

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Pakistani, Austrian Ambassadors



NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—Mr Ehsan Ullah Bath, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and Mr Enno Drofenik, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Austria, to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented their Credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Repub-

lic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, here, today.

Present on the occasions were Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.

MNA

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with newly-accredited Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr Ehsan Ullah Bath.—MNA

President U Thein Sein shaking hands with Mr Enno Drofenik, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Austria.

MNA

Accelerating Actions for Progress through Enhancing Inclusive Coordination

NAY PYI TAW, 28 January—The 2nd Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum concluded today and the Joint Statement between the Government of Myanmar and the Development Partners was issued. The full text of the joint statement is as follows:-

Joint Statement by The Government of Myanmar and Development Partners

On 27-28 January 2014, Myanmar's development stakeholders participated in the 2nd Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum under the theme of "Accelerating Actions for Progress through Enhancing Inclusive Coordination".

Those present included the Government of Myanmar, Members of Parliament, international development partners, and representatives of civil society, the private sector and academia.

The Government of Myanmar and development partners welcome the MDCF as a key platform for in-depth policy dialogue and as a constructive mechanism to discuss Myanmar's development successes, challenges and opportunities.

During the 2nd MDCF we discussed strategies for future progress, the peace

process, Myanmar's reform agenda and issues of aid effectiveness. The focus throughout was on the frank exchange of views and identification of lessons learned and next steps needed to better support Myanmar's continued transition toward becoming an inclusive, peaceful, resilient and prosperous country. In coming together, those present recognised their strong, mutual will and collective vision to support Myanmar along this journey.

While Government and development partners acknowledged the significant progress that has been made since the 1st Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum, continued success will require a renewed commitment by all. Development assistance in Myanmar will work most effectively when all citizens, including

(See page 8)



WB to help develop agriculture sector

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Mr Paavo Eliste, Leader of Reference Myanmar Proposed Irrigated Agriculture Development Project Preparation

Mission from the World Bank held talks on the development agriculture in Myanmar at the ministry here this morning.

At the meeting, they had cordially discussion on WB's assistance plans

for ensuring development of agriculture sector and poverty alleviation in Myanmar, and formation of organizations to coordinate matters for the successful implementation of the work plans.—MNA



LOCAL NEWS

Kachin State, on right track of development with momentum

MYITKYINA, 28 Jan—Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai together with Kachin State Minister for Social Affairs Daw Bauk Ja and departmental officials on 24 January heard reports on construction of staff quarter for rural health centre, electrification and construction of Village Basic Education High School presented by officials and attended to the needs in Mayan Village of Myitkyina Township of Kachin State.

The Chief Minister viewed laying of underground fibre cable lines undertaken by Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications between Tamti and Mayan villages. While in Namti, he inspected water supply tasks of Rural Development Department and Myintzutha Co.

The Chief Minister looked into paving of Namti-Hospital Road and left necessary instructions. At Namti BEHS No 1, he met local people and fulfilled the requirements of the local people. Next, the Chief

Minister handed over one fire truck to Namti Village-tract through officials.

In Langwa Village, he inspected water supply tasks being undertaken by Myintzutha Co funded by Rural Development Department.

On arrival at Mogaung, the Chief Minister met local people and attended to the needs of communications, education, health, livelihoods and farmlands matters.

He looked into progress of two-storey RC building and maintenance of Mogaung-Namti-Myitkyina Road.

In meeting with the local people at Namti BEHS and Mogaung Hall, the Chief Minister said that not only the state government but UN, INGOs, NGOs and wellwishers fulfilled the requirement of food, education and health of IDPs. At a time when the State restore peace and stability, the local people can enjoy fruits of development. Restoring peace is national concern.

In conclusion, the Chief Minister called on the people



to point right way to their children to be free from narcotic drugs.

Kyemon-State IPRD

Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai views fire truck to be handed over to Namti Village of Myitkyina Township to undertake prevention against outbreak of fire for the local people.

Construction tasks in Thayetchaung Tsp inspected



THAYETCHAUNG, 28 Jan—Taninthayi Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col

Zaw Lwin together with township authorities on 25 January inspected construction of TV re-

transmission stations in Yinngae and Kaneththiri Village-tracts, Seik-khhyang reinforced concrete bridge in Kanyinchaung Village and Myanmar Paaw Bridge No 1 and No. 2 by Border Affairs Ministry in Thayetchaung Township for 2013-14 fiscal year.

They coordinated with officials for fulfilling requirements of education, health and development tasks of local people.

MMAL-Nyan Win

All round development of students encouraged

YANGON, 28 Jan—Headmaster U Paw Oo and teachers together with School Board of Trustees and parents supervised all-round development of students at No. 11 Basic Education Primary School in Ward 12 of Hlinethaya Township, Yangon North District.

Thanks to their tripartite concerted efforts and assistance of Basic Education Department, the school uttrns out

outstanding students yearly.

Teachers provide not only lessons but also general knowledge to the students.

In addition, students are under training of football sports and other events.

Kyemon-Min Htet Paing



Pensioners Association of Toungoo holds AGM

TOUNGGOO, 28 Jan—Toungoo Township's Pensioners Association of Bago Region held the 65th annual general meeting at No. 2 Basic Education High School in Toungoo on 25 January.

Chairman of the association Major Ye Aung (Rtd) made a speech.

Vice-Chairman-2 U Tin Oo read the executive committee report, Auditor U Tin Ngwe the audit report and Secretary U Soe Myint Kyaw financial report.

The meeting elected the new executive committee with Major Ye



Aung (Rtd) as Chairman together with Vice-Chairman-1 U Saw Htay (retired Assistant Director of General Administration Department), Vice-Chairman-2 U Tin Oo (retired Manager of Beverages Trading), Secretary U Toe Win (retired Sgt), Joint

Secretary U Soe Myint Kyaw (retired head of Cooperative Department) and Auditor U Tin Ngwe (retired supervisor of Public Works) totalling 28.

The meeting adopted the future tasks.

Kyemon-U Kyaw Hla (Toungoo)

Delivery room opened

MANDALAY, 28 Jan—The delivery room of Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Model) was opened at Naga Kwetthit on 60th between 32nd and 33rd streets in Pyigyimyetshin Ward in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay on 24 January.

Patron of Mandalay Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Myat Ngwe and party opened the delivery room.—*Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*



Dawei Township Development Affairs Committee and Public Works are accelerating development tasks such as expansion of roads and streets and paving of asphalt along the road in Dawei of Taninthayi Region. Photo shows workers tarmacking Dawei-Ye road section on 26 January.—KYEMON-PO SHWE THUN (DAWEI)

WORLD

UN Security Council urges end to ransom payments to extremists

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Jan — The UN Security Council urged countries on Monday to stop the payment of kidnap ransoms to extremist groups like al-Qaeda, which have earned hundreds of millions of dollars from such crimes. Although states are already required not to pay kidnap ransoms under an anti-terrorism resolution adopted in 2001, the British-drafted resolution was designed to increase political pressure on countries not to pay ransoms. The resolution creates no new legal obligations.

“We estimate that in the last three and a half years, al-Qaeda-affiliated

and other Islamist extremist groups have collected at least \$105 million,” British UN Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant told reporters. “It is therefore imperative that we take steps to ensure that kidnap for ransom is no longer perceived as a lucrative business model and that we eliminate it as a source of terrorist financing,” he said. “We need to break that cycle.”

The United States has estimated militant groups have received \$120 million over the past decade, including ransoms paid to al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. The United States and Britain do not pay ransoms, but some



An attendant carries the United Nations flag into a meeting room before UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon meets Norway's Foreign Minister Borge Brende at UN headquarters in New York, on 13 Nov, 2013.

REUTERS

European governments do. “Hostage takers looking for ransoms distinguish between those governments that pay ransoms and those that do not — and that they make a point of not taking hostages from those countries that refuse to make concessions,” US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said in a statement.

“Every ransom paid to a terrorist organization encourages future kidnapping operations,” she said. The resolution said member nations should “prevent terrorists from benefiting directly or indirectly from ransom payments or from political concessions and to secure the safe release of hostages.”

Reuters

Spielberg urges world to “confront” history on Holocaust Memorial Day



Hollywood film director Steven Spielberg

NEW YORK, 28 Jan — Hollywood film director Steven Spielberg spoke at the United Nations on Monday about the importance of remembering the horrors of the past such as the Holocaust to prevent large-scale atrocities

from taking root. At the annual International Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony, the Oscar award winner praised survivors of Nazi German concentration camps for their “undamaged optimism” and their ability to transform “rage

and grief into a wellspring of wisdom, progress and justice.”

“The survivors’ powerful determination to contribute to a future without genocides does not come from leaving the Holocaust behind, from escaping history,” he said in the General Assembly hall addressing UN officials, diplomats and survivors. “Their determined demand is that we engage fully with history, that the Holocaust remain with us in memory.” Since 2005, the United Nations has marked the day the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp in Poland was liberated on 27 January, 1945 by paying tribute to the 6 million Jews as well as other victims who perished in the camps.

Born a year after

World War II ended, Spielberg recalled childhood memories of learning to read numbers from the camp tattoos on the arms of Hungarian survivors who learned English from his grandmother.

The filmmaker was further influenced by meeting other survivors while on the set of “Schindler’s List,” the true story of a German businessman who saved over 1,000 Jews from extermination by having them work at his factory. After winning seven Oscars for the film in 1994, the director then formed the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation as a way of permanently recording their testimonies.

Kyodo News

Syria peace talks hit more trouble as rebel city ‘starves’

GENEVA, 28 Jan — The United States on Monday demanded that Syria allow aid into the “starving” city of Homs, as talks aimed at ending three years of civil war hit more trouble over the future of President Bashar al-Assad.

The Syrian government said women and children could leave the besieged city and that rebels should hand over the names of the men who would remain. A US State Department spokesman said an evacuation was not an alternative to immediate aid.

“We firmly believe that the Syrian regime must approve the convoys to deliver badly needed humanitarian assistance into the Old City of Homs now,” said spokesman Edgar Vasquez. “The situation is desperate and the people are starving.” He said the people of Homs must not be forced to leave their homes and split up their families before receiving aid.

After long months of fighting, much of Syria’s third biggest city has been reduced to rubble and people inside are under siege,

cut off from supplies.

The city’s fate has turned into a test of whether the first peace talks attended by both sides in the three-year war can achieve practical measures on the ground, while a broader political settlement seems as remote as ever. “Once again, I tell you we never expected any miracle, there are no miracles here. But we will continue and see if progress can be made and when,” said UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, the host of the talks.

Reuters

Japan, US foreign ministers to discuss Obama’s Japan trip

TOKYO, 28 Jan — Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida plans to hold talks with US Secretary of State John Kerry in Washington next week to pave the way for a planned visit to Japan in April by President Barack Obama, a government source said on Tuesday.

Kishida is expected to reaffirm the Japanese government’s position in the 7 February talks that it will steadily implement an accord with the United States to relocate the US Marine Corps’ Futenma Air Station within Okinawa Prefecture.

The government’s plan to relocate the base from the densely populated area of Ginowan to the city of Nago was dealt a blow on 19 January when Susumu Inamine, an opponent of the planned relocation, was re-elected as Nago mayor.

To combat such local opposition, Kishida and Kerry are likely to agree to speed up working-level consultations on concluding a new accord concerning environmental conservation and research at US bases in Japan. The two are also likely to confirm cooperation

in concluding Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations at an early date.

