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## 6<sup>th</sup> 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee holds 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting

YANGON, 12 March—The 13th Plenary Meeting of the 6th 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held for the first-day session at Wizaya Mingala Dhammathabin on Kaba Aye Hill, here, yesterday morning.

Chairman Sayadaw of the Committee Abbot of Bhamo Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa presided over the meeting, and Joint Secretary Sayadaw of the Committee Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Manitasiribhivamsa acted as master of ceremonies.

The Meeting Chairman Abbot of Bhamo Monastery delivered a Saraniya Ovadakatha.

On behalf of the second branch of the State

Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Joint Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Dvipitakadhara Bhaddanta Nimala submitted the report in brief to the meeting, and member abbots of the second branch of SSMNC also presented sector-wise reports of the branch on undertakings in the fifth assigned period to the meeting.

The abbots discussed matters related to Viniçchaya affairs, religious affairs and education.

The meeting focused on decease of State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws and member Sayadaws of SSMNC and State Central Working Committee of the Sasana of All Orders, substitute election of State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, member Sayadaws of SSMNC and SCWCSAO.

(See page 8)

### 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

## PBANRDA Ministry holds 19th cash donation ceremony for supply of potable water to rural regions

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March—The 19th cash donation ceremony for supply of potable water to rural regions took place at Myanmar International Convention Centre here yesterday evening, attended by Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Soe Naing, deputy ministers, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and donors.

Director-General of Development Affairs Department U Soe Ko Ko elaborated on undertakings for supply of potable

water to rural areas. Ministry of Industry-2 donated K 5.064 million, Myanmar War Veterans Organization K 1 million, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation K 2 million, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association K 0.5 million, Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein K 3.5 million and Myanmar Economic Corporation K 2.5 million for water supply tasks through Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein who presented certificates of honour to them.

Sibin Thayar Yay Bank donated K 40 million, Myanma Livestock and Fisheries Development Bank K 30 million, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U

Maung Maung Thein and wife Daw Myint Myint Aye K 10 million, U Tint Hsan (ACE Co Ltd) K 5 million, Europe & Asia Commercial Co Ltd K 55 million, U Chit Tun K 3.346 million and Original Group Co Ltd K 3 million through Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein.

Then, other wellwishers contributed cash for water supply tasks. A total of 82 donors contributed K 266.249 million at today's donation ceremony. Next, on behalf of the donors, U Tha Htay of Original Group Co Ltd explained purposes of the donation.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt said that



Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt accepts cash donation from a wellwisher.  
MNA

**Development Affairs Committees have so far spent K 10485.20 million out of their fund from 2000-2001 fiscal year to 2009-2010 fiscal year on water supply tasks in rural regions and have budgeted to spend K 2532.08 million for 2010-2011 fiscal year.**

development affairs committees were assigned to ensure smooth transport and accessibility to potable water in rural areas; that a 10-year plan was put into practice since 2000-2001 fiscal year; that the plan was being implemented through the fund of the Government, and development affairs committees, and contribution of

donors plus help of local and international social organizations; that development affairs committees were working for supply of potable water to arid regions as well as regions facing water shortage; that as the top priority, every village had now been facilitated with a tube well and that more tube wells would be sunk on consideration of social

welfare; and that he, on behalf of the Government, much appreciated donors for their contributions to water supply tasks.

After the cash donation ceremony, the ministers, the deputy ministers and donors viewed documentary photos on supply of potable water to rural regions.

(See page 8)

## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 13 March, 2011

### Disseminate health knowledge to reading groups

The countries with higher literacy rates are meeting improved health standard. Literacy based on comprehension and understanding is a key for healthy and pleasant life.

Literacy for all is a basic factor in striving for development of economic and social standards of the nation. Due to the increase of literates, the literacy rate hits over 94 per cent in Myanmar. The number of readers is also increasing gradually. It is necessary to create better environment for readers and open libraries as part of efforts to broaden their horizons with best works and to gear up for dissemination of health knowledge.

In providing health care services to the people, the Ministry of Health, is giving equal priority to medical treatment and prevention. Everybody must have health knowledge on a wider scale in taking prevention against infection of diseases.

