as Epicurious for recipes and Evernote for note-taking.

"The fridge, because it's

the hub of the family and the kitchen, is now another access point without having to drag around your tablet or have your phone with you in the vicinity of where you're cooking or entertaining," said Warner Doell, a vice president in the home appliance division at Samsung Canada.

The display enables users to keep up with the news, weather and even Twitter from the fridge door. It can also replace hand-written

calendars with Google Calendar integration, and run slideshows of photos, according to Doell.

Shopping lists can be

created on the fridge with the Evernote app, which will sync to smartphones and recipes can be found at Epicurious.—PTI



## BUSINESS &amp; HEALTH

## China says top 10 steel mills to control 60 percent of capacity by 2015



A labourer works at a steel factory in Dalian, Liaoning Province on 4 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

BEIJING, 23 Jan — China, the world's largest steel producer, aims to bring around 60 percent of total steel capacity under the control of its top 10 steel mills by 2015 as part of a wide-ranging plan to restructure its industries.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) announced on Tuesday it would en-

courage big state firms to acquire smaller rivals in a variety of industrial sectors, including automobile and machinery manufacturing as well as agriculture, metals and cement.

It said it would also seek to bring 90 percent of automobile production under the control of its top 10 firms by the end of 2015 as well as 90 percent of alu-

minum production capacity. The government also plans to cut the number of firms involved in the exploration, smelting and separation of rare earths over the next three years.

Around half of China's total steel capacity is now owned by the 10 biggest steel firms following previous restructuring programmes, but Beijing has struggled to overcome obstructionism and red tape from local bureaucracies, or change the economic incentives that have allowed small and private mills to thrive.

"It is still quite difficult to consolidate and the key issue remains the local governments — they remain big supporters of steel mills," said Henry Liu, head of commodity research at Mirae Asset Securities in Hong Kong.—Reuters

## Shares hit 20-month high as Japan promises open-ended easing

LONDON, 23 Jan — World shares hit a new 20-month high on Tuesday after Japan's central bank promised to pump unlimited stimulus into the country's economy to fight the threat of deflation and generate growth.

The Bank of Japan, which has been under intense political pressure to overcome deflation, hiked its inflation target to 2 percent and said that from 2014 it would adopt an open-ended commitment to buy assets. The move surprised markets, which had expected another incremental increase in its 101 trillion yen (\$1.12 trillion) asset-buying and lending programme, though the delay until the easing measures kick in dulled the impact and saw the yen edge higher against the dollar. "From 2014 onwards it's positive ... (but)



Traders are pictured at their desks in front of the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 4 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

from now until then, they are not doing anything more aggressive to weaken the yen," said Roy Teo, an FX strategist for ABN Amro.

Equity markets, particularly in Japan, have risen strongly in the run up to Tuesday's meeting, and the confirmation of the plans was enough to lift the

MSCI world index .MIWD-00000PUS 0.15 percent to a fresh 20-month high of 352.54.

European shares, which have been testing two-year highs in recent days, saw a more subdued start as investors awaited a cue from US corporate earnings figures later in the day.—Reuters

## US power regulator to fine Deutsche Bank unit over energy trading

WASHINGTON, 23 Jan — US electricity regulators are expected to impose a \$1.5 million fine as early as Tuesday on a Deutsche Bank AG (DBKGn.DE) subsidiary over alleged power market manipulation, the *Wall Street Journal* reported, citing people with knowledge of the matter.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) earlier proposed that the energy-trading arm of Deutsche pay the fine and disgorgement of \$123,198 in alleged ill-gotten profits last year, saying it manipulated California

power prices.

Last week, the FERC requested a further extension in the legal deadline until 22 January amid the ongoing talks.

Deutsche Bank has disputed FERC's allegation that it manipulated the market by deliberately losing money on physical transactions to profit in derivative markets.

The action is part of a larger crackdown by the regulator targeting electricity trading schemes that it says resemble the market manipulations that caused California's energy crisis more than a decade ago, the



Pedestrians are reflected in a window as they walk in front of the headquarters of Deutsche Bank AG in Frankfurt on 5 Sept, 2011.—REUTERS

*Journal* said.

The agency recently proposed a record \$470 million fine on Barclays Plc (BARC.L) for allegedly manipulating power markets in California and a six-month ban on JPMorgan Chase & Co's (JPM.N) en-

ergy trading arm from some of the US power market.

Deutsche Bank's US unit and an FERC spokeswoman could not be reached for comment by *Reuters* outside regular business hours.

Reuters

## India raises import duty on raw gold to 5 percent

MUMBAI, 23 Jan — India, the world's biggest buyer of gold, raised import duty on dore bars and ores to 5 percent from 2 percent, a day after increasing tax on processed yellow metal to 6 percent.

Most of the 100 tonnes of dore imports is consumed by MMTC (MMTC.NS) PAMP and Rajesh Exports (REXP.NS). India's total annual gold consumption is about 900 tonnes.

Rising import of the yellow metal has been worrying the government battling with a record high cur-



Gold bars are displayed at a gold jewellery shop in Chandigarh on 8 May, 2012.—REUTERS

rent account deficit, which hit its highest of 5.2 percent to the gross domestic product in the September quarter.

Reuters

## Indonesia foreign direct investment breaks new record in 2012

JAKARTA, 23 Jan — Indonesia foreign direct investment (FDI) reached new level of 221 trillion rupiah (around 24.6 billion US dollars) during 2012, or 26.07 percent up from previous year of 175.3 trillion rupiah.

Chatib Basri, the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) chairman said global economy condition especially in US and euro zone still remains gloomy, and it encourages the flow of foreign investment to come to Indonesia. "Indonesia is still promis-

ing due to high economic growth," he said here on Tuesday.

BKPM reported that cumulative investment from January to December 2012 reached 313.3 trillion rupiah, of which 92.2 trillion rupiah came from domestic direct investment (DDI) and 221 trillion rupiah from FDI. "The investment amount hit new historical record," he said.

Five biggest sectors have contributed to FDI achievement in 2012, mining sector (4.3 billion US dollars), transport, storage

and telecommunication (2.8 billion US dollars), chemical and pharmaceutical industry (2.8 billion US dollars), metal, machinery and electronic industry (2.5 billion US dollars), and motor vehicle and other transport equipment industry (1.8 billion US dollars).

Chatib said natural resources are no longer foreign investors's favorite due to declining of commodity prices. "They (investors) move to other sectors such as food and transportation," he said.

Xinhua

## Smoke-free laws linked to drop in child asthma attacks

LONDON, 23 Jan — Introducing laws banning smoking in enclosed public places can lead to swift and dramatic falls in the number of children admitted to hospital suffering asthma attacks, according to a study in England published on Monday.

Researchers at Imperial College London found there was a 12.3 percent fall in hospital admissions for childhood asthma in the first year after laws against smoking in enclosed public places and workplaces came into effect in July 2007. Similar anti-smoking legislation has been intro-

duced in many other countries, including in the United States where it has also been linked to a reduction in childhood asthma emergencies.

"The findings are good news ... and they should encourage countries where public smoking is permitted to consider introducing similar legislation," said Christopher Millett from Imperial's school of public health, who led the study.

Asthma affects more than 300 million people worldwide and is the world's most common children's chronic illness. Symptoms include wheezing, shortness of breath, coughing and chest tightness. In Britain, it affects one in every 11 children.

Before the ban on smoking in enclosed public spaces was implemented in England, hospital admissions for children suffering a severe asthma attacks were increasing by 2.2 percent a year, peaking at 26,969 in 2006/2007, the researchers found. That trend reversed immediately after the law came into effect, with lower admission rates among boys and girls of all ages. There were similar reductions among children in wealthy and poor neighborhoods, both in cities and in rural areas.

Reuters

## WORLD

## German soldiers attacked in southern Turkey

ANKARA, 23 Jan — Seven German soldiers were attacked on Tuesday in the southern Turkish Province of Hatay by a group of activists who oppose the deployment of Patriot missile system in the country, local newspaper *Today's Zaman* reported on its website.

The seven German soldiers are in Iskenderun

town of Hatay as part of the NATO mission for deploying the missile system on the Turkish-Syrian border.

The soldiers were besieged on their way to a bazaar in the center of Iskenderun by 26 activists from the Turkey Youth Union (TGB), who tried to throw sacks on their heads, said the report.

The soldiers escaped from the attackers with the help of local people and were not hurt, said the report, adding that they took shelter in a jewelry shop.

After police arrived at the scene, the soldiers were taken to their hotel by security forces. The group of activists continued their protest and chanted various

slogans. "We will not allow Turkey to be the center for attacks in the Middle East. We will not allow American and NATO soldiers to travel freely in this country," the head of the group said. "Whether it was German or American soldiers whose heads we put sacks on, it does not matter."