Kishida is also expected to tell the US that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s contentious visit to the war-linked Yasukuni Shrine in December, which Washington said was disappointing, was meant to be a way of reiterating that Japan should never again wage war. Abe’s visit to the Tokyo shrine especially angered China and South Korea, which regard the shrine as a symbol of Japanese militarism. —Kyodo News

Sudan’s president urges armed groups, parties to talk

KHARTOUM, 28 Jan — Sudan’s president called on armed groups and all political parties on Monday to meet and discuss ways of improving the country, but stopped short of promising a constitutional overhaul that was forecast by a senior member of his party. President Omar Hassan al-Bashir has had to wrestle with a sharp drop in oil revenues, the main source of government income, and rising inflation after losing the bulk of his active oilfields following the secession of

dialogue on the constitution, but did not go further.

“We call for a broad dialogue that includes all political parties and even holders of arms,” he told an audience that included the leaders of the country’s main opposition parties. Sudanese media had printed a series of articles in the past week, counting down to the speech, reporting government officials had said it would include significant reforms. The United States imposed sanctions on Sudan in 1997 over alleged human rights violations



President Omar Hassan al-Bashir addresses a crowd in North Khartoum, on 8 June, 2013. — REUTERS

South Sudan in 2012.

Subsidy cuts and other austerity measures brought in last September to cope with the crisis led to the capital’s worst streets protests in years, adding to the turmoil in a country also fighting rebels in southern and western border regions. Rabie Abdelati, a senior member of Bashir’s ruling National Congress Party earlier said Bashir would use a live television address on Monday to call for opposition groups to help redraw the constitution and join the government. Bashir did say political parties should join

and support for “international terrorism”, then strengthened the penalties in 2006 over Khartoum’s festering conflict with rebels in Darfur.

The country’s isolation deepened when the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued arrest warrants for Bashir on charges of orchestrating war crimes and genocide in Darfur. The president, a former army officer, has ruled Sudan since coming to power in a bloodless 1989 coup backed by Islamists and the powerful army.

Reuters

WORLD



Venezuela's President **Nicolas Maduro** (centre L) walks with Cuba's Minister of Higher Education **Rodolfo Alarcon Ortiz** upon arrival at the **Jose Marti International Airport** in **Havana** on **26 Jan, 2014**.
REUTERS

Cuba to host Latin American summit; US notably absent

HAVANA, 28 Jan — Latin American and Caribbean leaders converge on Cuba this week to discuss trade, peace and human rights in a further sign of regional eagerness to challenge the dominance of the United States. The two-day summit is expected to take up issues such as Colombian peace talks, lingering poverty in Haiti and human rights. Thirty-three countries from

the region will participate, notably without the United States and Canada, which are not invited.

While the visiting heads of state and government are likely to express solidarity with Cuba and perhaps seek an audience with former Cuban President Fidel Castro, Cuban dissidents who advocate greater human rights on the communist-ruled island will

also try to capture attention with so many leaders and journalists present. At previous international events hosted by Cuba, dissidents attempted to highlight human rights violations and a lack of democracy in the Western Hemisphere's only one-party state.

Government opponents reported over the weekend they were warned by police against attending a "Forum

on Democracy" in Havana on Tuesday and that a number of activists had been temporarily detained. Among those arrested was Jose Ferrer, leader of the Santiago de Cuba-based Patriotic Union of Cuba, one of the most active opposition groups. Police detained Ferrer on Friday in Havana and released him on Sunday, his group said.

Reuters

Israel refutes Bennett over remarks on settlers issue

JERUSALEM, 28 Jan — Israeli prime minister's office slammed economy minister's statements opposing a proposal to keep settlers living under Palestinian rule on Monday.

On Sunday night, Israeli media cited foreign reports quoting an official source from the prime minister's office, saying that he "sees no reason not to have a Jewish minority in the Palestinian state, just as there is an Arab minority in the Jewish state," the *Ha'aretz* daily reported.

Economy Minister Naftali Bennett, leader of the nationalistic, settlers-backed Jewish Home Party, quickly slammed the decision Sunday night, saying that the statement "reflects an irrationality of values."

The office blamed Bennett's harsh attack as a "reckless national endangerment that harms efforts to expose the real face of the Palestinian Authority just to grab headlines," the *Ha'aretz* daily reported.

Xinhua

JR West to drill hot spring in central Kobe

OSAKA, 28 Jan — West Japan Railway Co is preparing to drill a hot spring in the center of Kobe, with a view to incorporating a spa facility into the redevelopment plan for the aging terminal building of a major station in western Japan, company and city officials said on Tuesday.

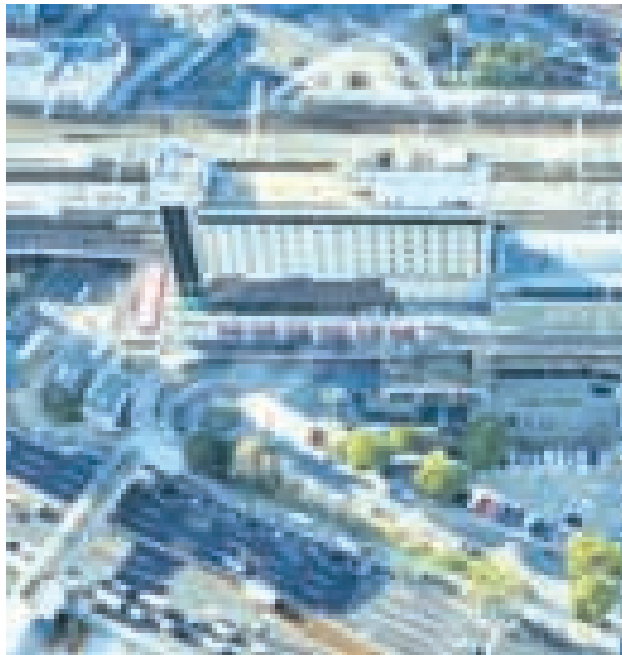
Subject to the renewal plan is Sannomiya Termi-

nal Building, which started its operation in 1981 and houses commercial facilities including a hotel, they said. The railway operator better known as JR West has obtained permission to drill a hot spring from the governor of Hyogo Prefecture in October last year for use at a planned hotel.

"It is true that we have obtained permission for

drilling, but a specific purpose or when to start (drilling) is undecided," said an official of JR West. JR Sannomiya Station is one of the busiest stations of the railway operator, serving around 240,000 passengers a day. Several stations of private railway companies are located in close proximity.

Kyodo News



A 11 March, 2013, photo shows JR Sannomiya Station and Sannomiya Terminal Building in Kobe, western Japan. West Japan Railway Co reportedly plans to dig a hot spring to build a spa facility as part of the redevelopment plan for the building.

KYODO NEWS



A taxi runs on road in Bucharest, Romania, on 27 Jan, 2014. Romanian government declared Monday an alert for the southern and southeastern counties of Buzau, Braila and Vrancea to better enable response to the current snowstorm, starting 12 pm on Monday.

XINHUA

More preparation needed before next TPP ministerial talks: Amari

TOKYO, 28 Jan — Japan's minister in charge of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade talks said on Tuesday preparations for trade negotiations need to be accelerated further if the next ministerial meeting proposed by the United States for February is to be held.

The next ministerial talks should be held "with confidence that we can conclude the negotiations. It will end in failure if we are left with plenty of difficult issues," Amari said at a press conference, suggesting the 12 TPP members are still not ready to bring thorny issues to the ministe-

rial level.

Washington, which leads the ambitious trade liberalization talks, has proposed holding the next session in late February, hoping to see significant progress at an early date. The meeting has yet to be set.

Asked about whether Tokyo and Washington made progress during talks between US Trade Representative Michael Froman and Japan's trade minister Toshimitsu Motegi held Saturday on the fringes of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Amari said the two sides struggled to come up with solutions for controversial

issues. Japan's farm minister Yoshimasa Hayashi, who also met with Froman in Davos, said at a news conference on Tuesday that Japan and the United States are continuing talks at working level to find common ground on such issues as how to deal with tariffs Japan seeks to retain on sensitive farm products as well as auto trade issues. Hayashi said Japanese Deputy Chief Negotiator Hiroshi Oe is currently visiting the United States. The 12 countries bordering the Pacific Ocean have struggled to break an impasse over thorny issues.

Kyodo News

Mexico says catches senior Knights Templar drug gang boss

MEXICO CITY, 28 Jan — Mexico said on Monday it had captured a leader of the Knights Templar, a violent drug cartel that has created a major security problem for President Enrique Pena Nieto. The attorney general's office said security forces arrested Dionisio Loya Plancarte, known as "El Tio" ("The Uncle"), a top member of the Knights Templar, which has clashed

with vigilante groups in the western state of Michoacan this year.

He is the most senior member of the gang to be arrested. The Knights emerged from a split in another cartel in Michoacan known as La Familia and have controlled large swaths of the restive mountainous state in recent years, extorting farmers and local businesses and diversifying

away from drug trafficking to activities such as mining. Plancarte is suspected of being the gang's go-between with corrupt security and justice officials, the attorney general's office said.

Mexico's government, which this month replaced top security officials in Michoacan, had offered a 30 million peso (\$2.25 million) reward for information leading to Plancarte's arrest.

"It is a success, we are seeing the government doing its job and we are happy," Hipolito Mora, one of a clutch of vigilante leaders in Michoacan, told Milenio television. The Knights' confrontations in January with heavily armed vigilantes in Michoacan have stirred concerns about Pena Nieto's strategy to combat widespread lawlessness in Mexico.—Reuters



A picture of drug kingpin Dionisio Loya Plancarte is seen on a screen during a news conference at the Interior Minister in Mexico City 27 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

WORLD

SDF paramedics to be given greater treatment discretion in emergencies

TOKYO, 28 Jan — The government is considering granting Self-Defence Forces paramedics more discretionary authority in treating the injured people if Japan is under attack from foreign military forces, a government source said on Monday. As the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is seeking more security roles for the SDF abroad as part of his drive to redefine Japan's security framework, it has determined it is necessary to establish more effective logistic support system, according to the source.

Under the new plan, the Defence Ministry will allow SDF paramedics within five years to perform such medical procedures as creating an airway by cutting into the trachea and inserting a

needle into the chest to release air and fluid, according to the source. But they will not be allowed to treat injured civilians. The SDF paramedics are required to work in line with the Emergency Life-Saving Technician's Act, which prohibits them from engaging in full-fledged medical operations, such as tracheotomy.

Japan is apparently trying to draw on US experience that the survival rates of US soldiers injured in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have improved since some military medics were allowed to perform full-scale medical procedures such as tracheotomy. The plan comes amid concern about a potential shortage of doctors in case of emergencies, as the SDF currently has around 800 staff qualified as doctors.

The number of SDF paramedics stands at about 9,000. Some experts warn that the envisioned change could be taken as Japan preparing the legal framework for the SDF to engage in actual fights.