Reading groups on health subject can contribute to disseminating health knowledge to the people. Especially, the reading groups have to be organized in rural areas. Eight to ten-member reading groups may share their health knowledge under the trees, homes or farming huts.

They may hold discussions on warnings about common diseases in respective seasons and pamphlets on health matters. They may share basic health practices on personal hygiene and carrying out systematic sanitation at their environs.

All literates will have various topics of knowledge on a wider scale. Thanks to establishment of reading groups on health subject, dissemination of health knowledge can smoothly be carried out in rural areas. Raising community based health knowledge will contribute much to creation of healthy environs for longevity of the people.

*Local and foreign gem merchants view jade lots.—MNA*



## People's Voice

- \* 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

### A & I Minister receives Indian guest



*Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo receives Director Mr Rakesh Shah of Nipha Exports (P) Limited of India.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo received Director Mr. Rakesh Shah of Nipha Exports (P) Limited of the Republic of India, at his office here on 9 March.

During the meeting, Mr. Rakesh Shah discussed with the minister matters on cooperation in the oil crops development project in Myanmar. *MNA*

### Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw representatives visit Myanma Gems Emporium



*Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives view sales of jade lots at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March—The 48<sup>th</sup> Myanma Gems Emporium continued for the third day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near the Gems Museum, here, today.

Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives led by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa viewed the jade garden, display and

sales of jade lots at Mani Yadana Jade Hall, documentary videos on Myanmar Gems Emporiums and opening of the jade hall.

Secretary of the Central Committee for Organizing the emporium Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanma Gems Enterprise and central committee members, Vice-Chairperson of

Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association U Maung Gyi and officials conducted them round the jade hall.

The deputy speaker and party viewed round sales of jade and pearl lots, jewellery shops and the Gems Museum.

This morning, local and foreign gem merchants tendered and bid for jewellery, jade and pearl lots.

A total of 105 lots of pearl of Myanma Pearls Enterprise and local pearl companies were sold today. Secretary of Central Committee U Thein Swe presented gift to Mr Javen Praful Shantichand of Japan who bid the highest price.

From 10 to 12 March, 253 lots of pearl were sold through tender system and competitive bidding. Jewellery will be sold through tender system and competitive bidding tomorrow.

The emporium will last up to 22 March. *MNA*



Smoke rises from the area where three Taliban suicide bombers burst into a branch of Kabul Bank and detonated their devices recently.

INTERNET

## Two NATO soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 12 March—Two soldiers with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) died Friday in separate incidents in Afghanistan's restive southern region, the military alliance said on Saturday.

"An International Security Assistance Force service member died during an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in

southern Afghanistan yesterday," ISAF said in a brief statement.

In another statement also released on Saturday, ISAF confirmed that another alliance soldier lost his life as a result of a non-battle related injury also in southern Afghanistan on Friday.

However, the statements did not reveal the nationalities of the victims by saying "It is

ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities."

Troops mainly from US, Britain, Canada and Australia have been stationed in the southern region within the framework of ISAF to fight Taleban militants.

The latest casualties have brought the number of foreign forces that have been killed in the violence-hit Afghanistan to 80 since the beginning of this year.

A total of 711 NATO soldiers, most of them Americans, were killed in Afghanistan in 2010.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two NATO oil tankers torched in Balochistan

QUETTA, 12 March—In the latest attack on convoys in Pakistan carrying supplies for NATO forces in Afghanistan, gunmen torched two NATO oil tankers in Balochistan on Saturday.

The Dawn quoted police official Zareef Kurd, as saying that the attack happened in Balochistan's Mach Area.

The assailants fled after the attack, and there were no casualties in the incident.

Mach is about 75 kilometres east of Quetta, which is the capital of Balochistan.

Earlier, there have been similar attacks on the convoys carrying supplies for NATO forces in Afghanistan in Quetta, Naseerabad and Shikarpur Areas of Pakistan.

