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Senior General Than Shwe visits 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium



Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects high-grade jade lots at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe visited the 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium this morning.

On his arrival at Jade Garden near Nay Pyi Taw Mani Yadana Jade Hall at 9.30 am where the 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium will be held, the Senior General was welcomed by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Thura U Shwe Mann, Prime Minister U Thein Sein, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Member of the State Peace and Development Council U Tin Aye, General Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, members of the Panel of Patrons of Central Committee for Organizing the 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium Com-

mander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye and Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint, ministers, deputy ministers, vice-chairmen of the central committee, the secretary and central committee members, officials of subcommittees, Patron of Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association U Aung Ko Win, Chairman U Tay Za and executives.

The Senior General viewed uncut jades decorated with flowery plants and water fountains in the Jade Garden near the Mani Yadana Jade Hall in a motorcade.

While the Senior General from the first floor of the Mani Yadana Jade Hall oversaw the preparation for the emporium on the ground floor, Patron of the central committee Mines Minister U Ohn Myint gave an account of the emporium.

Next, the Senior General observed high-grade jade lots on display on the first floor of the Mani Yadana Jade Hall.

The Senior General and party heard a report on Myanmar Gems Emporiums, successful holding of the Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2010 in Nay Pyi Taw and construction of Myanmar Gems Museum, Jade Garden and Mani Yadana Jade Hall with audiovisual aidso.

After inspecting jade lots on display near the Mani Yadana Jade Hall from the first floor, the Senior General left necessary instructions.

Next, the Senior General left the Mani Yadana Jade Hall at 10.20 am.

Altogether 16939 jade lots, 206 gems lots and 255 pearl lots will be on sale at the 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium from 10 to 22 March at Nay Pyi Taw Mani Yadana Jade Hall.

Over 5000 gem merchants from 20 nations have been invited and about 4000 gems merchants from 10 nations are expected to visit the emporium.

MNA

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 9 March, 2011

In the interest of people

Regular sessions of Hluttaws have been convened at Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw since 31 January.

Having mandate to exercise the legislative power, a hluttaw is an organization that can shape the future of the people. The government, the highest body of executive power, and judicial bodies are responsible for implementing the resolutions passed at the hluttaws.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is a legislative body formed with Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives. Now, the President has been elected to rule the nation. The President has formed the Union government, the Union Supreme Court, the judicature, the Constitutional Tribunal, the Union Election Commission and other Union level organs.

Now, Hluttaws are in session, and the Union government is going to assume discharge of its duties. A hluttaw under the main task to make laws will soon carry out legislative duties.

Hluttaw representatives will have the rights to put forward questions about what is happening in their regions, cases and bills to governing bodies and Union level organizations at hluttaw sessions in accordance with the procedures. The queries should be answered with the concept that they ask questions in the interests of the Union and the people.

In raising queries and replying, and submitting cases and bills, Hluttaw representatives have to discharge their duties and exercise powers and rights in a systematic way. Therefore, they are duty-bound to work closely without any personality cult, dogmatism and racism to shape the future of the nation.

Education minister inspects exam centres



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein inspects students sitting for matriculation exam 2011.—MNA

PROGRESS REPORT

- * 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

The Oasis Hotel commissioned into service



Ministers U Thein Nyunt and U Soe Naing and Palm Tree Co Ltd Chairman U Win Aung formally open Oasis Hotel.—MNA



Photo shows the Oasis Hotel. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March – The opening ceremony of The Oasis Hotel was held today in front of the hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone. It was attended by ministers, departmental heads, officials and guests.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and

Development Affairs Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Soe Naing and Chairman of Palm Tree Co Ltd U Win Aung formally opened the Oasis Hotel.

Next, Minister U Thein Nyunt unveiled

the signboard of Chinese Restaurant.

The ministers, departmental heads and guests viewed round the hotel.

The hotel with 38 rooms— 22 Suite Room and 16 Deluxe Room— was built on the area of 24 acres. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein inspected undertakings for convenience of examinees, office works and students sitting for exam at exam centres in No.1 Basic Education High School in Lewe

Township, Nay Pyi Taw District, this morning. There, he met with health staff providing health care to the students and spoke words of thanks.

Later on, the minister looked into Yeni BEHS and Myohla BEHS exam centers in Yedashe

Township, Bago Region.

After that, the minister urged the officials to carry out works systematically in line with exam procedures, and met with health staff and rule enforcement committee.— MNA

Taleban killed, 14 detained in Afghanistan's Helmand Province

LASHKAR GAH, 8 March— Afghan and NATO-led forces during night raid operations killed three Taleban militants and detained 14 others in Helmand Province, some 555 km south of capital city of Kabul, spokesman for provincial administration said Tuesday.

units of Afghan army and international forces during two separate operations eliminated three militants and detained 14 others in Musa Qala District on Monday night," Daud Ahmadi told *Xinhua*.

He said a Taleban local commander namely Zarif Sijad, who has been responsible for

initiating Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attacks against security forces, was among the detainees.

"The aim of the operations was to capture members of a militant network and disturb their subversive activities in Musa Qala District," he emphasized.—*Xinhua*



A police officer inspects the damage following three near-simultaneous car bombings in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk. The attacks, which killed at least eight people, have been blamed on Sunni militant group Ansar Al-Islam.—INTERNET

Five killed in military helicopter collision in Colombia

BOGOTA, 8 March— Five people were killed, including a Mexican officer, on Monday due to the collision of two military helicopters in a rural area of the Colombian department of Tolima, official sources said.

In the crash of two UH-1H helicopters from the Helicopters School of the Air Force of Colombia (FAC), were injured four people, including another Mexican official. The incident occurred in a rural area of the municipality of Melgar, at about 90 km from Bogota.

"The Air Force has moved an inspection commission to the scene, with the aim to investigate," said an official statement.

Xinhua



A girl, who was injured in a bomb explosion in Nowshera, is brought to the Lady Reading hospital for treatment in Peshawar on 4 March, 2011. A bomb exploded in a mosque in the northwestern Pakistani town of Nowshera on Friday, killing at least nine people and wounding over 30, police and hospital officials said.

INTERNET

Man arrested over Stockholm bombing

LONDON, 8 March— A 30-year-old man was arrested in Glasgow, a city of southwest Scotland, in connection with a suicide bombing in Sweden in last December, British police said on Tuesday.

Police arrested the foreign national under the Terrorism Act on Tuesday morning as part of an intelligence-led operation in the city. Taimour Abdulwahab, the Stockholm suicide bomber, injured two people in blasts in a busy shopping street. The detained suspect posed no direct threat to Scotland, police said.—*Xinhua*

18 killed in clashes between rival gangs in NE Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 8 March— Eighteen people were killed in armed clashes between rival gangs in northeastern Mexico on Monday, local media reported.

The violence occurred in central Abasolo, the Tamaulipas state, which borders the US State of Texas. Drug trafficking violence is constant in Tamaulipas as the region's two competing drug groups, the Zetas and the Gulf cartels, have been battling for control of smuggling routes into the US market and local markets. Earlier this year, in Padilla, another town of Tamaulipas, 18 people were killed in fighting in February.—*Xinhua*

Japan slams former US consul general for derogatory remarks

TOKYO, 8 March— Japan's Okinawa prefectural assembly on Tuesday unanimously decided to seek an official apology from a former US consul general for derogatory comments he made about the people of Okinawa.

The assembly also agreed that the remarks made by Kevin Maher, who heads the Japanese affairs office at the US State Department, should be officially rescinded, local media reported.

According to Japanese officials, during a State Department lecture in the US aimed at college students, Maher referred to the people of Okinawa as being "masters of manipulation and extortion."

Other allegations are that Maher called the people of Okinawa, Japan's southernmost prefecture, "lazy and deceptive," drawing the ire of Japan's senior

ministers.

Defence Minister Toshimi Kitazawa said at a news conference that Maher's comments make an absolute mockery of the people of Okinawa.

Similarly, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said the comments were wholly unacceptable and disrespectful, not just to the people of Okinawa, but to all Japanese people.

The Okinawa prefectural assembly launched an official protest against the US State Department and Maher personally, claiming: "The statements trampled on the feelings of the Okinawa people, ridiculing and insulting them. It is absolutely unforgivable." "We strongly demand a retraction and an apology to the people of Okinawa," the assembly demanded.—*Xinhua*



A view of devastation caused by a bomb blast in Faisalabad, Pakistan on 8 March, 2011. A car bomb outside a gas station killed many people and wounded more than 100.