Japan's Constitution forbids the use of force to settle international disputes, and the government has interpreted it to mean Japan cannot use the right of collective self-defence, or defending allies under armed attack. Abe is seen as making a final decision on whether Japan should be able to use the right, even as recent public opinion polls suggest the public remains divided, and the New Komeito party, the coalition partner of Abe's Liberal Democratic Party, is cautious about changing the constitutional interpretation. — *Kyodo News*



Japan's Prince Akishino (3rd from L) and Princess Kiko (4th from L) attend an event in Lima on 28 Jan, 2014, to celebrate last year's 140th anniversary of diplomatic ties between Japan and Peru. — *KYODO NEWS*



Turkish President Abdullah Gul (R) holds a joint press conference with visiting French President Francois Hollande in Ankara, Turkey, on 27 Jan, 2014. Hollande said on Monday his government is willing to help Turkey advance its membership bid with the EU, pledging to support the opening of new negotiation chapters between the two sides. Hollande paid the first official visit to Turkey by a French head of state in 22 years, with seven ministers accompanying him aiming to boost economic ties with Ankara. — *XINHUA*

UN expresses sorrow for loss of human lives in explosion

KINSHASA, 28 Jan — The head of the UN Mission for Stabilization of Congo (MONUSCO), Martin Kobler, on Monday expressed his deep sorrow for the loss of human lives in a recent explosion.

Last Friday, lightning caused a blast at the military camp Nyongolo in Mbuji-Mayi, capital of Kasai Oriental Province in the Democratic Republic of Congo. "I extend my condolences to the families who have lost loved ones," said Kobler in a statement, adding that "I

asked our office in Mbuji-Mayi to help and support the local authorities to deal with this situation, and I wish a speedy recovery to those injured."

According to the UN document, more than 20 people were killed, 50 others injured and many houses destroyed during the havoc in the central town of Mbuji-Mayi. Contacted by *Xinhua*, local authorities reported that 21 victims of the explosion will be buried on Monday in the cemetery of Lubilanji. — *Xinhua*

US opens preliminary probe into Toyota cars over brake issue

NEW YORK, 28 Jan — US safety regulators have begun a preliminary probe into complaints of brake failures in Toyota Motor Corp's Camry hybrid cars sold in the United States, regulatory and company officials said on Monday.

Subject to the investigation by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration are about 30,000 units of the 2007 and 2008 models of the Camry sedan, according to news reports.

The NHTSA has received 59 complaints including cases in which longer stopping distances were needed or more brake pedal pressure was required to stop the vehicles, the officials said. The complaints included two accidents, but no injuries have been reported so far. If the NHTSA concludes that there is a safety defect in the vehicles' brake system, Toyota may be asked to recall them. Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc said it will fully cooperate with the NHTSA.

— *Kyodo News*

Egypt's Sisi poised to announce presidency bid

CAIRO, 28 Jan — Three years after the "Arab Spring" toppled Hosni Mubarak, a secretive field marshal with a cult-like following is expected to announce his candidacy for the presidency of Egypt ahead of elections which he is expected to win easily.

Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has come under pressure to run from members of the public who reject the Islamist government he toppled last year, and from the armed forces who want a president who can face down growing political violence.

He has calculated that he can win the votes of those who backed Mohamed Mursi for president in 2012 simply because he represented change from the era of former air force commander Mubarak, ousted in the revolutions that

swept the Arab world. But despite his present popularity, Sisi has no record as a democrat and has shown himself willing to use deadly force against those who disagree with him. Sisi has trodden a careful path to power since overthrowing Mursi, Egypt's first freely elected president, last July.

It's the kind of measured advance he has made all his life, from his childhood in the dirt lanes of Cairo's Gamaliya district, to the highest rank in one of the largest armies in the Middle East.

On Monday, the presidency announced he was promoted to field marshal from general. Friends and family speak of him of as a man of few words and decisive action.

"He loved to listen and carefully study what was said. After he heard many

opinions then he would suddenly strike," said his cousin Fathi al-Sisi, who runs a shop selling handicrafts.

"Abdel Fattah had one thing in mind: work, the military, rising to the top." The world knew little of Sisi before he appeared on

television on 3 July and announced the removal of Mursi after mass protests against the Islamist leader.

It was Mursi who appointed Sisi army chief of staff and defense minister in August 2012, perhaps his gravest mistake.

— *Reuters*



Supporters of Egypt's army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi holds a poster of Sisi in Tahrir square in Cairo, on the third anniversary of Egypt's uprising, on 25 Jan, 2014. — *REUTERS*

Mauritania is country of million opportunities

NOUAKCHOTT, 28 Jan — Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz said on Sunday that his country, which was initially referred to as the "country of a million dreamers," can today be referred to as the "country of a million opportunities."

The president justified this label by considering the country's economic performance and its stable environment.

Abdel Aziz was speaking before participants at an investments forum in Mauritania, attended by delegations from Saudi Arabia and international financial institutions.

"We have worked tirelessly in the last four years to create an environment that is investment friendly.

In this regard, we first secured our borders and provided security across the entire national territory," he said.

"We then consolidated macroeconomic stability, promoted transparency and reformed the judiciary," he added, noting that "Mauritania had adopted an investment code that protects investors."

"Today Mauritania protects investment and guarantees the rights of investors while ensuring they carry out their activities in better conditions," he concluded. The two-day meeting was equally attended by representatives of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Islamic Development Bank.

— *Xinhua*

LG Electronics Q4 profit doubles on strong Black Friday TV sales

SEOUL, 28 Jan — LG Electronics Inc beat analyst estimates by doubling its fourth-quarter profit as heavy promotional activity lifted TV sales during the post-Thanksgiving holiday shopping kickoff known as Black Friday in the United States.

As the \$120 billion TV industry has peaked, the world's No.2 television manufacturer is now aggressively pushing to increase sales of high-end TV sets that boast curved and crispy screens with price tags of \$7,000 to protect margins.

But earnings are set to be squeezed again this year as TV demand growth stagnates in the lucrative markets of advanced economies.

A slow recovery in

its handset business will also continue to weigh on earnings growth, overshadowing a widely expected margin recovery at its bread-and-butter home appliances operation as it plans to launch new fridges and washers.

Operating profit totaled 238 billion won (\$220 million) in October-December, the world's second-biggest TV maker after Samsung Electronics Co Ltd said in a statement on Monday.

That compared with the 223 billion won estimate of 35 analysts polled by Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S, as well as the 117 billion won of a year earlier and 218 billion won of July-September.

Shares in LG Electronics dropped 1 percent after the earnings announcement,



An employee works in front of LG Electronics' 3D TV sets which are made with LG Display flat screens at its store in Seoul on 23 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

versus a 1.2 percent fall in the wider market. The stock dropped 6 percent over the past six months, lagging a 1.5 percent gain in the KOSPI. The South Korean manufacturer said operating profit at its TV business reached 174 billion won from just 80 million won a year prior.

Its mobile business, ranked No.3 by shipments after Samsung and Apple Inc, swung to an operating loss of 43 billion won from profit of 56 billion won a

year earlier, as the company spent more on marketing flagship products such as its G2 and G Pro smartphones.

The mobile loss came even after smartphone shipments grew to a record 13.2 million units, up 54 percent year on year.

"The positive impact of improved product mix was offset by higher marketing investments to strengthen LG's brand equity and intensified price competition," the company said in a statement.—Reuters

German business morale hits top level in 2-1/2 years

BERLIN, 28 Jan — German business morale climbed in January to its highest level since July 2011, suggesting Europe's largest economy is on track for a strong start to 2014 after growing only modestly last year.

The Munich-based Ifo think tank's business climate index, based on a monthly survey of some 7,000 firms, rose for a third straight month to 110.6, beating a Reuters consensus forecast for 110.0 and up more than a full point from a December reading of 109.5.

Ifo economist Klaus Wohlrabe said the strong survey suggested the German economy could grow by 0.5 percent in the first three months of the year. That would be a major improvement on the fourth quarter, when the economy is estimated to have grown by around a quarter of a percentage point.

Surveys last week showed the German private sector growing at its fastest pace in more than 2-1/2 years and investor morale staying close to its highest level in nearly eight years, pointing to decent growth at the start of 2014. "German businesses remain diehard optimists," said ING economist Carsten Brzeski.

But he warned that the economy's performance last year was not as strong as "soft" privately-produced survey evidence would have suggested.

"The small growth conundrum of the German economy continues. While soft indicators remain buoyant and both consumer and business confidence are close to all-time highs, hard data has been lagging behind and still is," he said. Still, the latest hard data has shown increases in industrial output, orders, exports and retail sales.

Reuters



People eat at a market hall in downtown Hanover on 26 June, 2012.—REUTERS

Successful operation on Chinese girl's duplicated organs

CHENGDU, 28 Jan — A 13-year-old Chinese girl who was born with duplicated, or "duplex," organs has received kidney surgery in southwest China's Sichuan Province, a local hospital said on Tuesday.

Born with duplex kidneys, two bladders, two uteruses and four fallopian tubes, Lanlan (alias) was diagnosed with a rare condition of congenital

malformation of multi-system and multi-organ duplication, according to Hu Xianliang, vice president of the Women and Children's Centre Hospital in the provincial capital city of Chengdu.

Hu said both of Lanlan's kidneys are duplex and fused to the other. Each has a separate ureter, meaning that she has four kidneys and four ureters.

It is thought that the abnormality was caused during gestation. Doctors believe that Lanlan's mother was carrying twins, the embryo of one of which failed to grow into a child and instead fused with the other.

Lanlan received surgeries on her genital system and digestive system in 2004 in a hospital in the southern city of Guang-

zhou.

"The surgeries in 2004 have fixed some of her malfunctioning organs," according to Hu, who operated the surgery.

His operation on her duplex kidneys on 21 January was also successful.

"The girl will be released soon and will return to an ordinary life," he said.

Xinhua

Google to buy artificial intelligence company DeepMind

NEW YORK, 28 Jan — Google Inc said on Sunday it had agreed to acquire privately held artificial intelligence company DeepMind Technologies Ltd.

Technology news website Re/code, which reported news of the deal ear-

lier, said the price was \$400 million, without disclosing where it got the information.

A Google spokesman declined to comment on the price. DeepMind representatives could not be immediately reached for comment.

Founded in London in 2012 by Demis Hassabis, Shane Legg and Mustafa Suleyman, DeepMind uses general-purpose learning algorithms for applications such as simulations, e-commerce and games, according to its website.

Google, which is working on projects including self-driving cars and robots, has become increasingly focused on artificial intelligence in recent years.

In 2012, it hired Ray Kurzweil, considered one of the leading minds in the field, and in May it announced a partnership with NASA and several universities to launch the Quantum Artificial Intelligence Lab.

Reuters

Vodafone, BG lead Britain's FTSE slide to fresh five-week lows



The London Stock Exchange building is seen in central London on 24 Sept, 2009.—REUTERS

LONDON, 28 Jan — Britain's FTSE 100 slipped to fresh 5-week lows on Monday, underperforming its European peers due to steep slumps in heavyweight mobile operator Vodafone and oil and gas firm BG Group.

Vodafone, the third biggest company in the FTSE 100, fell 6.4 percent

after US mobile operator AT&T said it was not planning to take over the British-listed firm, thus putting an end to months of speculation. That drop alone took 27 points off the British blue-chip index, while BG Group contributed another 22 points of the drop.

Its shares fell 13.5 per-

cent — on track for their worst day since October 2012 — after the company warned that production this year and next would fall short of expectations, calling its guidance for 2014 "disappointing" due to ongoing problems in Egypt.

"The overall sentiment is extremely negative," said Jordan Hiscott, trader at Gekko Global Markets. "This morning we are seeing real money accounts exiting BG on this shock profit warning, which shows a dramatic shift in sentiment."

