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Tuesday, 26 May, 2009

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

Secretary-1 receives UNICEF Deputy Executive Director



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Ms Hilde F. Johnson, Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo received Ms Hilde F. Johnson, Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), at the SPDC Office at 5

pm today.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe, Director-General of SPDC Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win and

Director-General of the International Organizations and Economic Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw and Mr Ramesh M Shrestha, Resident Representative of UNICEF to Myanmar.—MNA

Optimal trip and load planning

MUNICH, 25 May — How can companies maximize truck capacity utilization and at the same time plan trips so that the burden on the

environment and transport costs are reduced? A new software system couples cargo space utilization and trip planning.

A company wants to

deliver paper to five customers in Bavaria. The trip planning software currently used calculates that one truck will be enough to cover the locations in central Bavaria if another truck on the Baden-Württemberg route takes over two of the deliveries. The problem is that, although the trips have been optimized, the trucks are not fully loaded. "At present, transport companies first compile the orders and then assign them to trips and vehicles. Truck capacity utilization is only optimized afterwards.—Internet



A new software system couples cargo space utilization and trip planning.

New solid oxide fuel cell seal could help bring efficient energy technology to market

SCIENCE DAILY, 25 May — Solid oxide fuel cells (SOFCs) have great potential for stationary and mobile applications. Stationary user ranges from residential applications to power plants. Mobile applications include power for ships at sea and in space, as well as for autos.

In addition to electricity, when SOFCs are operated in reverse mode as solid oxide electrolyzer cells, pure hydrogen can be generated by splitting water.

But SOFCs have had

a flaw — the integrity of the seals within and between power-producing units.

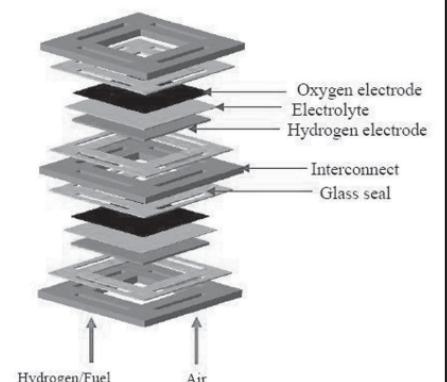
"The seal problem is the biggest problem for commercialization of solid oxide fuel cells," said

Peizhen (Kathy) Lu, assistant professor of materials science and engineering at Virginia Tech.

So she has invented a solution.

Internet

This drawing shows the placement of the glass seals in the solid oxide fuel cells.



PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 26 May, 2009

Try to improve qualifications and maintain regional development

New generations of high professional qualifications are the major resources necessary for the emergence of a peaceful and prosperous society. As the government is building educational infrastructures and networks, learning opportunities have opened up for all youths living in different parts of the Union, including border areas.

The government has also given top priority to border areas and national races development projects. Since 1989, it has spent over K 240,142 million on education, health, transport, social and economic development of border areas. As a result, the people in different parts of the Union, including far-flung areas, have begun to enjoy the fruits of peace and development.

It is necessary to turn out educated human resources not only to promote but also to maintain development. For this purpose, nationalities youth resource development degree colleges were opened in Yangon and Mandalay. In the 2008-2009 academic year, these two degree colleges conferred arts and science degrees and A.G.T.I diplomas on 229 persons.

At present, there are 719 bachelors of arts and 279 engineers—all of them the products of nationalities youth resource development degree colleges—working as government employees in different states and divisions.

We would like to call on all the graduates of nationalities youth resource development degree colleges to throw themselves into the noble task of building a modern, developed and democratic state, constantly honing their physical and mental abilities.

Ko Htin Aung (Insein) PMPS seen at Yangon International Airport before his departure for Japan on 11 May, 2009 as he was selected for learning photography in Japan by Japan Foundation under Japan and East Asia scholars exchange programme.—NLM



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

Training Courses conclude at Nationalities Youth Resources Development Degree College



On behalf of the Secretary-1 of the SPDC, PBANRDA Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivers an address at the graduation of Nationalities Youth Resources Development Degree College (Mandalay).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—The course No.8 of Nationalities Youth Resources Development Degree College (Mandalay) concluded at the college this morning. Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt delivered an address on the occasion on behalf of Secretary of Central Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present were deputy ministers, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee the Mayor, directors-general, managing directors,

division-level departmental heads, principal, professors and instructors of Nationalities Youth Resources Development Degree College (Mandalay), arts and science bachelors and AGTI diploma holders.

In his address, the minister said that arrangements have been made for children in border areas to have access to



Akha national Maung Sa Be of Tachilek of Shan State.—MNA

education in accord with the guidance of Head of State. A total number of 28 Border Areas Nationalities Youth Training Schools have been established along border areas to provide free education to youths in border areas. Altogether 34 Women's Vocational Training School have been opened for female nationalities for free and with the emergence of Technical Training Schools in Laukkai, Pan-san and Maila, nationalities youth now can pursue vocational

education. In his message to 62nd Anniversary Union Day, Chairman of the SPDC, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe said that the most fundamental need for perpetuity of sovereignty of the State is Union Spirit and that it is the national duty of all national races residing in the Union to preserve Our Three Main



Shan national Maung Pyae Sone Phyo of Homalin of Sagaing Division.—MNA

National Causes with Union Spirit. In conclusion, the minister urged the graduates to serve the interests of the State with strong Union Spirit wherever they assigned duties in the Union.

The minister presented prizes and certificates of honour to Shan national Maung Pyae Sone Phyo of Homalin of Sagaing Division in the arts subject, Palaung national Mai Nyi Zaw Hla Aung of Namhkan of Shan State in

the science subject, Akha national Maung Sa Be of Tachilek of Shan State in the engineering subject.

The minister awarded prizes to outstanding students in the Abhidhamma (ordinary & honorary) exams organized by Ministry of Religious Affairs. The minister, deputy ministers, officials and graduates posed for documentary



Palaung national Mai Nyi Zaw Hla Aung of Namhkan of Shan State (North).—MNA

photo and the graduation came to an end.

In the 2009-2009 Academic year, the Nationalities Youth Resources Development Degree College (Mandalay) nurtured 15 BA graduates, 49 BSC graduates, 36 AGTI diploma holders, totalling 100. Those graduates were 3 Kachin, 4 Kayan, 22 Chin, 5 Danu, 7 Naga, 16 Palaung, 2 Pa-O, 27 Shan, 2 Lisu, one Wa, 3 Akha and 8 Intha, totalling 100.

MNA



A resident walks on the debris of the house of Abeer Qassim al-Janabi's family in the town of Mahmudiya, 30 km (20 miles) south of Baghdad, on 23 May, 2009. —INTERNET

At least 22 dead in Iraq violence

MOSUL, 25 May—Iraq was ripped by violence Sunday with a string of attacks leaving at least 22 people dead and dozens wounded, authorities said.

A police official told *The New York Times* a suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden van in Mosul, killing eight people and wounding 26. The attack, which wiped out a restaurant and several shops, appeared to have been meant for US soldiers but none of them

were hurt, the *Times* said.

Others were killed in roadside bombings, drive-by shootings, ambushes and execution-style slayings in Mosul and Fallujah.

The dead included a 2-month-old baby in a house struck by a hand grenade, police said.

Despite the rash of violence, Maj Gen Qassim Atta, spokesman for the Iraqi security forces in Baghdad, and Maj Gen David Perkins, spokesman for the US military, said

the overall trend has been fewer and less deadly attacks. Atta said the current rate is about 20-25 attacks per week, down from a high of 450 in 2007. "We have not witnessed a direct confrontation since 2007 on Iraqi security forces," Atta said.

Perkins agreed the overall picture has improved.

"From a macro point of view the attacks trend down," he said.

Internet

Explosion rocks Kandahar in S Afghanistan, kills two police

KABUL, 25 May—An explosion rocked Kandahar city the former stronghold of Taliban in south Afghanistan, killing at least two police on Sunday. "It was at 12 am local time (0730 GMT) when a remote-controlled bomb aimed at targeting police van in Dorahi area of Kandahar city killing two police and injuring two others," eye witnesses at the site of blast told *Xinhua*.

Meantime, a statement of Interior Ministry released here said that one civilian was killed and four others including a police were injured.

According to the statement, the bomb was planted inside a hand cart and detonated by remote control damaging two cars including the police van.

Terrorists by carrying out such attacks want to kill innocent people and destabilize security in the province, the statement said.

Taliban militants fighting Afghan and the US-led forces have vowed to speed up attacks mostly in the shape of suicide and roadside bombings this year in Afghanistan.—*Internet*



A policeman looks at a crater while securing the site of a bomb attack in Baghdad's Adhamiya district on 24 May, 2009. A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi police patrol wounded one policeman and two civilians in Adhamiya district, northern Baghdad, police said.

Internet

INTERNET

Copter pilot killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 25 May—A helicopter pilot stationed at Fort Bragg was killed in action on Friday in Afghanistan.

The Department of Defence said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Brent S Cole, 38, of Reedsville, WVa, died when his helicopter went down in Tarin Kwot, Afghanistan.

Cole was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 82nd Aviation Combat Brigade.

Circumstances around the incident are still being investigated, according to a Department of Defence news release.—*Internet*

Soldier killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 25 May—A British soldier with the NATO-led alliance in Afghanistan has been killed in a bomb blast in the insurgency-hit south of the country, officials in Kabul and London said Sunday.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said the soldier was killed Saturday "as a result of an improvised explosive device in southern Afghanistan."

In London the Ministry of Defence said the incident happened near Sangin, in the violence-wracked Helmand Province. "It is with great sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm that a British soldier from 38 Engineer Regiment working with 2nd Battalion The Rifles, Battle Group was killed as a result of an explosion that happened whilst on patrol near Sangin," it said.