INTERNET



Residents and policemen inspect the site of a bomb attack in Muqadadiya, 80 km (50 miles) northeast of Baghdad. A car bomb exploded at a car showroom in the Iraqi town of Muqadadiya killing at least 13 people and wounding 33 others, security sources said.

INTERNET

Car bombing kills 20 in Pakistan's east

ISLAMABAD, 8 March— A car bomb outside a gas station in Pakistan's third largest city killed 20 and wounded more than 100 people on Tuesday, underscoring the reach of al-Qaeda and Taleban militants in the US-allied nation. The blast badly damaged the station and an office of Pakistan's state-run airline in

eastern Faisalabad City, though the initial target was not immediately clear. The district in the important industrial city is home to commercial, police and government buildings.

Islamist militants seeking to overthrow the government have bombed hundreds of police, army, commercial and civilian targets in

Pakistan over the past three years. Most have been in the northwest close to the Afghan border where the militants are at their strongest.

Tuesday's bombing apparently caused secondary explosions at the fuel station, adding to the destruction, Faisalabad police chief Aftab Cheema said.

Internet



Science

Penguin disappearance puzzles scientists

LONDON, 8 March—A small colony of emperor penguins on an island off of Antarctica has disappeared, probably because of sea ice loss caused by warming, British researchers say.

The colony of emperor penguins, which can stand 4 feet tall and weigh as much as 80 pounds, was first spotted in 1948 and consisted of approximately 150 breeding pairs. LiveScience.com reported on Monday.

Observations were sporadic but the populations appeared to have been relatively stable until a 1978 report showed a sharp drop in numbers, a trend that persisted until an airplane survey found the island, dubbed Emperor Island, empty in 2009.

Researchers are wondering if the colony died off or relocated.

“That’s one of the big unknowns,” Philip Trathan, head of conservation biology at the British Antarctic Survey, said.

Emperor penguins usually return yearly to the site where they hatched but colonies must sometimes relocate because of changes in the ice, a process that isn’t well understood, researchers said.—*Internet*



Cave art may show ‘magic mushrooms’

VILLAR DEL HUMO, 8 March—A cave mural in Spain suggests Europeans may have used hallucinogenic mushrooms in religious rituals 6,000 years ago, researchers say.

The cave art may depict fungi with hallucinogenic properties, which would make them the oldest evidence of their use in Europe, NewScientist.com reported Sunday.

The Selva Pascuala cave mural near the town of Villar del Humo has as its central feature a bull, but it is a row of 13 small mushroom-like objects that interests two researchers.

Brian Akers at Pasco-Hernando Community College in New Port Richey, Florida, and Gaston Guzman at the Ecological Institute of Xalapa in Mexico say they believe the objects are the fungi *Psilocybe hispanica*, a local species with hallucinogenic properties.

P. hispanica has a bell-shaped cap topped with a dome and lacks an annulus — a ring around the stalk — like the objects depicted in the mural, they say.—*Internet*

Visitors to Angkor National Park in Cambodia topped 1.15 million in 2010, up 25 percent on the year before. As the world recovers from the financial crisis and infrastructure in developing countries improves, the number of people drawn to Asia’s cultural and natural riches has exploded.—*INTERNET*

Plants’ roles in ecosystems seen as vital

GLOUCESTER POINT, 8 March—A scientific study published in a *US* journal says loss of plant biodiversity disrupts the fundamental services ecosystems provide humanity.

Researchers say plant communities — threatened by development, invasive species, climate change and other factors — provide humans with food, help purify water supplies, generate oxygen, and supply raw materials for building, clothing, paper and other products.

The researchers analyzed the results of 574 field and laboratory studies conducted on five continents during the last 20 years that measured the changes in productivity resulting from loss of plants species.

“The idea that declining diversity compromises the functioning of ecosystems was controversial for many years,” Emmett Duffy of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science said. “This paper should be the final nail in the coffin of that controversy.”

“It’s the most rigorous and comprehensive analysis yet, and it clearly shows that extinction of plant species compromises the productivity that supports Earth’s ecosystems.”

The researchers’ findings, reported in the *American Journal of Botany*, showed consistency among plant communities both on land and in fresh and saltwater, suggesting plant biodiversity is of fundamental importance to the functioning of the Earth’s entire biosphere, an institute release said Monday.—*Internet*



Technology

YouTube buys US web television company

SAN FRANCISCO, 8 March—YouTube announced that it bought Internet television company Next New Networks to improve content for the Google-owned video-sharing website.

The New York City-based startup was launched four years ago and is home to popular networks, such as “Barely Political” and “Indy Mogul,” which it billed as the “filmmaking network for the YouTube generation.”

Next New Networks built a highly effective Web programming platform that has served up more than two billion videos and attracted six million



YouTube announced that it bought Internet television company Next New Networks to improve content for the Google-owned video-sharing website.

INTERNET

subscribers, according to Tom Pickett, director of a newly created YouTube Next team.—*Internet*

Atrinsic says Kazaa users can stream music on phones

BANGALORE, 8 March—Shares of Atrinsic more than doubled after the company said its popular Kazaa digital music service could be accessed without an application, in a move that could help it skirt Apple Inc’s plans to take a cut on revenue generated from sale of online subscriptions through its App Store.

Subscribers to Kazaa, an on-demand streaming music service that Atrinsic’s acquired last year, can access it on Apple’s iPad and iPhone and on Android-based devices by streaming it from Kazaa’s website, the company said in a statement. Application developers have been up in arms after Apple recently unveiled plans to charge a 30 percent share on all revenue generated by the sale of online subscriptions through its App Store.

Rajesh Ghai said people will see Atrinsic’s move as an encroachment in Apple’s monopoly as far as delivery of music and content to users of Apple’s devices are concerned.

Music subscription companies like Rhapsody and Rdio have described the new Apple policy as “economically untenable” for their businesses. Apple shares were down 2 percent at \$353.20 in afternoon trade on Nasdaq amid an overall drop in markets.

ThinkEquity analyst

Reuters

Wimbledon to serve up 3D broadcasting this year

LONDON, 8 March—Proud of its age-old traditions, Wimbledon has embraced the rapid changes in technology in recent years as smoothly as a Roger Federer forehand and now the world’s most prestigious tennis tournament is going 3D.

Ian Ritchie, chief executive of the All England Club in the leafy suburbs of south west London since 2005, has presided over a stunning transformation of the grounds and Monday he announced that fans across the world would be able to watch this year’s championships in 3D vision at home and in cinemas.

In partnership with Sony and host broadcaster

the BBC, this year’s men’s singles semi-finals and men’s and women’s finals will be filmed in 3D and beamed to around 600 suitable cinemas around the globe as well as to national broadcasters.

While famous for its strict white clothing rules, strawberries and cream and ivy-clad balconies, Wimbledon has managed to move swiftly with the times. Ritchie, whose background is in television, said that should come as no surprise.

“Starting way back, the first ever transmission in color the BBC put out was from Wimbledon so we were innovators then,” he told *Reuters* Monday.

Reuters



A visitor listens to music on a mobile phone at the 41st MIDEM music market in Cannes, south-eastern France, on 22 Jan, 2007.

INTERNET



Health

Watching risky behavior increases risks

REGENSBURG, 8 March— A review of 25 years of research finds people exposed through the media to risky behaviors such as unprotected sex are at greater risk, US researchers say. Lead author Peter Fischer, a psychology professor at the University of Regensburg in Germany, said video games that glorify risk were more likely to prompt dangerous behavior than passive exposure, such as watching films or listening to music.

Fischer and colleagues examined US and European studies conducted from 1983 to 2009 involving more than 80,000 participants ages 16-24, although some samples included older and younger participants. "It appears

from our meta-analysis that risk-glorifying media has potentially grave consequences, such as innumerable incidences of fatalities, injuries and high economic costs in a broad variety of risk-taking domains, such as substance abuse, reckless driving, gambling and risky sexual behavior," Fischer said in a statement.—Internet



Silkworms are seen feeding on mulberry leaves at an exhibition in Bangalore in 2001. Taiwanese scientists say they have discovered that a protein created by silkworms in the production of silk can be used to manufacture a component that will make e-books more efficient.—INTERNET

Clean air, less carbon has health benefits

CHICAGO, 8 March— A US researcher says legislation reducing air pollution such as carbon pollution has immediate health benefits.

