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Lt-Gen Khin Zaw visits Mawlamyine General Hospital, inspects progress of two-storey No. 1 Mawlamyine Market



Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence visits Mawlamyine General Hospital in Mon State.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 May—Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and departmental officials, cordially met with servicemen and family members who were receiving medical treatment at the local field military hospital on 8 May morning.

He presented cash assistance to the patients.

While visiting Mawlamyine General Hospital, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw comforted the patients and provided cash assistance.

At the briefing hall of construction site of two-storey No. 1 Market in Mawlamyine, he heard a report on progress of construction tasks presented by the Director of Mon State Development Affairs Committee.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks meeting set standards and fulfilled the requirements.

The commander gave a supplementary report. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and party viewed the scale model of the market and construction tasks.

MNA

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Special projects designed to generate prosperous future of the nation

Today, the indicator of the national development is showing up sharply. Special projects play a dominant role in the drive the government is carrying out for sustainable development of the nation.

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PAGES 8+9

KYAW YE MIN

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 11 May, 2009

Try to turn out dignified intellectuals and intelligentsia

Myanmar is endeavouring for further promotion of science and technological subjects that can help the State catch up with the international community and arts subjects filled with critical thinking and reasoning powers.

At the same time, the State is placing emphasis on all-round development of the education sector knowing the fact that highly educated people can be nurtured only by the education sector.

The government is carrying out a 30-year long-term plan for national education promotion by dividing it into six five-year short term plans.

With those plans being carried out effectively and systematically, modern education societies with human resources will emerge harmoniously in the regions of the State. As such, teachers on their part are to try their best to improve their teaching quality, the essence of schools and universities.

For the emergence of an atmosphere of quality teaching, regional organizations, social organizations and public well-wishers are to join hands with the State in running schools and universities in an effective way.

By holding national education promotion seminars, advanced teaching methodologies, innovations and administrative and management subjects from the papers submitted at the seminars can be used effectively.

All in all, teachers are to try to turn out dignified intellectuals and intelligentsia who are capable of shaping the education sector of the 21st Century. Meanwhile, they are also responsible for nurturing the youth to arm themselves with patriotism and Union Spirit.

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

RC sleeper factory (Mottama) operating well



Lt-Gen Khin Zaw inspects production of RC sleepers at RC sleeper factory under the Ministry of Rail Transportation in Mottama.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 May—Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and officials met the families of the Thaton Station on 7 May and presented gifts to them.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw visited vegetable and physic nut plantations there.

At the briefing hall in Zaymathwe village, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw heard reports on building of roads and

bridges by a director of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development Affairs and gave instructions. He also inspected construction of station hospital in The-ein village, Paung Township. In Mottama, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw inspected production of RC sleepers at RC sleeper factory under the Ministry of Rail Transportation.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and party proceeded to Mawlamyine and inspected beautifying tasks there.

MNA

Use of bio-battery, generating of electricity through solar system explained

NAY PYI TAW, 10 May—Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung on 8 May met local people in Hsegon, Padatsagon, Htanbinchan Ywama, Htanbinchan Ywathit, Kanpauk (South), Kanpauk (North)

and Kanpauk (Ahle), Nazaung, Kuywa Htankyin and Minyin villages of Taungtha Township at Padatsagon Village and heard reports presented by local people.

After hearing the reports, the minister attended to the needs and explained the use of bio-battery and generating of

electricity with the use of solar system.

Next, he presented 80 bio-batteries for 11 libraries and 11 villages, bio-battery LEDs for 11 villages, K 500,000 for renovation of the primary school in Htanbinchan Village and 100 LED lanterns, chargers and a generator to village

monastery.

At 10 am, the minister met local people of Byaingmatu, Lundaung, Dahattan Kyaukpon, Nay Win, Htanaunggon, Palin and Aungchantha villages of Taungtha Township and explained the use of bio-battery and producing electricity through solar system.—MNA

F& R Minister meets local people in Kyaukpadaung Township

NAY PYI TAW, 10 May—Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun met with local people and attended cash donation ceremony held at Kyaukpadaung Township Peace and Development Council office on 8 May.

First, the minister made an address.

Next, on behalf of

well-wisher Managing Director of Aung Yi Phy Co U Nay Aung, a responsible person presented K 20 million for a new basic education middle school (Branch) in Maedi village, to members of new school building construction committee members Chairman of Ward PDC U Than Tun, Headmaster U Bo No and town elder U Kyaw Naing.

The minister presented K 1.6 million, clothes, household items for the people of fire ravaged Magyingoakto village, to Chairman of Village PDC U Thein Myint and party, who spoke words of thanks.

Afterwards, the minister met with departmental officials, teachers and local people.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun presents cash assistance, clothes, household items for fire victims of Magyingoakto village.—MNA



An Afghan boy, left, shows a shell of a bomb which he found in his house which was destroyed in the coalition air strike on Monday night in Bala Baluk district of Farah Province, Afghanistan, on 8 May, 2009. A joint US-Afghan investigation has found that civilians were killed during a battle in southern Afghanistan, but officials have not been able to determine how many.—INTERNET

Critics warn US air strikes bolstering Taleban

KABUL, 10 May—Charges that scores of villagers died in US bombings against the Taleban have led to demands for a halt in air strikes amid warnings that civilian casualties are driving Afghans to join the insurgency.

But the US and NATO forces taking on the militants say air power is an essential advantage that militants are trying to disable by engineering situations in which it harms civilians.

Several investigations are trying to clarify what happened in the western province of Farah nearly a week ago when troops battling Taleban fighters called in the strikes.

President Hamid Karzai says around 130 civilians, including children and the elderly, were killed in the bombings; a local investigation says 147 civilians

died, including 94 girls.

The US military concedes only that “a number” of civilians died although it is not yet clear how.

The bombs hit compounds where people had taken refuge from the fighting, Granai village tribal chief Mohammad Na’eem Qader told *AFP* by telephone.

“At that time there were no Taleban in the village,” he said, adding that US President Barack Obama must “stop his military from bombing innocent people or the people will join the Taleban. This is dangerous for him.”

Karzai meanwhile demanded an end to air strikes saying they were not an effective way of fighting terrorism but rather cause civilian casualties.

Internet

Bomb kills seven Afghan workers

JALALABAD, 10 May — A bomb blew up a construction company vehicle in a remote eastern Afghanistan area on the border with Pakistan early Sunday, killing seven Afghan workers, police said.

The blast struck the vehicle in the eastern Province of Nangarhar, near the mountainous border with Pakistan, provincial police spokesman Abdul Ghafoor told *AFP*.

“Early in the morning a roadside bomb struck a private construction company vehicle in Haska Mina district, killing seven construction workers and wounding one,” he said.

“They were Afghan civilians working as roadworkers, engineers and supervisors for a company doing various construction work in the district.”

The district is about 50 kilometres (30 miles) south-east of the provincial capital, Jalalabad, in an area under the influence of militants, either Taleban or a radical faction headed by ex-prime minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blast. Civilians are the main victims of Afghanistan’s insurgency with nearly 2,200 killed last year in attacks linked to the conflict between the militants and pro-government forces, according to the United Nations.—*Internet*



Adults and children are body searched by a security officer as they make their way to Friday noon Shiite Muslim prayers in Baghdad’s Sadr City district on 8 May, 2009. The US military said on Saturday its soldiers shot dead a 12-year-old boy who tried to attack a joint American and Iraqi patrol with a grenade in the tense northern city of Mosul.—INTERNET



Haji Barkat Ullah speaks with his daughter Frishta, 7, who was wounded in coalition air strike on Monday night in Bala Baluk district of Farah Province recovers in a hospital in Herat, Afghanistan, on 9 May, 2009. A joint US-Afghan investigation has found that civilians were killed during a battle in southern Afghanistan, but officials have not been able to determine how many.—INTERNET

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,287

WASHINGTON, 10 May—As of Saturday, 9 May, 2009, at least 4,287 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,440 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thai-

land and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.

Internet

Clash leaves 9 militants dead in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 10 May — Clash between Taleban and Afghan police left nine militants dead and another held captive in Paktia Province of east Afghanistan, a provincial administration spokesman said on Saturday.

The clash erupted late Friday evening when the rebels targeted police checkpoint in Ahmad Khil district and police returned fire, killing nine rebels, said Rohullah Samon, the spokesman.

He also added that another militant had been captured during the firefight.

Four policemen were injured during the clash, which lasted for a while.

Moreover, Afghan Defence Ministry said in a press release Saturday that the army killed two rebels in Musa Qala district of the southern Helmand Province on Thursday.

Taleban militants have yet to make comment as the hard-line militants have vowed to launch spring offensive and speed up attacks against Afghan and US-led forces based in Afghanistan.

Internet

An injured Iraqi man lies on a stretcher at a hospital in Baghdad. A car bomb ripped through a wholesale produce market in Baghdad, killing at least 10 people and wounding 37, security officials said.—INTERNET



Cleanup begins after Midwest storms killed six

ST LOUIS, 10 May—Residents of the Midwest cleared away wreckage Saturday following a wave of powerful storms that splintered homes, knocked out power to thousands and killed six people.

Hundreds of homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed on Friday in Kansas, Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri and 150,000 Missouri utility customers lost power. Missouri Gov Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency.

“My primary concern is the safety of Missourians and this executive order makes state agency resources available to help communities respond to the storms,” Nixon said.

In southern Illinois, more than 56,200 customers of the utility Ameren still had no electricity late Saturday, the company said. Illinois Gov Pat Quinn on Saturday declared three southern counties disaster areas.