Internet

Suicide car bomb attack kills eight in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU, 25 May—A suicide car bomber struck a camp for the Somali security forces in the south of the capital Mogadishu, killing nearly eight people including six police officers, and wounded several others, officials said Sunday.

The suicide bomber forcibly entered the camp

but a guard opened fired on the vehicle causing it to explode in the middle of the camp known as Haama Dhowr. Six police officers were killed and one civilians passer-by as well as the suicide bomber, Abdelfatah Ibrahim Shawey, deputy Mayor of Mogadishu, told reporters.

Shawey said he believes the attacker, who drove an SUV loaded with explosives, was a foreigner but gave no further details, adding that an investigation will be carried out and the perpetrators prosecuted.

Internet

Taliban attack district in NE Afghanistan

KABUL, 25 May—Taliban militants fighting Afghan government stormed a district in Takhar Province northeast Afghanistan in the wee hours of Sunday, police said.

"It was around 1:00 am this morning that Taliban rebels attacked Baharak district but police encountered forcing them to flee," provincial police chief Ziaudin Mahmoudi told *Xinhua*.

He also added that police inflicted casualties on Taliban militants but did not give exact figure.

Meantime, a Taliban purported spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid from unknown location told media that four police were killed in the firefight lasting for a while.—*Internet*



An Afghan police man searches a donkey at a check point near Forward Operation Base (FOB) Masum Ghar in Kandahar Province, on 24 May, 2009.—INTERNET



An Afghan national police officer examines a police car after it was attacked, near Forward Operation Base (FOB) Masum Ghar in Kandahar Province, on 24 May, 2009.

INTERNET



A pre-Hispanic piece called *Host Figure* (L) is displayed as part of the "Teotihuacan, City of Gods" exhibition in Mexico City's anthropology museum on 21 May, 2009. The piece was found in the Mayan area. Inside lie figurines and jade objects, representing Teotihuacan culture. —XINHUA

Two killed, six hurt in Ariz graduation party shooting

MESA, 25 May— Two people were killed and six others — two of them children — were wounded in a shooting at a high school graduation party, police said on Sunday.

Brent Matthew Banks, 37, was arrested after a four-hour standoff with police at a house in Mesa, east of Phoenix, Mesa Police Sgt Ed Wessing said.

Preliminary information indicated that Banks was an invited guest at the party who got into a physical fight with his ex-wife late on Saturday, Wessing said.

He allegedly went to

his vehicle, got a gun, returned to the party and opened fire, killing his 38-year-old ex-wife and a 32-year-old man, Wessing said.

He said six others suffered minor injuries. They included a 10-year-old boy who was grazed on the head and an 8-year-old

boy injured by bullet fragments.

Wessing said that when police arrived patrol cars were hit by gunfire and one officer was shot in the left arm. The officer's injuries weren't life-threatening and no other officers were hit.

Internet

Strong quake hits Macedonia near Greek border

SKOPJE, 25 May— A strong earthquake struck southern Macedonia near the Greek border on Sunday night, damaging dozens of homes, an official said.

No casualties were immediately reported.

The quake, with an epicenter near the Macedonian town of Valandovo, 10 miles (16 kilometres) from the Greek border, struck at 6:17 pm (1617 GMT), authorities said.

The temblor measured

5.1 on the Richter scale, the Geodynamic Institute at the University of Thessaloniki and Skopje's Seismological Observatory reported.

The US Geological Survey gave a slightly higher magnitude: 5.4.

Initial estimates of earthquakes often vary.

The Skopje Observatory said that more than 70 temblors with a magnitude greater than 4 had been registered in the area since Saturday night.

Internet

and Little Russia — Ukraine," they quoted Putin as saying. "He says that nobody should be permitted to interfere in relations between us, they have always been the business of Russia itself."

Portions of present-day Ukraine were part of pre-Revolutionary Russia and were sometimes called "Little Russia" or "Lesser Russia," while the bulk of the country was known as "Great Russia." Many Ukrainians find the terms offensive and misleading.

Putin's remarks came as the dominant Russian

Orthodox Church called for Slavic unity amid celebrations honoring Saints Cyril and Methodius, considered founding fathers of a common Slavic culture.

But the comments could anger Ukrainians and increase their wariness about Moscow's intentions toward the former Soviet republic.—Internet

Sydney Centerpoint Tower on fire

CANBERRA, 25 May— A fire broke out at Sydney's Centerpoint Tower in the city's CBD on Monday morning, sending a huge cloud of black smoke over the city skyline.

The blaze started when construction workers accidentally set alight a cooling tower on the podium level of Westfield Centerpoint shopping center, one level below the tower, said the website of *Sydney Morning Herald* on Monday.

The fire started at 8:29 a.m. and was put out about 8:50 am, a New South Wales (NSW) Fire Brigades spokesman said.

Station Officer Dean Gray said the workers were dismantling the cooling tower — made of fibre glass and metal — with cutting equipment, when it caught fire.

The workmen on site used hose reels to try to put out the fire before Fire Brigades arrived, Station Officer Gray said.

Internet

Royal chauffeur suspended over security lapse

LONDON, 25 May— A royal chauffeur was suspended Sunday over allegations he gave undercover reporters a tour of Queen Elizabeth II's luxury limousines and other sensitive areas of her Buckingham

Palace home in exchange for money.

London police said they were examining the allegations and holding talks on security with staff at the London palace following reports of the breach.

The News of the World tabloid said two of its reporters, posing as wealthy Middle Eastern businessmen, were shown round secure areas of Buckingham Palace and allowed to sit inside Bentleys used by the royal family. The newspaper said it paid the chauffeur 1,000 pounds (\$1,588) for the tour.

According to the newspaper, the men were also shown Rolls-Royces and the Queen's own green Daimler car, which she drives herself.

Internet

Gender issues worsen Iraq's medical woes

SAQLAWIYAH, 25 May— This part of Iraq, says Dr Ayad al-Hadithy, is so conservative that a man would rather have his pregnant wife die in labour than be touched by a male nurse or doctor.

It's just one of the difficulties faced by US and Iraqi officials as they struggle to nurse the war-ravaged province of Anbar back to health. One showcase of their efforts is the reopening last year, for women only, of the Nursing School in Anbar's capital, Ramadi. Another is a field school in the town of Saqlawiyah that has just graduated its first batch of 10 female

nurse's aides.

Nowhere are nurses more badly needed than in Saqlawiyah and its surrounding villages, where 50,000 people have no women doctors and only one female nurse and one midwife, both old and overworked.

The area's most recent records, from five years ago when the anti-US insurgency was just beginning, show that one in five women dies in childbirth, and many women never even see a doctor.

The strictures on women as nurses stems from the province's strong tribal society and its puritan reading of Islam. But

al-Hadithy, a 49-year-old mother-and-child care specialist, doesn't accept it.

"This is ignorance, not Islam," he said. "Nowhere does Islam say: 'Let your wife die.'"

Internet

People look at the Turkish Air Force aerobatic team, Turkish Stars, perform during the first day of the Sky for All International Air Show at Krumovo Airport, near the city of Plovdiv, some 120 kms from the capital Sofia.

INTERNET



New Zealand disappointed at US export subsidies on dairy products

WELLINGTON, 25 May—New Zealand Prime Minister John Key on Monday expressed disappointment at the United States' decision to reintroduce export subsidies on dairy products.

"It's a very disappointing move and its unhelpful because frankly it runs the risk now it sets off even further subsidies from Europe," Key told Radio NewstalkZB.

The US move followed the European Union's (EU) reintroduction of ex-

port subsidies in January. "It's a very unhelpful move and it really runs a bit against the statements the Americans made that they didn't want protectionism," he added.

Key said he discussed trade with US President Barack Obama during their recent phone call, in which he had highlighted concerns about protectionism.

On Monday, New Zealand Trade Minister Tim Groser described the step as disappointing, a set-

back, short-sighted and damaging to world markets.

"Export subsidy assistance will have a relatively small effect on income for US dairy farmers, and may even prove counterproductive by creating uncertainty and depressing international dairy market prices. Unsubsidised producers, like those from New Zealand, will bear the cost of these trade-distorting measures," Groser said in a statement.

Xinhua



Chinese dragon boat athletes compete at an invitation race to welcome the Dragon Boat Festival, which is due on 28 May, on a lake in Shanghai, east China, on 24 May, 2009. —XINHUA

PetroChina acquires 45.51% stake in Singapore Petroleum Company

BEIJING, 25 May—PetroChina Company Limited announced Sunday that the company has entered into a conditional agreement through its Singapore subsidiary to acquire 45.51 percent of the total issued share capital of Singapore Petroleum Company Limited (SPC). The deal was for cash consideration of 6.25 Singapore dollars per share, or 1.47 billion Singapore dollars (1.02 billion US dollars) in total.

The agreement was signed between PetroChina's indirectly wholly owned subsidiary, PetroChina International (Singapore) PteLtd, and Keppel Oil and Gas Services Pte Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Singapore-based Keppel Corporation Limited ("Keppel").

Xinhua



Chinese students present a group performance of Chinese Taichi, or shadowboxing, during a show in Cangzhou city, north China's Hebei Province, on 23 May, 2009. —XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Indonesian government must increase military budget

JAKARTA, 25 May—Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said here on Monday that fund allocation for the military must be increased to comply with the minimum military operational budget needs.

"After the (global financial) crisis, which is expected to end in the next two years, the budget for the military must be increased," the prominent news portal detik.com quoted the President as saying on the sidelines of

a ceremony to open the president guard's housing cluster. Yudhoyono, however, did not go into details on the budget increase for the military.

The president said that the current allocation, set at 33 trillion rupiah (or 3.2 billion US dollars), was hardly able to cope with the minimum budget required by the military to secure the operational of its weaponry system.

"It is not enough to finance the purchase of new military equipment ei-

ther," he added.

Analysts in Indonesia addressed the government's lack of budget for the military that ended up in mishaps in the operational of military vehicles.