Dr Dean E Schraufnagel, president of the American Thoracic Society and a professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, is speaking out against a bill introduced by Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla, and Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich, to prohibit the US Environmental Protection Agency from issuing rules on carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases.

"The Clean Air Act is one of the best public health success stories of the past four decades and has saved thousands of American lives," Schraufnagel said in a statement.

"In 2010 alone, the air quality improvements under the Clean Air Act will prevent 160,000 premature deaths, 130,000 heart attacks, 1.7 million asthma attacks and 3.2 million missed school days," Schraufnagel said.—Internet

Diet to prevent cancer, Alzheimer's

BIRMINGHAM, 8 March— An epigenetic eating regimen uses specific food compounds to prevent cancer or Alzheimer's disease, University of Alabama at Birmingham researchers said.

Study co-author Trygve Tollefsbol said epigenetics research worldwide, including numerous studies conducted at the University of Alabama, have identified specific food compounds found in food such as broccoli and cabbage inhibit negative epigenetic effects that can help reverse or help prevent cancers and other aging-related diseases.

"Your mother always told you to eat

your vegetables, and she was right," Tollefsbol said in a statement. "But now we better understand why she was right — compounds in many of these foods suppress gene aberrations that over time cause fatal diseases." The epigenetics diet includes such foods as soybeans, cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage, green tea, fava beans, kale, grapes and the spice turmeric, Tollefsbol said.

"The epigenetics diet can be adopted easily, because the concentrations of the compounds needed for a positive effect are readily achievable," lead author Syed Meeran said.—Internet



A doctor treats an obese patient at a hospital in Shanghai in 2004. Chinese men and women on the verge of what is considered overweight among Caucasians actually showed the lowest risk of death when compared to their own cultural counterparts, said a study on Monday.—INTERNET



China targets 3.5% cut in energy, carbon intensity in 2011

BEIJING, 8 March—China aims to reduce energy consumption per unit of GDP by 3.5 percent in 2011 from the level a year ago, an official with the country's top planner said on Tuesday.

Carbon dioxide emission is also set to be slashed by 3.5 percent, said Li Pumin, spokesman of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), which is in charge of energy-saving work.

Emissions of major pollutants including sulfur dioxide and (COD) chemical oxygen demand will fall 1.5 percent, Li told an online interview.

Chinese government vowed to make its economy greener in the forthcoming five years after brisk economic growth at the cost of heavy pollution and resource use proved to be unsustainable. According to the draft 12th Five-year Plan (2011-2015) for China's economic and social development, the nation aims to reduce energy consumption per unit of GDP by 16 percent in the five years to 2015. Carbon dioxide emission will drop by 17 percent.—Xinhua



A trader monitors price movements at the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Tokyo's Nikkei was up and Hong Kong's Hang Seng have climbed in early trade. INTERNET

Business

S Korea's imports of US beef rise 81.5% in first two months of 2011

SEOUL, 8 March— South Korea's imports of US beef rose drastically 81.5 percent to reach 20,340 tons in the first two months of this year, largely due to the country's severest outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease that has devastated its livestock industry, industry data showed on Tuesday.

According to the data from the US Meat Export Federation, South Korea



imported 11,209 tons of beef from the United States in the first two months of last year. This year's imports of US beef in the first two months so far account for one-fifth of the total import volume in 2010, which stood at 1,001,816 tons. South Korea's imports of US beef last year posted a 94 percent increase compared with the year before.

The continuing growth in South Korea's imports of US beef comes as the country has been in the grip of the worst outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease that started in last November.—Xinhua

Japan's key economic gauge up for 3rd straight month in Jan

TOKYO, 8 March— Japan's key economic gauge was upgraded for January, marking the third straight month of gains, the government said in a report on Monday. According to the Cabinet Office, the coincident composite index (CI), which reflects current business conditions, increased a preliminary 2.5 points in January from a month earlier to 106.2, against the base of 100 in 2005. January's reading marks the highest level since August 2006, the Cabinet Office said, adding that however, economists were not surprised as the figure was in line with median market expectations.

The leading composite index, which measures the state of the economy three months ahead, stood at 101.9 in January, rising from a reading of 101 in the previous month, but missing forecasts for a reading of 102.3. Meanwhile, the lagging CI, which reflects economic conditions three months ago, fell to 87.8 in the recording period from 88.8 logged a month earlier, marking the first contraction in two months.

The Cabinet Office upgraded its assessment on Japan's economy for the first time in fifteen months, saying that the index showed that while Japan's economy is "pausing", and it is also "showing signs of improvement."

Xinhua



Women check maize crops on a small scale farm in Zimbabwe in February 2011. The UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) called for gender equality in agriculture on Monday in order to increase farm production and reduce the world's hungry by at least 100 million.—INTERNET

Teens' eating problems likely lead to psychiatric disorders

BEIJING, 8 March—A new study shows that adolescents with eating problems are very likely to have at least one psychiatric comorbidity, according to "MedPage Today" news Monday.

Scientists with the National Institute of Mental Health in the United States launched the National Comorbidity Survey Replication Adolescent Supplement, a face-to-face survey of 10,123 adolescents aged 13 to 18 years in the continental United States.

They examined the prevalence of five types of eating problems - anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, binge-eating disorder, "sub-threshold" anorexia and "sub-threshold" binge eating disorder, and then investigated the psychological state of the subjects.

The results came out that most survey participants who reported an eating problem

also reported at least one psychiatric disorder.

The rates of teens reporting a psychiatric disorder were 55.2 percent for anorexia, 88 percent for bulimia, 83.5 percent for those with binge eating, 79.8 percent for those with "sub-threshold" anorexia, and 70.1 percent for those with "sub-threshold" binge eating. Scientists found that teens reporting bulimia had a higher risk of suicidal inclination than those with other problems.

Kathleen Merikangas, one of the researchers, said that teens were reluctant to receive treatment for eating problems, though most of them appeared to be willing to seek help for psychiatric disorders.

She noted that it is not possible yet to draw definite conclusions about the temporal relationships between eating disorders and comorbid conditions due to the cross-section design of the study.—Xinhua



Women presents Cheongsam during an activity marking the International Women's Day in east China's Shanghai Municipality, on 7 March, 2011. Women from different sectors of the society in Shanghai, including female artists, entrepreneurs and diplomatic personnel participated in the Cheongsam Show.—XINHUA



Children play with foam sprays during Carnival celebrations in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 7 March, 2011.—XINHUA

Colombia's FARC kidnaps 23 oil workers

BOGOTA, 8 March—At least 23 oil workers were kidnapped on Monday by suspected guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in the jungles of Vichada in southeast of the country, the company of the workers said on Monday.

The workers had been assigned seismic tasks for searching for hydrocarbons in the jungle region where there is a strong FARC presence, Tomas Rueda, a spokesman of oil exploration company Talisman, told RCN radio station.

"They (FARC) have just kidnapped 23 people who are employed by a contractor of ours," said Rueda.

He said it is too early to give details about the

perpetrators, but police sources confirmed to RCN that the front 16 of the FARC operates in the area and are likely the kidnapers.

Police also indicated that 80 percent of the 23 hostages are natives of the region who work for a contractor that provides services to Talisman.

Meanwhile, governor of Vichada, Juan Carlos Avila, confirmed that an unidentified armed group got into the oil camp and took an uncounted number of people.

Avila said that the abduction was in a secluded and jungle area of the municipality of Cumaribo, which is only accessible by helicopters.

Xinhua

Gold futures rises modestly

NEW YORK, 8 March—Gold and silver futures rose Monday as troubles in Libya continued to shake commodity markets.

Gold prices on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange added \$4.80 to a record \$1,433, as gold rises in sympathy with oil, an inflation bellwether. April contract oil added 55 cents to \$104.97, remaining high despite assurances that global production capacity can overcome the supply disruption while Libya is in chaos.

The dollar index was flat, rising 0.09 percent Monday. The euro fell to \$1.397 from Friday's \$1.3986, while the dollar fell against the yen to 82.22 yen from 82.32 yen.

The British pound fell 0.73 cents to \$1.6196 while the Canadian dollar fell 0.08 cents to 97.25 cents.