Xinhua



New Komeito party leader Natsuo Yamaguchi receives flowers upon arrival at a hotel in Beijing on 22 Jan, 2013. Yamaguchi, carrying a letter from Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, was the first senior lawmaker of the new Japanese government to travel to China since its establishment in late December 2012.

KYODO NEWS

## China expands Yangtze River shipping capacity

YICHANG, 23 Jan — The shipping capacity of the Yangtze River, China's longest, has been vastly expanded as the result of decade-long efforts to dredge and deepen the river, an affiliate of the Ministry of Transport said on Monday.

The river's main course saw its shipping volume top 1.78 billion tonnes in 2012, four times that of 2003 with an average annual growth rate of 10 percent, said Xiong Xuebin, Director of the Yangtze River Hydrographic Bureau, an institution affiliated with the ministry.

Xiong said the revamped waterway now allows heavier ships to reach the upstream city of Chongqing, even during periods of dry weather.

He said the depth of the river's 370-km Chongqing-Yibin stretch has been increased to 2.7 meters from the original 1.8 metres.

Xinhua

## Armenia imports more natural gas from Russia in 2012

YEREVAN, 23 Jan — The amount of natural gas Armenia imported from Russia saw a rise of 22.3 percent in 2012 compared with 1609.1 million cubic meters in 2011, Armrusgasprom, an Armenian-Russian joint gas company, reported recently. The volumes of gas consumption by electrical energy and industrial sectors grew respectively by 23.7 percent and 2 percent, reaching 231.9 and 254.7 million cubic meters accordingly.

Xinhua

## US seeks long prison sentence for man who aided Mumbai plotters

CHICAGO, 23 Jan — David Headley, a Pakistani-American who admitted scouting targets for the deadly Islamic militant attacks on Mumbai in 2008 and later testified against the plotters, should face up to 35 years in prison, federal prosecutors said on Tuesday.

A prison term of 30 to 35 years for Headley "strikes a fair and just bal-

ance between the despicable nature of his crimes and the significant value of his cooperation," prosecutors told the judge who is scheduled to sentence Headley on Thursday.

The attacks in Mumbai in November 2008 killed more than 160 people, including six Americans.

Headley pleaded guilty to 12 charges, including conspiracy to bomb places

of public use and commit murder. The guilty pleas included plotting an attack on a Danish newspaper. He was arrested in October 2009. After pleading guilty in March 2010 he has been cooperating with US investigators ever since to avoid the death penalty and in exchange for a pledge that he would not to be extradited to India, Pakistan or Denmark.—Reuters



Spectators holding US national flags watch the presidential inauguration ceremony on the West Front of the US Capitol in Washington DC, the United States, on 21 Jan, 2013.

XINHUA

## Africa pushes for control of peace efforts in war-ravaged eastern DR Congo

KAMPALA, 23 Jan — Chiefs of defence forces from Africa's Great Lakes region and Southern Africa Development Community met here on Sunday to finalize a military strategy to eliminate negative forces in war torn eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Behind the scene negotiations indicate the intricate position Africa is in to stay in charge of the peace efforts in eastern DRC after what may be termed as failed international efforts to make the guns silent.

Drumming up Pan Africanism and Africa being in charge of its future, Uganda's Minister of Defence Crispus Kiyonga told the defence chiefs that they must remain united and stick to the continent's long held view of providing solutions to its problems.

Kiyonga said in the face of regional efforts to end fighting in eastern DRC, there are opposing powers who still want to be in charge of pacifying the mineral rich central African country.

Following the flaring up of fighting in eastern DRC between the government troops and the M23 rebels, the Great Lakes region leaders intervened calling on member states to deploy a 4,000 strong Neutral International Force (NIF).

The force is supposed to fight the various local and foreign rebel groups holed up in the country.

Regional leaders are critical of the UN peacekeeping force in DRC (MONUSCO) accusing it of looking on as hundreds of thousands of Congolese are made homeless and oth-

ers fleeing to neighbouring Rwanda and Uganda.

They keep citing the example where MONUSCO looked on as the M23 were capturing Goma, the provincial capital of North Kivu.

Kiyonga said behind the door negotiations through the UN system indicate that some world powers are not enthusiastic of the regional efforts to end the crisis.

"We have succeeded to leverage the cooperation of the UN. However if we do not keep our line of thinking firmly this opportunity could be lost. The Chiefs of defence staff must not be found lacking in articulating the most feasible mechanism to ensure that the NIF concept is maintained and command and control and political accountability not lost," he said.—Xinhua

## British woman, 56, gets death for smuggling cocaine into Bali

DENPASAR, 23 Jan — An Indonesian court sentenced a middle-aged British woman to death on Tuesday for smuggling cocaine worth more than \$2.5 million into the resort island of Bali.

Lindsay Sandiford, 56, was found guilty of smuggling 4.8 kg (11 lbs) of the drug hidden in the lining of her suitcase on a flight from Bangkok in May. Sandiford, who was accompanied by a translator, covered her face several times with a head scarf as she listened to the verdict being read out.

It was not clear if she would appeal. Prosecutors had initially sought a jail term for Sandiford, taking into account her age.

Indonesia has some of the strictest drug trafficking laws in the world, with many foreigners languishing in jail on Bali.

The so-called Bali Nine were arrested in 2005 and found guilty of attempting to smuggle more than 8 kg of heroin into Australia. Their sentences ranged from 15 years' jail to death.

Reuters



Lindsay Sandiford of Britain (R) listens to her translator during her trial in Denpasar at the Indonesian resort island of Bali on 22 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS

## Six soldiers injured in S Philippine ambush

ZAMBOANGA CITY, 23 Jan — Six soldiers from the 18th Infantry Battalion were injured following Tuesday's ambush staged by the combined forces of the Abu Sayyaf and lost command group of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in southern Philippines.

Local police reported the rebels attacked government troops around 7:55

am, local time in the remote village of Sungkayot, Basilan Province.

The soldiers were on their way to the headquarters when several rebels pounced on them with automatic gunfire.

The wounded soldiers were rushed to the Camp Navarro General Hospital based inside the military headquarters in this city for treatment.—Xinhua

NATIONAL

**Education promotion, investment in the...**

(from page 1)  
such as the media, economic system, market-oriented mechanisms and civic organization apart from the three main pillars: legislation, executive, and judiciary.

Together with political, economic and social reforms, the efficiency of the people and international aid play a vital role in carrying out tasks for national reconsolidation and development. Moreover, the educational objectives of the State should meet the needs of national

development plans. And the role and future of younger generation of the national races in the process of national reconsolidation must also be taken into account.

Promotion of education is the same as making investment in the future. But it must suit the new economic system of the State which is now being implemented. We must also switch from an economic system in which focus is made on exploitation of natural resources to a new technology-based

economic system.

New generation youths are the future of the State. International aid and experiences must be utilized for the purpose of promoting education. Our country is still a developing country. New plans are under way for increasing the education budget with effect from coming fiscal year for the purpose of poverty reduction, development of rural areas and development of the state economy.

Our government has been reforming the higher education sector, and has been carrying out the tasks of education promotion for the practical utilization of vocational subjects. At

the same time student-centered approach has been introduced for the reform of basic education sector through negotiations with those involved in basic education. In promoting the participation of the private sector in education, we have encouraged the opening of many private schools by enacting the necessary law. We are striving for all children to complete primary education.

If we study the collaboration with BSRU, it is found that MoU between BSRU and Yangon National University of Arts and Culture under the Ministry of Culture was signed on

December 6, 2010. BSRU has sent delegations of Thai students to the Yangon National University of Arts and Culture three times and the Yangon National University of Arts and Culture has sent Myanmar student delegations to BSRU twice in 2010. Moreover, discussions have been made to establish Centres of Excellence with cooperation between Yangon University and Johns Hopkins University in the United States, Mandalay University and Cologne University of Germany and Dagon University and Calcutta University in India. By doing so, youths will have the opportunity to

exchange their experience and well-qualified educated youths will emerge.

In conclusion, as international support for the development of the education sector in Myanmar plays a vital role in the construction, development and maturation of the democratic practices of the State, I would like to request to BSRU for your further collaboration and support for the education sector.

BSRU established in 1896 is a university offering courses in management and administration. It has become a royal university since 14 June 2004.—MNA



Myanmar delegation led by Vice-President U Nyan Tun being seen off by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

**Vice-President U Nyan Tun to attend World Economic Forum**

YANGON, 23 Jan—A Myanmar delegation led by Vice-President U Nyan Tun left here this evening to attend the World Economic Forum to be held in Davos of Switzerland.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off by Yangon Region Chief

Minister U Myint Swe, region ministers, Swiss Ambassador to Myanmar, charge d' affaires ai of Thai Embassy and personnel at Yangon International Airport.

Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thein, Union Minister for Energy U

Than Htay, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Hset Aung are among the delegation members.

MNA

**Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and wife host dinner to ROK delegation**

YANGON, 23 Jan—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and wife hosted dinner to visiting

delegation led by Speaker of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Mr. KANG Chang-Hee and wife

at Thabin Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, yesterday evening.

Together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and wife, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw

Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Deputy Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Mya Nyein, chairpersons of Pyithu Hluttaw committees and Hluttaw representatives attended the dinner. The visiting delegation was accompanied by ROK Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Kim Hae-Yong.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and the South Korean National Assembly Speaker spoke on the occasion and enjoyed dinner together.

After the dinner, they exchanged gifts and presented bouquets to entertainers.

Next, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and wife and party posed for a documentary photo together with South Korean National Assembly Speaker and wife and party.—MNA



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and wife, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint at the dinner hosted to Speaker of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Mr. KANG Chang-Hee and wife.—MNA

**New gas turbine installed at Ahlon power station**

YANGON, 23 Jan—Under the plan to meet electricity demand of Yangon in summer in time, one 40 MW Gas Turbine manufactured by GE Co., Ltd of the US arrived at Ahlon power station on 18 January. It was put on the foundation with the help of 200-ton capacity Crane on 22 January. The gas turbine is 80 tons in weight.

Responsible persons of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board, Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and Toyo Thai Public Co., Ltd supervised the installation of gas turbine at the power station.

MNA

**Technical workshop on ASEAN Korea Forest Cooperation**

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan—Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry and ASEAN Korea Forest Cooperation (AFoCo) jointly organized a technical

workshop on ASEAN-Korea forest cooperation at Tongapuri Hotel here this morning, with a speech by Rector of University of Forestry Dr Myint Oo.

ASEAN members and Korea signed an agreement on forestry sector cooperation in Bali, Indonesia in November, 2011. It was a milestone

strengthening cooperation process between ASEAN countries and Korea based on mutual trust. The agreement framework will help speed up implementation in various sectors of environmental conservation. The AFoCo intends

to serve as a medium to set up ASIA Forest Cooperation establishment. The seminar will continue till 25 January focusing on technical matters to boost cooperation in national level and sub-national level projects.—MNA

## PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 24 January, 2013

**Effective aids management will develop remote areas**

About 700 representatives from donor countries, development partners, international organizations and government officials gathered recently in Nay Pyi Taw for the first time in 50 years to attend Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum which many called a milestone.

Nay Pyi Taw Accord for Effective Development Cooperation was approved at the forum. It was based on five principles embodied in Paris Declaration—Ownership, Alignment, Harmonization, Managing for Result and Mutual Accountability. It also reflects principles in Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation—ownership, focus on results, inclusive development partnerships and transparency and accountability.

As Myanmar has entered the second phase of reforms, it has drafted Framework on Economic and Social Reform and National Comprehensive Development Plan.

Donor countries have pledged US\$ 591.86 million in development aid in 2013-2014 fiscal year.

The timing of the forum is perfect. We need to grasp the opportunity while the donor countries are in active mood. Our swift action could lead our country back on the right track.

The government's thorough handling of foreign aids would play a vital role in development of least-developed corners of the country. Designation of the areas of priority should be considered carefully and based on the reliable data.

If we could not effectively tap the aids this time, we will likely to face the donor fatigue and to endure the poverty.

The government must ensure that the aids distribution gets rid of corruption and make the most of these foreign aids through systematic, transparent and collaborative aids management.

Most people in remote areas are ethnic people who have suffered largely from poverty and lower living standards compared with their fellow citizens in urban areas. We will lose the trust of our brethren if we fail to help out our fellow citizens of ethnic races.

## ARTICLE

**1<sup>st</sup> Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum: A Landmark and Historic Event**

In the past, we lived in a polarised world of nation states, north and south, east and west but today we live in an increasingly globalised world with multiple new partnerships between north and south, east and west and the emphasis is much more on building institutions, democratic governance and on policy dialogue. Though we used to live in a fragile world and a fragile international framework, at present, a strong set of global values to build on with the international human rights, human security and social development in prior agenda.

It is obvious to see the multiple private-public partnerships between new actors—civil society, private companies and research institutions. These trends together can create a significantly increased and much more predictable international financing framework for sustainable development in the coming decades. There will be new partners, new models, new approaches which also means that it has to move beyond the endless discussion on historic responsibility. Moreover, the trust, understanding, and cooperation become the prior areas to be achieved.

To take our country forward and build a better and more prosperous future for ourselves and for the generations to come, the several initiatives have been made and the result was that the first Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum was held in Myanmar for the very first and foremost. It was held at the International Convention Center at Nay Pyi Taw on 19 and 20 January 2013, which has been marked

as landmark and historic event for Myanmar. This forum is being held mainly because the international donors who wish to help and partner with Myanmar in its reform process would like to know the priority sectors and areas in the country's reform strategy and development plans. With the discussions and presentations made in one and a half day, intended to come up with the *Nay Pyi Taw Accord* which was envisioned with this intention to ensure effective cooperation between the government and the development partners.

The Opening of this 1<sup>st</sup> MDCF was attended by President U Thein Sein, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk

first Forum. The importance of engaging all stakeholders in the cooperation process, using the Paris Declaration Principles, was also pointed out and again the participants' presence here today was the proof of the efforts to involve such a wide range of players. He also emphasized his efforts to promote peace and political dialogue with ethnic groups especially with Kachins.

After the Opening Speech, the invited ambassadors, resident representatives of UN agencies, delegates from ASEAN member countries, representatives from global donor countries, development partners and international organizations posed for documentary photos together

and *Short Term Plan* by Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Set Aung. His Presentation gave insights of NCDP and Three Reforms undertaken by the Myanmar government: Political Reform-Inclusiveness; Economic reform-People-centered Development; and Public Administrative Reform—on good governance and clean government, transparency and accountability.

It was followed by the presentation on "*The Framework for Economic and Social Reform (FESR)*" by Dr Zaw Oo from the Myanmar Development and Research Institute. He drew the attention of the participants by highlighting on 10 Reform Strategies and their challenges.

The development partners expressed their appreciation for the excellence of the first two presentations, and congratulated the government on the quality of the FESR and the remarkable progress made so far in reforms.

Twelve interventions highlighted the timeliness of the Forum in considering how to support the reform efforts with increased cooperation. A conducive investment environment, focus on capacity development, regional cooperation, and engagement of all stakeholders by government were highlighted in the interventions. The links between socio-economic development and democracy and the importance of peace as a foundation for progress were also emphasized by several participants.

In this session, the importance of macro-economic stability, fiscal management, agricultural reforms, and development of infrastructure especially energy, as important elements for encouraging private sector development and providing the foundation for poverty reduction have been highlighted.

In the session 3, on "*Culture of Democracy*" was chaired by U Tin Htut Oo, the Chairman of NESAC. The Presenter was Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing (NESAC) and he expressed on promoting national harmony that responded to the compelling presentation of the complexity and

**An Observer**

Kham, Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Economic Ministers from States and Regions, representatives from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, representatives from 57 partner countries (including ambassadors, resident representatives of UN agencies, delegates from ASEAN member countries, representatives from global donor countries, development partners and international organizations), senior officials from respective ministries, civil society, national and international NGOs, and the private sector, altogether 656 participants attended this forum.

In his Opening Address, the President stressed how Myanmar and its partners could build on and deepen the ambitious political and economic changes being introduced in the country to achieve '*people-centered development*' and how the government has committed to implement changes in line with the Framework for Economic and Social Reform (FESR) and asked partners to help Myanmar advance in its priorities. He also urged government, private sector, civil society organizations and international partners to work together systematically and transparently for Myanmar's development.

He also highlighted the Three Waves of Reform and their positive impacts on international policies towards Myanmar over the past two years, providing a very clear rationale for this

with the President and the Vice-President.

The First Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum then continued its second session with An Address made by Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development H.E. Dr Kan Zaw which highlighted the central importance of the FESR in guiding this cooperation, the work underway to prepare longer term plans and programmes, and the importance of not only financial resources but access to knowledge and experience in the cooperation.

He also highlighted the encouragement of the partnerships between development lenders and grant donors to enhance the quality and inclusiveness of loan projects. Most importantly, Myanmar's development cooperation at all times to exhibit the four key principles agreed at Busan—local ownership; focus on results; inclusive development partnerships and transparency and accountability to each other.