The recent crash of military troop carrier plane, Hercules C130, in Magetan East Java last week that took more than 100 lives was the fresh example of the lack of the military fund to finance the maintenance of its ageing planes, said the analysts.

Xinhua

US space shuttle Atlantis lands after successful mission

WASHINGTON, 25 May—Space shuttle Atlantis landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California on Sunday morning after a successful mission to repair and upgrade the Hubble Space Telescope.

Weather conditions forced flight controllers to pass up the shuttle's first landing opportunity at Kennedy Space Center in Florida, NASA said.

Thunderstorms had prevented the Atlantis from returning to its Florida home base for the third day in a row.

The shuttle, STS-125, arrived at the Hubble Space Telescope at the International Space Station on 13 May. During the fifth and final space shuttle servicing mission to the Hubble Space Telescope, Atlantis' seven astronauts performed five spacewalks on five consecutive days to repair and upgrade the telescope, according to NASA. —Xinhua



The Space Shuttle Atlantis lands at Edwards Air Force Base in California on 24 May, 2009. The Atlantis capped an extended 13-day mission to rejuvenate the Hubble Space Telescope on Sunday with a flawless landing at Edwards Air Force base in California. —XINHUA

Cambodian dengue fever patients rise sharply

PHNOM PENH, 25 May—The number of dengue fever patients of Cambodia rose to about 1,500 until May, 960 more than the same period of last year, or an increase of about 50 percent, national media said on Monday.

The 1,500 victims were mainly spotted in Phnom Penh with 343 cases, Kampong Cham Province 259 cases and Kandal Province 161 cases, Chinese-language daily newspaper the *Commercial News* quoted officials of the Ministry of Health (MoH) as saying.

Moreover, three people died of the disease all over the kingdom, two of them died in the early of the year and the third in May, according to MoH.

Xinhua



The children of a kindergarten perform group gymnastic exercise in an activity in Yuncheng, a city of north China's Shanxi Province, on 24 May, 2009. —XINHUA

Opposites attract to get healthier kids

VIENNA, 25 May — Genetic opposites do attract when choosing a mate because of the subconscious drive to have healthy children, researchers in Brazil say.

Maria da Graca Bicalho of the University of Parana in Brazil said her research showed that people with diverse major histocompatibility complexes — a gene-dense region of the genome that plays a role in reproduc-

tive success — were more likely to choose each other as mates than those whose MHCs were similar.

The scientists studied MHC data from 90 married couples, and compared them with 152 randomly generated control couples. They counted the number of MHC dissimilarities among those who were real couples, and compared them with those in the randomly generated “virtual couples.”

“If MHC genes did not influence mate selection, we would have expected to see similar results from both sets of couples,” Bicalho said in a statement.

“But we found that the real partners had significantly more MHC dissimilarities than we could have expected to find simply by chance.”

The findings are being presented at the annual conference of the European Society of Human Genetics in Vienna.

Internet

Toyota says no plan to offer hybrid tech to GM

TOKYO, 25 May — Japan's Toyota Motor Corp denied a report that it is considering offering its hybrid vehicle technology to struggling US giant General Motors.

The Yomiuri Shimbun reported, without naming its sources, that Toyota would be ready to provide the technology if GM asks for it, even if the Detroit carmaker seeks bankruptcy protection.

But a Toyota official said the Japanese giant was “not considering it.”

GM is working against a 1 June deadline to convince the US Treasury that it can achieve long-term viability or it could be forced to follow Chrysler into bankruptcy protection.

The Yomiuri said Toyota may provide GM with patented technology that is used in the Prius and some of its other vehicles to increase fuel economy by controlling the movement of the engine and the motor.

Toyota's indirect support for GM's reconstruction would benefit the Japanese firm as its hybrid technology would in effect become the de facto world standard, the report said.

Toyota, a pioneer in petrol-electric hybrids, has no capital ties with GM but the two companies collaborate in some areas of manufacturing, such as joint production of small cars in the United States.

Internet

Morocco stampede kills 11, wounds 40

RABAT, 25 May — A stampede that occurred on Saturday midnight in Rabat has killed 11 and injured 40, local MAP news agency reported on Sunday. The report said five women, four men and two minors were among the victims.

The scramble took place after a show on Saturday evening at the Hay Nahda stadium in Rabat which hosted a concert of the Mawazine music festival, the report said citing a police source. The show was attended by some 70,000 spectators.

The stampede occurred when a fence collapsed under pressure from the spectators who rushed to the concert, to one of the main exits. Most of the injured have left hospital after treatment, with seven still placed under medical supervision, the report said. —*Internet*

Boat flips, 13 passengers end up in river

RED WING, 25 May — Thirteen people riding in a fast-moving boat wound up in the Mississippi River near Red Wing, Minn, on Sunday when it hit a wake and flipped, authorities said.

Goodhue County Chief Deputy Sheriff Scott McNurlin said 11 of the victims were taken to hospitals but he didn't know how badly they were hurt, the *Star Tribune* reported.

Witnesses said the 45-foot boat was traveling 50-60 mph when the accident occurred, the Minneapolis newspaper said. The passengers were helped out off the water by passersby. —*Internet*

Nigerian militants say three hostages freed

LAGOS, 25 May — Nigeria's main oil-delta militant group says it destroyed a major pipeline in the southern region and set free three Filipino hostages.

The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta says in a statement it destroyed the crude-bearing pipeline run by Chevron Corp on early on Monday.

The pipeline is Rivers State, where the military has launched its largest operation in years against militants. The militants also say they have released three Filipinos seized earlier this month. Officials for the military and Chevron were not immediately available for comment. —*Internet*

NEWS ALBUM



A robot is seen in action at a qualifying football match of the RoboCup 2009 in Hefei, Anhui Province on 16 May, 2009. More than thirty teams from Chinese universities attended the qualifying match and four of them will represent the country to participate in the Robocup 2009 finals in Austria in June, local media reported.



A woman holds handfuls of hail after a thunderstorm in Ludwigsburg, Germany.

Surgeon allegedly operates on wrong part of mouth

Officials at a Providence hospital group said an oral surgeon began operating on the wrong part of a patient's mouth this week before discovering the error. It's the fifth wrong-site surgery in the last two years in the Lifespan hospital chain.

Timothy Babineau, president of Rhode Island Hospital, said that the mistake occurred on Monday at Hasbro Children's Hospital.

Babineau said on Wednesday the surgical team was able to perform the correct procedure with “good results.” He said the patient is in good condition and no complications are expected.

Woman fights off intruders with chili, broom

Up in Tazewell, Wanda Bray slings a mean bowl of chili. Quite literally. Claiborne County Sheriff's Capt David Honeycutt said Bray was confronted by men who broke into her home on Tuesday night and she fought back by throwing what was described as “household objects” at them, including a bowl of homemade chili.

Then, according to *The Knoxville News Sentinel*, the 58-year-old Bray went after the intruders with a broom. They fled.

Police later arrested three men and charged them with the home invasion robbery and with a recent convenience store holdup. Honeycutt said the intruders demanded drugs from Bray and probably got away with a bottle of blood pressure pills.

Ronaldo in trouble for pulling opponent's hair

Ronaldo could face disciplinary action after television cameras caught him pulling an opponent's hair playing for Corinthians at the weekend.

The incident happened as he tussled with Botafogo midfielder Fahel in Sunday's goalless draw in the Brazilian championships.

“We've requested the video of the match and Thursday I am going to analyze it and see if there was an infringement,” said Paulo Schmitt, an official with Brazilian football's disciplinary tribunal. “I've never seen hair pulling in a football match,” he told the tribunal's website (<http://Justicadesportiva.com.br>).

Fahel said he complained to Ronaldo

about the incident during the game but did not bear any resentment.

Ronaldo has scored eight goals for Corinthians in his latest comeback following last year's knee injury with AC Milan.



Corinthians' Ronaldo (R) holds Botafogo's Fahel during their Brazilian championship soccer match in Rio de Janeiro.

German woman attacked for “overpriced asparagus”

A German man beat up a 24-year-old woman because he felt her pricing of asparagus sounded like an overpriced, according to police Monday.

They said the vegetable vendor was beaten by the motorist because he was angry at her asking price for asparagus which fluctuates wildly during the short springtime season.

The springtime vegetable is sold for 10 euros per kilo—the highest in the spring— early in the season.

According to the woman, the man screamed at the woman that her asparagus was overpriced. He then punched her in the face and threatened to unleash his attack dog at her. She fled and called police.

People by nature universally optimistic



At the country level, optimism is highest in Ireland, Brazil, Denmark, and New Zealand and lowest in Zimbabwe, Egypt, Haiti and Bulgaria. The United States ranks number 10 on the list of optimistic countries.

KANSAS CITY, 25 May — Despite calamities from economic recessions, wars and famine to a flu epidemic afflicting the Earth, a new study from the University of Kansas and Gallup indicates that humans are by nature optimistic. The study, to be presented 24 May, 2009, at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science in San Francisco, found optimism to be universal and borderless.

Data from the Gallup World Poll drove the findings, with adults in more than 140 countries providing a representative sample of 95 percent of the world's population. The sample included more than 150,000 adults.—*Internet*

Mockingbirds in fickle climates sing fancier tunes

Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos). A large-scale study of mockingbirds in diverse habitats reveals that species in more variable climates also sing more complex tunes.



RALEIGH, 25 May — Why are some birds simple singers and others vocal virtuosos? Researchers at the National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent), the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and McGill University suspect that inconsistent climates may play a role.

A large-scale study of mockingbirds in diverse habitats reveals that species in more variable climates also sing more complex tunes. "As environments become more variable or unpredictable, song displays become more elaborate," said Carlos Botero, a postdoctoral researcher at NESCent in Durham, NC. NESCent is an NSF-funded collaborative research center operated by Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State University.—*Internet*

Trial against American citizen Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma continues for sixth day

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May — The trial against American citizen Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma continued at the court of Yangon North District for the sixth day today.