Kentucky Gov Steve

Beshear declared an emergency in central and southeastern sections of his state on Saturday, and West Virginia Gov Joe Manchin made the same declaration for six counties in that state.

Trees were down and windows were broken on the campus of Southern Illinois University’s Carbondale campus, but the school said weekend commencement ceremonies would go on scheduled. Friday’s graduation ceremonies were canceled.— *Internet*



Friends and family members of Jim and Marsha Beggs try to contact them after inspecting damage of their home north of Carl Junction, Mo, which was hit by high winds on Friday morning, on 8 May, 2009. Many cities in southwest Missouri were without power after severe thunderstorms rocked the area.—INTERNET

Berkshire Hathaway reports a \$1.5B 1Q loss

OMAHA, 10 May—Warren Buffett’s company reported a \$1.5 billion first-quarter loss as it wrote down its ConocoPhillips investment and mostly unrealized derivative losses helped drag Berkshire Hathaway’s results below last year’s \$940 million profit.

Berkshire Hathaway Inc said on Friday it recorded a loss of \$990 per share in this year’s quarter, down from the \$607 net income per Class A share reported in the same period a year ago. It was Berkshire’s first quarterly loss since 2001’s third quarter when the company suffered large insurance losses as a result of the 11 September terrorist attacks.

Analyst Justin Fuller, who writes about Berkshire online said this was a tough quarter for Berkshire with the only bright spots coming in its utilities and insurance companies, which include Geico and General Reinsurance.

“Not surprisingly, every other business has been flat on its back in the last quarter,” said Fuller, who works with Midway Capital Research & Management in Chicago.— *Internet*

Germany has plan for Opel if GM bankruptcy

BERLIN, 10 May—Germany has a plan to protect the assets of carmaker Opel from creditors if its US parent General Motors is forced into bankruptcy next month, German Economy Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg said in an interview with a German weekly. In the interview with Der Spiegel magazine published on Saturday, Guttenberg urged those investors interested in acquiring GM’s European operations, including Opel, to move fast given the threat to the US parent.

“We want rapid, reliable information from the investors because we can’t rule out that GM in the United States will have to file for bankruptcy at the beginning of June,” Guttenberg said.

“This could come at the same time interested parties are finalizing a deal with GM on Opel. Then we need to ensure Opel assets are protected from creditors. We are preparing for this scenario.”

Italian carmaker Fiat is seeking a three-way merger with Chrysler and GM’s European operations. Austrian-Canadian car parts maker Magna is also interested in pursuing Opel, most likely in concert with Russian investors.— *Internet*



Chinese tea artist Mao Lili pours Chinese Tie Guanyin tea for an Egyptian guest in China Culture Center in Cairo, capital of Egypt, on 9 May, 2009. Three Chinese tea artists, Shen Liming, Chen Yifang and Mao Lili, who are on a visit to Egypt, presented the art of Chinese tea to the Egyptian audience on Saturday.—INTERNET

Five killed in small plane crash in northern Nevada, US

SAN FRANCISCO, 10 May—Five people aboard a small plane were killed on Saturday afternoon when the plane crashed in northern Nevada, southwest US.

The twin-engine Beech craft BE95 nosedived into the ground at about 4:00 pm after taking off from Minden Tahoe Airport, local authorities said. The plane crashed at about 80 kilometers south of Reno.

Internet

Cuban Parliament president dismisses Obama

KINGSTON, 10 May—Cuban Parliament President Ricardo Alarcon dismissed President Barack Obama’s recent overtures to Cuba and says the new US administration’s stance is a continuation of an illegal, unjustifiable and failed policy.

Obama has suggested it may be time for a new beginning with Cuba, and the White House authorized unlimited travel and money transfer for Americans with relatives in Cuba. But his administration has said it would like Cuba to respond by making small political and social changes to its single-party communist system.

Internet

Navy sinks Tiger boats as S Lanka troops advance

COLOMBO, 10 May—Sri Lanka’s navy sank two Tiger boats carrying 14 rebels on Saturday as ground troops killed at least 35 guerrillas just outside the newly demarcated “safety zone” for civilians, the military said.

Sailors attacked the flotilla off the coast of Mullaitivu where the Liberation Tigers of Tamil

Eelam (LTTE) are making a final stand against advancing government troops, a military official said. Two guerrilla boats were sunk and the navy believed that there were at least 14 Tigers on board, he said.

The sea battle came after security forces captured a mud embankment built by the LTTE and

moved deeper into the remaining territory held by the guerrillas amid stiff resistance, the defence ministry said. “In a subsequent search operation conducted in the area, troops have found 35 bodies of LTTE terrorists killed in fighting along with LTTE military hardware,” the ministry said in a statement.— *Internet*

A soldier searches an Afghan man for weapons in the Golestan district of Farah Province on 8 May, 2009.
INTERNET



California wildfire 30 percent contained

LOS ANGELES, 10 May —Assisted by fog, drizzle and calm breezes, firefighters managed to contain 30 percent of a wildfire in Santa Barbara about 80 miles (about 128 kilometers) northwest of Los Angeles, authorities said on Saturday.

The fire has consumed 8,700 acres (about 3,500 hectares), destroyed more than 100 homes and driven 30,500 residents from their homes, the Santa Barbara Fire Department said.

Overnight, firefighters gained their first signifi-

cant rein on the fire's rampage, with containment jumping to 30 percent, up from 10 percent on Friday, according to the department.

Temperatures are expected to hover in the 70s Fahrenheit on Saturday, down about 20 degrees from the previous day, according to the National Weather Service, which lifted a red flag warning over the region.

"The humidity has improved, and the winds have died down," said Jaime Meier, a meteorologist at the weather service.

But despite the progress, the blaze was still threatening 3,500 structures and 100 commercial buildings, firefighters said.

Mandatory evacuation orders remained in effect.

About 2,300 firefighters, 246 engines, 10 air tankers, 15 helicopters and a DC-10 aircraft were fighting the fire.

The fire broke out Tuesday in wildlands and spread through brush north of the city. Investigators still did not know what caused the fire.

Xinhua



People perform during a folk cultural festival in Suzhou, a tourist resort in east China's Jiangsu Province, on 9 May, 2009. —XINHUA

At least 5 injured in pipeline explosion in SW Moscow

MOSCOW, 10 May —A gas pipeline explosion in southwest Moscow caused a huge fire early Sunday, injuring at least 5 people, local media reported.

The fire, caused by a gas pipeline explosion on the Ozernaya Street, not far from the Moscow Ring Road, at about 00:20 Moscow time (2020 GMT Saturday), has produced strong flames and set several buildings in fire, the *Itar-Tass* news agency

said. Four of the five injured were hospitalized.

The fifth victim, with eight percent of his body burned, refused to go to hospital. The Emergency Situations Ministry workers said the fire was currently decreasing, but they would need at least five more hours to extinguish it. Investigation has already started and the aging pipelines might be the cause for the explosion.

Moscow's Mayor Yuri

Luzhkov, who arrived at the scene, believes the explosion was caused by technical problems.—Xinhua



People look at the flames on Bolshaya Ochakovskaya street in Moscow on 10 May, 2009.

XINHUA

US boat explosion injures 12

WASHINGTON, 10 May —Twelve people were injured after a small cabin cruiser exploded near the shores of Tampa, Florida on Saturday, US authorities said. Seven people, including a child, were seriously injured, while five other children suffered minor wounds, Tampa Fire Rescue spokesman Bill Wade told reporters.

Bud Wendel, a witness, saw the explosion of the boat, which at the time was anchored off the Pine Key Island, also known as the Beer Can Island in the Tampa Bay.

"All of a sudden there was a big boom, like a cannon going off. Next thing we know, we see black smoke billowing up

from across island, about 100 yards west of us. It was a huge explosion, the boat just blew up," said Wendel.

The seven seriously injured patients were taken by helicopter to Tampa General Hospital, and three of them suffered potentially life-threatening injuries.

The five children who received minor injuries were taken to another location for evaluation, Wade said in a media alert.

The people on the boat belong to an extended family, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, which is investigating the cause of the accident.—Xinhua



Cypriot kids "feed" a paper elephant artwork on Ledra Street in Nicosia, capital of Cyprus, on 9 May, 2009. —XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Somali pirates kill Indian sailor on board hijacked ship

NEW DELHI, 10 May —Somali pirates have killed an Indian sailor and injured one of his colleagues on board a ship which was hijacked four months ago, the Mumbai-based Directorate of Shipping of India said Sunday.

"The pirates shot dead Sudhir Suman on board the MT Sea Princess II while his colleague Kamal Singh sustained bullet injuries. Suma's body was thrown into the sea by the pirates on 26 April," a press statement from the Directorate said.

The ship, now freed from the clutches of the pirates, has reached Port of Aden safely on 6 May, it said.—Xinhua

Somali pirates release British-owned ship

NAIROBI, 10 May—Somali pirates have released a British-owned cargo ship on Saturday, agencies reported.

The British-owned, Italian-operated cargo ship was captured over a month ago and has 16 Bulgarian crew members onboard, the reports said.

The cargo ship, named Malaspina Castle, was freed after a ransom payment.—Xinhua

Typhoon Chan-Hom death toll climbs to 36 in Philippines

MANILA, 10 May—The death toll of typhoon Chan-Hom in the Philippines has risen to 36 and might pass 40 as the rescues are searching for 12 others missing while ferrying to the typhoon-devastated northern region food, medicines and other assistance materials, the authorities said on Sunday.

In its latest bulletin released early Sunday, the National Disaster Coordinating Council said the typhoon, locally known as Emong, weakened into a low pressure area on Saturday night, spotted at 890 kilometres east of the Northern Luzon island.