Prior to the news, BG has been rated 'buy' or 'strong buy' by 15 analysts and 'hold' by 10, against just three 'sell' recommendations, according to Thomson Reuters Eikon data.—Reuters



An illustration picture shows a Google logo with two Euro coins, taken in Munich on 15 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS

Incident in Rakhine State clarified to ambassadors, UN agency officials

YANGON, 28 Jan—A press conference on incident in Rakhine State was held at the hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, here, this afternoon.

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin made clarifications. He said:

We have organized a briefing on the incident that had occurred in Maungdaw Township in Rakhine State.

This incident was already mentioned in the State news papers of 23.1.2014, accord-

quest to ensure that all news-breaking stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias.

President U Thein Sein has instructed to form an independent investigation team to conduct an investigation on that incident.

Central Committee for Peace Stability and Development of Rakhine State will send a separate team to the Maungdaw district to investigate.

Myanmar National Hu-

Mr. ZarhinGir, and Ms. Babra Brista (UNOCHA) and Resident Coordinator of UNHCR Mr. Roka Kodo who had visited the areas and met with the villagers.

In addition, representatives of the Rakhine Conflict investigation Commission had also made an investigation regarding the incident.

Conclusion that this incident which took place on the night of 13 January 2014 was an isolated event and was not connected to any other incidents as alleged by some medias.

However in expressing concerns by some organizations and countries on the recent incident, they mentioned about death of people, injuries, damage to the village in the events which never took place.

I would like to stress that the Government of Myanmar is giving priority to the peace and stability of Rakhine State. It is important that communal peace and harmony to be prevailed in Rakhine State.

These Agencies and INGOs should communicate to the Rakhine State Government as well as to the focal ministries if they require any assistance. The government is ready to give verification on any news that they want to verify.

Comments or opinions

village-tract in which Bengalis are majority, accounting for 80 %.

According to statistics of Ducheertan middle village where the incident occurred, the village where 1030 people and 140 households are residing in it is home to the majority of Bengalis.

Khayay Myaing police post and No (13) police battalion take the responsibilities of ensuring security and the rule of law in cooperation with the village administrators, religious leaders and local people.

The statement of the Ministry of Home Affairs concerning the incident occurred on 13 January was reported in dailies issued on 23 January.

In search of missing Police Sergeant Aung Kyaw Thein by officials concerned, townselders and search teams the following day, blood-stained pieces of Sergeant Aung Kyaw Thein's torn-up uniform, parts of the sergeant's police equipment, his jungle-boot and an empty M 22 magazine were found in the Arabic school and near the Ismai mosque situated in the vicinity of the village.

According to saying of witnesses, nine suspects on 15 January, six on 17 January and one on 18 January,



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin makes clarification.—MNA

totaling 16 were detained and investigations are underway to remand them in police custody for interrogation.

For a search and arrest of suspects, officials invited administrators of urban wards in Maungdaw and villages, townselders, mawlawi and locals to hold a meeting at a primary school in the township on 19 January and called for their cooperation in the efforts for the arrest of suspects.

On 20 January, a clarification on the well-plotted terrorist act was made at a meeting attended by departmental officials, parliamentarians, townselders, ward administrators, mawlawis and locals totaling 1600 at the hall of Maungdaw Township General Administration Department.

While the situation at Ducheertan area was stable, false reports of some news agencies appeared. So, the Rakhine State chief minister, UNHCR and UNOCHA representatives and State Hluttaw representatives of Buthidaung and Maungdaw Townships made an inspection tour of Ducheertan village-tract, enquiring of the situation, visiting the places where the incidents occurred and providing necessary assistance to villagers who re-

turned the village.

On 23 January, a team of Sittway-based Investigation Commission on violence on Rakhine State investigated the Ducheertan incident in order to probe the situation and to demonstrate transparency.

Fleeing villages are returning their homes. A total of 431 people from 75 households have returned home up to date and they are being provided with emergency aid by officials.

Police protected properties of villagers as there arose lootings during the time when villagers were away. Strict security measures were undertaken in order to avoid allegations made against the police by destructive elements who actually destroyed and set fire to houses.

According to investigations, the Police Sergeant and party conducted a regular police patrol together with local administrations.

According to information, eleven of those who committed the violence are now in the neighbouring country, seeking awards for the Ducheertan incident from RSOs.

Some UN agencies and foreign news agencies issued reports based on unjustified (See page 9)



M-22 Magazine of Pol Sgt Aung Kyaw Thein found in the paddy field in front of the mosque.—MNA

ing to the on ground inspection and verified information.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also issued a press release on 24-1-2014 to give clear information and message.

However, some of the international medias and some groups had continued to produce unverified information and illogical opinions.

When International Organizations carry out their reportings it is very important that the information they used in the report to be authentic and from reliable and credible sources.

In this regard, I would like to highlight some of the points prescribed in the UNGA resolution A/RES/66/81 A-B (9-12-2011) which stresses that the public information given by UN Agencies needs to be accurate objective and balanced in all four mass media. It also reiterates UNGA's re-

man Rights Commission has proposed to make a field trip Maungdaw District in a few days.

Rakhine Conflict Investigation Commission will also send a separate investigation team to the affected area.

Since the international communities have interest in the reform process taking Myanmar and expressing the recognition and support. Positive cooperations and assistance were rendered to Myanmar Government for that we would like to express our appreciations. At the same time we notice that there are concerns over the recent incidents in Rakhine State.

It is found that these concerns have originated from the unfound news and unverified information.

By Representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw of Buthidaung and Maungdaw constituencies, Dr. Bawshi Ahmad and



Place where uniform shirt and boot were dumped in the rubbish hole at the back of mosque.—MNA

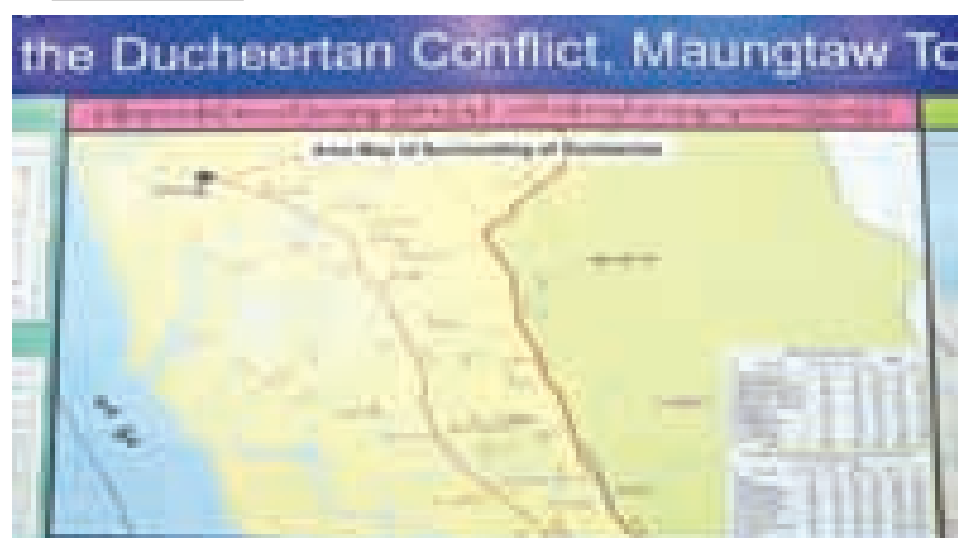
based on uncertain information or news can be affected to the cooperation and confidence that have been built between friends and partners.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko made a clarification. He said:

Ducheertan middle village is included in Ducheertan village-tract, five-mile south of Maungdaw, formed with nine villages with populations of 4870 people and 674 households. The ethnic Rakhine makes up 20 % of the total population of the



Underwear of Pol Sgt Aung Kyaw Thein found in paddy field about a hundred yard away from the scene.—MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 29 January, 2014

Fruits of cooperation

On the right track of political and economic reforms, Myanmar is increasingly cooperating with global nations including the United Nations and international organizations and this never-before cooperation is starting to bear fruits.

Myanmar people will be able to enjoy the fruits of the country's worldwide cooperation soon. The second Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum was held in Nay Pyi Taw on 27-28 January. During the forum, the World Bank and donor countries encouragingly demonstrated their commitments to development of Myanmar.

It is learnt that the World Bank will significantly increase its assistance to Myanmar in the years to come. The World Bank said that it would provide USD 2000 million to Myanmar for public and private long-term projects. The larger proportion of the World Bank's contribution will go into agriculture, health and energy sectors, which are the priorities of Myanmar. The World Bank President Jim Yong Kim said that the World Bank would spend USD 1 billion in the coming five years in expanding national grid in Myanmar where 70 % of national population live without electricity.

Investment in electricity sector will improve the living standard of citizens while creating jobs and favourable business environment. Investment in health sector will benefit not only the citizens but also the country. Each dollar invested in health sector will make a profit of 9 to 20 dollars in any sector. The World Bank's financial assistance will also go to agricultural sector of Myanmar. Though Myanmar has large acreage of farmland with access to irrigation water, the lack of technology has always limited the agricultural output, thereby reducing the potential of Myanmar's agricultural economy. The World Bank's assistance will bring technology to farmers who constitute 70% of national population, enabling them to improve their livelihoods.

Other donor countries also promised a contribution of USD 800 million in coming three or four years on the occasion. This contribution will be allotted to socio-economic improvement of people and poverty alleviation scheme. No doubt this is the result of none other than the cooperation and unity of entire national people. This is what makes global nations take a different view on Myanmar. Therefore, the entire national people are to continue cooperating in unity and amity to be able to enjoy more fruits.

Accelerating Actions for Progress through...

(from page 1)

the most vulnerable, can benefit from and be involved in shaping Myanmar's transition.

We hereby commit ourselves to:

1. Finalise the Nay Pyi Taw Accord Action Plan to ensure the continued implementation of the Accord.
2. Ensure continued support for Myanmar's Framework for Economic and Social Reforms



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP Dr Noeleen Heyzer at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, Nay Pyi Taw. (News on page-16) MNA

Union FM receives Norwegian delegation

YANGON, 28 Jan—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs received Mrs Ann Ollstad Norwegian Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

and party at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here this morning. The Norwegian delegation comprised of the Norwegian Ambassadors from the ASEAN Member States and Senior

Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries from Oslo.

The Union Minister briefed the Norwegian delegation on Myanmar's preparations and priorities set for her ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014 as well as the political, economic and social reforms being undertaken in Myanmar.

The Union Minister also deliberated further on the Myanmar-Norway bilateral relations and their

cooperation in the areas of sustainable management of natural resources and peace process in Myanmar.

The Royal Norwegian Government acceded to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) during the 46th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 1 July 2013. ASEAN and Norway have been accelerating to enhance partnership and co-operation.

MNA

WB to help health care services

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—President of World Bank Group Dr Jim Yong Kim together with Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin visited Dagon Myothit (North) Township People's Hospital in Yangon where they viewed Operation Theater, delivering room, laboratory room, medicine storage room and patient wards on 26 January.

In meeting with medical staff at the hospital, the Union Minister said he was delighted that the President of World Bank visited there, and pledged to provide necessary assistance for the hospital. Now the medical staff are striving to emerge Universal Health Coverage, he added.

The President of WB said International Development Association (IDA) which is one of the World Bank's fund for the poorest and others organizational alliance provide basic medical care to women, children and poor people. Moreover, he added IDA will help to re-

duce the expenses of medical care and to emerge a university health coverage system for poor people before 2030. The Union Minister and the President of WB replied to questions asked by local and foreign media men.—MNA

Wife of Bangladeshi Chief of Air Staff visits MMCWA



Wife of Bangladeshi Chief of Air Staff Mrs Mary Enam accepts gift from an official of MMCWA.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—A goodwill delegation led by wife of Bangladeshi Chief of Air Staff Mrs Mary Enam met with Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association President Dr Daw Mon Mon Aung, the vice-presidents and the CEC members at the association office here this morning.