In realizing these principles, Myanmar has jointly developed the *Nay Pyi Taw Accord* for effective development cooperation which has been discussed and adopted by this forum.

After that, the Video presentation on *Reform and Development in Myanmar* was viewed by the participants to this Forum. The first Paper at this Forum was *Myanmar Perspective Plan*

What do we have yet to do, Sir?



Shwe Ko Oo

(See page 9)



## ARTICLE

(from page 8)  
dynamics of change in Myanmar by cautioning against overwhelming our efforts and making sure there is consultation, cooperation and coordination in providing support to the efforts.

Addressing development and dignity deficits as the root cause of conflict and the importance of rule of law and human rights, legal reform, and political reform were emphasized in sustaining present cease fire agreements and reducing future conflicts. Negotiations for peace and promotion of national harmony should be based on respect, inclusiveness and be comprehensive.

In Session 4, the Parallel sessions and discussion focused on Priorities and Plans, were made by Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers, region/state ministers, departmental heads, and representatives from donor's countries across the world, development partners and international organizations and special guests. There were altogether 12 Parallel Sessions started from 1400 hr till to 1700 hr. Partners responded by agreeing to focus their efforts on shared priorities in areas where they had specific expertise, including on 'quick wins' identified in the FESR. They also agreed to establish sectoral coordination processes to develop sectoral strategies and focus efforts on their implementation.

The summaries of the results of the twelve parallel sessions were as useful consultations on how to take forward this cooperation. Every session was marked by the spirit of enhancing mutual understanding and openness of exchange. In many cases, this was the first joint meeting between the Government of Myanmar ministries concerned and interested partners, and it served the purpose of starting off a process of broad-based dialogue. Both sides can build on this experience.

In terms of substance, in many areas, importance of inclusion and openness was emphasized as the central part of the strategy to address development challenges. The need for further prioritization and sequencing was also stressed as a common theme, as was the importance of linkages to the FESR initiatives. The following recommendations have been summarized for

the discussions made at the different parallel sessions:

**Education:** the Comprehensive Education Sector Review highlights the importance of building reform on strong evidence, of building consensus based on analysis of gaps, and of expanding partnerships to reach out to all stakeholders. These should include all ministries involved, for example Science and Technology and Industry, and all States and Regions to ensure balance development of the sector. Similar inclusive efforts are needed to develop cultural heritage. Internal coordination inside ministries and departments should be improved.

**Agriculture:** participants identified opportunities for significant economic gains for rural communities. They identified major needs in human resource development, extension Services, and research and development, and proposed a special focus on social protection and landlessness.

**Environment and Mining:** to effectively and efficiently develop the environmental sector a clear sector strategy, policies and regulations that guides also other sectors and stakeholders is essential. Land management and climate change, and controlling pollution due to the mining industry were highlighted issues. The strategy would provide also the criteria for prioritization of the many projects presented by the government.

**Employment:** participants stressed the importance of effective worker protection, including for migrant workers (who are estimated to number 3 million in Thailand alone). GOM underlined its commitment to ending forced labor. Participants noted that balanced growth is important for maximizing employment.

**Hotels and Tourism:** the sector's considerable job creation potential was recognized, where it involves local communities and preserves culture and history. Sector priorities include human resource development and the creation of tourist infrastructure. Partners stressed the need for systematic prioritization based on careful analysis, including of regional experience. Electricity: participants agreed that increasing electricity supply and access is critical for economic growth and social

development. They stressed the importance of integrated planning. With an effective regulatory framework, they noted efficient private investment can be expected. Efforts to improve energy efficiency and use of off-grid approaches for remote areas were also stressed.

**Health:** participants agreed a vision of universal health coverage that provides a safety net for all. This requires a partnership for health sector strengthening and a costed national health plan.

**Communication:** participants supported Government of Myanmar's ambitious plan to expand mobile and internet access. They commended Government of Myanmar's move to issue 2 new mobile licenses shortly. Participants emphasized the importance of access to communication technology for inclusive and people-centered development, but noted that attention needs to be paid to the development of rice content as well.

**Transport:** partners suggested prioritizing competing needs based on a master plan. They also urged greater emphasis on safety standards, vehicle registration, and road safety—and on environmental and social considerations.

**Social Protection:** Government of Myanmar emphasized that it is making a strategic shift in social protection, from being a provider of services to more of a regulator. Participants noted the importance of capacity building in this process. Participants recognized Myanmar's vulnerability to humanitarian emergencies and encouraged an inclusive approach to the effort to mitigate the risks and increase preparedness.

**Public Administration:** while welcoming plans to enhance the capacity for reform through training and institutional development, partners highlighted the importance of sequencing and prioritization of government efforts, South-South Cooperation especially from within ASEAN is an important source of experience and support. Support for the Population Census should be prioritized for international support, within an overall strategy to support improvement of statistical capacities.

**Territorial Development:** the detailed presen-

tations of the 14 States and Regions would benefit from a strategic plan for each that emphasizes their advantages and opportunities, informed by access to information and data, and with a set of prioritized requirements. Partnerships with the private sector and civil society at the local level should be pursued to compliment government contributions.

In Day 2, continuation with Session 5 on Chair's Summary of Day 1 and arrangements for Day 2 were chaired by Dr Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue. The topic of Financing Development was presented by the three presenters from MNPED and Ministry of Finance and Revenue. Presentation on Financing and Development by U Set Aung from MNPED, Presentation on Budget and Development by U Maung Maung Win From Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Presentation on Aid Flows by Daw Than Than Lin from MNPED. Myanmar's development financing needs were discussed, including plans to mobilize more domestic revenue and requirements for additional overseas assistance. Partners applauded the Government's determination to become increasingly self-reliant in its development financing over time. They expected to see Myanmar's budgetary allocations continue to shift to support key development priorities, particularly in chronically underfunded areas. It was agreed that the Government's reform would help it to use assistance more effectively, which ought to encourage further increases in ODA. The Government's commitment to work with partners to develop further its foreign aid management policies and systems to make them more efficient and effective and it was agreed that inclusive structures for ongoing dialogue would be created to carry forward the momentum of the Forum.

After that, session 6 was made with Three presentations first and called a final discussion period of over one hour to allow responses to all the presentations and for any country statements that could not be delivered on Day 1. Then it was followed by the Adoption of the Accord and Closing Remarks given by Dr Kan Zaw.

Retrospective view on aid effectiveness and its commitments can be seen through a series of specific implementation measures. The Paris Declaration (2005) lays out a practical, action-oriented roadmap to improve the quality of aid and its impact on development and also establishes a monitoring system to assess progress and ensure that donors and recipients hold each other accountable for their commitments. Those 5 Principles of Paris Declaration, in fact have gained support across the development community which outlined: ownership; alignment; harmonization; results and mutual accountability. To deepen those Principles, the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) was made in 2008.

Another remarkable Meeting is the Busan Meeting held in 2011, in which Ministers from across the globe, from both developing and donor countries, government representatives, parliamentarians, civil society organizations and private sector representatives have come together for the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness. The Busan meeting follows previous conferences in Accra and Paris. These meetings delivered the Accra Agenda for Action and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The quality of aid is of utmost importance for the donors and is monitored against concrete targets agreed internationally such as the Paris Declaration (2005), the Accra Agenda for Action (2008), and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2011).

From the outset, we note that there are a number of common threads and ideas that stretch across all those priorities and engagement under aid effectiveness that can be encountered. It is advisable to mapping the issues and their consequences from lessons learnt are also pointed out by several discussions during the Forum.

The Discussions in this Forum can have a significant impact on country-level policies, capacity development and innovation and partnerships in response to inter-linked development challenges. The deliberations made by all participants to this Forum will pave forward to concrete policy recommendations and guidelines

for development work on the ground, tailored to respond to specific challenges and shaped by multi-stakeholder. It is expected this kind of Forum will continue to address critical gaps on development cooperation. It is also expected that it must continue to be practical and forward-looking. It must evolve and focus on international cooperation for sustainable development. Moreover, it is agreed that the outcome of the Rio-20 Conference and the post-2015 development agenda are likely to have important implications for the future role of development cooperation.

In this MDCF Forum, the Government advised the meeting of its national development priorities and reflected in key planning documents currently being prepared, including the Framework for Economic and Social Reforms (FESR) and the National Comprehensive Development Plan (NCDP). Partners also strongly endorsed the Government's key development strategies, including the creation of 'good governance and clean government,' balanced private sector-led growth, and the use of participatory approaches.