The court heard the statement of prosecution witness Police Lt-Col Zaw Min Aung in connection with the Criminal Case No 47/2009.

Cross-examined by U Nyan Win, Lawyer of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, prosecution witness Police Lt-Col Zaw Min Aung said the restricting sections 148 (c), 157, 158, 159 (a), 159 (b) and 160 that he stated during the previous hearing are prescribed in the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Myanmar. As Daw Aung San Suu Kyi violated the restriction and prohibition order, lawsuit was filed against her. Though he stated that receiving a foreigner, conversing with him and providing food to him are within the right of a person according to the section 159 (a) concerning the question that if there is no definition of those words, definition of the right and definition of the personal right in the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Myanmar, he would say they are prescribed in the law. As she is restricted for personal security under section 160, she violated the provision on legal protection to be provided for her in connection with the security of correspondence and other means of communication.

Asked by U Hla Myo Myint, Lawyer of Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma (a) Ange Lay, Prosecution witness Lt-Col Zaw Min Aung in connection with Criminal Case filed against Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma (a) Ange Lay, said in his statement that he did not consider that Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma (a) Ange Lay are ordinary citizens who don't understand the procedure of the government; but he knew that they are living in a house with a person who is under restrictions. Asked whether they can understand the details of the prohibition order and the restriction order imposed on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, he replied they can understand these orders as they share a house with a person who is under the prohibition and restriction orders.

When cross-examined by U Nyan Win, the lawyer of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Police Col Win Naing Tun, the witness called in for the second time, stated that, regarding the foreigner entering the house on 30 November, 2008, if no one asked what things were left, it was reported to our superior officers according to the 4 December 2008 statement by Dr Tin Myo Win; that the intrusion was not stated exactly and in full detail at that time; that the four people, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, were being sued for breaking the prohibition order not to contact people outside by letter or by phone if they were not being sued for corresponding with people outside; that they were being sued for receiving letters from outside and contacting people outside by letter; that there was systematic receiving and keeping of the book given by Mr John William Yettaw when he entered the house for the first time if the things confiscated from the house of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi were the things left by Mr John William Yettaw of his own accord; and that, if the entry of the foreigner into the house of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on 30 November 2008 and on 3 May 2009 was illegal, he entered the house secretly and illegally.

When cross-examined by U Hla Myo Myint, the lawyer of Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma

Ma, Police Col Win Naing Tun stated that, if there had not yet been any report about Mr John William Yettaw's intrusion of the house, he was being sued not for house intrusion but in accordance with an immigration act.

When cross-examined by U Nyan Win, the lawyer of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Police Captain Sa Kyaw Win, the witness called in for the second time, stated that, in having to carry out the order of superior officers, it was true that a police officer had the right to act and had to act only in accordance with the law.

When cross-examined by U Nyan Win, the lawyer of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Police Captain Tin Zaw Tun stated that it was true if he led searching the house of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the morning of 7 May; it was also true that there had not yet been any First Information Report on that day; and that, if the statement that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi took responsibility for the things entrusted to her meant taking responsibility as an entrusted person and not for the case, it meant that she took responsibility for the things left by Mr John William Yettaw and the things given by him as presents.

Of the persecution witnesses, the remaining ones were questioned in accordance with the provisions enumerated in Section 256 of the Criminal Law.

In his statement, Investigating Officer Police Captain Than Soe of the Special Branch said that he was a police captain (investigator) from the prosecution division of the Special Branch; that on 11 May, Bahan Police Station was assigned duties to investigate the case as (Crime) 301/09 in connection with Section 22 of the Law to Safeguard the State Against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts and Section 109 of Criminal Law; that he started to question some witnesses in relation to the case the same day; that the following day that is 12 May; he questioned some police member witnesses and chairmen of Ward Peace and Development Councils concerned; that the same day Police Captain Maung Maung Myint handed over the items he had seized from Mr John William Yettaw along with the search form, and Police Captain Tin Zaw Tun, the evidences he had seized from Daw Aung San Suu Kyi along with the search form, and the search warrant to search her house and the report to confirm the warrant and he accepted the items; that on 13 May, he questioned the witnesses in connection with the search of the room of Beauty Land Hotel (2) where Mr John William Yettaw had put up, and received the search form and exhibits handed over by Police Captain Sa Kyaw Win; that on 14 May, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win, Ma Win Ma Ma and Mr John William Yettaw were arrested, and under the lawsuit No. 263/2009 filed by Bahan Police Station, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, under Section 22 of the Law to Safeguard the State Against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts, and Daw Khin Khin Win, Ma Win Ma Ma and Mr John William Yettaw, under Section 22 of the Law to Safeguard the State Against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts and Section 109 of Criminal Law, were sued at the court of Yangon North District.

The district law officer submitted that 15 of the 23 prosecution witnesses in connection with criminal case No. 47/2009 of Yangon North District Court had been questioned, and so the remaining eight prosecution witnesses would not be questioned.

Hearings will be continued at 10 am on 26 May, it is learnt.—*MNA*

The media making progress in Rakhine State

Article: *Tin Htwe (MNA)*

(from page 16)

The Ministry of Information is using a variety of ways and means to improve the media of the nation to contribute towards achieving the goal.

In that case, it is trying to provide better media service not only for rural people but also for the people of border areas that are not easily accessible.

The ministry is also carrying out necessary tasks for development of human resources so as to provide further impetus for national development such as improving TV and radio programmes, opening self-reliant libraries in rural areas, and providing publications for the libraries.

Having a large number of mountain ranges, rivers and creeks, Rakhine State is difficult of access, and in consequence, it lags behind other regions in development. The Tatmadaw government is paying greater attention to measures for development of Rakhine State, one of which is the programme development of the media.

In order to achieve its goal, the Ministry of Information is establishing TV retransmitting stations to provide the people with TV programmes with high resolution; upgrading the present broadcasting machines; building retransmitting stations for Sittway, Thandwe and An townships to receive MRTV-4 programmes; replacing old machines with new ones to air sharp radio programmes; airing FM radio programmes; broadcasting weather reports through FM channel; taking preparedness measures against natural disasters; and establishing self-reliant libraries and carrying out programmes for their sustainable development. In addition, it has built a sub-printing house in Sittway and installed a new press in it to enable the dwellers of Rakhine State to read daily newspapers on the same day.

So far, Rakhine State has seen 12 TV retransmitting stations in Sittway Township (10 KW), Buthidaung Township (1 KW), Thandwe Township (100 W), An Township (50 W), Taungup Township (50 W), Lamu in Taungup Township (50 W), Ma-ei (50 W), Gwa Township (50 W), Kyaukpyu Township (10 W), Manaung Township (10 W), and Kyauktaw Township (10 W).

The stations are enough for all the townships in



Opening of Doh Alin Library in Nanchaung Village, Thandwe, Rakhine State, in progress on 18-5-2009.

the state to receive TV programmes. However, TV programmes still cannot be received in some villages due to the heights. So, the ministry has installed Direct To Home (DTH) Terminal Equipment (Set-top Box) to work out the issue. Installation of 30 units is on target, and up to now, five villages have got one each.

It is establishing a retransmitting station (3 KW) on the summit of Peinhne mountain in Yanbye Township in place of the station (10 W) for Kyaukpyu, Yanbye and Manaung townships. Before long, the entire three townships will be able to receive programmes.

In like manner, the broadcasting machine (10 W) will be replaced with the new one (30 W) in Kyauktaw Township. So, all the village-tracts except the ones in the low-lying areas will be able to receive the TV

programmes.

Thandwe Township will soon get a (300 W) broadcasting machine, so by then, the entire township will be able to receive the programmes. And its old machine (100 W) will be shifted to Taungup, and it is good news for Taungup.

Since 27 December 2007, the ministry has been airing MRTV-4 and related programmes with (100 W) DVB-T. Since then, Sittway Township and surrounding areas such as Pauktaw, Punnagyun, Thinbondan, Rathedaung, Kagyeechaung, Padaleik and Kalarywa have received clear and sharp programmes.

Due to the launch of (100 W) DVB-T for MRTV-4 and relevant lines on 22 February 2009, the TV programmes have become clearer in Thandwe and its

The Ministry of Information is carrying out necessary tasks for development of human resources so as to provide further impetus for national development such as improving TV and radio programmes, opening self-reliant libraries in rural areas, and providing publications for the libraries.



Pyinnya Sanyaydwin Library of Kywei-te village in Sittway Township, Rakhine State.

environs such as Ngapali and, Lontha, Hsingaung and Minhaw villages.

Similarly, An and nearby villages such as Myohaung, Auk, Lon, Laungset and Setsi villages receive clear programmes due to the launch of (50 W) DVB-T machine on 22 February 2009.

The trial broadcasting of FM radio for Rakhine State began with (300 W) machine on 20 March 2009. It has been replaced with (1 KW) machine on 20 April 2009, thus widening the coverage area and improving the quality of pictures and sounds. At first, the programmes for four hours were broadcast three times a day, amounting to 12 hours. Now, the system has been upgraded to the system that covers 12 hours at a stretch from 7 am to 7 pm since 21 May 2009.

Pyinsawady FM radio comprises current news, and knowledge, educative and entertainment programmes proportionately along with regional programmes and news, Rakhine traditional music programmes.

(See page 9)

The media making progress in Rakhine State

Article: *Tin Htwe (MNA)*

(from page 8)

Pyinsawady FM radio regularly broadcasts weather reports and storm news without any delay. It broadcasts storm news in coordination with the Meteorology and Hydrology Department once an hour. It will broadcast news about storm winds constantly if the occasion arises. The programmes can be received by radio, mobile phone and car radio even in the areas 25 miles off the coast. So, fishermen can enjoy the programmes and listen to weather reports at sea. By just spending 4000 kyats, a fisherman can improve his working conditions and know forthcoming storms in advance. That reflects the government's goodwill for them.