At the meeting, Presi-

dent Dr Daw Mon Mon Aung extended greetings. Secretary Daw Thazin Nwe explained the purpose of the association, organizational setup, responsibilities, undertakings for maternal and child life development and replied to the queries by the guests. Mrs Mary Enam viewed round documentary photos on activities at the hall.—MNA

and the National Comprehensive Development Plan.

3. Strengthen Government capacity to lead Myanmar's development efforts and engage with public and private actors in the planning and implementation processes.

We will monitor these commitments and the implementation of other lessons learned at the Forum with integrity and report on progress at a mid-term review meeting later in 2014 and again at the 3rd Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum in 2015. We hereby reconfirm our will to work in partnership as we enter this new phase of Myanmar's development.



Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw takes part in the forum. (News on page 16) —MNA

Successful holding forums is promotion of Myanmar's image in international arena

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— With regard to ensuring benefits of 1st Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum, World Economic Forum held in 2013 and 2nd Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum, Deputy Director-General Dr. Daw Wah Wah Maung of Foreign Economic Relations Department explained that the government has drawn reform processes for development of the State and strived for making cooperation with world countries and international organizations. Myanmar could build trust with its partners in the first forum. As a result, both Myanmar and international community have promoted not only sector-wise co-operation and human resource development but also technical cooperation, she continued. Myanmar could promote its image in international arena after successful holding world economic forum and the ministries and organizations have achieved international experiences, she said. The purpose of holding the forums is to make the world known Myanmar's reform processes.—Thura Zaw

Technical error happens to Air KBZ plane

YANGON, 28 Jan— A technical error happened to an Air KBZ plane while readying for takeoff on the runway of Yangon International Airport this morning.

The Airline said that there were no injuries to

crew and 65 passengers on board and they were evacuated shortly after smoke started to rise from its overheated wheels on its return to parking due to the error. Crew were able to handle the situation and all pas-

sengers were transferred to another plane of Air KBZ.

"Safety is the priority of Air KBZ and we always follow all instructions given by the Ministry of Transport", said U Myat Thu of Air KBZ.—Nay Lin

any crimes by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The police sergeant is still missing with his arm and ammunition. Cooperation is invited to inform the police with firm evidences concerning the incident. Investigation will be continued.

There are two points. One is that an act of attacking against law enforcement organizations is a terrorist act. No country and no government accepted such act that injures the rule of law.

Second point is that organizations needs to release reports based on reliable sources. As the situation could be complicated by false reporting that could jeopardize the rule of law, take notice of what local people would not forgive

when the truth appeared.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn said that the government has already spent K 26.79 billion on rehabilitation in Rakhine State and implemented the Rakhine Response Plan as of July, 2012. It is needed to fund US\$ 109.3 million to the plan and so far, US \$ 85.9 million have already collected.

Afterwards, Rakhine State Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Htein Lin said they arrived at Ducheertan Village within hours after the conflict happened and they found that only many evidences for killing of Police Sgt Aung Kyaw Thein, and no buildings nor killings of villagers were happened in

C-in-C (Air) and wife host dinner to Bangladeshi delegation



Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Khin Aung Myint and wife Daw Aye Aye Than greet Chief of Air Staff of Bangladesh Air Marshal Muhammad Enamul Bari, ndu, psc, and wife.—MNA

2nd Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— The second Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum concluded here today, pledging to continue to support the economic and social reforms framework and national development plan of Myanmar.

During the final day of the forum, experts made recommendations and suggestions for the eight sectors in Myanmar.

Regarding the Improving and Capacity of Myanmar's Human Resources, they recommended to focus on nutrition, early childhood care and development, access to basic education, quality of edu-

cation, private sector, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), decentralization, equity and inclusion and communication.

They also suggested advices to overcome the challenges that Myanmar would face in the Enhancing Public Administration Reform and Development sector.

They also made recommendations and implementations for the improving the capacity of Myanmar's human resources, environmental conservation and food security, strengthening private sector participation and tourism development,

enhancing social protection and human security, finance management and development, rural development and poverty reduction and investing in Myanmar's infrastructure.—MNA

They found only evidences for killing of Police Sgt Aung Kyaw Thein and there was no people who were said to be killed living at the village and villages near the Ducheertan village.

A villager who was killed in the conflict according to a villager during the investigation is found that he was detained by the police.

There was also no evidences of recently burial at the burial ground and the allegation that Bengalis who were killed in the conflict were buried there is totally wrong and the commission found only burial ground covered with bushes.

the conflict.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, state MPs and representatives from UNHCR and UN-OCHA had already met with local villagers.

During the meeting, villagers told them that no villagers were killed in the conflict and some villagers fled the village as they are afraid of being detained by the police.

As from 24 January, villagers from the village of Ducheertan have come back to the village and so far 331 villagers from 75 households have already been settled at the village.

Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Secretary of Rakhine Conflict Investigation Commission said from 22 to 26 January, the commission had



Director-General Dr Myo Thein Gyi of Myanmar Education Research Bureau.

MNA

The commission would release their statement in the near future, Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing said.

He also asked the international organizations to give firm evidences if they found and called on INGOs to cooperate with the commission and authority concerned as the situation in Rakhine State is fragile.

Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin said the government would release its investigation report, assuring that the investigation would be in transparency.

The government would arrange a trip to the area for the diplomats and a team led by the EU Ambassador would go to the area in the near future, he added.

MNA

Incident in...

(from page 7)

sources that about eight Bengalis were killed in the vicinity of Ducheertan area on 9 December, 2013 and there occurred deaths of 40 people on 13 January, 2014.

In order to probe the situation, the Rakhine State chief minister, state Hluttaw representatives and UN officials and investigation commission members made a field trip, interviewing villagers who returned the village. According to information collected on the ground, it is found that they are false reports.

Actions will be taken against any convicted individuals or any organizations who were convicted of the

Bago Region Fisheries Department releases fingerlings to Wagadok Dam



BAGO, 28 Jan—Bago Region Fisheries Department held a ceremony to release fish into Wagadok Dam in Bago Township on 21 January morning.

Head of Bago Region Fisheries Department U

Kyaw Min, Bago District Fisheries Department U Sein Thaung, Staff Officer U Win Naing of Irrigation Department Construction (1), staff, local people and fishermen released 150,000 fingerlings into the water.

Head of Region Department U Kyaw Min explained purpose of releasing fish, formation of fishermen organization and techniques for breeding fish in net cage to the rural fishermen.

The ceremony was aimed at conserving fish resources and boosting production of fish so as to develop the rural region and alleviate poverty of the local people.

MMAL-121

Donation

Charity fair in Mayangon Township

YANGON, 28 Jan—The 18th lucky draw programme and Maha Duk meal offering ceremony was held in Ward 1 of Mayangon Township of Yangon Region on 26 January.

A total of 950 households from the ward participated in the charity fair.

At the ceremony, the wellwishers distributed over 29000 cards to the residences to enjoy foods

and materials to be eaten as they like.

At the Maha Duk meals offering ceremony, a total of 3115 members of the Sangha from 70 monasteries from various townships have been supplicated by the residences to accept the donations such as cash and materials.

The donation ceremony will be offered meals and donations on 2 February morning.

Kyemon-Zaw Gyi (Panita)



Local people enjoy charity fair in Ward 1 of Mayangon Township as part of preserving fine tradition of Myanmar.

Cement bricks marketable in Saw Township



SAW, 28 Jan—Relying on sand of Saw Creek that flows through Saw of Magway Region, a cement brick industry emerged near the town as of December last year.

The cement brick is produced with the use of cement and sand. Cement brick does not need in production process without fire and one bag of cement can be used in production of over 300 cement bricks.

The producer sells K 65 per brick. Each industry can produce over 700 pieces of cement bricks. Production of cement brick can prevent deforestation and minimize loss and waste.

Those engaged in manufacturing of cement brick can earn K 3000 per day for their livelihoods.

Kyemon-465

Myanmar's trade deficit US\$ 828.43 million during April-December in 2013-14 FY

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—In December 2013, Myanmar's normal trade volume has reached US\$ 1499.83 million and border trade volume, US\$ 257.75 million, totaling US\$ 1757.58 million while normal import volume was US\$ 1191.05 million and border import volume, US\$ 160 million totaling US\$ 1351.05 million.

So, Myanmar's total trade surplus in December was US\$ 406.53 million.

According to monthly export-import report of Central Statistical Organization, Myanmar's total export volume — US\$ 6649.25 million of normal export volume and US\$ 2270.38 million of border export volume — reached US\$ 8919.63 million while

total import volume — US\$ 8386.15 million of normal import volume and US\$ 1361.91 million of border import volume — was US\$ 9748.06 million.

Therefore, Myanmar's total trade deficit was US\$ 828.43 million during the period from April to December in 2013-14 financial year.

CSO

National Objectives of 67th Anniversary Union Day 2014

- For all the national races to cultivate the Union Spirit to perpetuate the Union
- For all the national races to live in unity and harmony
- For all the national races to build up the prevailing national reconciliation
- For all citizens to participate in tasks for tranquility and the rule of law
- For all the national races to join efforts for modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation

HRD

Toungoo Township Education Network holds coord meeting



TOUNGOO, 28 Jan—The Toungoo Township Education Network held the 12th coordination meeting at its office on Pagoda Road in Toungoo of Bago Region on 26 January.

Retired Region Education Officer U San Tin and Sayagi U Hla Tun made speeches.

General Secretary of the network Dr Ba Swe submitted the minute of the previous meeting and sought the approval for it. Next, he submitted the future tasks.

During six months period of its establishment, the network has donated 216 desks, five tables, 40 sets of school uniforms, over 400 dozens of exercise books, pencils and rulers to 20 needy Basic Education Primary Schools, Post-Primary Schools and Monastic Education Schools.

Moreover, the network donated K 13.7 million for minor repairs of buildings at Basic Education Primary Schools.

Kyemon-472

REGIONAL

Two school officials abducted in S Philippines

ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR, (Philippines), 28 Jan — Gunmen kidnapped two ranking public school officials in southern Philippines on Monday, police authorities said on Tuesday.

Police Regional Office 9 director Chief Supt Juanito Vao identified the victims as Rudy Luna and his wife, Tessie who are both supervisors of a public elementary school in Kumalarang town in Zamboanga del Sur Province. Vao said eight unidentified gunmen barged into the victims' house in the village of Diplo and seized the victims at 8 pm on Monday.

He said, however, that the woman was able to escape while they were being transported by their abductors to a waiting motorized pump boat. Luna is the second teacher kidnapped in the region in a span of two months. Last December, a group of gunmen seized a teacher in an island village east of Zamboanga City.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 26 January shows lanterns displayed on the Panlong River in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province. A lantern show kicked off here on Sunday.—XINHUA

Landslide in Indonesia kills 6, leaves 7 missing

JAKARTA, 28 Jan — At least six people are dead and at least seven others missing after a landslide hit a hamlet in Indonesia's East Java Province early Tuesday, according to a local official.

The landslide caused by torrential rains buried five houses in the hamlet of Kopen, in Jombang Regency, about 740 kilometers east of Jakarta, said Nurhuda, an official of the

East Java Disaster Mitigation Agency.