The Forum culminated in adoption of the *Nay Pyi Taw Accord* for Effective Development Cooperation. The Accord presents series of commitments by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and its international partners to promote transparency, collaboration, and local leadership, ownership and management of development efforts. An Annual Action Plan would be prepared to advance the Accord and its measures monitored at subsequent meetings.

In conclusion, as an Observer, this kind of Forum is very informative and we are very passionate about our responsibilities. This Forum also gave ample opportunities to see other stakeholders do just that as well. Lastly, in accordance to its slogan mentioned with the Logo of this Forum, 1<sup>st</sup> MDCF is indeed a forum which calls for *partnerships for action, implementation and success*. In this regard, we have to look forward for those pledges made by great partners around the world at this Forum to change into actions with great enthusiasm.

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## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets South Korean National Assembly Speaker

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan— Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received South Korean National Assembly Speaker Mr KANG Chang-Hee at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw complex here yesterday. The meeting focused on economic development and inter-parliamentary friend-ship. It was also attended by Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Hluttaw Committee chairs and Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kim Hae-Yong and officials. MNA

*Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives South Korean National Assembly Speaker Mr KANG Chang-Hee.*

MNA

## Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Financial Advisor of City Bank

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan— Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received Financial Advisor Mr. Norberto R. Ong of City Bank of the Philippines and party at Room No (1) of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Hall, here, on 21 January.

They held compre-

hensive discussions on sharing the Philippines's experiences in banking service, basic measures for poverty alleviation, legislation on monetary and banking sector development and assistance by City Bank.

Also present at the call were Secretary of Public

Accounts Committee U Maung Toe, member of Banks and Monetary Development Committee U Maung Maung Soe, member of Hluttaw Rights Committee U Aung Hsan and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

## Workshop on budgeting State-owned enterprises concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan— The workshop on budgeting State-owned enterprises continued for second day at Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Finance and Legal Affairs Commission U Han Shein, President of First Private Bank Ltd Dr Sein

Maung, Ambassador (Retd) U Hla Maung and Professor (Retd) Daw Yi Yi Myint discussed such topics as plans for autonomy of State-owned enterprises, and budgetary principles in political, economic, financial and monetary points of view.

The workshop was

attended by Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, deputy ministers, committee members of two Hluttaws, parliamentarians and departmental heads.

MNA

## Mandalay-Myitkyina train schedule change after series of mine blasts

MOHNYIN, 23 Jan—After a spate of mine blasts on railroads and bridges not only in Mohnyin, Mogaung townships in Kachin State but also in Indaw Township in Sagaing Region, departure and arrival time of Mandalay-Myitkyina trains will see a

change beginning 25 this month, announced at stations in Kachin State. The new timetable makes the up and down trains to run in daytime within Kachin State, probably to reduce the risks, the locals conclude.

Depending on the types

of trains, it takes at least 18 to 22 hours to run from Mandalay to Myitkyina, over 300 miles long route. However, it takes half a day to the whole day to repair a damaged railroad section once a mine blast occurs, says an official.—NLM-001

## PC Myanmar (Hong Kong) Ltd, Larsen & Toubro Ltd sign agreement on pipeline, rig construction

YANGON, 23 Jan — A ceremony to sign agreement between PC Myanmar (Hong Kong) Ltd and Larsen & Toubro Ltd on building of infrastructures for offshore rig in the block

of Yetagun (North) project developed by PETRONAS was held at Park Royal Hotel, here, this morning.

Responsible persons signed agreements and exchanged notes.

Installation of 11 kilometers long underground pipeline and construction of rig are included in the US\$ 121 million contract deal.

MNA

## KIA mine explosion on civilian vehicle leaves one injured

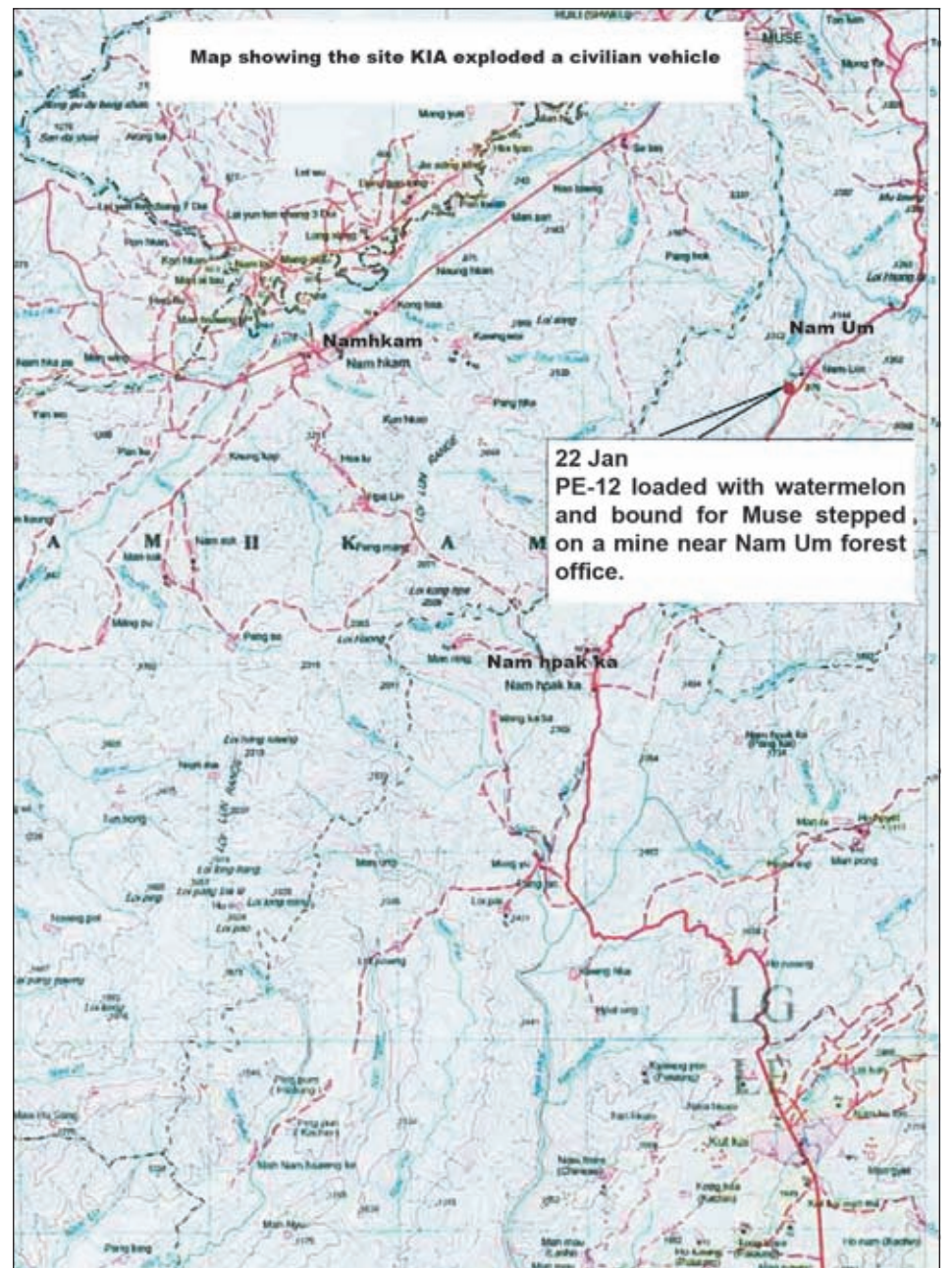
NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan— According to the Ministry of Defence, a landmine planted by the KIA group exploded while a truck loaded with watermelons driving from Mandalay to Muse ran over it at a place between Nam-Um village and Forest

Department Office on Muse-Lashio motorway at about 5.30 pm on 22 January. The driver of the mine-hit truck suffered injuries to his left chest and left wrist and he was rushed to Muse Hospital.

After the Information Team of the Republic of the

Union of Myanmar issued Press Release (3/2013) on 18 January, the KIA group started to launch attacks on civilian targets on 19 January and the mine blast was the ninth time among the series of attacks.

MNA



REGIONAL & ADVERTISEMENT

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY

Dated: 17th January, 2013

INVITATION FOR BIDS TO CONDUCT PETROLEUM OPERATIONS  
IN MYANMAR ONSHORE AREAS (2013)

1. The Ministry of Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar hereby announces Invitation of Sealed Bids for Petroleum Operations to be conducted in Myanmar Onshore Areas on production sharing basis.