For the time being, Pyinsawady FM radio programmes can be received clearly in Sittway and nearby villages. Now, new machines are being installed to expand the coverage area to Thandwe and An. Therefore, the regions, like Yangon and Mandalay, can receive radio programmes clearly.

Pyinsawady FM radio programmes are aired at the studios of the Myanmar Radio and Television in Yangon and they are broadcast to

Sittway through the satellite system. Then, the station in Sittway retransmits the programmes with (1 KW) machine.

Besides, the Ministry of Information is opening more and more self-reliant village libraries in the rural areas in Rakhine State in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State to enable local people to catch up with their fellow countrymen of other regions in literature and arts. As a result, all the over 4000 villages in the rural areas of Rakhine State have got a library each.

Follow-up programmes are also being carried out for sustainable progress of the self-reliant libraries. Now, many library buildings have been built with the funds donated by the Union Solidarity and Development Association and well-wishers. Under the programme, 20 library buildings have been built so far in Kywite village in Sittway Township, Bahtalay and Thaugdara villages in Yathedaung Township, Aungphyu-byin and Kwuntaung villages in Punnagyun Township, Lanmadaw and Apaukwa villages in Kyauktaw Township, Sunye village in Minbya Township, Angu village in Myebon Township, Taungphu village in Pauktaw Town-



The sub-printing house of Sittway Township.

ship, Htamarit village in MraukU Township, Kyeinchaung village in Maungtaw Township, Ywama village in Buthidaung Township, Ngalapwe and Sai-choun villages in Kyaukpyu Township, Letpanwa village in Yanbye Township, Kama village in Manaung Township, Daigy village in An Township, Nanchaung village in Thandwe Township, Kai-shei village in Taungup Township, and Tai-kyo village in Gwa Township.

USDA donated K 51 million and four local well-wishers, K 12 million to 17 libraries at the rate of K 3 million a library. That indicated the great

goodwill for widening the horizons and development of the local national races in Rakhine State.

The Information and Public Relations Department donated publications worth K 100,000 to each of the 21 self-reliant libraries in Rakhine State.

The News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information launched a sub-printing house in Sittway on 26 August 2003 for Rakhine State dwellers to be able to read newspapers on the same day. With the aim of improving the quality of the newspapers, the enterprise replaced the old printing machine with new one and is using quality printing paper. So, local people can get newspapers with greater quality. In the past, it took a month or so for local people to get news from other regions, and they could get informed only when mo-

torboats and vessels from other regions arrived in their state. In contrast, in the time of the Tatmadaw government, even the villagers of the most far-flung village can read newspapers not three days later than the published day. That was evidenced by the smile on the face of a local man reading a newspaper.

Under the programme for enabling every village in Rakhine State to read the papers, the Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information donated 400 issues and Development Council, 640 issues, totalling 1040 every day to 1040 libraries of the 17 townships of the state. In that regard, the News and Periodicals Enterprise sells daily issues at fair prices. The News and Periodicals Enterprise has a plan to distribute daily issues at fair prices for post-literary campaign and helping

broaden the horizons of local people. They are, therefore, expected to be able to catch up with the media age in future.

Now, the NPE is mobilizing volunteers and well-wishers in its bid to help every village in the state get a newspaper. Moreover, it is organizing local people to buy newspapers village-wise.

As a result of the hard work the government is exerting to build more infrastructural buildings for equitable development of all parts of the nation, local people of Rakhine State are now in a position to enjoy greater development. In order to accelerate the development momentum, the Ministry of Information is trying its best for development of the media and human resources. So, the development momentum of Rakhine State is picking up momentum.

Translation: MS



Now, Thandwe Township and surrounding areas receive programmes of MRTV-4 and related channels.

As a result of the hard work the government is exerting to build more infrastructural buildings for equitable development of all parts of the nation, local people of Rakhine State are now in a position to enjoy greater development.

Regional development tasks gaining more ground in Shan State (North)



Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence views plantations of Forestry Department in Lashio.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council (North) Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and departmental personnel visited Hsibaw bridge construction site in Hsibaw on 23 May.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing visited layer breeding farm of ToePwaAung Production Co Ltd and viewed breeding of laying hens, hatching of chicks and

production of animal feed.

On 24 May, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party visited Wulong tea plantations of local people in Tamoenye. After that, they visited Wulong tea leaves factory and observed production process.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party visited Yan Aung Myin Pagoda of Monsi village in Kutkai township and presented cash for the pagoda.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing met with departmental officials, members of social organizations,

townselders and locals in Tamoenye and heard reports on progress of Tamoenye.

On arrival at Tamoenye People's Hospital, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party comforted patients and presented medicines and medical equipment for the hospital.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party visited integrated farm of the local battalion and gave instructions.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Energy inspects oil fields

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May — Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay visited oil fields in

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay inspects oil drilling at Kyaukkhwat oil field.

MNA

Magway Division on 23 and 24 May and gave instructions on production of oil and natural gas.

During the visit to Kyaukkhwat and Latpanto oil fields in Myaing Township on 23 May, the deputy minister gave instructions on boosting the production of oil and natural gas in the fields.

He also went to Thakyaung Oil Field and the refinery (Kyunchaung) and inspected the production process.

On 24 May, the deputy minister inspected the Fertilizer Factory No 2 (Kyunchaung) of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise. — MNA

Course on networking and server management opened

YANGON, 25 May—As server play an important role in developing IT technology, those interested in IT technology should learn server management and maintenance systematically. With companies applying internet networking system, now new job opportunities have come out for server professionals.

M3Wi has now opened a course on

internet and server technology for those wishing to work as network/server administrators.

The course includes networking device, networking topology, TCP/IP technology, installation of Microsoft Window Server 2003, DNS server and other applied subjects.

The course is suitable for those who want to learn internet and server

technology from basic, those wishing to take MCSA (Microsoft Certified System Administrator) Exam and those studying B.C. Tech in University of Computer Studies.

For further information, contact Room No.5 Building 4 Myanmar Info-Tech Hline University Campus, Yangon (Ph: 652288, 521125).

MNA

Asteroid attack 3.9 billion years ago may have enhanced early life on Earth

BOULDER, 24 May — The bombardment of



The bombardment of Earth by asteroids 3.9 billion years ago may have enhanced early life, according to a new University of Colorado study.

Earth nearly 4 billion years ago by asteroids as large as Kansas would not have had the firepower to extinguish potential early life on the planet and may even have given it a boost, says a new University of Colorado at Boulder study.

Impact evidence from lunar samples, meteorites and the pockmarked surfaces of the inner planets paints a picture of a violent environment in the solar system during the Hadean Eon 4.5 to 3.8

billion years ago, particularly through a cataclysmic event known as the Late Heavy Bombardment about 3.9 billion years ago. Although many believe the bombardment would have sterilized Earth, the new study shows it would have melted only a fraction of Earth's crust, and that microbes could well have survived in subsurface habitats, insulated from the destruction.

Internet

Iran says foreign troops no help to region's security

TEHERAN, 25 May— Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad attacked the presence of foreign forces in the region at a summit with his Afghan and Pakistani counterparts on Sunday aimed at tackling terrorism and other security problems.

In separate comments underscoring the Islamic Republic's deep mistrust of the United States, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei told Afghanistan's Hamid

Karzai and Pakistan's Asif Ali Zardari that America was hated among the region's people.

The three neighbours' first such meeting, which ended with pledges of cooperation but without any specific measures being announced, took place as Pakistan and Afghanistan are battling to stem the spread of Taliban insurgencies in their countries.

Iran and Pakistan border Afghanistan and have a large stake in its

stability because of the impact of a flourishing drugs trade and because in decades of violence, millions of refugees have often spilled across borders. Although it is a long-time foe of Iran, the United States is also pushing for a more regional approach against the growing strength of Taliban-linked militants in Afghanistan, one of the areas where Washington is seeking to engage Teheran.

MNA/Reuters



The Coast Guard suspended a search Thursday for two missing members of a Navy flight crew whose helicopter went down on a training flight southwest of San Diego on 21 May, 2009.—INTERNET

B'desh to import 1.74 mln tons of petroleum from Kuwait

DHAKA, 25 May— Bangladesh's Cabinet Committee on Public Purchase Sunday approved import of a total of 1.75 million tons of petroleum from Kuwait in next 21 months under a renewed deal, private news agency UNB reported. As proposed, 715,000 tons of the fuel oil will be imported during April-December period in 2009 and 1.03 million tons in January-December 2010, the report said.

The state-owned Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) will make the bulk import of petroleum from the oil-rich Gulf country's state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation Limited (KPCL). "The Cabinet committee has approved the Energy Ministry's proposal for renewal of the deal," Cabinet Secretary Abdul Aziz told reporters here while

briefing about the outcome of the meeting, according to the UNB. "The Cabinet approved the proposal for renewal of deal with KPCL in order to ensure the country's energy security," Aziz added.

MNA/Xinhua

Rising unemployment raises threat of social crisis

MADRID, 25 May— World economic recovery will be slow and rising unemployment could bring the threat of social crisis and protectionism, World Bank President Robert Zoellick said in an

interview with Spanish Sunday newspaper *El Pais*.

"What began as a great financial crisis and became a great economic crisis is now becoming a great crisis of

unemployment, and if we don't take measures there is a risk of a great human and social crisis, with major political implications," he said. "That's a good breeding ground for populist, protectionist policies," he added.

"The finance ministers of the G-7 and the G-20 are displaying a certain relief because the contraction has slowed. Although we could still have low or negative growth, the situation is less bad," he said. "But economists and industrialists are conscious that the recovery will be slow coming and weaker than expected."