The US dollar fell to 7.7867 Hong Kong dollars from 7.7868 HKD. The Australian dollar fell to \$1.0112 from \$1.0138.

In India, the dollar rose to 44.97 rupees from 44.904 rupees. Against the South Korean won, the dollar fell to 1,116.35 won from 1,117.82 won.—Internet

Air China to buy 5 Boeing planes

BEIJING, 8 March—Air China Ltd announced Tuesday it would buy five B747-8 airplanes from Boeing Company in a bid to further expand its fleet size.

The value of the deal is estimated to reach 1.54 billion US dollars, but actual prices might be adjusted, Air China said in a statement filed with the Shanghai Stock Exchange Tuesday.

The planes are scheduled to be delivered in 2014 and 2015.

The statement said the company would seek the help of bank loans in buying the planes, adding the deal would not cause a major impact on the company's financial status.

As of the end of 2010, Air China's fleet capacity stood at 19.741 billion tonne kilometres. The statement said the new planes are expected to expand the its fleet size by another 1.3 billion tonne kilometres.—Xinhua



A man carries cooked meat during a Darouhui Festival, a kind of temple fair, in Jian'ge County, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 7 March, 2011. Darouhui is a traditional folk festival which enjoys over 800 years' history. Local people have the custom of feeding pigs. During the Darouhui Festival, people will get together to share dishes made of hog meat. Darouhui Festival usually celebrate twice a year, three days each time.—XINHUA



The 106-year-old Miao ethnic group woman Guan Houmei (L1) assists her offspring in preparing a dinner for the family union in Rongshui County, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 7 March, 2011.

XINHUA

Animal foot found in shoe in Canada

VANCOUVER, 8 March—A running shoe holding the severed foot from an unidentified animal was found washed ashore in British Columbia, Canadian authorities say. Royal Canadian Mounted Police Cpl Annie Linteau said a woman out for a walk found the shoe and foot floating in Vancouver's Powell River Saturday, Postmedia News reported.

Like seven previous feet washed ashore in British Columbia, it was inside a running shoe but upon examination Sunday night, the Coroner's Service declared the foot was not human. In all, 10 feet have been found on Washington and British Columbia since August 2007, the last one being December in Tacoma, Wash. Tacoma police said the size 6 Ozark Trail brand hiking boot probably belonged to a young person or small adult, Postmedia said.—Internet

Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects high-grade jade lots on display at Mani Yadana Jade Hall. (News on page 1)

MNA



Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspects high-grade jade lots on display at Mani Yadana Jade Hall. (News on page 1)

MNA



Industry-2 Minister inspects staff quarters in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein inspected hostels for officers in Bawgathedi ward and staff quarter, perennial crops, shade trees, seasonal plants and flowery plants in

Dannathedi and Wunnathedi wards in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw District this morning.

After that, the minister met with staff and their families and left necessary instructions.—MNA



Minister U Soe Thein inspects staff quarters and hostels in Nay Pyi Taw .—MNA

A & I Minister receives Israeli Ambassador, Japanese guest

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo received Ambassador of Israel to Myanmar Mr. Yaron Mayer at his office here this afternoon.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters on cooperation in the agriculture sector and human resource development. Senior Advisor to Itochu Corporation Mr. Toshiyuki Takano called on Minister U Htay Oo at his office yesterday.

MNA

MGH gets medical equipment for cancer patients

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—A ceremony to donate K 0.3 million worth of medical equipment for cancer patients to Radiological Department of Mandalay General Hospital, took place at the office of medical superintendent on 3 March.

Medical superintendent Dr U Maung Win accepted the equipment donated by U Yin Win Maung and wife Daw Khin Pyone Yu and family, and presented certificate of honour to the family.—MNA

Junction Centre Nay Pyi Taw's extended building inaugurated

Minister U Thein Nyunt unveils signboard of extended building of Junction Centre

Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 8 March — An extended building of Junction Centre Nay Pyi Taw was inaugurated today.

Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan and Managing Director of Junction Centre U Aung Zaw Naing formally opened the building and Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt unveiled the signboard of the building. The three-storey building

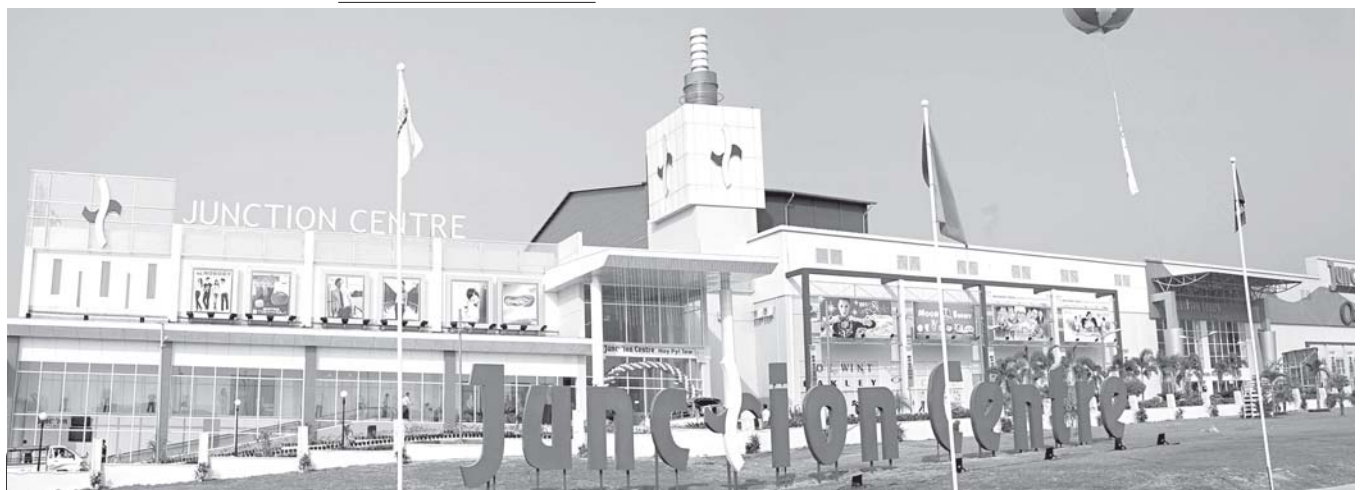
is built on 40,000 square feet, comprising 47 shops.

European, Chinese, Thai and Myanmar restaurants and bakery and café shops are located on the first floor, luxury & premium fashion, silk wear, shoes & bags, glasses & watches, jewellery, perfume, cosmetic and fashion accessories are available on the second floor and fashion shops, wedding & photo studio, spa, phone/IT accessories and game centres are established on the third floor.

MNA



Ministers U Tin Naing Thein, U Kyaw Hsan and Managing Director U Aung Zaw Naing open extended building of Junction Centre Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA



Junction Centre Nay Pyi Taw on Yazathingaha Road in front of Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone. — MNA



Ministers, deputy ministers and guests at the stalls in Junction Centre. (News on page 8)—MNA

Level-3 Diploma in Performing Arts introduced

YANGON, 8 March—Press conference on Level-3 Diploma in Performing Arts conferred by City of Sunderland College of England, was held at Central Hotel in Bogyoke Street, here, on 1 March. It is the first-ever course in Myanmar and will start on 24 March. Those who have above basic education high school level are eligible to attend the nine-month course. For more information, contact Shwe Sae Entertainment, No.37, Room-202, Aung Thabyae road, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon and dial Ph-0973132927 and 0973132928.—MNA



Press conference on Level-3 Diploma in Performing Arts to be conferred by City of Sunderland College in progress.—MNA



YAUNGNIU LIBRARY OPENED: Secretary of Hlegu Township Peace and Development Council Daw A Mi Zaw, head of township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Su Su Hline and village head U Myint Oo formally opened YaungniU library in Wayonsoon Village in Hlegu Township, Yangon on 7 March.

TOWNSHIP IPRD

Energy Minister meets Man oilfield general managers

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Minister for Energy U Lun Thi met with oilfields general managers at the Man oilfield in Minbu Township, Magway Region on 6 March.

At the meeting, the minister discussed onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration, success of offshore oil fields, improvement of onshore gas and oil drilling, exploration and production, success of

joint venture with overseas companies, ongoing development tasks and future tasks.

After that, the minister inspected new oil well No.797 in Htauksharbin oilfield and urged officials to produce more oil and to minimize the losses. Then, he viewed test-burning of natural gas. That new oil well produces about one million cubic feet of natural gas a day.