The disaster relief authorities said 4,142 persons of 822 families are still housed in temporary evacuation centers as their houses and villages were badly hit by flash floods and strong winds. Forty people were injured since the typhoon landed on the archipelago last Thursday, the council said, and the accumulated economic loss has amounted to 390 million pesos (8.21 million US dollars).—Xinhua

EU to ban some light bulbs

LONDON, 10 May — The European Union is set to ban the sale of incandescent light bulbs, forcing consumers to buy more energy efficient alternatives, officials said. Taken off store shelves by September will be conventional 100 and 60 watt pearl bulbs, as well as frosted 25 watt and 40 watt bulbs, *The Daily Telegraph* reported on Saturday. Shoppers will be forced to buy low energy compact fluorescent lamps or low energy halogen bulbs. Other clear bulbs which have low energy-efficient ratings will be phased out by 2012. "We are seeing people coming in and bulk buying. People like frosted bulbs because they have a softer light," said James Shortridge, owner of lighting chain Ryness.

Officials said frosted bulbs are in the first wave of the ban because they are the "least efficient of all incandescent bulbs." From 1 September it will be illegal for manufacturers to sell frosted incandescent bulbs to EU retailers. Anyone who has them in stock can still sell them off," said a spokesman for the Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs.—*Internet*

Spectrograph to look back at universe

BOULDER, 10 May — A spectrograph destined for the Hubble Telescope will look back several billion years and help reconstruct the early universe, scientists in Colorado said. The \$70 million Cosmic Origin Spectrograph is to be carried to the Hubble aboard the shuttle Atlantis on its 11 May launch from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, said James Green, a scientist at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

The spectrograph — the size of a telephone booth — was built by the university and its industrial partner, Ball Aerospace & Technology Corp. The instrument will gather data from ultraviolet light emanating from distant objects. That should help researchers better understand the cosmic web of material that permeates the universe, Green said.—*Internet*



Visitors listen to the radio guide beside a round screen displaying the development of telecommunications in the Museum of Telecommunications in Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro, on 9 May, 2009. The museum of Telecommunications is located in a culture centre building in Rio de Janeiro. The museum, transformed and decorated since 1999, provides audio, video and other multimedia to vividly introduce the development of telecommunications in Brazil.—*INTERNET*

Cell phone ban may follow mass trolley crash

BOSTON, 10 May — The head of the Boston-area transit authority said Saturday he'll ban all train and bus operators from even carrying cell phones on board after a trolley driver told police he was texting his girlfriend before a collision Friday.

About 50 people were hurt in the underground crash in downtown Boston, though none of the injuries was life-threatening.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority already bans operators from using cell phones and recently ran an internal ad campaign featuring a poster of an open cell phone that warned employees not to drive "under the influence."

But general manager Daniel Grabauskas said Saturday the temptation obviously was too great for some.

—*Internet*

Gecko vision could lead to better cameras

LUND (Sweden), 10 May — The way nocturnal geckos perceive colour could lead to better cameras and contact lenses, researchers in Sweden said. The geckos are among the very few creatures able to see color at night, said Lina Roth, a researcher at the Lund University.

The key to the exceptional vision is a series of distinct concentric zones of varying refractive powers, Roth and her team said in a study published Friday by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology.

The gecko's multifocal optical system comprises large cones which are 350 times more sensitive than human cone vision at the human colour vision threshold. Geckos can process varying wavelengths of light simultaneously on the retina, which lets them generate sharp images for at least two depths, Lund said.—*Internet*



Amy Pryle, age 3, reacts as a Grey Pansy butterfly lands on her nose at the Natural History Museum's Butterfly Jungle exhibition in London, on 30 April, 2009. The Butterfly Jungle exhibition recreates a living rainforest environment, where tropical butterflies roam freely and other insects are display.



A tiger cools off at its enclosure at the zoo in Ahmadabad, India, on 5 May, 2009. India has suffered through a heat wave in recent days.

Watch thieves hide behind flu masks

Three armed thieves wore the blue surgical masks now ubiquitous in flu-hit Mexico City to hide their faces as they robbed watches from a department store, Mexican media said Monday.

Employees and security guards at a branch of the Sanborns department store told the daily *Excelsior* the thieves were able to slip through the shop Sunday without attracting attention as they blended into a sea of

masked shoppers.

One of the robbers threatened store assistants with a gun while another guarded the door and the third helped himself to watches from the jewelry department.

Mexico is in the grip of a new strain of flu that has killed up to 149 people and set off a major global health scare after infecting people in the United States, Canada and Europe, raising fears of a flu pandemic.

Banks in the Mexican capital have been forced to abandon normal rules over not letting in customers wearing face coverings as the government took emergency measures over the weekend and advised residents in the crowded city to wear face masks at all times outside their homes.

Forest Service tries to halt spread of bat fungus

The US Forest Service is preparing to close thousands of caves and former mines across the eastern United States in an effort to control a bat-killing fungus.

Forest Service biologist Becky Ewing said the emergency order was issued last week for caves from New England to West Virginia. A second order for Southeastern states will be issued soon.

Ewing said the order closes the caves for a year as wildlife biologists try to get a handle on a fungus that has been linked to the deaths of 500,000 bats.

White-nose syndrome gets its name from a white powdery substance on the bat's face and wings. Ewing said the decision to close the caves came after the fungus was reported near large populations of endangered bats.

NEWS ALBUM



A municipal worker fixes a billboard to mark the upcoming Victory Day celebration at the Moscow Red Square on 4 May, 2009, with St Basil's Cathedral at left. Victory Day, marking Nazi Germany's defeat in World War II, is celebrated in Russia on 9 May, the date of the Nazis' capitulation to the Soviet Union.

Township has all its street signs stolen

It's not just a U2 song anymore. Officials said some thieves turned a western Pennsylvania township into a place "Where the Streets Have No Name." Winfield Township supervisor Glenn Nagle revealed at a meeting Thursday that every one of the township's road signs was stolen in a 48-hour period beginning 6 April. The township has since spent about \$4,000 replacing the aluminum signs, which cost about \$100 each.

Nagle assumes the thefts were some kind of prank because the value of the signs as scrap metal is negligible.

Nagle said the signs are especially important to emergency vehicles responding to homes and businesses.

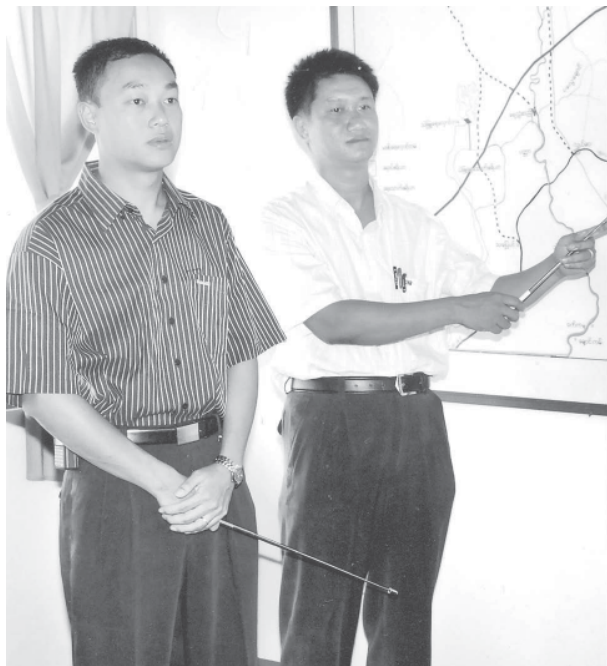
State police in Butler are investigating. Winfield is about 25 miles north of Pittsburgh.

Madan Dam in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe

Article: *Kyaw Sein*; Photos: *Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)*



Groundwork is being carried out at a construction site of Madan Dam Project in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe.



Staff Officers (Civil) U Naing Lin Soe and U Aung Ko Ko Tun.

(from page 16)

The project is being undertaken by Construction (5) of Public Works. Staff Officer (Mechanical) U Kyaw Naing, in-charge of the project, said to the Myanmar Alin that the project was launched in 2003-2004; that it needed more than 100 million cubic feet of earth to construct saddle dykes, and at that time 84 million cubic feet of earth had been used; the project was due to be completed by 2009-2010; that then, they were working with the use of heavy machinery to dam the creek; that

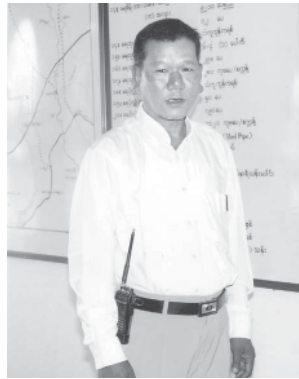
they got 46 bulldozers, excavators and tipper lorries and repaired break-down vehicles at the construction site; that they hired six technicians for shaping wood and iron and welding to expedite the tasks; that the damming of the creek had been completed by 85 per cent, and it would be completed by the end of April; that two of the saddle dykes, the main building of the spillway, the control tower and outlet conduit had been built cent per cent, and the

Staff Officer U Naing Lin Soe (Civil), in-charge of the dykes, said that the dam was of earthen type; that the dam was 20 feet high and 1702 feet long; that the water storage capacity was 36,500 acre feet and the full tank water spread area, 1113 acres; the conduit was of reinforced concrete type and the spillway was 50 feet wide and 790 feet long; and that the dam would benefit some 8000 acres of farmlands.