NATO trucks and oil tankers are regularly targeted with arson attacks blamed on insurgents attempting to disrupt the two key supply lines, which cross western Pakistan bound for foreign troops fighting in neighbouring Afghanistan.—Internet

## Four killed in US drone strike in N-W Pakistan



ISLAMBAD, 12 March—At least four people were killed in a US drone strike launched on Friday

afternoon in Pakistan's northwest tribal area of North Waziristan, reported local Urdu TV channel ARY.

According to the report, the US drone fired three missiles at a vehicle in the Miranshah area of North Waziristan, a place bordering Afghanistan, which is believed to be a stronghold of militants in Pakistan. Friday's strike is the 17<sup>th</sup> of its kind launched by the US drones in Pakistan's territory in 2011, causing at least 80 people killed since the beginning of this year.

MNA/Xinhua



A woman looks at her wounded son at a hospital, who was injured in a car bomb

attack in Kirkuk, some 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, on 11 March, 2011. A parked car bomb wounded 20 people when it went off in a market in Rahim Mawa, a mainly Kurdish Area, police and hospital sources said. Picture taken on 11 March, 2011.

INTERNET



An Afghan policeman gestures (C) at the site of a suicide bomb attack in Kabul recently. A suicide attacker on Monday targeted a downtown Kabul hotel, the Safi Landmark, that was hit by a similar assault nearly a year ago, killing at least three people and wounding several others, Afghan and Western officials said.—INTERNET

## Mexican army raid drug camp, eight gunmen killed

MEXICO CITY, 12 March— Mexican authorities say soldiers have raided a drug gang's camp in northeastern Mexico and killed eight gunmen in a shootout.

The Defence Department says gunmen opened fire on troops as they approached the camp outside San Fernando, a town in the border state of Tamaulipas.

A military statement says nine other people were detained in the raid Friday, including a woman who claimed she had been kidnapped. It says soldiers seized 10 guns, marijuana, 58 camouflage uniforms and 11 bulletproof jackets.

The statement does not say what gang ran the camp, but San Fernando is in the heart of territory controlled by the Zetas cartel. Zetas were blamed for the massacre of 72 South and Central Americans at a ranch outside the town last August.—Internet

## Five Israelis killed in West Bank attack

JERUSALEM, 12 March—A Palestinian infiltrator killed five Israelis in a Jewish settlement in the West Bank early Saturday, an Israeli military spokeswoman said.

Israeli media said the

attacker broke into a house in the settlement of Itamar overnight and stabbed to death a couple and three children, including a baby, from the same family.

"Five civilians were killed in this terrorist

attack," the spokeswoman said.

She said troops were searching for the attacker in the area around Itamar, which is near the Palestinian city of Nablus. She gave no further details.—Reuters



In file photo, Beiji refinery workers attempt to extinguish a burning pipe line fire after militants set fire to Iraq's largest oil refinery in al-Fath, about 15 kilometre (10 miles) north of Beiji, Iraq.

INTERNET



*Urban area is seen devastated in Kesenuma, Miyagi, northern Japan Saturday, on 12 March, 2011 after Japan's biggest recorded earthquake slammed into its eastern coast Friday.*  
XINHUA

### Over 20 powerful aftershocks hit off Japan's east coast

TOKYO, 12 March— At least 20 aftershocks, from 5-6.8 magnitude on the Richter scale, jolted near the east coast of Honshu, Japan Saturday following a massive 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck the country Friday

afternoon. At least 630 people were killed after Friday's great earthquake and ensuing huge tsunami hit northeast Japan, public broadcaster NHK reported Saturday. According to the

National Police Agency, more than 215,000 people were in emergency shelters in eastern and northern Japan on Saturday following the 8.8 magnitude earthquake and tsunami struck the country.—Xinhua



*The Fukushima nuclear plant in Fukushima prefecture in northeastern Japan is pictured in a 2008 file photo.* —XINHUA

### New Zealand tsunami alert lifted

WELLINGTON, 12 March— New Zealand Civil Defence said on Saturday no further tsunami threat exists for New Zealand coastlines as a result of the Japan earthquake and its alert for New Zealand has been cancelled. However, the Civil Defence advisory issued at 5.30 pm on Saturday said minor fluctuations in sea level may continue for up to 48 hours and caution is advised on beaches and in marine environments. Tidal surges following the quake reached New

Zealand on Saturday, and in some locations, waves were up to 1 metre high. Civil Defence said the first waves at Raoul Island in the Kermadecs were recorded at 6.35 am on Saturday (17:35 GMT Friday) and the first at North Cape were at 7.10 am. The initial waves were 15 cm high but subsequently increased to up to 70 cm.