He said it killed six members of the same family, while rescuers are still searching for at least seven people whose houses were buried by the landslide.

Meanwhile, the Jakarta-based National Disaster Mitigation Agency said 30 people who went missing Saturday after a flash flood in North Sulawesi Province have still not

been found. They were on a riverboat in the village of Nameng when the flash-flood hit.

In Jakarta, 23 people have been killed in the past two weeks due to floods, the agency's spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said. Floods and landslides frequently occur in Indonesia during rainy season that usually takes place from October to March.

Kyodo News

Japan's corporate service prices rise for 1st time in 5 years

TOKYO, 28 Jan — Corporate service prices in Japan gained 0.5 percent in 2013 from the prior year, the first rise in five years since 2008, due partly to higher yen-denominated prices for international air-freight amid the weakening yen, the Bank of Japan said on Tuesday.

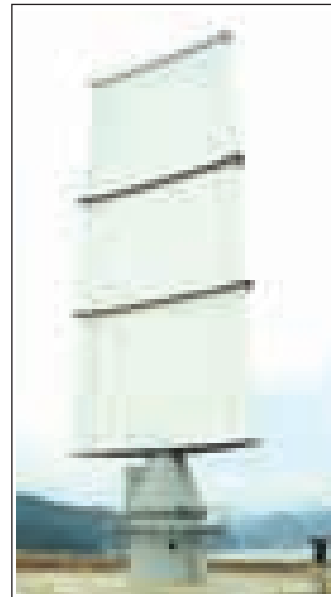
The central bank's index of corporate service prices stood at 96.3 against the 2005 base of 100, the central bank said in a pre-

liminary report.

The rise also reflected increasing prices of civil engineering and architectural services as well as waste disposal amid growing construction demand.

Transportation prices climbed 2.2 percent, while other services, a category that includes civil engineering and architectural services as well as hotels, increased 0.5 percent, the BOJ said.

Kyodo News



A 20-metre-tall, 8-metre-wide sail made of reinforced plastics is tested on land in the port city of Sasebo, Nagasaki Prefecture, on 25 Jan, 2014. It has been developed by the University of Tokyo and collaborators from the shipping and shipbuilding industry for cutting cost in maritime transportation. The group is planning to test the prototype sail on the sea as early as October.

KYODO NEWS

Shots fired as Thai PM meets, election body warns of chaos



Anti-government protesters shout slogans during a rally outside the Army Club where Thailand's Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra is holding a cabinet meeting in Bangkok on 28 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

BANGKOK, 28 Jan — Shots were fired at a Thai army facility where the prime minister was meeting on Tuesday and two people were hurt, an anti-government protest leader said. Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra was meeting the Election Commission at an army complex to try to settle on a date for a general election. The Commission says the government's plan to hold the vote next Sunday is

too soon, given the unrest in the country, and wants it delayed by up to four months.

"Someone fired shots. One protester was hurt and the man who fired the shots was hurt too. They have been sent to different hospitals," Chumpol Jumsai, a protest leader who was at the facility in north Bangkok, told Reuters. The shots were fired far away from where the meeting was taking place and near where

about 500 anti-government protesters had gathered. Yingluck dissolved parliament in December and called the election to try to appease protesters trying to overthrow her. They have rejected the election, wanting political reform before any poll, and on Sunday they prevented advance voting in many parts of the capital.

"Today, we are here to show the government what obstacles lie ahead if it holds the February 2 election," Somchai Srisutthiyakorn, a member of the Election Commission, told reporters as he went into the meeting. "We believe chaos will ensue ... Our new recommendation is to hold elections within three or four months," he added. The Commission believes security cannot be guaranteed on February 2. It also says candidates have been unable to register in some constituencies, meaning there would not be a quorum to open parliament even if voting went ahead.

Reuters

Anti-graft party to field dozens of candidates in India general election

NEW DELHI, 28 Jan — The young anti-graft party that stormed to power in India's capital Delhi last month plans to field at least 73 candidates in national elections due by May to stand against politicians accused of crimes, its founder said on Monday. Following its strong performance in Delhi, interest in the year-old Aam Aadmi — Common Man — Party has surged. Since an announcement earlier this month that it would contest the general election, its membership has passed 10 million. Until now the party had not said how many of the 540 lower house parliamentary seats it might contest in an election pitting the centre-left governing coalition against front runner opposition candidate Narendra Modi.

While polls suggest the debutant party is unlikely to win more than a dozen or so seats, its success in Delhi has shaken up the national race, with Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party and the ruling Congress party both aping Aam Aadmi's anti-elite,

anti-corruption language. Even a small clutch of seats for the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) could be enough to deny Modi a chance at forming a government, and give AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal a say in national policy. The AAP will put up candidates in constituencies of 73 members of parliament who face serious criminal charges. Candidates will also stand for the seats of central government ministers which the party

believes are corrupt, Kejriwal said in an interview with Reuters.

"The most important thing is there are a large number of cabinet ministers who have indulged in corruption, they need to be defeated," Kejriwal said. "There are nearly 162 people in Lok Sabha who have criminal charges against them and there are 73 out of them who have serious charges against them."

Reuters



A supporter of Aam Aadmi (Common Man) Party (AAP) removes a poster with a portrait of Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal from the site of a protest after Kejriwal called off the sit-in protest against the police in New Delhi on 21 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(2/2014)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB-176(2013-2014)	Geological Servery Field Equipment	(2) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-177(2013-2014)	50 KW Generating Set (Driven By Natural Gas Engine)	(1) Set	US\$
(3)	IFB-178(2013-2014)	Electrical Parts for HDD Rig	(23) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-179(2013-2014)	Wash Pipe and Packing for N-69 and N-815 Swivel	(2) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-180(2013-2014)	1/2"x1 1/4"x5 7/8" Tong Dies	(2000) Nos	US\$
(6)	DMP/L-053(2013-2014)	4" x 4" Twin Reciprocating Air Compressor and Water Transfer Pump	(2) Items	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-054(2013-2014)	Allison Transmission Assy for Well Sevicig Truck	(3) Nos	Ks
(8)	DMP/L-055(2013-2014)	Electrical Spares for HDD Rig	(1) Lot	Ks
(9)	DMP/L-056(2013-2014)	H-Beams and U-Beam for EMSCO Mud Tank	(3) Items	Ks
(10)	DMP/L-057(2013-2014)	Centrifugal Pump with Motor Driven and Portable Water Transfer Pump	(2) Items	Ks

- Tender Closing Date & Time - 26-2-2014,16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 29th January, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411097 / 411206

They Are Engaged

Zarni Htoo (a) Peter Desmond Htoo

Son of (U Winston Mac Htoo) &
Daw Francine Khin Myint Aye
residing at No. 149, Thu Kha Road,
Hlaing Township, Yangon

and

Zinmar Nyunt (a) Winsome Francis Nyunt

Daughter of (U Teza Nyunt) & Daw Helga Ngai
Ngai Nyunt, residing at No. 51, Waik Zar Road,
Mayangone Township, Yangon.
Have been engaged on 28th January 2014 at Panda
Restaurant, Yangon.

Zarni Htoo (a) Peter Desmond Htoo & Zinmar Nyunt (a) Winsome Francis Nyunt



Grass burns on the hillside of Mt Wakakusa in the ancient Japanese capital of Nara during the annual Wakakusa Yamayaki festival on 25 Jan, 2014, as fireworks adorn the night sky. At front is the Suzakumon gate at the Heijo Palace site, a World Heritage site.

KYODO NEWS

Kerry says working toward “true partnership” with Pakistan



US Secretary of State John Kerry

WASHINGTON, 28 Jan — US Secretary of State John Kerry said on Monday that he has been working toward a “true partnership” with Pakistan since taking office a year ago. The top American envoy made the remarks as he reopened the US- Paki-

stan strategic dialogue at the State Department with Sartaj Aziz, the adviser to Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on national security and foreign affairs.

“We all know there’ve been occasional hiccups and challenges, but we really

believe that there are fundamental interests that we need to unite around, and particularly in economic and security spheres,” Kerry said. The dialogue was initiated in 2010 and three sessions were held in quick succession in March, July and October that year, but had been held off since over disputes including a unilateral US military raid that killed al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden inside Pakistan in 2011.

“I think many of you know this, but building stronger ties with the people of Pakistan — I emphasize, with the people of Pakistan broadly writ — has been a personal commitment of mine for some period of time,” Kerry said. “Particularly since I was nominated by President (Barack) Obama to serve as secretary of state, I’ve

been pleased to work to elevate this relationship to a true partnership,” he added. Washington-Islamabad ties have warmed since Sharif took over the premiership in May 2013, and Kerry made a trip to the South Asian nation in August.

Sharif met with Obama at the White House in October that year over counterterrorism, Afghanistan and trade ties, making him the first Pakistani premier to visit the United States in five years. Kerry lauded the reform efforts by Sharif and his cabinet, saying, “The United States has no doubt that Prime Minister Sharif’s policies will put Pakistan on a path towards a more prosperous future, and we fully support his goal of making Pakistan’s marketplace a tiger economy for the 21st century.”—Reuters

Gunmen kill 22 in Nigeria church attack

YOLA, (Nigeria), 28 Jan — Attackers armed with guns and explosives killed 22 people at a busy church service in a northeast Nigerian village, witnesses said on Monday, in a region where Islamist sect Boko Haram is resisting a military crackdown.

They set off bombs and fired into the congregation in the Catholic church in Waga Chakawa village in Adamawa state on Sunday morning, before burning houses and taking

residents hostage during a four-hour siege, witnesses said.

President Goodluck Jonathan is struggling to contain Boko Haram in remote rural regions in the country’s northeast corner, where the sect first launched an uprising in 2009.

The shady sect, which wants to impose sharia law on a country split roughly equally between Christians and Muslims, has killed thousands over the past

four and a half years and is considered the biggest security risk in Africa’s top oil exporter and second largest economy after South Africa.

Its fighters’ favorite targets have traditionally been security forces, politicians who oppose them and Christian minorities in the largely Muslim north.

The spokesman for the Catholic Diocese of Yola, Reverend Father Raymond Danbouye, confirmed 22 people killed in the attack

were buried at a funeral on Monday. The military and police did not respond to requests for comment but one army source confirmed the attack, asking not to be named because he wasn’t authorized to speak with the media.

Waga Chakawa is near the border with Borno state, in which there was a separate assault on Monday by suspected members of the shady sect in Kawuri village, witnesses said.

Reuters

HK to cull chickens, ban trade after H7 flu found

HONG KONG, 28 Jan — Hong Kong will suspend imports of live chickens from mainland China and the trading of live chickens for 21 days after a batch of chickens from China’s Guangdong Province tested positive for the H7 avian flu virus on Monday.

Food and Health Secretary Ko Wing-man said that starting on Tuesday, about 20,000 live birds at the Cheung Sha Wan market, the territory’s largest poultry wholesale market, will be culled and trade suspended for 21 days until 18 February for cleansing and disinfection work. “This is the first time imported chickens tested positive for H7 avian flu,” Ko told reporters. “The mainland will suspend the supply of live poultry to Hong Kong from the registered farm found to be the source of the outbreak for 21 days.”

Ko said he has asked mainland authorities to investigate the source of the infection and step up sur-

veillance, while local chicken farms will be inspected and wholesale market workers closely watched. Hong Kong imports about 4,000 live chickens from mainland China everyday, in addition to the local supply. The ban means that live chicken dishes will be off the menu for the Chinese New Year starting Friday. Live chickens are used for ancestral worshipping and a local cuisine for major banquets.