Afterwards, the

minister inspected No.1 Thankantan in Man oilfield. There, he looked into refining of crude oil and gas at No.443 oil well by deepening it. Officials reported to the minister on production of more oil from present-operating four oil wells with Single Multi Jet Operation system by penetrating into sand layer laterally. The No.443 oil well now produces 14 barrels of oil and 0.2 million cubic feet of gas daily.—MNA

Shape your kids' future at ILBC

YANGON, 8 March—This year, ILBC plans to run its summer courses from 18 March to 27 May.

Courses cover proficiency of English and Myanmar languages, drawing, painting, music and sport. The courses are particularly designed to improve children's skills in subjects, curiosity and reasoning

power and enhance cognitive development.

Pretests will be held for novice trainees in order that they can join suitable classes.

ILBC Pre-School will be opened from 1 March to 31 May for kids aged 3 to 5. School hours is from 8 am to 11 am, and from 12 noon to 3 pm. Courses will be opened simultaneously at the

branches of ILBC in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Myitkyina, Taunggyi, Toungoo, Lashio and Myeik.

For more on courses, contact ILBC at No. 34 on Laydauntkan Street, in Tamway Township, Yangon (Ph: 542982, 545720), (Fax 01-541040) or visit info@ilbc.net.mm.

MNA

ILBC will conduct regular summer courses from 18 March to 27 May. All the courses will be conducted at ILBC branches in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Myitkyina, Taunggyi, Taungoo, Lashio and Myeik.

MNA

What's your dream?

2011 ILBC SUMMER ENGLISH COURSES

Myanmar jade with best quality in the world



Dr Ye Myint Swe, Director-General of Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department.

of jade in the rock were broken and washed away together with other types of stones by currents of water. Then, it formed as secondary deposits.

According to some geologists, based on glaucophane scist, albite or nepheline stones were transformed by high pressure into Jadeite jade.

Jade can form only at collision zone of Plate Convergent boundary of the two huge layers of the Earth. So, today's geologists call serpentinite rock, collisional rock.

Jadeite jade is



Two foreign merchants examining a jade lot at 2010 Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium.



Jewellery made of Myanmar jade.

found at small amount in Guatemala, California of the US, Japan and Russia. However, the jade found in those countries is not as good as Myanmar's Jadeite jade in size and quality.

Director-General Dr Ye Myint Swe of the Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department under the Ministry of Mines said, "Myanmar's jade is of best quality and our country produces quality jade larger than any other country. So, Myanmar is

in a position to hold the whole international jade market. Chinese constitute one-fifth of the world population. So, if Myanmar jade has a foothold in Chinese market, it is marketable on a commercial scale. The strong point of Myanmar jade is that it has better quality than the jade of any other country."

He presented a

doctoral thesis on geology at Yangon University in 2004. He was sent to attend courses on minerals exploration and scientific studies in Australia, Japan, and the US. From 2007 to 2010, he served as Professor (Director) of the Post-Graduate Applied Geology Department of Yangon University.

(See page 11)

Foreign merchants examining Myanmar jade lots at 2010 Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium.

(from page 16)

Jade, unlike other precious stones such as diamond, sapphire and emerald, is not found as single mineral crystal. When we look at a facet of a cut jade stone with the use of a microscope, we can find that jade is just a type of rock. Therefore, some jade stones are very huge.

Formation of Jadeite jade is Na Al Si₂ O₆. Its density is 3.33, and its hardness is 7.

High quality Jadeite jade is peculiar to Myanmar due to geological process. Jade can form only at convergent plate boundaries.

About 200 million years ago, the Earth was as the form of Pangaea. Myanmar is

situated at convergent boundaries where Indian Plate and Eurasia Plate collided against each other. According to the geological research, jade formed at the place where the large layers of the Earth collided hard against each other. Due to extreme side pressure, jade moves up gradually to the surface of the Earth.

Serpentinite rock infiltrated into it by Jadeite jade stones came under metamorphism (high pressure). Serpentinite rock's late Cretaceous - Early Eocene is estimated around 65 million years. Due to the collision between the two huge layers of the Earth, inner parts came out at very high speed to emerge as mountain ranges. Later, heavy layers



Myanmar jade with best quality...

(from page 10)

The Central Committee for Organizing Myanmar Gems Emporiums of the Ministry of Mines of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been holding Myanmar gems emporiums since 1964. Up to 2010 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium, it had organized emporiums for 47 times.

Of the foreign

gems merchants attending Myanmar Gems Emporiums, Chinese makes up the majority. They purchase gems especially jade. Chinese merchants have been importing Myanmar's Jadeite jade since 18th Century. Chinese people consider jade as the prime stone.

According to Chinese tradition, a person wearing jade is considered to be generous,

brave, upright, humble, intellectual, danger-free, and prosperous. They call jade as stone of heavens. China sees no Jadeite jade, but nephrite jade.

The 2010 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium was held at Maniyadana Jade Hall near the Myanmar Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw from 17 to 29 November, drawing the attention from 6750 foreign merchants who bought 7784 lots of jade. It was the first emporium held in Nay Pyi Taw, but foreign merchants spent more money than that in previous empori-



A Chinese gem merchant examines Myanmar jade.



Myanmar jade displayed at 2010 Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium.

ums to purchase jade.

The majority of Myanmar jade is from

secondary deposits. So, Myanmar should scale up geological exploration to

discover more jade deposits.

Translation: MS



D-G of Training, Research & Foreign Languages Department signs Condolence Book



Director-General of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Daw Yin Yin Myint signs Condolence Book for demise of Former Prime Minister of Nepal Mr. Krishna Prasad Bhattarai.—MNA

YANGON, 8 March—Director-General of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Daw Yin Yin Myint signed Condolence Book opened at the Embassy of Nepal, No.16 Natmauk Yeiktha in Tamway Township at 3.30 pm today for the demise of His Excellency Mr. Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, Former President of Nepali Congress party and Former Prime Minister of Nepal on 4 March 2011.—MNA

107 fires occur in February

YANGON, 8 March —A total of 107 fires broke out across the country in February. They are stove fires, 83 fires due to recklessness, 15 accidental fires, five electric shocks, two arsons and two forest fires.

The fires destroyed 592 houses, left 2343 people homeless, killed four and injured six. It is found that the fire outbreaks due to negligence accounted for 77.57 percent of the total outbreaks.

According to analysis, Mandalay Region experienced most of the fire outbreaks, followed by Yangon Region and Sagaing Region. Out of 23 fires that occurred in Mandalay Region, 16 were due to negligence, including stove fires, accounting for 36.45 percent of the nation's total outbreaks.

Fire Services Department is taking fire preventive measures in collaboration with township peace and development councils, general administrative departments and other related departments by advising development affairs committees to take precautionary measures at markets and high buildings, educating the people about fire prevention through media and giving educative talks in townships, wards and villages and carrying out fire drills. However, fires still break out due to the public reluctance to follow the instructions. Now, fire preventive measures are being carried out in villages in an extensive way as the dry season is setting in.—MNA

STI providing international education services

YANGON, 8 March — STI Education, Myanmar agent of universities and institutes Australia, American, Canada, England and Singapore, is providing services for further study. It is providing consultancy services for

building education career in foreign countries, choosing subject and career destinations.

Those interested may contact the STI Education at No. 377, upper Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township and at Campus (4), Room (7), Myanmar Info-Tech, Hline Township (Ph: 507048 and 507151).

MNA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANG SAOTONG VOY NO (136)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG SAOTONG VOY NO (136) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO, LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Hankook Tire Co., Ltd., of #647-15, Yoksam-dong, Kangnam-ku, Seoul, Korea, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

CENTUM

Reg. No. 2373/2000

in respect of "Tire, tube for vehicles".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin

M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L

for Hankook Tire Co., Ltd.

P. O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 9 March 2011

Google Maps now helps users beat traffic jams

WASHINGTON, 8 March—Google upgraded its popular Google Maps on Monday to suggest faster routes to drivers based on real-time traffic conditions.

Google Maps Navigation, released in beta, or test mode, shows various routes along with estimated travel times and uses red, green and yellow colour-coding to show how traffic is moving at any given time.