Staff Officer U Aung Ko Ko Tun (Civil), in-charge of the main dam, said that the main dam was 101 feet high and 9180 feet long; that steel sheets stretching 9210 feet in length and 72 feet in height were installed to prevent sinking water; that in ad-

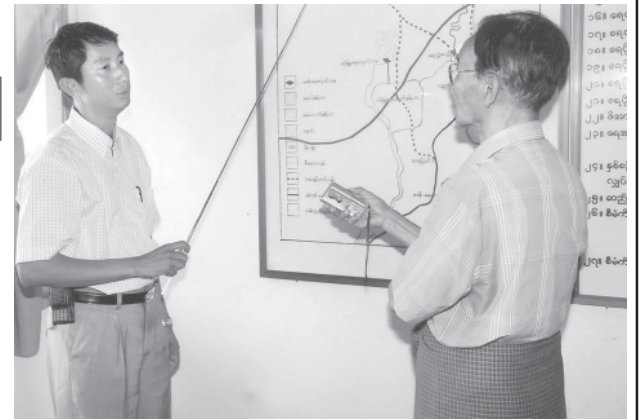
dition to supplying irrigation water, the dam would be able to generate 0.08 million kilowatt hours a year; that due to the hard transport, they could work only about four months a year: December, January, February and March; that they were working hard to complete the project on schedule; and that the dam would be able to irrigate 4000 acres of summer paddy fields.

Staff Officer (Civil) U Thar Yar, in-charge of outlet conduit and spillway said that the construction of conduit and spillway had been completed cent per cent; and that they were working hard to start generating hydroelectricity to supply electricity to nearby



U Kyaw Naing, Staff Officer (Mechanical).

construction of the canal of the spillway had been completed by 90 per cent; and that despite some difficulty with transporting construction materials due to the poor road, the entire project would be over in 2009-2010.



U Thar Yar, Staff Officer (Civil).



The 790 feet long and 50 feet wide spillway under construction of Madan Dam.

villages and Kyauktaw, about 12 miles from the construction site by the rainy season.

Today, the government is trying to improve all sectors to raise the living conditions of the people in its bid to transform the nation into a modern, developed one. As part of the drive, it is constructing dams of various sizes across the nation, thus helping boost agricultural production and per capita income of farmers. So, apparently, Madan Dam Project being implemented at a budget of 16,365.479 million kyats is designed to improve the socio-economic life of local people.

Translation: MS
Myanmar Alin: 4-5-2009

Special projects designed to generate prosperous future of the nation

Kyaw Ye Min



The control tower and Taukpyo Dam which was constructed by damming the Taukpyo Creek, about 21 miles northwest of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.

of the industries. Besides, it is improving the education sector with the aim of bringing about more human resources in the industrial field. Without any doubt, the nation's industrial sector will make progress considerably if the requirements are fulfilled for boosting production of electricity and energy.

Special projects are designed to speed up modernization and development of the nation. So, it is fair to say that the special projects are like pillars that will

The national goal of the people of the Union of Myanmar is to build a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. It is the desire the entire people share as well as their common goal.

The government is now pursuing the correct policies it has laid down for smooth transition to an enduring new system and for serving national interest, as aspired by the entire people. It is well noticeable that the ruling government is working hard to shape the nation into a modern, developed one, taking into consideration the objective conditions of the nation from various points of view in order to avert all possible shortcomings in the interest of the nation, not in a perfunctory way.

Today, the three strong forces: the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working hard in harmony to be able to achieve the national goal of the people. As a result, the combined efforts are bearing tangible fruit in various sectors.

It is true that a government shouldering the State duties is responsible for honouring the principle of ensuring sustainable progress of the motherland. With this object in view, the present government is trying its utmost to step up development momentum of the nation, despite a wide range of challenges. As a result of the government's hard work with a sense of duty, now the nation and the people are enjoying the taste of development to a certain degree.

It is heartening to know that the government is in pursuance of the target of 2,000 million baskets of paddy. In addition, the production of edible oil crops, beans and pulses and long staple cotton is increasing remarkably.

Today, the indicator of the national development is showing up sharply. Special projects play a dominant role in the drive the government is carrying out for sustainable development of the nation.

The government has done a lot to scale up the development of the agricultural sector, the lifeblood of the nation. So, the supply well exceeds the demand in food in the nation. The paddy production has surged to about 1600 million baskets from just over 600 million baskets in 1988.

That paddy output is adequate for 100 million people, far more than enough for the present population of the nation. It is heartening to know that the government is in pursuance of the target of 2000 million baskets of paddy. In addition, the production of edible oil crops, beans and pulses and long staple cotton is increasing remarkably.

Now, the agricultural sector contributes 40 per cent, and the industrial sector, only 20 per cent to GDP. That amounts to the fact that it is required to improve the industrial

sector. The goal of building a modern, developed nation will come to fruition only if the nation has transformed itself into an industrialized one through industrial development.

Hence, the government has established 18 industrial zones across the nation to expedite the industrial sector of the private. Private industrial zones have developed to some extent, but they have yet to make significant contribution toward the industrial sector of the nation. Therefore, the government is giving effective encouragement to the private industrial sector. In the meantime, it is fulfilling the requirements in the cases that the private is incapable of coping with.

The government is seeking means and ways to boost production of electricity and energy, crucial for improvement

support the building of the future nation. So, the people have to contribute towards the special projects for their greater progress.

According to the first meeting for 2009 of the Special Projects Implementation Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is implementing seven projects. The first one is Sipadone Dam Project under which an earthen dam will be constructed across the Sipadone Creek near Ai-ma Village in Taze Township, Sagaing Division. On completion, the dam will be able to benefit some 10,000 acres of farmlands.

The second project is Bodhi Tahtaung Dam Project to be implemented across the Yayhtwet Creek near Katakkan Village in Monywa Township, Sagaing Division.

(See page 9)



Heavy machinery assembled at Thagara Industrial Region.

Special projects designed to generate prosperous future of the nation

Kyaw Ye Min

(from page 8)

now, it is irrigating 100 acres of arable lands. The earthen dam was constructed in 2007-2008.

The third project is Pwekawk Dam Project upstream the Welaung Creek in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, which is intended to supply clean water and irrigate 150 acres of farmlands in PyinOolwin and Yadanabon Myothit. The project will comprise a small-scale hydropower plant.

The fourth project is Taukpyo Dam Project upstream the Taukpyo Creek in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township, Mandalay Division. Upon completion, the earthen type dam will be able to supply water to about 300 acres of farmlands. The project was launched in 2008-2009 fiscal year. The fifth one is the project to construct a dyke outside Paiksee-Mayankwin embankment in Thongwa Township, Yangon South District. It will be able to irrigate 4050 acres of vacant lands to be reclaimed soon.

The sixth project is Pintauk Dam Project upstream the Namya Creek near Pintauk Village in Kengtung Township. On completion, the earthen type dam will be able to benefit about 200 acres of farmlands in Kengtung Township. The seventh project is Nampapaung



Bodhi Tahtaung Dam for greening Bodhi Tahtaung-Kyaukka-Shwemyintin Mountain Range.

Dam Project upstream the Nampapaung Creek near Metmee Village in Yaksawk Township, Shan State. It is intended to benefit about 1000 acres of arable lands apart from the present 300 acres of lands and to support water to Zawgyi Dam downstream. On completion, it will have a small-scale hydropower plant.

The seven special projects for 2009 will not only irrigate the farmlands in the regions but also contribute to the regional greening. Some of them are multipurpose dam projects, and so they will be able to improve the economy of the regions and the socio-economic life of local people.

The Ministry of Industry-2 has a plan to implement six special projects necessary for the nation's industrial sector. The first of them is the project to produce large diesel engines. It will be an additional project of the diesel engine factory

project of Thagara Industrial Region. It will produce 2200-2700 hp and 6200-7000 hp diesel engines for the transport, construction and mineral sectors of the nation.

The second project is the factory project designed to produce 60-

boiler factory project to be implemented in Thagara Industrial Region. On completion, the factory will be able to produce 50 0.5 to 2.5-ton boilers a year.

The fourth project is the Control System Plant Project due to be

demand domestically for construction sites, machines, electrical apparatuses, and electric power plants.

The fifth project is industrial instrument factory project to be implemented at No. (1) Machine and Machine

vehicles a year.

The government has to build an industrialized nation in the long run. So, the special projects of the Ministry of Industry-2 will be giant steps towards the goal. The government is fulfilling the

Special projects are designed to speed up modernization and development of the nation. So, it is fair to say that the special projects are like pillars that will support the building of the future nation. So, the people have to contribute towards the special projects for their greater progress.

200 hp DC motors and servo-motors/synchro-motors. It will be built in Thagara Industrial Region. On completion, it will be able to produce 100 60-200 hp DC motors, and 1000 servo-motors/synchro-motors a year. The third project is the

implemented in Thagara Industrial Region. It will produce control system for the government-owned factories that produce trucks, bulldozers, excavators, machines and electrical apparatus as well as for trucks and heavy machinery that are in

Tools Factory in Padaung Industrial Region. The sixth project is automotive parts manufacturing plant project to be implemented in Magway Industrial Region in Magway Division. It will be able to produce various kinds of parts enough for 5000

requirements for the sectors that are beyond the reach of the private. So, the government is worthy of praise for its vision to create a prosperous future of the nation.

*(To be continued)
Translation: MS*



Thagara Industrial Region.

Generating of electricity through bio-battery demonstrated



Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing explains use of bio-battery at Banyin Village BEHS.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 May— Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Yar Pyae and officials, yesterday morning met with officers and other ranks and their families of Banyin Station in Hsihseng Township and presented provisions to them.

Next, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing met with departmental officials, social organizations and local people at Banyin Village BEHS and heard a report on regional development presented by the chairman of the Village Peace and Development Council.