2. The following Onshore blocks are available for bidding in this bidding round:-

No.	Block	Area	Type of Contract
(1)	PSC B2	(Zebyutaung-Nandaw)	PSC
(2)	PSC C1	(Indaw-Yenan)	PSC
(3)	PSC H	(Taungoo-Pyinmana)	PSC
(4)	PSC J	(Mawlamyine)	PSC
(5)	PSC K	(Yamethin)	PSC
(6)	PSC M	(Kyaukpyu)	PSC
(7)	PSC O	(Pathein)	PSC
(8)	EP 1	(Kyaukkyi-Mindon)	PSC
(9)	EP 3	(Thegon-Shwegu)	PSC
(10)	EP 4	(Mayaman)	PSC
(11)	RSF 5	(Ondwe)	PSC
(12)	IOR 3	(Tetma)	PSC
(13)	IOR 4	(Pyay)	IPR
(14)	IOR 5	(Htantabin)	PSC
(15)	IOR 6	(Myanaung)	IPR
(16)	IOR 7	(Shwepyitha)	IPR
(17)	MOGE 3	(Padaukpin-Natmi)	PSC
(18)	MOGE 4	(Myintha)	PSC

3. All interested parties are cordially invited to submit "the Letter of Expression of Interest", together with Company's Article of Association (AOA), Memorandum of Association (MOA), Certificate of Incorporation, latest Annual Report and latest Financial Statement (or) Financial Report and Detail Track Record, which are to be endorsed for authenticity by the respective Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the place of Company's registration (or) establishment or nearest, in sealed envelopes superscripted "Confidential" "Myanmar Onshore Blocks Second Bidding Round-2013", to the following address not later than two (2) Months after the date of announcing of this invitation (17th January 2013):-

Director General  
Energy Planning Department  
Ministry of Energy  
Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw  
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

4. The petroleum operation shall be conducted on production sharing basis and/or improved petroleum recovery basis and the party(s), who desire to enter into the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) and/or Improved Petroleum Recovery Contract (IPR) with the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) shall have

technical competency, financial capability, experience, expertise and technical know how to conduct petroleum exploration and development works and must have good track record.

5. The potential bidders will be pre-qualified and selected. Then the potential bidders who passed pre-qualification will be presented with General Overview of each Block consisting of representative data and information free of charge by Geological/Geophysical Team of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise.

6. The potential bidders will be explained and provided with Standard Terms and Conditions by Energy Planning Department in order to submit proposal(s).

7. The potential bidders will be allowed to submit up to three (3) proposals for three (3) onshore blocks together with proposed Terms and Conditions. The proposal submitted shall be on a block by block basis.

8. The potential bidders' proposed Terms and Conditions will be assessed and the best offered Terms and Conditions will be selected for awarding.

9. The potential bidders must cooperate with a minimum of (1) one Myanmar national owned company registered at Energy Planning Department, Ministry of Energy, of their own choosing.

10. Energy Planning Department will provide the list of Myanmar national owned companies registered at Energy Planning Department to interested foreign companies.

Director General  
Energy Planning Department  
Ministry of Energy  
Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw  
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Note: For further inquiry (and/or) information, please contact the followings:-

- Director General  
Energy Planning Department  
Ministry of Energy, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Tel: 95-67 411 099/ 411 057  
Fax: 95-67 411 113  
Email: [myanmoe@mptmail.net.mm](mailto:myanmoe@mptmail.net.mm)
- Managing Director  
Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ministry of Energy, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Tel: 95-67 411 055/ 411 056  
Fax: 95-67 411 125  
Email: [mogedirplan@energy.gov.mm](mailto:mogedirplan@energy.gov.mm)
- Myanmar Embassies in respective Countries

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BIENDONG NAVIGATOR NO (007)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG NAVIGATOR VOY NO (007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.1.2013 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VINACONEX LINES NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VINACONEX LINES VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S HORING DU Y

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Pakistani PM to formally start consultations for elections

ISLAMABAD, 23 Jan — Pakistan's ruling party on Tuesday empowered the Prime Minister to start formal consultations with all political forces on the mode and modalities for holding elections, the PM office said.

The current assemblies will complete its terms in mid-March and parliamentary elections will be held within three months after that. As the elections fever gains momentum, the top leadership of ruling Pakistan Peoples Party met in Islamabad on Tuesday and discussed matters relating to the elections.

"The meeting urged the Prime Minister to hold consultations with all political forces on the mode and modalities for holding elections to the National and Provincial Assemblies in a free, fair, transparent and peaceful manner," the PM office said.

The Prime Minister decided to formally start the consultation process for this purpose, a statement said.

The meeting carried out an in-depth review of the political situation in the country with focus on the holding of free and fair elections in the country in accordance with the law and Constitution.

The meeting resolved that free and fair elections will be held in accordance with the constitution in a fair and free manner and within the time limit stipulated in the Constitution and will not be delayed even for a day.

The Prime Minister will discuss the establishment of a caretaker government that will supervise the elections under the law.

The main opposition Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N), led by former Prime Minister, Nawaz Sharif, has proposed two names for the caretaker prime minister, opposition sources say.

The PML-N leaders are also consulting other opposition parties to seek their backing for their nominees.

Xinhua

Six dead in S Philippine flooding

MANILA, 23 Jan — Six people died while over 150,000 were displaced by flooding caused by torrential rains in southern Philippines, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said on Tuesday. The NDRRMC said in its latest report that five of the six fatalities died due to drowning, while one was electrocuted. Six were wounded while four others

were missing. The Provinces of Davao del Norte, Compostela Valley, and Davao Oriental as well as the cities of Davao and Tagum were the hardest hit by the flood.

Of the 150,521 people displaced by the flooding, the NDRRMC said that about 48,661 of them are now in evacuation centers. A state of emergency has been declared in flood-hit areas.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 23 Jan, 2013 shows the Forbidden City enveloped in mist in Beijing, capital of China. A fog hit the capital city on Wednesday, and Beijing meteorological observatory issued a yellow alert for heavy fog on Tuesday. —XINHUA



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Any unauthorised use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

Tin Ohnmar Tun & The Law Chambers

Ph:0973150632

Email:law\_chambers@seasiren.com.mm

(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)

Dated 24 January, 2013.



Ronnie Wood (L) Mick Jagger and Keith Richards perform onstage during the Rolling Stones final concert of their "50 and Counting Tour" in Newark, New Jersey, on 15 Dec, 2012. REUTERS

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U Than Maung, Advocate For P.T. KALBE FARMA Tbk., C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd., Unit 1508-1509, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor Sakura Tower, Yangon,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Dated 24 January 2013

utm@kcyangon.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGKACHAI NO (117)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (117) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.1.2013 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 by-laws 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.

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U Than Maung, Advocate For SUS Corporation, C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd. #1508-1509, Sakura Tower, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar. utm@kcyangon.com Dated 24 January 2013

No Smoking

Rolling Stones nominated for four NME music awards

LONDON, 23 Jan— Veteran British rockers The Rolling Stones, who celebrated their 50th anniversary last year, were nominated for four NME music awards on Monday. The Stones, back in the limelight after a photo book, greatest hits album, documentary film and mini tour to mark their 2012 golden jubilee, were short-

listed for best live band, best book, music moment of the year and best music film.

They were one of four acts with four nominations each. The others were LA sisters Haim, an up-and-coming band tipped for the top by several industry polls, Australian rock band Tame Impala and British alternative hip hop artist

M.I.A.

Music magazine NME's nominations were decided by fans voting online, and the winners will be announced at The Troxy in east London on 27 February.

"When I first heard it was four things, I thought, 'Ooh, blimey! That's very nice!'" Stones lead singer Mick Jagger said.—Reuters

## Li Na to meet Sharapova in semifinals while Ferrer takes on Djokovic



*Maria Sharapova*

MELBOURNE, 23 Jan—China's Li Na reached her third Australian Open semifinals in four years on Tuesday and will play

Maria Sharapova while defending champion Novak Djokovic eased into the men's semis to meet David Ferrer.

Former French Open champion Li knocked out fourth-seeded Polish Agnieszka Radwanska in straight sets.

Li ended the Polish's 13-match winning streak to reach her third semifinal at the Melbourne Park. She made the last four here in 2010 and 2011. Li lost to Kim Clijsters in 2011 final just before she took her first and only Grand Slam title at Roland Garros in 2011.

The 6-2, 6-2 quarterfinal victory against fellow Ekaterina Makarova not only set Sharapova up a semifinal encounter with Li, but also saw a new record set by the world No 2—Sharapova lost only nine games in five matches.

Sharapova double-baggelged her first two matches 6-0, 6-0, and then beat Venus Williams 6-1, 6-3 and Kirsten Flipkens 6-1, 6-0, beating Monia Seles' Australian Open record of losing 12 games before the semifinals.