"Before today, Navigation would choose whichever route was fast-



A street light turns green in New York.—INTERNET

est, without taking current traffic conditions into account," Roy Williams, a software engineer with the Google Maps team, said in a blog post.

"It would also generate additional alternate directions, such as the shortest route or one that uses highways instead of side roads."—Internet

Space shuttle Discovery heads home to retirement

CAPE CANAVERAL, 8 March—Its decades-long mission accomplished, space shuttle *Discovery* headed home to retirement after undocking from the International Space Station on Monday for the last time.

The world's most-flown spaceship got a dramatic

send-off by "Star Trek's" original Capt Kirk.

"Space, the final frontier," actor William Shatner proclaimed in a prerecorded tribute. "These have been the voyages of the space shuttle *Discovery*. Her 30-year mission: to seek out new science, to build new out-

posts, to bring nations together on the final frontier, to boldly go and do what no spacecraft has done before."

On the final leg of its final journey — due to culminate with a Wednesday touchdown — *Discovery* performed a victory lap around the space station immediately after undocking. The shuttle and station crews beamed down pictures of each other's vessel, with the blue cloud-speckled planet 220 miles below as the stunning backdrop.—Internet



In a frame grab made from NASA TV, space shuttle *Discovery* leaves the International Space Station for the last time on 7 March, 2011.—INTERNET

Day-after surgery knee rehab effective

ALMERIA, 8 March—Starting physical therapy 24 hours after knee surgery can reduce pain, improve range of joint motion and improve muscle strength, researchers in Spain found.

Researchers from Almeria, Malaga and Granada in Spain compared patients who began treatment within 24 hours of surgery with those who began 48 or 72 hours after their operation in a random, controlled clinical trial. Each group comprised more than 150 patients ages 50-75.

The post-operative day began with a series of leg exercises, breathing exercises and tips on posture, while on the second day walking short

distances with walking aids was added.

"Orthopedics, especially knee replacement surgery, is one area that may lend itself to accelerated discharge," Adelaida Castro Sanchez of the University of Almeria said in a statement. "We therefore postulated that early rehabilitation after total knee arthroplasty could accelerate the capacity of patients for daily life activities, and reduce their hospital stay."

Internet

Two men ride their bicycles in front of Bank of Greece in central Athens on 7 March, 2011.

INTERNET

Moody's downgrade tips Greece closer to brink

ATHENS, 8 March—Moody's slashed Greece's credit rating by three notches on Monday due to an increased default risk, raising the specter that the distressed euro zone sovereign may have to restructure its debt, perhaps before 2013.

The move increased pressure on euro zone leaders to ease repayment terms on bailout loans to Athens, just as Germany and its allies seem to have turned their backs on more radical steps to help it reduce its

debt through bond purchases or buy-backs.

Moody's Investors Service downgraded Greek debt to B1 from Ba1 — lower than Egypt — and said it may cut further, drawing an indignant protest from the Greek Finance Ministry.

"The likelihood of a default or distressed exchange has risen since its last downgrade of the Greek government debt rating in June 2010," Moody's said in a statement.—Internet



Android tops BlackBerry in US: comScore

WASHINGTON, 8 March—Google's Android has surged past Blackberry maker Research in Motion to become the leading smartphone platform in the United States, market tracking firm comScore said on Monday.

Google's Android operating system captured the top spot in the United States for the first time with a 31.2 percent smartphone market share for the three months ending in January, comScore said.

RIM was next with a 30.4 percent market share, followed by Apple with 24.7 percent, Microsoft with 8.0 percent and Palm with 3.2 percent.

According to comScore, 234 million Americans owned mobile devices at the end of January and 65.8 million owned smartphones.—Internet



Google's Android has surged past Blackberry maker Research in Motion to become the leading smartphone platform in the United States, market tracking firm comScore said on Monday.

INTERNET



Oil is seen on the surface of the water from the massive oil spill on 9 May, 2010 in Gulf of Mexico. Last year's massive Gulf of Mexico oil spill sparked by an explosion on a BP-leased platform is no reason to stop deep sea drilling, the group's chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg has said.—INTERNET

Skype to introduce ads

WASHINGTON, 8 March—Skype, the hugely popular free Internet communications service, announced plans Monday to introduce advertising as it seeks to boost revenue ahead of going public.

Skype, which bypasses the standard telephone network by channeling voice, video and text conversations over the Web, said the ads will appear only in Britain, Germany and the United States for now.

The introduction of advertising is Skype's latest bid to increase revenue ahead of an initial public offering expected later this year.

The Luxembourg-based Skype, which was founded in 2003, announced plans in August to raise up to 100 million dollars by listing on the Nasdaq stock exchange.—Internet

Elderly man trying to park his car rams into restaurant

An elderly man rammed his car into a southeast Melbourne restaurant, causing chaos all around and injuring 17 people. It is believed he was probably trying to park his car when he blacked out.

The septuagenarian driver was attempting to park his car at the Food Star restaurant in Frankston in the early afternoon.

"We had a number of elderly patients scattered around the scene, sitting on chairs, sitting under tables, laying under tables,

laying with chairs on top of them," AAP quoted Paramedic Brian Chesson as saying.

According to Police sergeant Mark Sims, the driver ploughed his car into the restaurant and food-serving area, hitting tables where diners were sitting.

Ambulance Victoria said 12 people, including the driver of the car, were treated by staff at the scene. Police said another five people suffered minor injuries.



A staff member shows a solar energy backpack, which can charge the cellphone in outdoors, during the 2011 Beijing Gift Show in Beijing, capital of China, on 5 March, 2011. More than 400 enterprises from home and abroad took part in the four-day show, which kicked off here Saturday.

Spiders' webs discovered in Mazda cars

Japanese carmaker Mazda has recalled over 50,000 cars in the US and 15,000 in Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico, after spiders' webs were discovered in the vents.

The company, which is recalling Mazda 6 cars of the 2009-2010 models, expressed its fears that a spider could weave a web in a vent connected to the fuel tank system and clog up the tank's ventilation, the *Daily Express* reports.

Spokesman Jeremy Barnes has said that dealers had identified 20 cases in which spiders' webs were found in the vents. He also said that the webs were linked to yellow sac spiders, but it was unclear why they were particularly found in the Mazda 6 and not in other vehicles.

The recall involves vehicles with 2.5 litre engines built from April 2008 to February 2010.

Owners would reportedly be notified by mid-March and told to take their vehicles to dealers for inspection and repairs. Dealers will inspect and clean up the vent line and install a spring to prevent a spider from entering the vent line.

This file photo shows a Bell 429 helicopter, similar to one that was given as a gift to a groom in a recent 'mega-bucks' Indian wedding.



Ore store bandit nearly lost his pants

Oregon police say a man they're calling the Droopy Drawers Bandit made off with beer and cigarettes in a convenience store burglary, but nearly lost his pants in the process. At one point in the theft early Thursday morning in Salem, the man's pants nearly fell down and revealed bright red shorts, the store surveillance video shows.

Lt Steve Birr says the bandit apparently cut himself breaking in since considerable blood was found. Police responding to a burglary alarm found that a car door had apparently been used to smash a hole in the store's glass front door. The bandit was gone.

Las Vegas strip may get colossal Ferris wheel

A 500-foot (152 metres) Ferris wheel, which would be the tallest in the Western Hemisphere, may be built on the famed Las Vegas strip, officials said.

A developer won permission to construct the Ferris wheel as the centerpiece of an amusement park and retail centre planned for a vacant plot of land on the Strip, opposite the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino.

If built, it would be the third-tallest Ferris wheel in the world and, at 500 feet, would be the maximum allowed by the US Federal Aviation Administration.

The site is less than half a mile (0.8 km) from McCarran International Airport, where more than 35 million passengers land every year.

Developer Howard Bulloch got the green light for the project from Clark County commissioners on Wednesday.

The idea behind the Ferris wheel, according to Bulloch's attorney Ed Garcia, is to offer "a very unique view of the Las Vegas Strip."

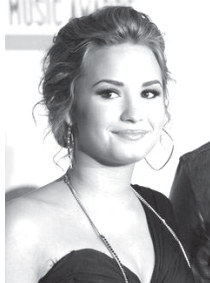
Bulloch has not disclosed the financial backers of the project but hopes to have it built in 18 to 24 months, Garcia said. The 541-foot (165 metre) Singapore Flyer is the tallest operating Ferris wheel in the world, followed by the 525-foot (160 metre) Star of Nanchang in China. The London Eye, on the banks of the Thames River, reaches 443 feet (135 metres).