MNA/Reuters

ASEM Senior Officials' Meeting ends in Hanoi

HANOI, 25 May— The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Senior Officials' Meeting ended in Hanoi on Sunday in preparation for the 9th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM 9), scheduled to be held on 25 May.

Senior officials from 45 ASEM members discussed and agreed on the topics and programme for the FMM 9 as well as the drafts of documents to be adopted at this meeting. The meeting was of special importance as it finalized all preparations and arrangements for the FMM 9, said a Press release from the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry issued immediately after the meeting.

Prior to the ASEM Senior Officials' meeting, there were meetings of the Asian ASEM Senior Officials, European ASEM Senior Officials and ASEM Coordinators' Senior Officials. The senior officials also expressed their strong confidence that the FMM 9 would be a great success.

MNA/Xinhua



A man fishes at the Starnberger See lake in Garatshausen, southern Germany. INTERNET

UN, Sri Lanka agree to find political solution for conflict

COLOMBO, 25 May— The Sri Lankan Government and the United Nations have agreed to find a lasting political solution for the island's long drawn-out ethnic conflict in view of the defeat of Tamil Tiger rebels, the presidential office said Sunday.

In a joint statement issued on Saturday at the conclusion of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's two-day visit to the island, the two sides agreed that addressing the aspirations and grievances of all communities and working towards a lasting

political solution was fundamental to ensure long-term socio-economic development, according to a Press release issued by the presidential office on Sunday. "The Secretary-General welcomed the

assurance of the president of Sri Lanka contained in his statement in Parliament on 19 May that a national solution acceptable to all sections of people will be evolved," said the joint statement.—MNA/Xinhua

Another 1,000 Chinese volunteers to teach Mandarin in Thailand

BANGKOK, 25 May— The Thai capital saw a welcoming ceremony Sunday for this year's first batch of Mandarin-teaching volunteers from China, and the total number of the Chinese teachers to Thailand in

2009, after another two batches arrived days later, will amount to 1,028.

"Upon the request and invitation of Thai Ministry of Education, the number of volunteer teachers sent by the Office of Chinese Language

Council International (Hanban) to Thailand this year will surpass 1,000 for the first time," Chinese Ambassador to Thailand Guan Mu said on the ceremony.—MNA/Xinhua



Female dachshund Bessi lays in a basket with a five-day-old baby tiger at the wild animal park Ismer in Stroehen, western Germany.

INTERNET

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SINAR BANGKA VOYNO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BANGKA VOYNO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.5.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA TEGAP VOYNO (449)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOYNO (449) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.5.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**At least 16 die in Haiti,
Dominican storms**

PORT AU PRINCE, 25 May—Nearly two weeks of heavy rains in Haiti and the Dominican Republic have left at least 16 people dead, a national official says.

Emergency Management chief Alta Jean-Baptiste said 13 people were confirmed dead in Haiti. She could not confirm Haitian radio reports out of the southwestern town of Jeremie that three more deaths had occurred there, the *Latin American Herald Tribune* reported on Sunday.

In addition to the deaths, about 2,000 Haitian families have been forced from their homes.

At least three people have died and 4,170 others have been left homeless in neighboring Dominican Republic, emergency management officials there said.

Internet

**Police still to acquire weaponry to
tackle 26/11 like attacks**

MUMBAI, 25 May—Despite losing 14 personnel and having chinks in their armour exposed in the November 26 terror strikes, the police in India's financial capital are still to acquire most of the weaponry and equipment they had sought to tackle similar attacks in the future.

Modern weaponry including assault rifles, armoured bullet proof vehicles, an amphibious vehicle, bullet proof jackets, night vision goggles are among the items on the city police wishlist which runs up an estimated bill of over 100 rupees crore. The police had also sought advanced equipment for the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad including advanced devices to find explosive substances and to defuse them.

A mobile bomb defusal unit in which bombs can be safely detonated is expected to be delivered soon while a bomb detection vehicle which scans for explosives using X-rays is already undergoing trials with the city police. "So far the weaponry we have ordered have not been delivered since we have to order them from western countries", a senior city police official said. — *MNA/PTI*



An Indian child holds up an instructional placard on how to prevent swine flu during a health awareness event in Hyderabad. Eighteen US soldiers who tested positive for swine flu have been removed from a military base in Kuwait, as Australia shuts down a school after identifying two more cases of the disease.—INTERNET

**ANA discover weapons,
cache in S Afghanistan**

KABUL, 25 May—In continuation of cleanup operation in Marja District of southern Helmand Province, Afghan National Army (ANA) commandos backed by international troops on Friday recovered a cache of illicit drugs and weapons, a statement of Defence Ministry issued here Sunday said.

"During the operation on Friday 22 May, ANA commandos found some 700 kilos of opium and over 1500 kilos of heroin which was set on fire on the ground", the statement added.

It also said that eight AK-47 assault rifles, one rocket launcher and some communication equipment were also found. Furthermore the statement also said that in a cleanup operation, ANA killed 10 Taleban insurgents in Balamurghab District of northwestern Badghis Province on the same day on Friday.

MNA/Xinhua

Four dead in Minnesota crash

STEWARTVILLE, 25 May—Four people killed when a van was broadsided by another vehicle brought Minnesota's death toll this Memorial Day weekend to at least 11, authorities said.

Two other passengers in the van were injured in the Saturday night crash at the intersection of Highways 63 and 30 near Stewartville in Olmsted County.

The driver of the other vehicle, who police suspect had been drinking was not hurt, the *Star Tribune* in Minneapolis reported. Christopher S Frisch, 25, of Winona was arrested on suspicion of criminal vehicular operation and was jailed on Sunday, the *Tribune* said.—*Internet*

Teens allegedly rob man in wheelchair

MIAMI, 25 May—Two teenagers are facing charges in Florida after allegedly pulling an elderly man from his wheelchair, roughing him up and robbing him, police say.

Miami-Dade police said they arrested the 17-year-old and 13-year-old boys on Friday and charged them with strong-arm robbery and battery of an elderly person, *The Miami Herald* reported on Saturday.

Police say one of the teens was videotaped running up behind Celedono Carrera, 66, as he rode his motorized wheelchair in a parking lot 8 May. The youth can be seen pulling Carrera from his wheelchair, knocking him to the ground and hitting him, the newspaper said.

Internet

Syria says "MiG" deal with Russia still on

DAMASCUS, 25 May— Syria denied on Sunday a Russian media report that Moscow no longer wants to sell it eight advanced *MiG-31* planes because of pressure from Israel. "This is part of attempts to undermine the friendly relations and cooperation between Syria and Russia," an official Syrian statement said. The statement was issued as Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov visited the Syrian capital and met Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. *Kommersant* newspaper quoted an unidentified person close to Russia's state arms exporter as saying that the 500-million-US-dollars deal, agreed to in 2007, was halted after Israel protested. The paper quoted another source in an unidentified Russian ministry as saying the contract had been halted because Syria could not come up with the money to pay for the fighters.

MNA/Reuters

**Powell urges US Republicans
to broaden their appeal**

WASHINGTON, 25 May—The Republican Party needs to broaden its base rather than move farther to the political right to make gains against President Barack Obama's Democrats, former US secretary of state Colin Powell said on Sunday.

"Let's debate the future of the party. And let's let all the segments of the party come in," Powell, a Republican who served in president George W Bush's cabinet but endorsed Obama last year, told CBS's "Face the Nation". "And, if we don't do that, if we don't reach out more, the party is going to be sitting on a very, very narrow base. You can only do two things with a base. You can sit on it and watch the world go by, or you can build on the base," Powell added. Powell's comments represent the latest salvo in an ongoing battle over the future of the Republican Party in the aftermath of Obama's ascent to power following the presidency of the unpopular Bush. Party moderates like Powell increasingly have found themselves marginalized by party conservatives.

Democrats control Congress and the White House. Leading Republicans are searching for a formula to return to power. "Are we simply moving further to the right, and by so doing opening up the right-of-centre and the centre to be taken over by independents and to be taken over by Democrats?" Powell asked.

MNA/Reuters

Renown climber warns Everest facing climate damage

KATHMANDU, 25 May —A Sherpa from Nepal who holds the world's record for scaling Mount Everest said Monday the planet's highest peak was littered with trash and warned that its glaciers were melting because of global warming.

Appa, who like most Sherpas goes by only one name, scaled the peak last week not to draw attention to his own amazing feat — he has now climbed Everest a record 19 times — but to the impact that

global warming is having on the majestic site.

Glaciers are melting at an alarming rate, creating lakes whose walls could burst and flood villages below.

Melting ice and snow also make the routes for mountaineers less stable and more difficult to follow.

“We have only one Everest, we need to clean it, protect it,” said Appa, who flew back to Katmandu on Monday after reached the 29,035-

foot (8,850-meter) summit last Thursday for the 19th time. “The warming temperature is increasing the volume of glacial lakes.”

One aim of Appa's expedition was to help clean up the mountain. The climbers brought about 11,000 pounds (5,000 kilograms) of garbage from the higher slopes to base camp.

The trash will eventually be carried down by porters and yaks.

Internet



In this photo, the AOL Running Man figure decorates an employee's cubicle in AOL's New York office. The arrival of CEO Tim Armstrong arrival has thrilled employees who were unhappy under his predecessors, who were widely considered out of touch and out of place.—INTERNET

Diver dies exploring wreckage of ship off Greece

ATHENS, 25 May—A member of a National Geographic team exploring the wreckage of Britannic, the Titanic's sister ship, in the Aegean Sea died of decompression sickness Sunday, the Merchant Marine Ministry said.

Carl Spencer, 37, was rushed to the Athens Naval Hospital in the afternoon after diving to film the wreckage of the Britannic, four miles (6 kilometers) off the island of Kea, southeast of Athens, the ministry said. Spencer, who showed symptoms of the illness widely known as “the bends,” had been aboard the Belgian-owned research vessel CDT Fourcault. He was flown to the hospital by helicopter but was unconscious upon arrival. His team was to

spend nine days doing an internal and external analysis of the wreckage.