After that, he heard a report presented by the Superintending Engineer and officials on

renovation of Hopong-Hsihseng road and fulfilled the requirements.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party demonstrated the generating of electricity through bio-battery and attended to the needs.

On arrival at Banyin Station Hospital, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing comforted the patients and presented food to them. After looking into medical store and operation theatre, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing presented medicines to the hospital.

Next, he proceeded to Myat Yadana Agriculture Farm where he inspected the mango plantation and heard a report on cultivation of mangoes. After giving necessary instructions, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing viewed the rubber and sugarcane plantations.

On arrival at Hsihseng Station Hall, he met with officers and other ranks and their families and presented provisions and gifts to them.

In meeting with departmental officials, social organizations and local people at Hsihseng Town Hall, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing heard a report on development tasks of the township presented by the chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council, and stressed the need to engage in regional and national development with Union Spirit.

Afterwards, he proceeded to Hsihseng Township Hospital where he comforted the patients and presented food to them. He inspected the operation theatre and medical store before presenting cash assistance for the hospital.

MNA

Upgrading of Pyay-Paukhaung-Ottwin-Toungoo road inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 10 May— Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence together with Vice-Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Sein Myint and officials, yesterday morning inspected summer paddy plantations, seasonal crops and flower plantations, fish breeding ponds and livestock breeding farms, mushroom farm and biogas digester and cooking meals and lighting with the use of

biogas.

Next, Maj-Gen Ko Ko and party fulfilled the requirements and heard reports on lighting through bio-battery and cultivation of paddy with the help of artesian wells.

At the briefing hall of the Road Construction Group-7 of Public Works at Ywapu Village in Paukhaung Township, officials reported on renovation of Pyay-Paukhaung-Ottwin-Toungoo road.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko gave instructions on meeting

the set standard and timely completion of the tasks.

On arrival at Neigyar Bawdha Village, he was welcomed by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min and officials.

Together with the commander, Maj-Gen Ko Ko proceeded to Khabaung Village BEPS where he met local people and presented exercise books, clothes and provisions.

On arrival at

Shwetaung Ngwetaung Village Post-Primary School, he met with local people and gave away exercise books, clothes and food.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Ko Ko inspected renovation of road between Mile Post

Nos. 65/4 and 65/5 and thriving teak plantations of Khabaung Protected Public Forest at Mile Post Nos. 96/7.

Next, he looked into tarring of road between Mile Post 96/7 and 97 and gave necessary

instructions.

After viewing the maintenance of Pyay-Paukhaung-Ottwin-Toungoo road, Maj-Gen Ko Ko and party arrived back here in the evening.

MNA



Maj-Gen Ko Ko views thriving teak plantations at Khabaung protected public forest.— MNA

River water pumping projects, agricultural tasks inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 10 May — Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe inspected Kyaukku river water pumping project, Thukaungti river water pumping project and Ngathayauk river water

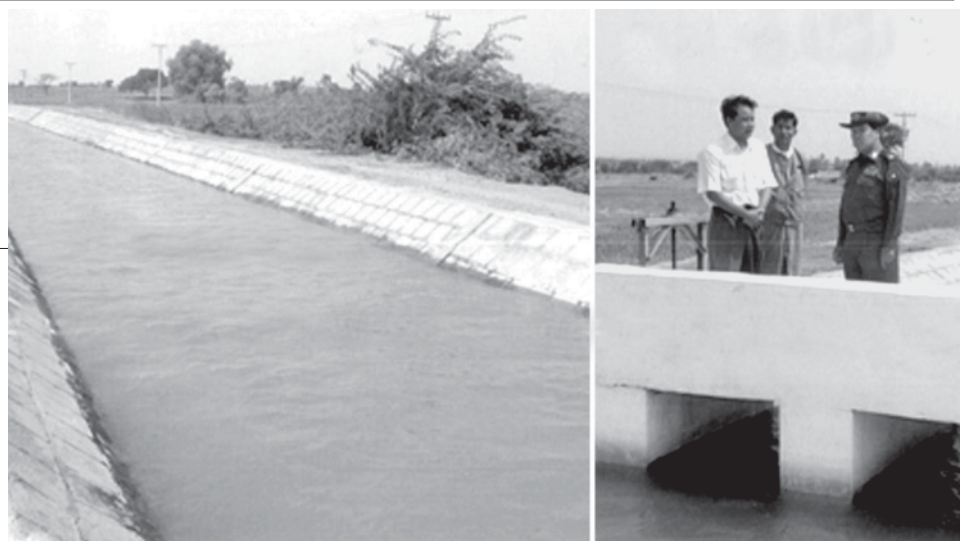
pumping project in NyaungU Township on 30 April.

Next, the commander inspected agricultural undertakings of NyaungU Township Cooperative Society Ltd and the summer paddy plantation of farmer U Aung Maung in Latpanchepaw village,

NyaungU Township, and left necessary instructions. —MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe inspects functions of a water pumping station in NyaungU Township.

MNA





Piles of fire hose lie where they were dropped by Ventura County firefighters, three of whom were injured, when the Jesusita fire swept through Mission Canyon Tuesday, on 5 May, seen as the fire ends its fifth day in Santa Barbara, Calif., Saturday, on 9 May, 2009.—INTERNET

US forces shoot Iraqi boy dead after grenade attack

BAGHDAD, 10 May—The US military said on Saturday its troops had shot dead a 12-year-old Iraqi boy suspected of throwing a grenade at them, and said it believed insurgents were paying children to help them. Iraqi police, speaking on condition of anonymity, said however the boy, whom they named as Omar Moussa Salih, had not been involved in the grenade-throwing.

US and Iraqi forces

came under grenade attack on Thursday in the western part of Mosul, the northern city seen as a final stronghold of al-Qaeda and other insurgents, said Major Derrick Cheng, a US spokesman in northern Iraq.

US forces responded by firing at several people, killing the boy. He was found with 10,000 Iraqi dinars, or around 8.50, US dollars in his hand.

“We have every reason to believe that insurgents are paying

children to conduct these attacks or assist the attackers in some capacity, but undoubtedly placing the children in harm’s way,” Cheng said.

Iraqi police in Mosul said the boy, who had sold sweets in the street, was shot more than once in the head. His eight-year-old brother ran away when Omar was shot, police said. Cheng said another boy was briefly detained but released.

MNA/Reuters

Unidentified disease kills 800 chickens in eastern Nepal

KATHMANDU, 10 May—An unidentified disease killed around 800 chickens at Nawalpur in Sarlahi District in eastern Nepal, the National News Agency RSS reported on Saturday.

It is learnt that those chickens were kept at a local farm in the district, some 150 kilometres east of Kathmandu. With the bird flu fear still doing the rounds in the district, local residents have been concerned due to the death of farm birds. Veterinarian Dr. Sushil Adhikari said he is clueless about the sudden death of the chickens. Poultry entrepreneur Deepak Ranabhat said they are panicked following the incident. The local administration had banned the import of poultry products from India.—MNA/Xinhua



This 5 May, 2009 photo released by the Wildlife Conservation Society, shows baby giraffe Margaret Abigail, right, getting a nuzzle from her mother, Margaret Sukari, at the Bronx Zoo’s African Plains exhibit in New York. Margaret Abigail, born on 17 Feb, 2009, makes her public debut at the Bronx Zoo this weekend, just in time for Mother’s Day.—INTERNET

35 rebels killed in Sri Lanka fighting

COLOMBO, 10 May—At least 35 rebels were killed on Friday as the advancing troops took control of what appeared to be the last rebel defensive earth bund in the island’s northeastern battle zone.

The Army’s 58 division had completely cleared the Karyamullivaikkal area in the Mullaithivu District, defence officials said on Saturday. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels are now limited to an area of just three square kilometres.

Brigadier Udaya Nanayakkara, the military spokesman, said that troops would continue to carry out operations outside the newly demarcated no fire zone, a two-kilometre-long, 1.5-kilometre-wide coastal strip covering the area south of Karyamullivaikkal and Velamullivaikkal.

“The troops will continue to target LTTE in order to free civilians from LTTE clutches”, Nanayakkara said.—MNA/Xinhua

US drone attack kills 10 in Pakistan’s tribal region

ISLAMABAD, 10 May—Up to ten persons were killed in suspected US drone attack in Pakistan’s tribal region on Saturday, private TV channel Geo reported.

Suspected US drones fired four missiles at a house and madrasa in at Sararogha area of South Waziristan, a tribal area bordering Afghanistan, said the report.

Local people pulled eight bodies out of the rubble. Seven others were injured and two of them later died of wounds in hospital.

Pakistan’s tribal areas bordering Afghanistan have seen missile attacks conducted by suspected US drones based in Afghanistan. Pakistan has repeatedly protested against the drone attacks and called for an end to them, terming the attacks counter-productive” in the fight against terrorism in the country.—MNA/Xinhua



Google’s unabashed success as an Internet search and advertising juggernaut has placed it in the crosshairs of regulators worried the firm will trample free market competition. “As Google has grown, the company has naturally faced more scrutiny,” Google senior manager of global communications and public affairs Adam Kovacevich said on Friday in an official blog post.—INTERNET

Washington man with Swine flu dies

WASHINGTON, 10 May—A Washington state resident with the new H1N1 swine flu died last week, state health officials said on Saturday.