Demi Lovato thanks fans in a video message

NEW YORK, 8 March—Demi Lovato says she's ready to go back to work and is thanking fans for lifting her up during what she calls "probably the darkest time in my life."

The 18-year-old Disney TV star entered a treatment facility last November to deal with "emotional and physical issues." Lovato, who starred in "Sonny With a Chance," had to drop out of a tour with the Jonas Brothers and it was revealed that she had fought with a backup dancer.

In a cheery video released on Cambio.com on Monday, Lovato told fans she's back home.



Demi Lovato.—INTERNET

Lovato says she was dealing with issues that teen girls face but didn't say what they were. In the past, she has acknowledged cutting herself. Lovato told fans they brought light in her life

during her darkest hours and without them "I probably wouldn't be here today."

In the video, Lovato said she was ready to resume working. However, a statement released by Disney on Monday said Lovato's management would let them know when she is ready to return. While "Sonny" was on hiatus, Disney put the rest of the cast and crew to work on "So Random," the sketch comedy show within the "Sonny" series. Those episodes will begin airing in the spring, Disney said.

Internet

Marc Anthony joins cast of TNT's 'Hawthorne'

LOS ANGELES, 8 March—Marc Anthony is joining wife Jennifer Lopez as a TV regular, but he's taking the dramatic route.

The Grammy-winning salsa star will become a cast member on TNT's "Hawthorne," playing police Detective Nick Renata. He appeared as the character in two episodes last season.

The medical series that stars Jada Pinkett Smith as Christina Hawthorne, a hospital's chief nursing officer, returns for its third season in June.



Singer Marc Anthony. INTERNET

Country Hall of Famer Ferlin Husky hospitalized

NASHVILLE, 8 March—Country Music Hall of Fame member Ferlin Husky is hospitalized in critical condition.

Husky's daughter, Alana Jackson, tells *The Associated Press* through a family spokesman that the 85-year-old's condition improved Monday and his doctors at Hendersonville Medical Centre may soon move him out of the critical care unit.

Tracy Pitcox, president of Husky's record label, Heart of Texas Records, says Husky has been in and out of the hospital the last few weeks following surgery and began having trouble breathing over the weekend. Husky suffers from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and has a history of cardiac problems.

Husky was inducted into the Country Hall of Fame last year. He helped bring country music to the masses with pioneering work in television. His hits include "Wings of a Dove" and "Gone."—Internet



Charlie Sheen. INTERNET

Charlie Sheen reaches two million Twitter followers

LOS ANGELES, 8 March—Winning, indeed. On Monday, Charlie Sheen reached two million followers on Twitter — less than one week after launching his account.

"Another record shattered," the actor, 45, Tweeted Monday. "We gobbled the soft target that was 2.0 mil, like a bag of a troll-house zombie chow."

Later, he added, "hey Guinness, might wanna start writing them in pencil, #checkit; you've been warned."

Last week, *The Hollywood Reporter*

reported that Sheen will soon be Tweeting endorsements. Lady Gaga currently has the most followers — more than 8.6 million — followed by Justin Bieber, Britney Spears and President Barack Obama.

Sheen is catching up, though.

Not only is he thriving on Twitter, he is heating up other parts of the web: On Saturday, he hosted a live webcast and attracted more than 100,000 viewers. He showed off a new tattoo on his left wrist that reads "winning."—Reuters

Lampard double helps Chelsea beat Blackpool

BLACKPOOL, 8 March — A double for Frank Lampard and a header by John Terry helped Chelsea to a comfortable 3-1 victory over relegation-threatened Blackpool here on Monday.

This could have been



Chelsea's English midfielder Frank Lampard celebrates after scoring the second goal from a penalty.—INTERNET

a tricky encounter for Carlo Ancelotti's side but Chelsea's old guard showed their qualities to earn three points and underline that the Premier League title race is very much alive.

They are nine points behind leaders Manchester United with a game in hand.

Chelsea went into this contest in buoyant mood following their comeback victory against Manchester United six days ago which ensured they kept in touch with the trio of sides above them.—*Internet*

Birmingham's Ferguson to decide on job, McLeish says

LONDON, 8 March — Birmingham boss Alex McLeish has said it is up to key midfielder Barry Ferguson to decide whether or not to undergo an injection which could allow him to return to action quicker after suffering a broken rib.

Ferguson sustained the injury in a clash with Arsenal's Samir Nasri during the League Cup final.

In his absence Birmingham slumped to a 3-1 home defeat against West Brom on Saturday, a result which saw City fall back into the Premier League relegation zone.

But McLeish will put no pressure on Ferguson



Birmingham City's Barry Ferguson (left) vies with West Ham United's Nigerian player Victor Obinna during a Premier League match at Upton Park in London, England on 6 February.—INTERNET

and allow him to make his mind up on whether to go under the needle.

McLeish said: "Barry has had this before when I was at Rangers in a Scottish Cup final.

Internet

Nagatomo's first Inter goal excites Japan



Inter Milan's Yuto Nagatomo (centre) celebrates with teammates after scoring against Genoa.—INTERNET

TOKYO, 8 March — Yuto Nagatomo's first Serie-A goal in Inter Milan's colours has been hailed in Japan as another strong showing by a Blue Samurai player after the national side's World and

Asian Cup performances.

The goal, in the 5-2 rout of Genoa, was also the first scored by a Japanese player for one of the league's big-three sides, prompting Japanese newspapers to run it as the top sports story in their evening editions on Monday. "First goal as his aggression explodes," a headline in the influential Asahi Shimbun said.

Internet

Kyle Busch talks to reporters dropping out of the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race.

INTERNET

SPORTS

Bayern Munich coach to leave at end of season



Bayern Munich's Dutch head coach Louis van Gaal looks on during the German first division Bundesliga.—INTERNET

BERLIN, 8 March — Bayern Munich said on Monday that coach Louis van Gaal is to leave at the end of the season, one year early, after three de-

feats in a row and qualification for the Champions League on a knife-edge.

"The reason for the contract being annulled is differing views on the club's strategic direction," the Bundesliga club said in a statement.

The German giants, who are accustomed to winning, are fifth in the Bundesliga and seven points adrift of the second place that would guarantee Champions League football next season.

Internet

Villa's Bannan makes Leeds switch

LONDON, 8 March — Aston Villa midfielder Barry Bannan has completed a loan move to Championship side Leeds until the end of the season.

The 21-year-old Scotland international will go straight into Simon Grayson's squad for Tuesday night's league clash at Preston.

Grayson said: "Barry's a player we've been tracking for a while. Circumstances have now changed where Villa are in a position to let him join us and I'd like to thank them for agreeing to the move.

"He's had the opportunity to go to nearly every other team in the Champi-

onship so for him to come here makes it all the more pleasing.

"He's used to this division and he played a major part in Blackpool's run to get promoted last season, so he has experience and he fits the bill perfectly for us."—*Internet*

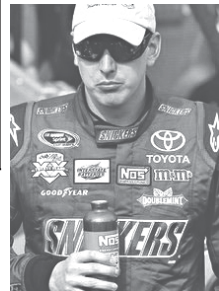


Aston Villa midfielder Barry Bannan has completed a loan move to Championship side Leeds.—INTERNET

NASCAR's bad boys are behaving better

LAS VEGA, 8 March — Kyle Busch and Tony Stewart are known for their racing success and explosive tempers.

Most every problem on the track is followed by a profanity-laced rant, a tantrum and, in Busch's case, a meltdown right in the car



that has at times prevented him from making a strong finish. Then came the sulking and scowling. If they even bothered to give interviews, the answers were usually short and snippy. It was boorish behavior, but tolerated. Nothing was going to change NASCAR's two biggest bad boys.

Until, that is, they changed.

Busch and Stewart seem to have mellowed this season. That was never more apparent than Sunday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Both had a chance to win, and neither did.—*Internet*

FIFA lift Fernandez suspension

JERUSALEM, 8 March — FIFA have officially lifted all restrictions against Israel national coach Luis Fernandez who was suspended from all football activity by them last month, the Israeli football federation announced on Monday. "FIFA have officially announced that all the restrictions concerning the Israel coach have been lifted," a statement on the federation's website read.