Since the H7N9 bird flu emerged in China in March last year, about 250 people have been infected, including three cases reported in Hong Kong whose sources of infection were likely in mainland China. Chinese health authorities said Monday that four new cases of human infection with the H7N9 strain of avian flu have been detected in southern China, bringing the total number of infections in the country so far this year to 101.

Kyodo News

ENTERTAINMENT



Nirvana and Foo Fighters musicians (L-R) Krist Novoselic, Dave Grohl and Pat Smear arrive at the 56th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, California on 26 Jan, 2014.
REUTERS

Beatles, mass wedding attract big TV audience to Grammys

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan — Beatles, robots and a mass wedding drew 28.5 million viewers to the Grammy awards television broadcast on Sunday night, the show's second-largest audience in two decades, CBS Corp's broadcast network CBS said on Monday.

French electronic-music duo Daft Punk, known for their robot-inspired outfits, took home four awards including album and record of the year, and New Zealand's 17-year-old newcomer Lorde won two, including song of the year.

Viewership was up from last year's Grammys, when 28.1 million viewers tuned into the show, and is the second-largest audience for the Grammy telecast since 1993.

The 2012 show attracted 39.9 million viewers, the second-largest

Grammy TV audience ever, thanks largely to British singer Adele's six wins and performance comeback after throat surgery and the drowning death of singer Whitney Houston in a bathtub in a Beverly Hills hotel the night before show.

On Sunday night's show, Seattle-based rapper-producer duo Macklemore & Ryan Lewis was named best new artist among four wins. The pair presided over the night's most dramatic moment when 33 same-sex and heterosexual couples were married live on air during a performance of their gay rights ode "Same Love." They were joined by Madonna and Queen Latifah on stage.

The 56th annual Grammys also saw a rare performance by the two surviving members of The Beatles, as Paul McCartney on piano

and Ringo Starr on drums came together to sing the new song "Queenie Eye."

The reunion came ahead of the Recording Academy's tribute to the 50th anniversary of The Beatles appearing on "The Ed Sullivan Show" in February 1964, credited with launching rock music's British Invasion.

The 3-1/2-hour show was a hot topic on social media, with 15.2 million Tweets about the Grammys during the East Coast broadcast, a Twitter spokesman said. The most-Tweeted about performance came midway through the show, when alt-rock group Imagine Dragons and rapper Kendrick Lamar came together for a high-octane mash-up of their songs, garnering more than 172,000 Tweets per minute.

Reuters

Jai Ho won't break box office records: Trade analyst

NEW DELHI, 28 Jan — It stars superstar Salman Khan and has masala aplenty — but Jai Ho could manage to garner barely over Rs 17 crore on its opening day at the domestic box office. Trade experts say in comparison to the star's previous films, this won't create any fireworks in terms of records.

Reportedly made on a budget of Rs 75 crore, Jai Ho hit about 4,500 screens in India. It collected Rs 17.55 crore in the country on Friday, according to an official statement.

"As per my knowledge, it's less than Rs 17 crore. The figure is quite low," Rajesh Thadani from Multimedia Combines told IANS.

"When Ek Tha Tiger released in 2012, it collected around Rs 30 crore on its opening day," he added.

Directed by Salman's

brother Sohail, the movie, which also stars newcomer Daisy Shah along with Tabu and Danny Denzongpa, is a political thriller with a heavy dose of action se-

quences featuring Salman.

Coincidentally, Salman's super hits Wanted, Dabangg, Dabangg 2 and Ek Tha Tiger — were all action-packed dramas. And

Justin Bieber relaxing in Panama after Florida scrape

PANAMA CITY, 28 Jan — Pop star Justin Bieber is relaxing at the beach in Panama after being charged in Florida with driving under the influence.

Panamanian radio and television host Eddy Vasquez was filming a show at the Pacific Coast

resort in Punta Chame when he spotted Bieber and his entourage walking on the beach. He and his crew took pictures of the singer and his companions, who got on personal watercraft and travel- led to a nearby island.

Police in Miami Beach said they arrested Bieber smelling of alcohol after officers saw him drag-racing before dawn Thursday, with his yellow Lamborghini traveling at nearly twice the speed limit.—PTI



Justin Bieber performs at beach as he takes a break in resort in Punta Chame on outskirts of Panama City.

Cory Monteith's name misspelt at 56th Grammys tribute

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan — Late actor Cory Monteith's name was included in this year's Grammys In Memoriam montage, but unfortunately his last name was misspelt.

When the Glee star's photo flashed on the stage at 56th Annual Grammy Awards on Sunday night (26 January), it showed

"Montieth" typed out instead of the correct spelling of the surname "Monteith", reports eonline.com.

Cory Monteith was found dead on 13 July, 2013 in his room at the Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel in Vancouver. He died due to an overdose of a mix of alcohol and heroin. He was 31.—PTI



Cory's name was included in this year's Grammys In Memoriam montage.

Heal well Shah Rukh, says Farah Khan

MUMBAI, 28 Jan — Happy New Year director Farah Khan is taking a break from the sets as Shah Rukh Khan, who essays a key role in the movie, is injured. She has wished him a speedy recovery.

"So (I) have an off today, not that I'm enjoying though...heal well Shah Rukh," Farah posted on Twitter on Saturday.

While shooting for the movie on 23 January, Shah Rukh had got injured and was rushed to a city hospital, where he was given immediate medical aid. He has been advised rest for two to three weeks. The film, which also stars Abhishek Bachchan, Deepika Padukone, Sonu Sood, Boman Irani and Vivaan Shah, will release this year around Diwali.—PTI



Salman in a still from Jai Ho



Shah Rukh Khan

Arsenal say manager Wenger to stay at club

LONDON, 28 Jan — Manager Arsene Wenger is set to sign a new contract to extend his 18-year stay with the English Premier League leaders, the club's chief executive said on Monday.

Wenger will have more money to spend on players this summer after the club signed a new kit supply deal with German company Puma that begins on 1 July.

Chief Executive Ivan Gazidis gave the clearest indication yet that Frenchman Wenger would remain at Arsenal, indicating that finalising a new contract was just a matter of time.

"We've always supported Arsene, the board

has always been completely behind him as has (owner) Stan Kroenke," Gazidis told a news conference when asked about the future of the manager whose contract runs out at the end of the season.

"We are comfortable in the position, relaxed about it. As I've said before, Arsene will be extending with us and at the right time we'll make that announcement," he added.

Wenger has been Arsenal manager since 1996 and has led the club to three Premier League titles and four FA Cups. However, the trophies have dried up since 2005 although Arsenal have continued to qualify for the Champions League.



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger

The Puma deal, worth around 30 million pounds a season, will help Arsenal to compete with the top clubs in Europe in the transfer market. "One of our long-term goals has been to increase our commercial revenues and there is a football reason for that, it's to be able to invest that in our squad," Gazidis said.

"So this is a very important step in terms of our progression on the pitch

and as we look from this summer onwards, that money will be available to the manager," he added.

Puma has ousted Nike as the kit supplier to Arsenal in a deal that starts on 1 July. Helped by an enhanced sponsorship deal with airline Emirates, the north London club spent a club record 42.5 million pounds on German Mesut Ozil at the start of this season.—Reuters

Nadal should recover quickly, says coach



Rafael Nadal of Spain receives treatment during his men's singles final match against Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 26 Jan, 2014. REUTERS

MADRID, 28 Jan — Rafa Nadal should recover from the back problem that wrecked his Australian Open final after a few days rest, his uncle and coach Toni told Spanish radio on Monday.

The ailing world number one lost to Swiss Stanislas Wawrinka in Sunday's final, preventing the Spaniard drawing level on 14 grand slam singles titles with American Pete Sampras.

Nadal needed lengthy treatment at the start of the second set, hit back to win the third but Wawrinka eventually captured his debut slam with a 6-3, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 success.

His uncle told Cadena

Ser's El Larguero show his nephew planned to return to his native Mallorca from Melbourne before heading to Argentina where he is due to take part in a clay event in Buenos Aires starting on 10 February.

"The doctor said it's a tightening of the muscles and a few days rest should be enough," said Toni.

"He went into the match after feeling twinges during the week but very minor ones that normally do not affect you at all.

"In the second game of the second set he felt a pinch. When I asked him after treatment what was happening he said 'it's over'."

Reuters

South Korea's Lee banned for missing dope tests

SEOUL, 28 Jan — South Korea's Olympic badminton gold medallist Lee Yong-dae has been hit with a one-year ban for missing doping tests, the Badminton World Federation (BWF) said on Tuesday.

The 25-year-old won mixed doubles gold at the 2008 Games in Beijing and a bronze medal in the men's doubles in London four years later. Another Korean player, Kim Ki-jung, was also banned for one year.

The ban was effective until 23 January, 2015, the federation said in a statement, meaning the players would miss the Asian Games in Incheon later this year.

"Korean badminton players Kim Ki-jung and Lee Yong-dae have each received a one-year sanc-



South Korea's Lee Yong-dae (L) and his teammate Chung Jae-sung during a badminton match at the London 2012 Olympic Games at the Wembley Arena on 4 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

tion for violating the requirements relating to filing whereabouts information and resulting missed tests under the BWF Anti-Doping Regulations," the BWF said.

"Kim and Lee were required to provide whereabouts information for the BWF to conduct out-of-competition testing. In 2013, both athletes accumulated three whereabouts

failures in connection with this administrative process."

The BWF said it chose not to dish out the maximum two-year ban "due to the Badminton Korea Association's failure ... to make diligent efforts to keep the BWF informed about the players' whereabouts."

A doping hearing panel recommended that the Korean association should be fined and the BWF said it would determine whether additional sanctions were appropriate.

Both players have the right to appeal the decision to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, the statement said. South Korea's badminton association is scheduled to hold a news conference in Seoul later on Tuesday.—Reuters

Swansea sign French striker Ngog

LONDON, 28 Jan — Swansea City have completed the signing of French striker David Ngog from Bolton Wanderers, the Premier League club said on Monday. The former Paris St Germain and Liverpool forward has joined Swansea for an undisclosed fee until the end of the season.

"It's a delight for me," Ngog told the Swansea website. "I think Swansea are a very good club. They have shown over the last couple of years that they are a good Premier League side. "Swansea are a team who like to keep the ball and play good football. The manager (Michael Laudrup) was obviously a top

player and as a manager he has proven he is very good as well. It will be really interesting to work with him." Swansea have slipped to 15th in the Premier League table and have been short of attacking options since losing last season's leading scorer Michu to injury last month.

Ngog could make his debut in the home league game against fellow strugglers Fulham on Tuesday.

The 24-year-old Ngog, who scored 19 goals in 94 games during his three years at Liverpool, joined Championship club Bolton for 4.0 million pounds (\$6.63 million) in 2011.

Reuters



Bolton Wanderers' David Ngog (L)

Marussia to miss first day of testing

JEREZ, 28 Jan — Marussia will miss the start of Formula One's pre-season testing on Tuesday after a problem with their new car delayed its arrival in Spain.

A spokeswoman said the car had yet to leave the factory in Banbury in central England, due to what team principal John Booth called "a small and frustrating teething problem." "It makes sense to address this while we still have all of the equipment and technical personnel in one place," added the Briton.