Spencer had led a similar expedition to the Britannic in 2003. The technical diver also had taken part in an exploration of the Titanic wreckage as part of a Discovery Channel expedition led by filmmaker James Cameron, who directed the 1997 blockbuster “Titanic.”—Internet

A man cycles past barrels filled with fuel in Jakarta. The head of the Italian energy group Eni called for stabilising oil prices, pinning a “reasonable” price between 60 and 70 dollars per barrel, in an address to G8 energy ministers in Rome.

INTERNET

36 people killed by tigers in four months in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 25 May — Thirty six people were killed by tigers in the world's largest mangrove forest Sundarbans in southwestern Bangladesh during the first four months of this year.

These victims were poor people living around the Sundarbans and they fell prey to tigers when they went to deep forest to collect honey, wood, and went for fishing in the rivers. Dilip Kumar Bowmik, chief executive of the Shamnagar sub-district in southwestern Satkhira district of Bangladesh in a cellphone interview with Xinhua said on Sunday.

Internet



Singaporeans spend less in dining out amid downturn

SINGAPORE, 25 May — A survey showed that Singaporeans are opting for home cooked meals instead of dining out in the backdrop of the economic downturn, local media reported on Monday.

According to local radio 938live, the survey

by the Nielsen Company said that local consumers are spending more on fresh food, groceries and household items.

The average monthly household expenditure has increased by 14 percent compared to last year, in part driven by higher food prices and increased home cooking in a bid to cut down on dining out expenses.

The report added that seven in 10 Singaporeans said they have changed their spending patterns to increase household savings.

The majority of respondents said that they now buy only the essentials like rice and dairy products but cutting down on chocolates, soft drinks and snack food.—Internet

NYC woman in 50s becomes US' 11th swine flu death

NEW YORK, 25 May—A woman died over the weekend of swine flu, becoming the city's second victim and the nation's 11th.

The woman, who was in her 50s, had other health conditions, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene spokeswoman Jessica Scaperotti said. No other information on her case was disclosed Sunday.

Assistant public school principal Mitchell Wiener, who died 17 May, was the city's first death from the virus. The 55-year-old had been sick for several days.

There were 280 confirmed cases of swine flu in the city and 94 hospitalizations as of Sunday, Scaperotti said.

The number of confirmed cases probably doesn't fully reflect the spread of the virus, given

that health officials aren't testing everyone for the H1N1 strain. “It's most likely that if you're sick with the flu, that you have the H1N1 virus,” Scaperotti said.

Those people with chronic health conditions such as diabetes and compromised immune systems who are suffering from flu-like symptoms should seek medical advice, Scaperotti said.

Internet

China confirms two H1N1 cases on Sunday

BEIJING, 25 May—Chinese health authorities confirmed two new cases of H1N1 swine flu infection on Sunday, bringing the total confirmed infections on the mainland to nine, the Xinhua news agency reported late that day.

The patients confirmed sick with the new virus strain were a 46-year-old Chinese man in a Beijing hospital and a two-year-old Chinese girl in the eastern coastal

province of Fujian, the Health Ministry said, according to Xinhua. Both patients had recently returned from north

America—the man from Canada and the girl from the United States via Hong Kong, the report said.—MNA/Reuters

Latest developments on A/H1N1 flu worldwide

BEIJING, 25 May—The following are the latest developments on the A/H1N1 flu outbreak worldwide on Monday, according to the World Health Organization and governments' data.

Confirmed deaths worldwide: 92, with 80 in Mexico, ten in the United States, one in Canada and one in Costa Rica. Confirmed cases: More than 12,040 in 46 countries, most in the United States and Mexico.—Internet

SPORTS

Toms squeaks into the US and British Open

IRVING, 25 May—David Toms missed the cut at the Byron Nelson Championship but made it into the next two majors. The top 50 in the world ranking after this week are exempt from qualifying for the US Open at Bethpage Black and the British Open at Turnberry.

Toms slipped only three spots to finish at No. 50, by three-hundredths of a point over Aaron Baddeley, who chose not to play the Nelson and fell two spots to No. 51. Toms will get to skip 36-hole qualifying June 8 for the US Open. Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano of Spain birdied the 18th hole at Wentworth for a 68 to tie for 11th in the BMW PGA Championship on the European tour, earning enough points to move up 11 spots to No. 49. It will be his first US Open.

Other players exempt from the world ranking are Rory McIlroy, Ian Poulter, Luke Donald, Alvaro Quiros, Adam Scott and Justin Rose. The US Open also exempts the top 10 from the PGA Tour money list through the Byron Nelson Championship. That group includes Sean O'Hair, Nick Watney, Rory Sabbatini, Paul Casey and Dustin Johnson. They also would have been eligible through the top 50 in the world.—Internet

Benitez keen to keep Real target Alonso

LIVERPOOL, 25 May—Liverpool manager Rafa Benitez has insisted that he does not want to sell Spanish midfielder Xabi Alonso in the close-season. Benitez, speaking



Liverpool's Finnish defender Sami Hyypia, after playing his last game for the club, with team-mates after their English Premier League 3-1 win over Tottenham at Anfield in Liverpool, north-west England.—INTERNET

after Sunday's season-ending 3-1 win over Tottenham at Anfield, was responding to fresh reports in England linking the influential Spanish midfielder with a move to Real Madrid.

And Benitez denied suggestions that his spending plans hinge on selling players like Alonso who would command hefty fees. "Xabi has three years of his contract left and we don't want to sell," said Benitez after Liverpool secured the Premier League runners-up spot.

"I had a private conversation with his agent. My idea is very clear — Xabi is not for sale." "I think he has said he is happy here at Liverpool. He has said that to the media." Alonso played as though he had other things on his mind as Liverpool brought the curtain down on a bitter-sweet season.—Internet

Shearer warns Newcastle may nose dive further

BIRMINGHAM, 25 May—Alan Shearer has warned owner Mike Ashley that Newcastle risk repeating a Leeds United style nose-dive into oblivion unless he sorts out the host of problems destroying the club.

Ashley was at Villa Park on Sunday to watch Newcastle surrender their 16-year membership of the Premier League thanks to an own goal from Damien Duff. Now he will meet with Shearer this week to discover whether the former Newcastle striker is willing to take the manager's job full-time. Shearer admits he has been bitten by the managerial bug and would like to remain at the helm to try to regain Premier League status at the first attempt next season. But he has seen so many things wrong at the club in the past few months, and for long periods before that, that he fears the club could implode completely, like Leeds who are now in League One, unless major changes are made.—Internet



Newcastle United supporters show their disappointment following the final Premiership match of the season at Villa Park in Birmingham. Aston Villa won the game 1-0. The result relegates Newcastle United from the Premiership Division into the Championship.—INTERNET

Rangers look to reap benefits of last gasp title



Walter Smith

DUNDEE, 25 May—Walter Smith has scotched talk of retirement in the wake of Rangers' first Scottish Premier League triumph for four years. Speculation has been rife that Smith, who returned for his second spell as manager of the Ibrox club in January 2007, would walk away at the end of the season regardless of the outcome of the battle for the title.

Goal-scoring legend Ally McCoist is his right-hand man at Ibrox and is widely tipped to take over when Smith eventually decides to step down. But the 61-year-old manager says he has no plans for retirement yet and is already plotting next season's assault on the Champions League after the title win guaranteed them a place in the money-spinning group stages.

"I will be chatting to the chairman about the whole situation and I'll be here unless he sacks me," Smith quipped. "Whether the subject of my tenure comes up or not that's not for me to say but a lot of managers have won league championships and been binned."

Internet

Fergie confident Ferdinand will be fit for Barca

HULL, 25 May—Sir Alex Ferguson is confident Rio Ferdinand will be fit for Manchester United's Champions League final against Barcelona despite being forced to leave him out of his side's victory at Hull.

United, already crowned champions for the third successive season, completed their domestic campaign with a 1-0 win at the KC Stadium courtesy of Darron Gibson's impressive first half goal, while Hull avoided making an instant return to the Championship after Newcastle crashed at Aston Villa.

But it was Ferdinand's fitness that occupied United minds after the match. The England centre-back has missed the last



Sir Alex Ferguson is confident Ferdinand will be fit for Manchester United's Champions League final against Barcelona despite being forced to leave him out of his side's victory at Hull.—INTERNET

four games with a calf problem and has been undergoing intensive treatment in a bid to get him fit for Wednesday's final in Rome. He trained with the United squad on Saturday and was expected to play some part in his side's trip to Humberside but was left out of Ferguson's squad altogether on Sunday.

Ferguson, however, remains upbeat about the England international's chances of being fit as United look to secure their fourth major trophy of the season and become the first team to win back-to-back European titles in the Champions League era.

"Rio trained on Saturday and he trained this morning (Sunday), so he is getting there. He should be okay for Wednesday," Ferguson said.—Internet

Hiddink confident Lampard will be fit for Wembley



Chelsea's manager Guus Hiddink

SUNDERLAND, 25 May—Guus Hiddink is confident Frank Lampard and Chelsea's other injury victims will be fit to contest the FA Cup final against Everton at Wembley on Saturday. England midfielder Lampard and Brazil defender Alex didn't travel to Sunderland for Chelsea's 2-0 victory on Sunday, while Juliano Belletti was withdrawn after just 27 minutes at the Stadium Of Light.

"Frank and Alex both missed training at the start of the week but they trained for two days before the Sunderland match and should be fine," Blues boss Hiddink said. "Both have slight knee injuries and we rested them after the Blackburn game. We will see how Juliano reacts after taking a kick on his

calf. But I think the only question mark will be Belletti."