There have been reports of some harbours and bays experiencing waves of up to 1 metre and tidal surges.

Xinhua



*Vehicles are crushed by a collapsed wall at a carpark in Mito city in Ibaraki prefecture after a massive earthquake rocked Japan. The strongest quake on record to hit Japan Friday unleashed a terrifying 10-metre tsunami that claimed hundreds of lives, with a nuclear plant and petrochemical complex among multiple sites set ablaze.*

INTERNET

### 83 rescued after floating restaurant breaks loose

COVINGTON, 12 March— Authorities say they safely rescued 83 people from a floating barge restaurant that broke its moorings on the Ohio River and drifted at least 85 yards from its dock.

Covington Fire Department Capt. Chris Kiely said early Saturday that Jeff Ruby's Waterfront restaurant drifted downriver to a nearby bridge but a rear mooring line held firm and authorities were able to rig ladders and rescue dinner patrons and others aboard.

Kiely says patrons called on cell phones for help after 10 p.m. Friday and adds they were calmly taken in life jackets to shore. The restaurant is located on the Kentucky side of the river opposite Cincinnati. He says the former Cincinnati Bengals star wide receiver, NBC NFL commentator Cris Collinsworth, was among those rescued.

Xinhua

### Two moderate quakes hit eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 12 March— Two moderate earthquakes rocked eastern Indonesia's Maluku and Papua provinces on Saturday, the Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency said here.

The first tremor of 5.4 magnitude was centered at 162 kilometers southwest of Jayapura City of Papua province on 13:04 local time (0404 GMT) and at a depth of 10 kilometers under seabed.

The second one of 5.0 on the Richter scale was centered at 261 kilometers northwest of Saumlaki City of Maluku province at 17:45 local time (0845 GMT) and at a depth of 10 kilometers under seabed.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage and the agency has not issued a tsunami warning after the two quakes.—Xinhua



*Flames engulf buildings in an industrial complex in Sendai, northern Japan, Saturday, on 12 March, 2011.*

XINHUA





# Health

## Device approved to continue blood flow during brain surgery

NEW YORK, 12 March— A device that permits the rerouting of blood flow during surgery to treat a brain aneurysm or tumour in people at greater risk of stroke has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

The Excimer Laser Assisted Non-Occlusive Anastomosis (ELANA) Surgical Kit makes it possible for surgeons to bypass the aneurysm or tumour without clipping the affected artery and temporarily ending blood flow, the agency said in a news release.

About 1,000 people who have brain bypass surgery each year would be at higher-than-normal risk of stroke if the artery were clipped and blood flow stopped, the agency said. These patients — 13 and older — often have a weakened, enlarged area in a brain artery called a cerebral aneurysm, or a tumour at the base of the skull.

The ELANA kit was approved under the FDA's "Humanitarian Use Device" rules, meaning it's designed to treat or diagnose a condition that affects fewer than 4,000 people each year in the United States. Qualifying manufacturers must show that the device's benefits outweigh its risks, and that no similar device is already available.

The ELANA kit should not be used if the patient shows hardening of the arteries (arteriosclerosis) or artery calcification, the FDA warned.—INTERNET

## Health Tip: Evaluate back pain in children

If a child has back pain, it is more likely than in adults to signal an underlying health problem, the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons says.