A man in his 30s who lived in Snohomish County and had underlying heart conditions died last week with what health officials said appeared to be complications from the new flu strain. This is the first death in the state succumbed to the virus, according to a statement issued by the Washington State Department of Health. “This death is tragic. Our thoughts are with all those affected by this man’s passing,” Governor Chris Gregoire said in the statement. “It’s a sobering reminder that influenza is serious, and can be fatal. I know our public health agencies are doing everything they can to track and monitor this outbreak and to protect the people of our state.”—MNA/Reuters

French Navy hands over 11 more suspected pirates to Kenya

MOMBASA (Kenya), 10 May—Eleven suspected pirates who mistook a French naval vessel for a commercial ship and pursued it were handed over to the Kenyan authorities on Friday for trial, five days after arrest.

The suspects approached the French frigate *MV Nivose* which is deployed by the European Union to guard and escort commercial ships in the pirates-infested waters off Somali coast, preparing for an attack but were shocked to discover it was a naval ship. As they prepared for a retreat, a helicopter was dispatched and soldiers on speedboats quickly surrounded and apprehended them.

Speaking to journalists at the Mombasa port during the handing-over, Mombasa Port police chief Ayub Ali said the suspects, arrested on May 3, were armed and their weapons had also been confiscated.

MNA/Xinhua

Workers adjust a valve of an oil pipe in Tawke oil field near Dahuk, 400 km (245 miles) north of Baghdad on 9 May, 2009. Iraq’s largely autonomous Kurdish region said on Friday it would start exporting oil next month, but the Oil Ministry in Baghdad cast doubt on the plan, denying it had given them permission to use national pipelines.—INTERNET





Members of the Philippine Coast Guard jump out of a helicopter during a disaster drill at the ASEAN Regional Forum in Manila, Philippines, on 4 May, 2009. The drill by the ARF, Asia's largest security forum, involved a mock scene to test the capability of Asia Pacific countries to respond to a deadly supertypphoon in the Philippines.—INTERNET

AU condemns UN peacekeeper killing

ADDIS ABABA, 10 May —The African Union on Saturday condemned the killing of a UN peacekeeper in the capital of Sudan's South Darfur State.

The Nigerian soldier was gunned down near his home in Nyala by unknown attackers who stole his car late Thursday.

AU Commission chief Jean Ping "condemns in the strongest terms the cowardly and deliberate attack on one UNAMID personnel," a statement said.

The death brought to 15 the number of UN-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) peacekeepers killed since the joint force took over from a beleaguered African Union mission in January 2008.—INTERNET

Wild elephants raise havoc in eastern Nepal

KATHMANDU, 10 May—For well over two decades, the residents of Bahundangi in Jhapa district in eastern Nepal, have had to live with the menace of marauding elephants from forests across the border in India.

According to Saturday's myrepublica.com, since 1981, a dozen villagers have lost their lives to at-

tacks by these wild elephants.

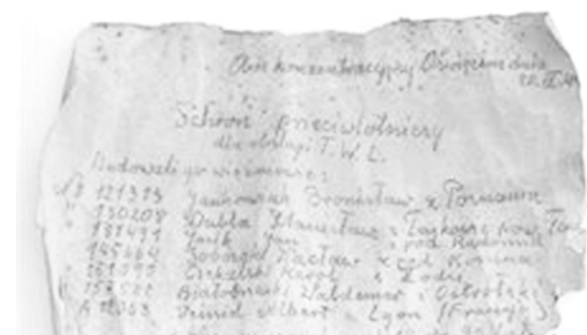
The District Development Committee of Jhapa, some 320 km east of Kathmandu, has created a separate budget to control this elephant terror, but so far the money spent in containing the elephants has not produced significant deterrence.

The village of

Bahundangi has already spent more than 5 million Nepali rupees (some 62,500 US dollars) from the budget, in digging trenches and building electric barbwire fences to restrict the elephants from entering the farmlands and village areas.

Last year, a 5.3-km-long electric barbwire fence was installed at the Nepal-India border to stop the elephants, but the locals are certain that even this is not going to be of any help.

Since none of these methods have worked, the locals have now thought of changing their game-plan, instead of continuing to set up barbwire fences, they want to grow rows of a plant called the elephant fence.—INTERNET



The remains of a bottle, top, and a note carrying the details of seven young people who were prisoners of the notorious Nazi-German Auschwitz concentration camp is seen on display in Oswiecim, Poland. A note hidden in a bottle by Auschwitz prisoners 65 years ago in a desperate attempt to preserve a small piece of themselves was added on 6 May, 2009, to the archives of the Polish state-run museum dedicated to the memory of the former Nazi death camp's victims.—INTERNET

Medical tourism boosts Indian corporate hospital sector growth

NEW DELHI, 10 May — Triggered by the growth in medical tourism, the corporate hospital sector in India is upbeat about securing a major share of the healthcare service business in the year 2009, said officials of the Indian Health Ministry on Saturday.

By 2010, the corporate hospital sector is also expected to take significant business away from

individual private healthcare providers, due to the booming medical tourism business, according to the officials.

Apart from recent growth in medical tourism, these trends can also be attributed to the emergence of health insurance and further expected growth in Gross Domestic Product, according to the officials.

All major Indian hos-

pitals like Apollo, Fortis, Wockhardt and Max are in the process of formulating plans for acquisitions and setting up various healthcare facilities in 2009, said the officials. Corporate hospital sector is expected to make 690 billion ruples (13.8 billion US dollars) by next year, and by 2012, it is projected to make at least 1,560 billion rupees (31.2 billion US dollars), said the officials.—INTERNET



A girl picks a bundle of flowers for her mother at a flower store in Taiyuan, capital of north China's Shanxi Province, on 10 May, 2009. Many local residents send flowers to their mothers as a gift on Mother's Day which falls on 10 May this year.—INTERNET

Oxygen spike may have caused ice age

COLLEGE PARK, 10 May — Earth's earliest ice age could have been caused by an atmospheric rise in oxygen reacting with methane, a greenhouse gas, a geologist in Maryland said. "This singular event had a profound effect on the climate, and also on life," said Alan J Kaufman, a geology professor at the University of Maryland.

Kaufman and a team of international scientists

found evidence the oxygenation of Earth's atmosphere coincided with the first widespread ice age on the planet 2 1/2 billion years ago.

They theorize the earliest ice age was created from oxygen escaping from developing oceans and filling up the atmosphere, where there had been no oxygen. The oxygen then reacted with

methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, to form carbon dioxide, which is 62 times less effective at warming the surface of the planet.

"With less warming potential, surface temperatures may have plummeted, resulting in globe-encompassing glaciers and sea ice" Kaufman said.

INTERNET

Two dead, six injured in Shanghai factory collapse

SHANGHAI, 10 May — Two construction workers were killed and six more injured on Saturday after the collapse of a plastic factory workshop in Shanghai, police said.

The workshop under construction fell down at around 5 pm in the Pudong New Area, reduced to more than 300 square metres of debris.

Two workers died in hospital. Of the six injured, three were in critical condition. Police investigation is underway.—INTERNET

Mainland, HK sign further expanded Eco agreement

HONG KONG, 10 May —The Chinese central government and the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region signed on Saturday the sixth supplement to an important trade agreement to give Hong Kong firms greater and easier access to the Mainland market for tourism, securities and banking services, among

others.

The Supplement VI to the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) was signed by John Tsang, financial secretary of the HKSAR government, and the central government's Vice Minister of Commerce Jiang Zengwei in Hong Kong at a ceremony witnessed by

HKSAR Chief Executive Donald Tsang.

Speaking at the ceremony, Donald Tsang said the supplement agreement will introduce 29 measures that will build on the liberalization of 20 services sectors and open two more sectors of research and development and rail transport to Hong Kong businesses.

MNA/Xinhua



An Egyptian merchant displays his watermelons that piled into the shape of a pyramid in the major melon market in Cairo, Egypt, on 9 May, 2009. —XINHUA



A movie theater attendant in Guadalajara, Mexico takes precautions at work. —INTRNET

WHO reports big jump in swine flu cases

WASHINGTON, 10 MAY — The World Health Organization on Saturday reported 3,440 confirmed cases of swine flu in 29 countries, with 48 deaths from the sickness.

The virus, also called H1N1, has spread as Australia reported its first confirmed case.

On Friday there were 2,500 confirmed cases in 25 countries.

In the United States, the total number of confirmed

cases was 1,639 — the same as Friday. Of the 48 deaths reported, two were in the United States, one was in Canada and 45 were in Mexico.

Italian authorities also said Saturday that the country had its first case that was not contracted overseas. A 2-year-old boy may have contracted it from family members who had returned from Mexico, Italian health officials said. —Internet

India still testing four suspected H1N1 flu cases

NEW DELHI, 10 May —India remained free from H1N1 flu on Saturday as Indian health authorities are still testing samples of four people for suspected infection of the killer disease, a statement by Indian Health Ministry said on Saturday.

Indian authorities have tested negative 30 suspected cases of H1N1 flu so far.

Meanwhile, as many as 39,883 passengers were screened on Saturday alone at 21 airports across the country, the ministry said.

A total of some 300,000 people have been screened across the country for the flu so far, according to the ministry.

Internet

1st swine flu death in Costa Rica; US man dies

SAN JOSE, 10 May — Costa Rica reported the first swine flu death outside North America on Saturday and the US announced its third death from the virus, while Mexico delayed the reopening of primary schools in some states.

Japanese authorities, meanwhile, scrambled to limit contact with their country's first cases, and Australia and Norway joined the list of nations

with confirmed cases of swine flu.

The Health Ministry in Costa Rica confirmed the swine flu death of a 53-year-old man, bringing the global death toll to 53, including 48 in Mexico, three in the United States and one in Canada. Like other deaths outside Mexico, the Costa Rican man suffered from complicating illnesses, including diabetes and chronic lung disease. —Internet

The first A/H1N1 flu patient Edgar

Hernandez plays a ball
in La Gloria village,
Mexico's eastern coast
state of Veracruz, on
May 8, 2009. Edgar
has recovered and led
a normal life here.