Israel national coach Luis Fernandez

Fernandez said simply: "Now we can all move forward."

The 51-year-old Spanish-born former French international was suspended by world football's governing body on February 20 because of an outstanding judgement made against him in 2009 relating to a debt at Qatari team Al-Rayyan he had coached in 2005.

Fernandez insisted last week that he had resolved the legal issues that had led to his suspension. "Since FIFA did not agree to give me further time, I have had to fix the problem to prevent a suspension," Fernandez told AFP.—*Internet*

Toulalan extends Lyon contract to 2015

LYON, 8 March — Lyon midfielder Jeremy Toulalan, whose contract was to expire on 30 June, has extended his stay with the French club through until 2015. "Everyone's been behind me after the difficult times I've been through," said Toulalan.

"I feel very good in this city and it's going very well with the team, which is the best in France even if currently we have no titles. It's one of my goals to win more of them.

"In 2015 I will be 32 years old. I had the choice: either I extended and spend my career at Lyon or I leave. I chose



Lyon midfielder Jeremy Toulalan

to stay at Lyon and finish my career with the club. The French Football Federation (FFF) sanctioned Toulalan for his role in the infamous players' strike during France's blighted World Cup campaign, and while he has purged his three-match ban, he said his thoughts were on performing for Lyon and not on his continuing absence from the nation team.—*Internet*

New Zealand's Greg Henderson wins Paris-Nice stage

AMILLY, 8 March — New Zealand's Greg Henderson has won the



Gregory Henderson, of New Zealand, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the second stage of the Paris-Nice cycling race in Amilly, central France, on 7 March, 2011.

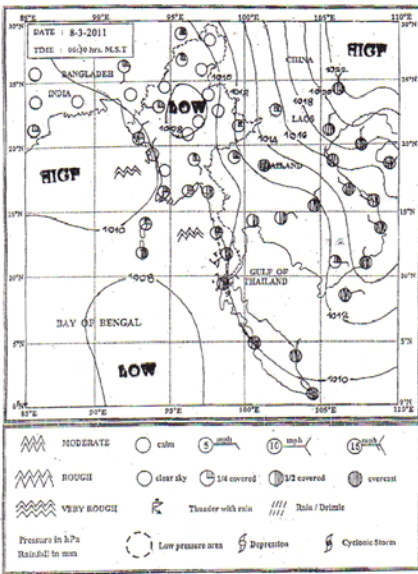
INTERNET

second stage of the Paris-Nice cycling race, outsprinting Australia's Matthew Goss and Russia's Denis Galimzyanov.

Thomas De Gendt of Belgium still has the leader's yellow jersey after attacking with just under a mile to go on Monday and finishing in the main pack.

Henderson held off his rivals to win a stage for the second straight year. He is second in the overall standings, four seconds behind.—*Internet*

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 8th March, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Ayeyawady and Bago Regions, Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in , Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Northern Shan, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States, (5°C) to (6°C) above March average temperatures in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Southern Shan and Chin States and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (42°C), Minbu and Aunglan (41°C) each, Monywa, Magway and Pyay (40°C) each.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 7-3-2011 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 8-3-2011 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 8-3-2011 was (64%). Rainfall on 8-3-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 7-3-2011 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 8-3-2011 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 8-3-2011 was (77%). Total

sunshine hours on 7-3-2011 was (8.2) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 8-3-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (1.97) inches at Mingaladon, (1.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (3.82) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (09:30) hours MST on 7-3-2011.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 9th March 2011: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Kayah and Mon States, weather will be partly cloudy in over Upper Sagaing and Bago Regions, Rakhine State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuations of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 9-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Iran seizes tons of drugs since March 2010

TEHRAN, 8 March —Iranian Interior Minister Mostafa Mohammad-Najjar said Monday that Iran’s police have seized more than 400 tons of narcotics since March 2010, the local satellite Press TV reported.

The drugs were seized in operations across the country, Mohammad-Najjar said during a ceremony held to destroy some 42 tons of narcotics in the capital Teheran.

Najjar also said at least 100 tons more will also be destroyed by the end of March, Press TV reported.

Iran is located at the crossroad of international drug smuggling from Afghanistan, the world’s top opium producer, to Europe.

Iran has hanged dozens of drug traffickers in the first days of 2011 and vows to further pursue the campaign against drug smugglers.

Xinhua



An employee of Nissan Motor demonstrates how to plug in the electric vehicle “Leaf” at the company’s showroom in Yokohama, suburban Tokyo on 9 Feb. Ten Japanese companies have said they plan to install electric vehicle chargers at the sites of beverage vending machines across Japan in a cost-cutting tie-up.—INTERNET

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (9-3-2011) (Wednesday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am - 11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	- (9-3-11 09:30 am ~ 10-3-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Travelling on the Chin Mountain Ranges
- * Records Album
- * News
- * Religious Examination (II)
- * News
- * Myanmar Martial Art (Bando)
- * News
- * 9th Myanmar ICT Week 2011
- * “Motive Force” Chamber Orchestra and fund raising Event

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Travelling on the Chin Mountain Ranges
- * Records Album
- * News
- * Religious Examination (II)
- * News
- * Being Young (Youth and Fashion) (Wit Hmone Shwe Yee)
- * News
- * National Kadawgyi Garden (Pyin Oo Lwin)
- * “Motvie Force” Chamber Orchestra and fun raising Event
- * News
- * Myanmar Martial Art (Bando)
- * News
- * Festive Events of Twantay
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * “Myanmar’s Traditions and Culture” Novicehood in Myanmar
- * News
- * 9th Myanmar ICT Week 2011
- * Myanmar Movie “Night Walker”



Wednesday, 9 March
View on today

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

7:10 am

2. Dhamma Puja Song

7:25 am

3. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning News

7:40 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

7:55 am

6. Health Programme

8:05 am

7. Cultural Dances

8:15 am

8. Dance Of National Races

8:25 am

9. Teleplay (Health)

8:30 am

10. Songs in honour of (66)th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

8:40 am

11. International News

8:45 am

12. Musical Programme

3:45 pm

1. (2012) London Olympic (Asia Zone) First Qualifier (2nd Leg) Football Match (Myanmar Olympic Selected Team VS India Olympic Selected Team)

5:45 pm

2. Muscial Programme

6:00 pm

3. Evening News

6:15 pm

4. Weather Report

6:20 pm

5. Traditional Boxing

6:45 pm

6. Shwe Yin Chone Than

7:15 pm

7. Ratha Pawlin Thayotesaung Lwin Pyin (Characters Contest)

7:45 pm

8. Alinka Wut Yin Music Troupe

8:00 pm

9. News
10. International News
11. Weather Report
12. Korea NG Award
13. TV Drama Series
14. Myanmar Drama

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- ★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- ★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- ★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Myanmar jade with best quality in the world

Article: *Tin Htwe (MNA)*; Photos: *Ko Htwe*

Jade is a gifted precious stone in Myanmar as Myanmar jade is of best quality of its kind in the world.

In fact, jade helps put Myanmar on the world map. Jade is the pride of Myanmar. Myanmar is worldwide well-known for rich deposits of quality gems such as jade, ruby and

sapphire.

In Myanmar, jade is produced on a large scale in Phakant and Mohnyin townships in Kachin State, and Khamti Township in Sagaing Region. Jade deposits are of two types: primary deposit and secondary deposit.

Primary deposit lies between layers of serpentinite rock. Primary

deposits are found in many parts of Tawhmaw Region in Phakant Township. Secondary deposits are found around Phakant, along the Uru River, Namcheemaw region in Mohnyin Township, and Gwaygyi-Htontaung region in the west of Mawlu.

Jade is of two kinds—Jadeite jade and Nephrite jade. Of them,



Foreign gem merchants observing jade lots at Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2010.



Jade lot displayed at Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2010.

Jadeite jade is recognized as jade. Myanmar's Jadeite jade has higher quality and more precious than any other jade around the world.

Jadeite jade is of many colours such as pink, brown, red, orange, violet, blue and black. And based on colour,

transparency, formation and flawlessness, jade is classified into three types: imperial jade, utility jade and commercial jade.

Of Jadeite jade types, imperial jade which is green, bright and transparent, is the most precious. Some jade is com-

posed of the three types. An imperial jade stone has green lines and blocks. A utility jade is less transparent with green spots and marks. A commercial jade stone hardly has green marks and spots in it.

(See page 10)