Lampard and Alex aside, Hiddink fielded his strongest available 11 at Sunderland in what proved to be the perfect preparation for what promises to be a physical test against David Moyes' Everton. However, the Dutchman, who will return to coaching Russia on a full-time basis after the Cup Final, hinted that he had little choice because Chelsea don't have enough strength in depth.

Internet

Beckham picked by England

LONDON, 25 May—David Beckham was among 24 players picked Sunday for England's roster for World Cup qualifiers next month and Gary Neville received a surprise recall for the games against Kazakhstan and Andorra.

Beckham, on loan to AC Milan from Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Galaxy, has 17 goals in 110 international appearances. The 34-year-old midfielder hopes to play at next year's World Cup, where he could break goalkeeper Peter Shilton's record of 125 games for England.

Neville, a 34-year-old veteran of 86 appearances starting in 1995, has not played for England since a 1-0 loss to Spain in February 2007. Another surprise callup was West Bromwich Albion goalkeeper Scott Carson.

Jermain Defoe and Theo Walcott return from injuries and may get a start alongside Wayne Rooney in attack. England is 5-0 in qualifying and leads Group Six. Kazakhstan is 1-4 and Andorra is 0-5.—Internet

Daw Hla Than

81 years

Myanmar Air Force (Retd)

Residing at No. 148 (W), A-1 Studio Lane, 9th Mile, Yangon; daughter of (U Thein Pe- Daw Nu); daughter-in-law of (U Chon-Daw Aye Kyi); beloved wife of [U Khin Aung Hla-Myanmar Air Force (Retd)]; mother of U Maung Maung Tun Shwe-Daw Htay Htay Win (French Embassy), Daw Aye Aye Kyi (Houston-USA), U Kyaw Kyaw Min (FAO)-Daw Khin Thandar Lwin; grandmother of Maung Thaung Myint (Iowa-USA), Maung Aung Khant (Sec 4, ILBC) passed away at Asia Taw Win Specialists Clinic on 25-5-2009 (Monday). The remains will be cremated at Yayway cemetery on 27-5-2009 (Wednesday) at 11.00 am.

Bereaved family



Dr James Chon of the Swinburne University of Technology, holds up a DVD containing new technology that can store data in five dimensions, in Melbourne. The disc holds nearly 10,000 times more data than standard DVD's, a study published in the peer-reviewed journal Nature stated.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (26.5.2009) (Tuesday)

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

Local Transmission

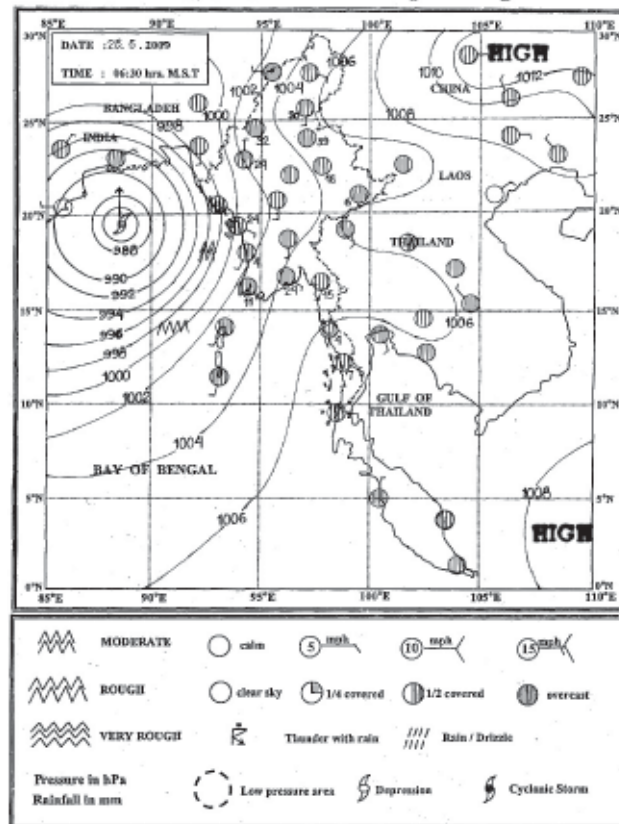
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Kanbawza Thardi Museum
- * Marvel of a Pagoda with Uncountable Buddha Images
- * Travelogue (Taunggyi)
- * Be Fashionable with Myanmar Cotton wear
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Inside Keng Tong
- * A Wonderful Trip to Ngwe Hsaung
- * Beautiful Taninthayi
- * Traditional Matrimony of Ra Wan Nationals
- * Taunggyi: An Environmentally Sustainable City
- * The Beauty of Ingyin Fossils From Chindwin River
- * Uniquely.... Artistic Straw Painting of Myanmar
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Kanbawza Thardi Museum
- * Marvel of a Pagoda with Uncountable Buddha Images
- * Travelogue (Taunggyi)
- * Be Fashionable with Myanmar Cotton wear
- * Meditation Centres throughout Myanmar
- * Marine Undertakings of Myeik Archipelago
- * Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region (I) (Yangon - Putao - Upper Shangaung)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 25 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon has advanced into Central Myanmar areas, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Kachin State, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Chin State. Day temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) above May average temperatures in Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division, (5°C) below May average temperatures in Yangon Division and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Haka (3.27) inches, Mawlaik (2.95) inches, Pyapon (2.60) inches, Kalay (1.85) inches and Katha (1.73) inches. Maximum temperature on 24-5-2009 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 25-5-2009 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 25-5-2009 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 24-5-2009 was (Nil) approx. Rainfall on 25-5-2009 was (0.74) inch at Mingaladon, (0.99) inch at Kaba-Aye and (1.26) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (9.72) inches at Mingaladon, (13.35) inches at Kaba-Aye and (16.73) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (15) mph from Southwest at (16:30) hour MST on 24-5-2009.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, the cyclonic storm "AILA" over Northwest Bay has moved North ward and is crossing between Bangladesh and India Coast. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 26th May 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Chin, Mon and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Kayah State and Bago Division, isolated to scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with moderate to rough seas will be experience off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 26-5-2009: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-5-2009: Some rain of thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-5-2009: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Tuesday, 26 May
View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
 5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:00 am
 6. Songs of yesteryears
- 8:10 am
 7. “ဆေးလိပ်ကင်းကွာအနုပညာကမ္ဘာ” (မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ လွင်မိုး၊ ဇနည်၊ ကင်းကောင်း၊ ဖိုမြတ်နန္ဒာ၊ ကြည်လဲ့လဲ့ဦး၊ လှအလွတ်တင့်၊ ဝမ်းပုံ၊ ဧရာ)
- 8:20 am
 8. Musical programme
- 8:30 am
 9. International News
- 8:45 am
 10. Local Talent
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:10 pm
 2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 4:20 pm
 3. Dance of National Races

- 4:30 pm
 4. ကြေးမုံရိပ်သွင်တေးနယုတ်
- 4:45 pm
 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
- 5:00 pm
 6. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
 7. “လူကူးမျဉ်းကျားမှူးမယ်” (A)
- 5:10 pm
 8. Musical programme
- 5:25 pm
 9. နိုင်ငံ့ဦးပွားအလေးထားကျေးလက် ထုတ်ကုန်များ
- 5:30 pm
 10. Musical programme

- 6:45 pm
 11. ချစ်ကြည်ဆင်နွှဲယဉ်ကျေးမှုကဏ္ဍ
- 6:00 pm
 12. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 13. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 14. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ
- 6:55 pm
 15. ဆိုလိုက်ကြစို့
- 7:20 pm
 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သမက်အလိုရှိသည်” (အပိုင်း-၈)
- 8:00 pm
 17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်သူသံစဉ်” (အပိုင်း-၁၉)



Mandalay Division witnesses greater progress



Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence inspects dredging of Zawgyi Dam.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, on 23 May, inspected road works on Myingyan-Yewun road in Myittha Township.

Next, Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected reconstruction of Kinta left sewer-pipe and urged officials for early

completion for irrigation of summer paddy fields. Lt-Gen Tha Aye also inspected dredging Zawgyi Dam and vegetable and physic-nut plantations in local battalion. He then inspected District-to-District Road No.1 in TadaU Township.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye met with local people from villages in TadaU Township and attended to the needs.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye then visited Kannar village and

fulfilled the requirements for development of the region. He also met with district and township-level departmental officials, townsenders and local people at Myingyan township PDC office.

After hearing the reports on progress of the division, Lt-Gen Tha Aye gave instructions and cordially greeted the residents.

MNA

Cyclonic storm Aila passed India and Bangladesh

NAY PYI TAW, 25, May—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations at 6 pm MST today, cyclonic storm Aila over North-west of Bay of Bengal passed the Coastal regions between West Bengal of India and Bangladesh.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

- Hakha**
3.27 inches
- Mawlaik**
2.95 inches
- Pyapon**
2.60 inches
- Kalay**
1.85 inches
- Katha**
1.73 inches

The media making progress in Rakhine State

Article: Tin Htwe (MNA)



Locals reading at Doh-Alin library of Nanchaung village in Thandwe, Rakhine State.

Today is the Information Age, so it implies that no one can lose touch with news in their life. Today is also called Media Age. The

term "journalist" is now popular in the media world.

As soon as they are awake in the morning, some people switch on

the radio to listen to news, and some, switch on TV to watch a news programme. Even if a person does not have much interest in radio and

TV news, surely he reads the newspaper.

The media include daily newspapers, weekly journals and monthly magazines, novels, radio

and television. Every government places emphasis on the role of the media.

With strong media, a country can make the culture and traditions of its people earn greater reputation in the global community.

Today, the media are used as a criterion to measure to what extent a nation has developed. Long ago, some countries waged aggressive wars against other countries for colonial purpose. However, they no longer use the old system, and take advantage of the media in order to interfere in the internal affairs and wield influence over their targeted countries.

The State Peace and Development Council is now working hard day in, day out to build a modern developed nation.

(See page 8)