INTERNET



Honey bee demand rising worldwide

NEUQUEN, 10 May — Bee production worldwide is increasing, despite a collapse in the number of hives in the United States and Europe, researchers in Argentina said.

The global stock of domesticated honey bees has increased about 45 percent in the past 50 years, said Marcelo Aizen, a researcher at the National University of Comahue.

The increase has been

driven by a greater demand for honey from a growing human population rather than by an increased need for bees to pollinate crops, Aizen said in a story published on Friday in *Current Biology*.

The finding dispels the myth of a global pollination crisis sparked by hive devastation in the United States and some European countries, Aizen's team found.

The hive decline has been attributed, in part, to parasitic mites and more recently to a disorder known as colony collapse.

Aizen warned, however, the honeybee population worldwide could still find itself stressed by a growing demand for so-called luxury agriculture items, such as plums, raspberries, cherries, man-gos, cashews and guavas.

Internet

Silkworms favour jasmine-scented chemical

TOKYO, 10 May — Japanese scientists say they've isolated the jasmine-scented chemical that attracts silkworms to mulberry leaves — their primary food source.

The findings could help silk producers fine-tune the diets of silkworms to get them to eat more and digest food more efficiently, a study published in *Current Biology* reported on Friday.

The chemical cis-

jasmane emitted in small quantities by the leaves of the mulberry tree triggers a single, highly tuned olfactory receptor in the worms' antennae, said Kazushige Touhara, a professor at the University of Tokyo. "In the mid-20th century, several volatiles emitted by mulberry leaves were reported to attract silkworms," Touhara said. "However, these previously identified odorants turned out to be weak attractants at best."

Cis-jasmane is so powerful that just a tiny amount draws silkworms toward the source of the smell, he said.

That finding means cis-jasmane might be added to artificial diets to increase the efficiency of the worms' food intake. It also could be used to develop a safe form of pest control that attracts unwanted insects who also are drawn to the scent of cis-jasmane, he said.

Internet

SPORTS

Smith lauds Gers desire after vital Old Firm win



Celtic's midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura (L) clashes with Rangers' defender Steven Smith (2nd L) during their Scottish Premier League football match at Ibrox in Glasgow.—INTERNET

GLASGOW, 10 May—Walter Smith praised the winning attitude of his Rangers side after they moved two points clear at the top of the Scottish Premier League with a 1-0 win over

Celtic in a crucial Old Firm derby. A defeat in the same fixture in December left Rangers trailing their fierce rivals by seven points, but they have since put together a run of seven wins in a row to put themselves in pole position to claim the title with three matches remaining.

The Ibrox side have had to cope with several set-backs in recent weeks, with regular full-backs Kirk Broadfoot and Sasa Papac both out injured along with former captain Barry Ferguson.

Internet

Ochoa falters; Wright, Kerr take Kingsmill lead

WILLIAMSBURG, 10 May—Lindsey Wright shot a 7-under 64 and Cristie Kerr had a 66 to share the third-round lead as Lorena Ochoa faltered Saturday in the Michelob Ultra Open. The top-ranked Ochoa shot 74 with only two birdies, both of which were canceled out by a double-bogey at the par-4 14th. She started the day leading by three and now is five behind.



Cristie Kerr watches her tee shot on the second hole during the third round of the LPGA Michelob Ultra Open golf tournament at Kingsmill Golf Club in Williamsburg, Va, on 9 May, 2009.—INTERNET

Internet

Answers to yesterday crosswords puzzle

1	M	U	S	I	C	4	C	A	L	A	I	7	S	
	I		I		L	8	B		L		P		T	
9	M	Y	S	T	E	R	Y	10	S	E	P	I	A	
	O		A		F		R		A		O		T	
11	S	A	L	T		12	O	U	T	S	I	D	E	
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		14	N	I	G	H		16	A	L	T		O	
17	S		M		I		18	F	A	N			19	M
20	C	O	M	I	C	A	L		21	A	22	R	I	A
	Y		E		K		U		23	B		E		D
24	T	U	N	I	S		25	T	R	A	F	F	I	C
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26	E	J	E	C	T	S		27	S	T	R	I	P	

Number one Safina learning to live with swing

ROME, 10 May—World number one Dinara Safina knows she's a marked woman, but the Russian 23-year-old is enjoying her new, lofty position in women's tennis. Safina, the younger sister of former men's number one Marat Safin, ascended to the top spot in the WTA rankings on 20 April and since then has reached two finals and won one title.

Having dismantled compatriot Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-3, 6-2 on the clay at the Foro Italico here on Saturday, just a week after she lost to her fellow 23-year-old in the Stuttgart final, Safina admitted she is happy to be the target for the other players. But, having had to fight back from a set down three times on the way to the Rome final, she said she has already felt the difference in being the one everyone wants to beat.

Internet



Russian Dinara Safina celebrates with the trophy after winning the WTA Rome International claycourt Tennis Open tournament in Rome. Safina defeated Russian compatriot Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-3, 6-2.—INTERNET

Second Hong Kong Games opens

HONG KONG, 10 May—Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong held a large-scale opening ceremony at the Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground on Saturday to celebrate the opening of the 2nd Hong Kong Games.

The 2nd Hong Kong Games, a major multi-sports event in Hong Kong with 18 District Councils as the participating units, attracted more than 2,300 amateur athletes from all over Hong Kong. Addressing the opening ceremony, Secretary for Home Affairs of Hong Kong Tsang Tak-sing encouraged Hong Kong people to actively participate in sports.—Internet

Benitez refuses to surrender Liverpool title hopes



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard (L) scores his second goal against West Ham United during their Premier League football match at Upton Park in East London. Liverpool kept the pressure on Manchester United by returning to the top of the Premier League table with a comfortable 3-0 win over West Ham on Saturday.—INTERNET

LONDON, 10 May—Rafael Benitez has vowed that Liverpool will not give up hope of prising the Premier League trophy out of the grasp of reigning champions Manchester United as the season draws

to a close. The Spaniard watched his side cruise to a comfortable 3-0 win at West Ham on Saturday and he saw enough in the performance to convince himself that Sir Alex Ferguson's men are not beyond reach.

"We are doing our job - we needed to get three points and keep them under pressure," said Benitez. "We have to keep winning. If we can get three points in every single game then you never know."

Internet

Manchester United eye historic football record

MANCHESTER, 10 May—Manchester United are five games away from an historic season and veteran winger Ryan Giggs feels Sir Alex Ferguson's side are hitting form at exactly the right time.

With the League Cup and the Club World Cup already won, United can look forward to a Champions League final against Barcelona on 27 May and need seven points from their last four games to secure an 18th English Premier League title.

Sunday's derby with Manchester City will be their 63rd game of the season but after their back-to-back defeats to Liverpool and Fulham in March, United have responded with an impressive run of form. They have won five matches in a row going into the game with Mark Hughes' team at Old Trafford.—Internet



Manchester United's forward Dimitar Berbatov celebrates with team-mate forward Wayne Rooney, top, during their English Premier League football match against Tottenham Hotspur at Manchester's home ground on 25 April. United face Barcelona in a Champions League final on 27 May.

INTERNET

Nadal on a clay-court high with Madrid beckoning

MADRID, 10 May—Rafael Nadal resumes his rush to the record books this weekend as Madrid Masters opens on a new date at a new venue on a new surface. The event also combines the capital's WTA tournament into a spring clay tennis spectacular at the spanking new Caja Magica (Magic Box) venue to the south of the city. In case of rain, the multi-million euro complex boasts three courts with moveable roofs.

But time or place will likely mean little to Nadal, who is carrying a 30-match win streak on clay into the last major tuneup before the 24 May start at Roland Garros. Nadal has been an unstoppable force on the dirt, winning five straight titles each at Monte Carlo and Barcelona while making it four from five years last weekend in Rome with a straight-set thrashing of holder Novak Djokovic.—Internet

Cejka builds 5-shot lead over Woods at The Players

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, 10 May—Alex Cejka could see chaos all around him at The Players

Championship, or at least hear it through the groans of a scorching Saturday at the TPC Sawgrass that delivered so many meltdowns. He was among the few to survive, taking on the flag with an 8-iron on the final hole that set up a 5-foot birdie for an even-par 72 and a five-shot lead, the largest after three rounds in the 36 years of this prestigious event.



Alex Cejka watches his tee shot on 15th hole during the third round of The Players Championship golf tournament at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla, on 9 May, 2009.