The academy adds that back pain in children should be evaluated by a physician, especially if the child also is:

- \* Losing weight or running a fever.
- \* Complaining of numbness or weakness.
- \* Having difficulty walking.
- \* Having pain that extends from the back down one or both of the legs.
- \* Having bladder- or bowel-control issues.
- \* Having pain that prevents the child from sleeping.—INTERNET



An Indian doctor examines a patient with a digital forehead thermometer at the HCG Medi-Surge Hospital in Ahmedabad on 10 August, 2009. The number of people to die from swine flu in India rose to six, health officials said.—INTERNET



Patients undergo fire treatment, a traditional Chinese medicine therapy, at a weight loss centre in Changchun, Jilin Province in northeastern China 20 June, 2010. The treatment process includes massaging parts of the patient, wrapping the areas with towels, adding Chinese medicated liquor onto the towels and igniting them.—INTERNET

## Apple-shaped obesity may not have higher heart attack risk

BEIJING, 12 March— People with more fat around their waist, often known as "apple shape", may not have a greater risk of heart attack than those with fatter bottoms and hips, according to a new study published in *Lancet* as quoted by media reports Friday.

This study funded by the Medical Research Council and British Heart Foundation, reviewed 220,000 individual records from 17 countries and monitored the occurrence of heart attacks or strokes based on body mass index (BMI) versus waist-hip circumference. It found that people with "apple-shaped" obesity were at a higher risk of having heart risks compared to those with general obesity as assessed by their BMI.

This contradicts previous claims that "apple shaped" bodies were three times more likely to suffer heart attacks than those with more generally distributed fat.—Xinhua



A technician is at work at the French Tsunami Warning Center in Bruyeres-le-Chatel, south of Paris. The World Bank on Friday said it was ready to help the recovery effort in quake- and tsunami-struck Japan by mobilizing and deploying specialists to support recovery and reconstruction.—INTERNET

# Business



## Indonesian central bank sees FDI up by 42% in 2011

JAKARTA, 12 March— Indonesian central bank forecasted that foreign direct investment (FDI) this year would surge by 42 percent to 14.5 billion US dollars this year, but it expected capital market inflows to fall as advanced economies recover, according to local media Saturday. "The confidence about our economy has built up and we are glad to see this trend," Budi Mulya, a deputy governor at the central bank, told the *Jakarta Globe* on the sidelines of a high-level conference on Asian inflows in Nusa Dua, Bali on Friday.

But this year, the FDI growth will likely

outpace capital market inflows as the US economy is returning to growth, meaning the money will fly back to safe-haven assets from riskier bets in emerging markets, he said, adding that but the Indonesian government much prefers direct investment to inflows to capital markets, which are far more liquid and easier to withdraw. The capital inflow into Indonesia have increased sharply over the past two years. They plunged to minus 1.8 billion US dollars in 2008 during the global financial crisis, but skyrocketed to 26.2 billion US dollars last year as investors were drawn to high-yielding assets.—Xinhua

## Southern Enterprises fireplaces recalled

WASHINGTON, 12 March— The Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a voluntary recall of Southern Enterprises wall mount fireplaces sold by Home Shopping Network.

Importer Southern Enterprises Inc of Coppell, Texas, has received 12 reports of the units falling from the wall, as heat from the fireplaces causes the plastic mounting screws to "deform" the commission said. The recall involves Colin Cowie dual-positioning wood wall-mount gel-fuel fireplaces, item No 955-074. The wooden wall mount fireplace has an espresso-colored finish highlighted with copper, silver or antique gold trim.—Xinhua

## Italy's economy grows 1.5% in 4th quarter of 2010

ROME, 12 March— The Italian economy grew 1.5 percent the last quarter of 2010 year-on-year, helped by increased consumer spending and exports, national statistics agency *Istat* said on Friday.

The agency reported a 1.3 percent growth for the said period last month.

Sales of exported goods advanced 0.5 percent from October to December, and household consumption gained 0.1 percent from the third quarter, *Istat* said.

Italy, the fourth largest economy in the European Union, tried hard to pull out from the 2009 recession when its GDP shrank 5.1 percent and its recovery is less pronounced than other large economies that use the euro currency.

The German economy grew 0.4 percent during the fourth quarter from the third quarter, and rose 4 percent over the same period in 2009. France rose 0.3 percent on a quarterly basis and 1.5 percent from the same period of previous year.