Heading to a historical three Australian Open titles in a row, defending champion Djokovic bounced

back from a marathon five-set fourth-round match just 48 hours earlier when he beat Czech Tomas Berdych 6-1, 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 in a much easier way.

The Serbian world No 1 showed little rustiness from that late finish to complete the quarterfinal in two hours 31 minutes.

"It was a great performance. I was hoping to

have a shorter match, whoever won tonight, as long as it didn't go over five hours," Djokovic joked.

The victory guaranteed Djokovic's 11th consecutive Grand Slam semifinals and his semifinal opponent will be Spaniard Ferrer, who fought back from two sets down to beat his Spanish Davis Cup teammate Nicolas Almagro 4-6, 4-6, 7-5, 7-6, 6-2.

Almagro had never beaten his compatriot in 12 previous attempts but appeared set to put the record straight when he took the first two sets and was serving for the third at 5-4.

But the Spaniard wasted the opportunity and ailed



*China's Li Na*

twice more in the fourth set to serve out for the match as Ferrer fought to seal his progression.

*Xinhua*



*Djokovic and David Ferrer*

## Nagai to follow his dream to Belgium

NAGOYA, 23 Jan—Nagoya Grampus forward Kensuke Nagai said on Tuesday he is leaving the J-League first-division club in a transfer to Belgium's Standard Liege in order to realize his dream.

"I'm grateful to everyone in Nagoya," he told a Press conference in Toyota, Aichi Prefecture. "I intend to work hard so that when you see me, you'll see a player who has developed."

"I was extremely troubled (about whether to go or not), but I decided to pursue my own dream."

Nagai will join the 10-time Belgian champions on a deal running through the summer of 2017, with the transfer fee thought to be 80,000 euros.

The 23-year-old Nagai scored twice as Japan's Under-23s reached the



*Japan's Kensuke Nagai is pictured after holding a press conference in Toyota, Aichi Prefecture, on 22 Jan, 2013. Nagai said he is leaving J-League first-division club Nagoya Grampus in a transfer to Belgium's Standard Liege in order to realize his dream.—KYODO NEWS*

semifinals of the Olympics in London last summer. "I want to score as many goals as I can so that my name

will be known around the world," said Nagai, who will depart for Europe early on Friday morning.

"My goal is to play in the World Cup. First I want to get used to playing in Europe and then move on to an even bigger league."

Liege already have Japan senior national team goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima on their books and announced on its website on Tuesday that 20-year-old Yokohama F Marinos striker Yuji Ono had also been signed through June 2017.

"I'm looking forward to playing soccer in different surroundings," Ono said in a video released on the team's website. "I hope I can make use of my skills and help bring us victories. It has been my dream to play abroad and be a solid contributor."

*Kyodo News*

## Ashley Cole extends one-year contract with Chelsea

LONDON, 23 Jan — Chelsea left-back Ashley Cole has signed a one-year contract extension with the English Premier League club, Chelsea announced on Tuesday.

"I am pleased I will be starting my eighth season at Chelsea," said the 32-year-old England international on the club website.

"I wanted to stay at Chelsea because we are



*Chelsea left-back Ashley Cole*

always fighting and challenging for trophies. That desire and the will to

want to win things have not gone."

The contract extension ends weeks long speculations recently which has linked Cole with several European giants including Real Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain.

Cole joined Chelsea from their city rivals Arsenal in 2006 and his previous contract in Stamford Bridge is due to expire at the end of this campaign.—Xinhua

## Dwight Howard ejected in Lakers loss to Raptors

TORONTO, 23 Jan—Los Angeles Lakers centre Dwight Howard was ejected in the team's 108-103 loss to the Toronto Raptors in NBA action on Sunday afternoon. The ejection occurred with 1:18 left in the second quarter when Howard and Raptors forward Alan Anderson got tangled after a successful free throw by Metta World Peace.

Both players received a technical foul for their rough behaviour; Howard's was his second of the game. He had picked up one at the 4:43 mark of the first quarter after his shot was blocked by Raptors centre, Aaron Gray.

Following the game, Howard was not available to media for comments and had already left the locker room once the doors were opened to the media for post-game coverage. Lakers head coach Mike D'Antoni refused to offer

an opinion on the incident, saying "That's the referee's call."

*Los Angeles Lakers centre Dwight Howard*



*Los Angeles Lakers centre Dwight Howard*

Teammate Kobe Bryant did not hold back on his opinion of the play and was furious of the second technical foul issued to Howard.

"I really don't agree with that one at all," said

Bryant. "What's a player supposed to do? The guy is confronted, trying to walk back up the court."

"The official told me he should just walk away. I said, 'What should he do, what back to the bench?'"

There's nothing he can do," added Bryant. "A guy comes up to him, puts a forearm in his chest and you say one thing, and now it's a double technical. I just don't agree with that."

With two technical fouls today, Howard has accumulated a total of 80 in his nine-year NBA career with the Magic and Lakers. His ejection is his second of the season and his third of his career.—Xinhua

## Jets win 4-2 to keep Capitals winless

WASHINGTON, 23 Jan — The Winnipeg Jets got their offense on track with a 4-2 win over the Capitals on Tuesday, keeping Washington winless to start the new NHL season.

The Jets (1-1-1), who had scored just twice in two opening defeats, fell behind 1-0 to Washington before Evander Kane and Andrew Ladd netted power-play goals to give the visitors a 2-1 lead in the first period.

Blake Wheeler and Jim Slater padded the Jets' lead to 4-1 in the second before Troy Brouwer scored a consolation goal late in the third. Ondrej Pavelec made 32 saves for the win.

Alex Ovechkin assisted on a first-period goal to Matt Hendricks for Washington (0-2-0), who suffered a 6-3 loss to Tampa Bay in their season-opener on Saturday.

*Reuters*



*Winnipeg Jets' goalie Ondrej Pavelec makes a save against the Washington Capitals in the third period of their NHL hockey game in Washington on 22 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS*

GENERAL

**Books donated to public book corner in Dala**

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan—A ceremony to donate books to the public book corner at Dala Jetty by Dala Township Women's Affairs Organization was held at the book corner on 19 January.

Chairman of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Aye Thanda Kyaw presented Hollow brand book shelf worth K 55000 and 119 books worth K 78400 to Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Hla Hla Nwe.

Next, Assistant



Director U Myint Swe of Yangon Region IPRD, Township Administrator U Tun Tun Win and the chairperson of Township WAO formally opened the public book corner. Township WAO and wellwishers will donate books and publications to the book corner weekly.

Myanma Alinn

**Federer skips Switzerland's Davis Cup opener**

LONDON, 23 Jan—Davis Cup champions the Czech Republic will not have to worry about facing Roger Federer in the opening round of their defense after he was left out of Switzerland's team for the Geneva tie.

The 17-times grand slam champion, still contesting the Australian Open where he will face Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the last eight on Wednesday, played twice for his country last year but has decided to sit it out the Czech clash.

Tomas Berdych will



Roger Federer of Switzerland

spearhead the Czech challenge in the tie taking place

from 1-3 February. Other notable absentees from first-round action are Juan Martin del Potro, who was not named in Argentina's team to play Germany in Buenos Aires, and Australian Open semi-finalist David Ferrer, who is not in Spain's squad to play in Canada.

Former US Open champion Del Potro said last month that he would not be playing Davis Cup this year.

Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

- (24-1-13 09:30 am ~ 25-1-13 09:30 am) MST
- \* News
  - \* Myanmar Manufacturing Technology Exhibition
  - \* News
  - \* Huawei's Globalized Process
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  - \* News
  - \* Culture Stage
  - \* Housing, Living & Automobile 2013
  - \* Rakhine National Song along with the Royal Drum
  - \* 15th AGM of U Hla Tun Hospice (Cancer) Foundation
  - \* News
  - \* Me N My Travel (Episode-4) Pyay (Part-3) Night Market of Pyay
  - \* Myanmar Movies "Misdeed"

MYANMAR TV

(24-1-2013, Thursday)

- 7:00 am SEA GAMES" (Pencaksilat)
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw 5:20 pm
- 7:20 am 2. MFF BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP 2013 (Live) (ACE VS UPT) 9. Science and Envoriment 6:00 pm
- 8:15 am 3. Musical Programme 10. India Drama Series 6:15 pm
- 8:20 am 4. MFF BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP 2013 (Live) (Motion Pictures Asiayone Vs Linsdown) 11. Evening News 6:20 pm
- 9:15 am 5. Morning News 12. Weather Report 6:50 pm
- 3:50 pm 6. MFF BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP 2013 (Live) (ADMA Vs Yangon City) 13. Approaching Science Discovery World 7:00 pm
- 4:45 pm 7. Musical Programme 14. TV Drama Series 7:15 pm
- 5:05 pm 8. "Road to 27<sup>th</sup>" 15. News 8:00 pm
16. TV Drama Series 17. News 18. International News 19. CLEVER 20. Documentary 21. TV Drama Series 22. News 23. Nostalgia to MyanmarCultural

**Ronaldinho vows "to give everything" to Brazil's cause**

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 Jan—Two-time FIFA World Player of the Year Ronaldinho has vowed to "give everything he has" to re-establish his place in Brazil's national team.