Marussia, who have switched to Ferrari en-

gines this season and have Britain's Max Chilton and Frenchman Jules Bianchi as drivers, have their trucks set up in the Jerez paddock along with nine of the other 11 teams.

Lotus are not attending what will be the first test of the new V6 turbocharged engines and their complex energy recovery systems. "Our aim is to solve this issue as soon as possible and send the MR03 on its way to Jerez," said Booth, whose team finished 10th overall last year without scoring a point.

Reuters



Marussia Formula One driver Max Chilton of Britain drives during the second practice session of the Korean F1 Grand Prix at the Korea International Circuit in Yeongam on 4 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Condolence

We share our condolence together with his family to hear that Maha Sadhama Jotika Daja U Htay Aung, President, Theosophical Society (Mandalay Olcott Lodge), has passed away on 23rd January, 2014 at Mt. Elizebeth Hospital (Orchard), Singapore.

Dear Brother U Htay Aung,

May the Light of the Lord Buddha illumine your path and the wings of His Love enfold you forever.

All Brothers & Sisters of Yangan Theosophical Society, Olcott Lodge



A test ignition of the Olympic flame is carried out at the Olympic Park in Sochi, Russia, on Jan 27, 2014, ahead of the Winter Games the following month. At back is the Fisht Stadium for the opening and closing ceremonies. —KYODO NEWS

Indian oil tanker explodes in China, four dead

HANGZHOU, 28 Jan — Four people have been killed and three others are missing after an Indian oil tanker anchored at the coast of east China's Zhejiang Province exploded and caught fire on Tuesday. The explosion happened on Tuesday morning when seven workers were repairing the tanker off Daishan County in the city of Zhoushan, said a spokesman with the city government.

As of noon time, the fire had been put out and rescuers were still searching for the three missing people, said the spokesman. The identities of the victims are not available yet. The cause of the accident is under investigation. —Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(29-1-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am	2:00 pm
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	18. Solo Favourites
6:25 am	3:00 pm
2. Physical Exercises	19. News
6:35 am	3:15 pm
3. Musical Programme	20. TV Drama Series
6:45 am	4:00 pm
4. Documentary	21. News
7:00 am	4:15 pm
5. News/Weather Report	22. Classical Songs
7:20 am	4:40 pm
6. Pyi Thu Ni Ti	23. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Law)
8:00 am	5:00 pm
7. News/ International News	24. News
8:25 am	5:15 pm
8. India Drama Series	25. Documentary
9:00 am	6:00 pm
9. News/ International News	26. News/Weather Report
9:25 am	6:20 pm
10. Documentary	27. Shwe Yin Chone Than
9:45 am	7:00 pm
11. Teleplay (Health)	28. News
10:00 am	7:25 pm
12. News	29. TV Drama Series
10:15 am	8:00 pm
13. TV Drama Series	30. News/International News/Weather Report
11:10 am	8:35 pm
14. Documentary	31. People Talks
11:40 am	8:45 pm
15. Approaching Science Discovery World	32. Documentary
12:00 pm	9:00 pm
16. News/International News/Weather Report	33. News
12:25 pm	34. Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance
17. Myanmar Movies	35. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

29-1-14 07:00 am ~ 30-1-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Unique Art of Stucco Work
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: Bamboo Guns
- * Local News
- * An Oasis Trip to Mt Popa
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Impact "So Cool 2"
- * Local News
- * Distinct People, Different Lifestyles (Pan-Pack Village)
- * World News
- * In the Studio "Na Di Htike"
- * Local News
- * Myanma Beauty And His Creations (Ep-3)
- * World News
- * A Girl Guide
- * Local News
- * "Myanmar's Beauty and Nature" Beach
- * World News
- * The Photographer: Kyaw Kyaw Winn
- * Local News
- * Snow Flakes... Scenic Confluence... To Kachin State
- * World News
- * The Storytellers
- * Local News
- * Kachin Manaw Dance
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review "Kya-sin-maw-kun"
- * Chanmyay Yeiktha Meditation Centre (Hmawbi)
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Fantastic Art

More chemical weapons materials leave Syria: joint inspection mission

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Jan — The second batch of chemical weapons materials was loaded onto ships on Monday and transported out of Syria for destruction following the first consignment on 7 January, a UN spokesman said, quoting a report by the joint mission of the chemical weapons watchdog and the United Nations.

"The Joint Mission of

the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the United Nations says that a further shipment of chemical weapons materials from Syria has taken place today," acting UN deputy spokesman, Farhan Haq, said at a daily news briefing here. "The chemical weapons were verified by Joint Mission personnel before being loaded in Latakia port

onto Danish and Norwegian cargo vessels for onward transportation," he said.

However, the joint mission did not say how much of the chemical weapons materials was loaded onto the vessels. "The vessels were accompanied by a naval escort provided by the People's Republic of China, Denmark, Norway and the Russian Federation," he said. —Xinhua

Germany's Puma ousts Nike as Arsenal kit supplier

LONDON, 28 Jan — German sportswear company Puma will become the kit supplier to English football club Arsenal from next season in a deal worth more than 30 million pounds a year to the Premier League leaders. Puma has ousted US group Nike which has provided Arsenal's red and white shirts for the past two decades.

The deal with Arsenal shows Puma's determination to re-establish itself as a core sports brand under new CEO Bjorn Gulden after moving more into lifestyle and fashion.

"Arsenal represents a major commercial and marketing opportunity to reinforce Puma's credibility as a global sports brand," Gulden said.

Puma, which supplies kit to German football club Borussia Dortmund and national teams including Italy, said it was aiming to establish itself as the clear number-three football brand behind market leaders Adidas and Nike.

Puma, majority owned by French luxury goods company Kering, warned in November that 2013 net profit would fall far below the 70 million euro figure in 2012. Gulden denied that Puma had overspent to win the Arsenal deal.

"Our analysis shows this is a good deal for us," he told Reuters. "We are convinced that this is the best deal that we could do. It's the team that fits us, it's a good commercial deal and will bring a lot for our



Arsenal's celebrate a goal by Santi Cazorla (obscured) against Fulham during their English Premier League soccer match at the Emirates stadium in London Jan 18, 2014. —REUTERS

image." Puma has also acquired the rights to produce other branded Arsenal mer-

chandise that will be sold to fans around the world.

Financial details were

not disclosed but Puma said the deal was the biggest ever for both itself and Arsenal. In 2012, Arsenal signed a contract renewal with airlines Emirates for shirt and stadium sponsorship worth 150 million pounds over five years.

Arsenal CEO Ivan Gazidis said the club had held talks with several sportswear companies before choosing Puma.

"They are a substantial company with the kind of scale that a club like Arsenal needs as we reach out to our global fan base," he told Reuters.

Arsenal were also impressed by Puma's focus on the club rather than juggling several big name partnerships.

"We'll be one of their

primary partners," Gazidis said. He also told the news conference that the club expected manager Arsene Wenger to stay on at the club.

The Puma deal is no surprise after news of it leaked on social media late last year. However, Arsenal fans are likely to press the club to spend heavily before the player transfer window closes at the end of the month to boost the team's push for a first trophy since 2005.

Nike remain the kit suppliers to Manchester United and Manchester City. The Nike deal was worth 38 million pounds for United in 2012-13, including the club's share of profits from merchandise sales. United and Nike are in negotiations on a new deal. —Reuters

Japan's 63.2 billion yen loan to Myanmar for projects

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein talked about a loan of 63.2 billion yen from Japan for implementation of four projects— upgrade of Yangon-Mandalay railroad, water supply project in Yangon, infrastructure development in Thilawa Port and development of irrigation facilities in the western Bago— in the country at the today's Py-

idaungsu Hluttaw session.

Next, the ministries concerned explained their respective projects to be implemented with the use of loans.

Then, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Oo Lwin sought the approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for signing of Myanmar-Bangladesh Naaf River Boundary Additional Agreement 2007 sent by the

President to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved it.

Likewise, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the exchange of notes to become effective the Myanmar-Bangladesh Agreement on Land Section of the Boundary North of the Naaf River and documented the clarification on a joint survey for demarcation of borderline between My-

anmar and Thailand and a Myanmar-India joint demarcation works by the deputy minister.

The seventh day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be held on 30 January.

Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin replied to question rose by U Aung Soe of Launglon Constituency that Ye-Dawei-Myeik-Kawthoung Road is being upgraded to the two-way asphalt road as

AH-112, at today's Pyithu Hluttaw.

Spending US\$ 300 million from China EXIM Bank in 2014-15 fiscal year, he said that Ye-Mahlwetaung-Dawei-Myeik-Kawthoung road section in Taninthayi Region is being upgraded to the 24 feet wide two-way facility and the ministry will coordinate with respective region and state governments for expansion of road area.

In responding to the question raised by U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union said that anyone must prosecute another one over microfinance case at the court after seeking permission of the Microfinance Supervisory Committee. According to the scrutiny, there was no prosecution at the courts after the microfinance law has been enacted.—MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw receives UN Under-Secretary-General, Secretary of State of British Foreign Affairs and Commonwealth Affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Dr Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the UN and Executive Secretary of the ESCAP at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, this morning.

The Speaker also

received Rt Hon Hugo George William Swire MP, Secretary of State for British Foreign Affairs and Commonwealth Affairs of at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw this afternoon.

Also present at the calls were Chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees U Soe Tha, U Maung Maung Thein, U Hla

Myint Oo and U Htay Myint, Commission member Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Rt. Hon. Hugo George William Swire MP, Secretary of State for Brit-

ish Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, at Zeyathiri Beikman this afternoon.

They had a cordial discussion on strengthening amity and relations between the two armed

forces of Britain and Myanmar.

The Senior General and British guest exchanged gifts and posed for a documentary photo.

Myawady

Tube-well sinking machine, equipment handed over

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—A handover ceremony of tube-well sinking machine and equipment for Dry Region Rural Water Supply Project took place at the Ministry of President Office, here, this afternoon.

Union Ministers U Soe Thane, U Ohn Myint, Deputy Ministers, Directors-General, Japanese Ambassador Mr Mikio NUMATA, Deputy Resident Representative of JICA Mr Inada KYOSUKE and officials attended the ceremony.

During the event, the Japanese Ambassador explained the purposes of donation and handed over related documents.

The Union Minister expressed his thanks to Japanese government and people for the donation to narrow the development gap between the rural and urban areas.

The tube-well sinking machine and equipment worth ¥ 384.148 million was handed over at the ceremony.

MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Rt. Hon. Hugo George William Swire MP Secretary of State for British Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, at Zeyathiri Beikman.—MNA

Union Minister U Soe Thane views tube-well sinking machine and equipment.—MNA

Myanmar to join hands with development partners for effective development cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—2nd Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum continued today at MICC and Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw acted as the chair of the forum.

In his opening speech, the Union minister said that Myanmar government will make all-out efforts for lasting peace and social flexibility, adding strengthening of democracy culture and participation of civil societies are required. He pledged that Myanmar

government firmly committed to materialize important things.

Thirteen representatives took part in round table discussions. After the discussions, joint statement of Myanmar and development partners was released.

"It needs effective cooperation for Myanmar's development. Myanmar government will join hands with development partners for effective development cooperation. At a time to add momentum for development process, Myanmar

will build good infrastructures through effective cooperation" the Union minister added.

Director-General U Tun Tun Naing of the Foreign Economic Relations Department said that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays an important role to draw short-, medium- and long-term projects for economic growth of the State. He continued the ministry links with UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs to ensure aids and loans for development of the State.

Thura Zaw