INTERNET

Internet



Two children take photos of artworks featuring elephants on Ledra Street in Nicosia, capital of Cyprus, on 9 May, 2009. Artworks featuring elephant, which has been chosen as a symbol of peace and reconciliation, were on display here Saturday. Initiated by German artist Rose Marie Gnausch, the art movement was aimed at giving a visual expression to the abstract concept of peace.— XINHUA

Renault considers dismantling used cars at own plant

PARIS, 10 May—French carmaker Renault on Saturday said it was considering dismantling and recycling used cars at its Flins plant near Paris. “A public inquiry is underway in Flins to determine the suitability and feasibility of the disassembly and recovery of vehicles destined to be scrapped,” a spokesman for the carmaker said. Carmakers usually leave the work of dismantling and recycling to external partners. *Xinhua*

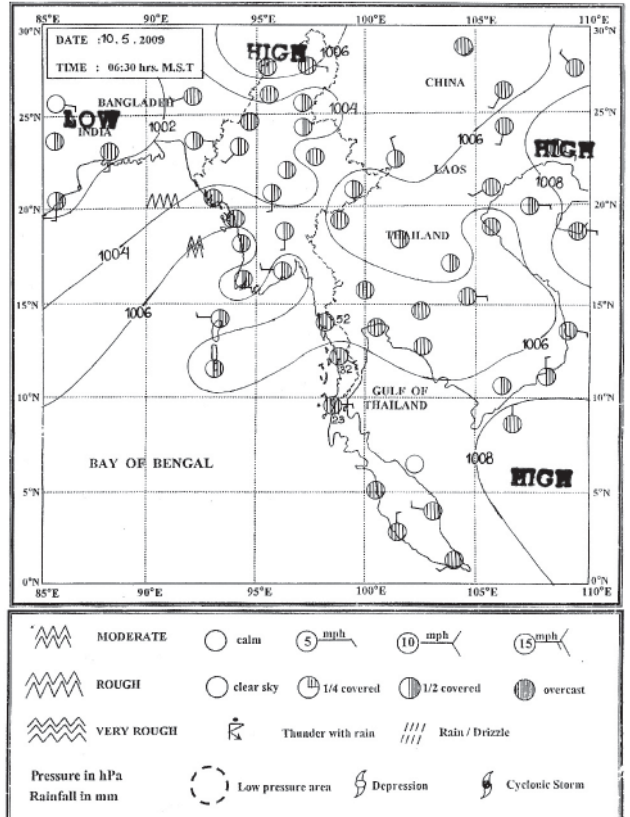
MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (11.5.2009) (Monday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

- Local Transmission**
- * Signature Tune
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
 - * Smogless sky, enchanting Smiles (Evening Flight in Monywa)
 - * Myanma Roasted Bean
 - * Toddy Palm Arts
 - * Traditional Folk Weaving Works
 - * Walk in Aviary ... a Recreation Center
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

- Europe/ North America Transmission**
- * Signature Tune
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
 - * Poem Garden “The Days of the Week”
 - * Inle’s Beauty for Eternity
 - * The Gok Hteik Viaduct
 - * A Pilgrimage to Dhammayangyi
 - * Mularsheedi we Love!
 - * Palm Leaf Inscription
 - * Tiger Population Counting (Part-I)
 - * Coconut Juice and Its Palm-Leaf Hat
 - * Learning Opportunities for Disabled Persons
 - * Myanmar Modern Song
 - * Smogless sky, enchanting Smiles (Evening Flight in Monywa)
 - * Myanma Roasted Bean
 - * Toddy Palm Arts
 - * Traditional Folk Weaving Works
 - * Walk in Aviary ... a Recreation Center
 - * New Transport Facilities Designed for Regional Development
 - * Endeavors of ministry of Electric Power-2
 - * Tiger Population Counting (Part-II)
 - * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm


Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER Sunday, 10 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Kachin, Shan, Mon, Kayin States and Mandalay Division, and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Shan, Rakhine States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, (3°C) below May average temperatures in Mon State and about May average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Monywa and Chauk (45°C) each, NyaungU and Minbu (44°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (2.05) inches, Myeik (1.26) inches and Ye (1.10) inches. Maximum temperature on 9-5-2009 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 10-5-2009 was 76°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 10-5-2009 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 9-5-2009 was (8.5) hrs approx. Rainfall on 10-5-was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (2.40) inches at Mingaladon, (3.62) inches at Kaba-Aye and (5.63) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hour MST on 9-5-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and partly cloudy in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 11th May 2009:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Mon State and Taninthayi Division isolated in Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 11-5-2009:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-5-2009:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-5-2009:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

 <p>Monday, 11 May View on today</p> <p>7:00 am 1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်၊</p> <p>7:15 am 2. ယောဆရာတော်ဟောကြားတော် မူအပ်သောဥပုသ်တရားပုဒ်တော်</p> <p>7:25 am 3. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am 4. Morning news</p>	<p>7:40 am 5. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am 6. Cute little Dancers</p> <p>8:00 am 7. Song of national races</p> <p>8:10 am 8. Musical programme</p> <p>8:20 am 9. “စက်မှုတပ်ဆင်လုပ်ငန်းတွင်” (မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ ဇင်ဝိုင်း၊ မိုးမိုးမြင့်အောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း)</p> <p>8:30 am 10. International news</p> <p>8:40 am 11. အပန်းဖြေလှည့်ပါ မြစ်ကမ်းခြေသာယာ</p> <p>8:50 am 12. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p>	<p>4:00 pm 1. Martial song</p> <p>4:10 pm 2. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>4:20 pm 3. Dance variety</p> <p>4:30 pm 4. Musical programme</p> <p>4:40 pm 5. တီးကွက်ညီညွတ်သော</p> <p>4:55 pm 6. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (စီးပွားစီမံအထူး ပြုများ) (စီးပွားရေးပညာ)</p> <p>5:10 pm 7. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>5:20 pm 8. Musical programme</p> <p>5:30 pm 9. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား</p>	<p>5:40 pm 10. စိတ်သံစဉ်အလှဆင်</p> <p>6:00 pm 11. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm 12. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm 13. Sing and enjoy</p> <p>7:05 pm 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သမင်အလိုရှိသည်” (အပိုင်း-၃)</p> <p>8:00 pm 15. News</p> <p>8:00 pm 16. International news</p> <p>8:00 pm 17. Weather report</p> <p>8:00 pm 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်သူသံစဉ်” (အပိုင်း-၁၄)</p>
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Madan Dam in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe

Article: *Kyaw Sein*; Photos: *Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)*

The government is seeking better ways and means in various sectors to boost the national economy and raise the living standard of the people by effectively exploiting the natural resources of the nation.

Under the arrangement of Director U Myint Than of Construction (5) of the Irrigation Department, we dropped in ongoing Madan Dam Project in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe on 11 March on our tour of

Paunglaung Dam near Thitseint Village, Nay Pyi Taw Pinyinmana.

Madan Dam is only 36 miles from Yangon-Mandalay Highway, but it took us about four hours to drive to the dam. The road was constructed through forests and heights just to transport heavy machinery and construction materials for the project. So, the road has not been a fine one, but those who are now

benefiting from the transport facility are local people.

Previously, the region was accessible by only on foot. But now, people can travel there by bicycle and by car. The improvement of the transport has generated development in trade, social affairs and health care.

(See page 7)



The control tower under construction of Madan Dam near Nanwin Village, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe.

Tobacco Kills

Chelsea boss Hiddink pleads for video replay



Guus Hiddink

LONDON, 10 May — Chelsea boss Guus Hiddink, still reeling from his team's stormy Champions League exit, wants video technology introduced to help referees make the right call in contentious decisions.

Norwegian referee Tom Henning Ovrebo turned down several strong appeals for Chelsea penalties during the 1-1 draw with Barcelona at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday, a result which put the Spanish giants into the final.

"In other sports like

rugby and American football they have the ability to use technology at vital moments," said Hiddink.

"Everyone waits five seconds for the video referee before making a decision. It can be done only on key moments that make a difference to the outcome of the game otherwise it would stop the game too much.

"The video referee must have authority to overrule the first man in charge. It's a fact that if technology had been in use we would be in the Champions League final now.

"It would help a lot what is a difficult job for the referee when they have to make crucial decisions. It's up to UEFA whether they act."

Internet

Greenland's constant summer sunlight linked to summer suicide spike

TOKHOLM, 10 May—Suicide rates in Greenland increase during the summer, peaking in June. Researchers speculate that insomnia caused by incessant daylight may be to blame.

Karin Sparring Björkstén from the Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, led a team of researchers who studied the seasonal variation of suicides in all of Greenland from 1968-2002. They found that there was a concentration of suicides in the summer months, and that this seasonal effect was especially pronounced in the North of the country – an area where the sun doesn't set between the end of April and the end of August.

Björkstén said, "In terms of seasonal light variation, Greenland is the most extreme human habitat.

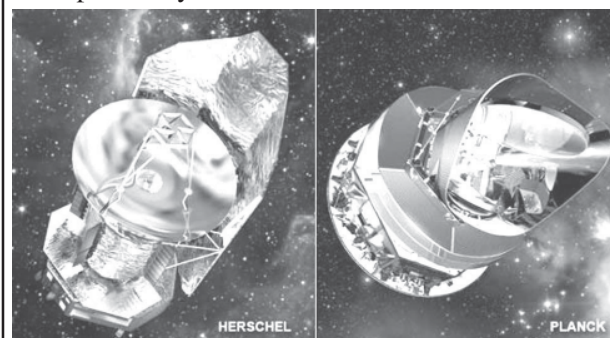


Arctic iceberg by the light of the midnight sun, Greenland.

Greenland also has one of the highest suicide rates in the world. We found that suicides were almost exclusively violent and increased during periods of constant day. —Internet

Herschel and Planck share ride to space

KOUROU, 10 May — Two missions to study the cosmos, Herschel and Planck, are scheduled to blast into space May 14 aboard the same Ariane 5 rocket



Artist concepts of Herschel and Planck.

from the Guiana Space Center in French Guiana. The European Space Agency, or ESA, leads both missions, with significant participation from NASA.

"The missions are quite different, but they'll hitch a ride to space together," said Ulf Israelsson, NASA project manager for both Herschel and Planck. "Launch processing is moving along smoothly. Both missions' instruments have completed their final checkouts, and the spacecrafts' thruster tanks have been fueled."

Israelsson is with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., which contributed key technology to both missions. NASA team members will play an important role in data analysis and science operations.

The Herschel observatory has the unique ability to peek into the dustiest and earliest stages of planet, star and galaxy growth.—Internet