Ronaldinho was recalled to Brazil's squad on Tuesday by new coach Luiz Felipe Scolari for

next month's international friendly against England at Wembley



File photo of Brazilian soccer star Ronaldinho. XINHUA

Stadium in London.

It comes after an impressive 2012 season for Brazilian top-flight outfit Atletico Mineiro in which the 32-year-old former Barcelona star scored nine goals and created 14 assists from 33 matches.

In a press conference to reveal the squad in Rio, Scolari challenged Ronaldinho to put his off-field controversies aside with a renewed focus on discipline and hard work.

"What I can say is that I will give everything I have to respond to what Felipe asks of me," Ronaldinho told media at Atletico's Belo Horizonte training base on Tuesday.

"I'm so happy to be back in the national team especially now when we are so close to the World Cup. I want to thank everybody at Atletico Mineiro, from the

coaching staff to the people who work in the kitchen and especially the fans."

Ronaldinho's career appeared in tatters in June last year after he quit Flamengo and sued the club for

unpaid wages.

The Rio de Janeiro outfit responded by alleging the attacking midfielder had breached the terms of his contract by arriving to training under the influence of alcohol and sneaking a female friend into the team's hotel. Ronaldinho has denied the claims.

He says he owes his return to form to the faith shown by Atletico, which signed him just days after his ignominious Flamengo exit. "Everything that happened to me last year was very important, it made me happy and it was reflected in the way I played," Ronaldinho said.

The 6 February friendly will be Ronaldinho's first international appearance since Brazil's 2-1 victory over Bosnia and Herzegovina in February last year.—Xinhua

**Yamauchi, Britain's 2nd fastest woman marathoner, retires**



LONDON, 23 Jan — Mara Yamauchi, winner of the 2008 Osaka Marathon and an Olympian for Britain, announced Tuesday on her blog that she will retire from racing and resume her career in the foreign service.

The 39-year-old Yamauchi, who is married

Mara Yamauchi, winner of the 2008 Osaka Marathon and an Olympian for Britain.

to a Japanese national, has extensive connections with Japan, having served for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the British Embassy in Tokyo. Her 2 hours, 23 minute, 12 second time in the 2009 London Marathon is the second fastest time recorded by a British woman after the 2:15:25 world record of countrywoman Paula Radcliffe.

Yamauchi represented Britain at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, where she finished sixth.

"All good things must come to an end...' and so it is for my career as an elite athlete and marathon runner. After careful thought, I've decided to retire from elite competition, and finally hang up my racing shoes," she said in a post on her blog.

Kyodo News

**F Marinos forward Ono joins exodus to Standard Liege**

TOKYO, 23 Jan—Forward Yuji Ono agreed in principle on Saturday to a transfer from J-League first-division side Yokohama F Marinos to Standard Liege.

He is the second J-League forward to move to the Belgian first-division club this week, following the transfer of Nagoya Grampus' Kensuke Nagai on Thursday. Japan goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima currently plays for the Belgian club.

The 20-year-old Ono has scored nine goals in 79 league games for F Marinos.—Kyodo News

Yokohama F Marinos striker Yuji Ono smiles during a press conference in Liege, Belgium, on 22 Jan, 2013, as he joined Standard Liege.

KYODO NEWS



## Financial and monetary policies being adopted to avoid inflation



NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan—The sixth-day Pyithu Hluttaw session was held with seven questions answered.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Maung Maung Thein responded to the questions about measures being taken to fight against the inflation once salary of service personnel increased that

**Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker  
Thura U Shwe Mann.**

MNA

financial and monetary policies were being formulated to avoid the inflation. Depending on the slowdown in economic growth, a coordinated flexible interest policy was being made. Stability in commodity prices and foreign exchange rate proved that ongoing measures were effective.

U Win Myint of Patheingyi Constituency submitted a proposal that judges, clients and witnesses have to take the oath for ensuring the reliable and

credible jurisdiction. Union Supreme Court Judge U Soe Nyunt discussed the proposal and the proposal was documented.

Next, U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency submitted a Bill amending the Union Judiciary Law, and member of Bill Committee U Thein Tun Oo read out the report of the committee.

Today's session came to an end in the afternoon and the session continues tomorrow.

MNA

**Pyithu Hluttaw  
representative Daw Nan  
Wah Nu participating  
in discussion.—MNA**



## MP urges to form Ayeyawady River Commission for eternity of Ayeyawady River

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan—U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No (6) urged the Union government to form The Ayeyawady River Commission (ARC) to ensure eternity of Ayeyawady River, the national river of Myanmar, citing that Ayeyawady River contributes to all-round development of all Myanmar citizens.

He called for formation of an establishment to be constituted with people from all walks of life and various organizations, taking an example of The Mekong River Commission (MRC) to make sure effective inter-coordination.

In response to the question about current plan for maintenance of

Lanpi National Marine Park in Kawthoung and future plans for long-term conservation, Deputy Minister for Environmental

**Amyotha Hluttaw  
representative Dr Myat  
Nyana Soe participating  
in discussion.—MNA**



Conservation and Forestry U Aye Myint Maung said the ministry will stick to the long- and short-term plans adopted for sustainability of bio-diversity in Lanpi Park with consistency.

U Tin Yu of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee read the report of the committee on Vacant, Fellow and Virgin Land Management Bylaws sent by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments, suggesting approving those amendments.

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative Dr Htay Win of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No (5) expressed his views on the bylaws that they can guarantee poverty reduction enabling the landless and true growers to use the

vacant, fellow and virgin land to emerge as a result. Amyotha Hluttaw approved the bylaws as supplemented and amended by the Pyithu Hluttaw.

Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Constituency No (8) urged the Union government to start atomic power generation as Myanmar is a member of ASEAN as well as IAEA. U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No (12) seconded the proposal and the Hluttaw approved to discuss it.

U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No (6) urged the Union government to inspect the impact of earthquake on government infrastructure. U Sai Tin



**Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint.**

MNA

Aung of Kachin State Constituency No (5) seconded the proposal and the Hluttaw approved it for

debate. The seventh day session continues tomorrow.

MNA

## Drug baron shot dead in Tachilek as five surrender



**Kyakwe, Kyakete, Panat, Kyabushi and Machawke surrender to the military column along with weapons.—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Jan—The local militia and military columns while conducting patrol in Tachilek engaged with the remaining five headed by Kyah from the gang of drug lord Sai Naw Kham. In the attack, Kyah, the apparent baron was captured dead along with three mines, one grenade, 17 M-79 shells, one package of stimulus tablets containing 2500 pieces, 300-ft-long mine wire, eight 44-mm

shells, six telephone mines, one home-made mine, two blocks of TNT, 0.5 kilos of sulphur, six detonators, 150-ft-long wire, one M-22 magazine and 84 bullets and one bullet-proof jacket.

Namphon villager, Kyakwe, subordinate of Kyah surrendered to the military column on 20 January evening along with one 9-mm pistol, one magazine, and eight bullets. The other members Kyakete, Panat,

Kyabushi and Machawke also surrendered to the military column.

One carbine, one magazine and eight bullets, one M-79 launcher, five AK-47, five magazines, 205 bullets, eight 40-MM grenades, one mine, one block of TNT, three detonations, 200-ft-long mine wire, one RPG, two shells and one caap were further seized from them, said the Ministry of Defence.

MNA

## Above 150 golfers to play in Zaykabar Myanmar Open

YANGON, 23 Jan—Myanmar Golf Federation met the press on Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2013 to be organized by Asian Tour and Myanmar PGA in Ottara Hall of Karawaik Palace here on 18 January.

Myanmar Golf Fed-

eration's Vice-Presidents U Aung Kyi, U Min Thein and U Tint Oo and General Secretary U Aung Hla Han attended the press briefing.

A total of 130 international golfers and 24 local professional golfers will participate in the event. The first

prize winner can fetch US\$ 54,000, the second US\$ 33,000 and the third US\$ 18,900 and the 65th position winner, US\$ 800. Zaykabar Co Ltd, AMC, Srixon, Tiger Golf, 100Plus and INETOL will sponsor the event with 5 Network as media partner.—MNA