Xinhua



People wait in line for the opening of a government job center in Madrid in 2009. Eurozone leaders began talks Friday on stepping up policy coordination to tame a debt crisis threatening to claim new victims as struggling Portugal took tough new measures to stabilise its finances.

INTERNET

## Australian customs seize 2.5 million illegal cigarettes

CANBERRA, 12 March—Australian customs and border protection staff on Thursday said they have seized more than 2.5 million illegally imported cigarettes.

According to Home Affairs Minister Brendan O'Connor, this is a large seizure that represents 1.214 million US dollars in evaded government revenue, and is the latest interception as part of the work of Customs and Border Protection to stop counterfeit and illegally imported tobacco into Australia.

Last month, customs officers at the Brisbane Container Examination Facility were suspicious of a shipping container from Hong Kong, China that was marked by the importer as holding bubble wrap and lunch boxes.

Officers conducted an initial

container X-ray, and when that raised their suspicions, the goods were unpacked and a physical examination uncovered the cigarettes.

"While cigarettes and tobacco are not illegal items in Australia, it is against the law to fail to declare what is being brought into Australia, and duty evasion is also illegal," O'Connor said in a statement released on Thursday.

"Counterfeit products can also be subject to civil action from the registered trademark owners."

Customs and Border Protection said over the past four years, they have seized 977 tonnes of tobacco and 286 million illegally imported cigarettes in sea cargo, which represents potential revenue evasion of about 402 million US dollars.

Xinhua



A staff member put vegetables in order at a supermarket in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, on 9 March, 2011. Qingdao Bureau of Commerce organizes more than 20 suppliers and local supermarkets to strike direct sale contracts, a move to streamline mid-stream link and stabilize food price.—XINHUA

## China completes world's fastest underwater railway tunnel

GUANGZHOU, 12 March — Construction of China's first underwater railway tunnel was completed on Saturday in south China, which allows trains to operate at the world's top speed under the water. The project, or the Shiziyang Tunnel,

crossed the Pearl River estuary in south China's Guangdong Province with a length of 10.8 kilometres. It is designed for trains travelling at 350 kilometres per hour, the highest of all underwater tunnels worldwide.

The 10.8-kilometre tunnel, which is also the country's longest, is a key part of a 140-kilometre high-speed rail link that connects Guangzhou, the capital of China's southern economic powerhouse Guangdong, with the city of Shenzhen, also in Guangdong, and Hong

Kong.

Liu Guangjun, project manager with the Shiziyang Tunnel, said large shielding machines had been used in digging of the tunnel at 60 metres underwater.

Construction of the tunnel started in November 2007, and the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong express rail link is scheduled to put into operation in 2012, which would slash travel time between Guangzhou and Hong Kong to 40 minutes from the current two hours.—MNA/Xinhua



Japanese giant Sony has appointed Kazuo Hirai (pictured), the head of its PlayStation game business, to a new key position in a move seen as the first step in anointing him as successor to CEO Howard Stringer.

INTERNET

## Coal mine blast kills 13, leaves six missing in SW China

GUIYANG, 12 March—A gas explosion ripped through a coal mine in southwest China's Guizhou Province early Saturday, leaving 13 miners dead and six missing, local authorities said.

The blast hit the Xincheng coal mine in Panxian County, Liupanshui City, at 0:30 a.m. when 34 mine workers were working underground, the county government said in a statement.

Fifteen mine managed to escape, it said.

Rescuers have recovered 13 bodies and are searching for the six remaining missing. An investigation into the cause of the explosion is underway.

Xinhua

## Toxin found in sardines that clogged US marina

LOS ANGELES, 12 March—The millions of sardines that were found floating dead in a Southern California marina this week tested positive for a powerful neurotoxin, researchers said Friday.

High levels of domoic acid were found in the sardines, which may have distressed them off the Los Angeles coastline and caused them to swim into the Redondo Beach marina, University of Southern California

biologist David Caron wrote in a summary of his laboratory's findings which were reported by the *Los Angeles Times*.

Caron said that he still believes that critically low oxygen levels in the water caused the sardines to suffocate, but it's possible the toxin may have been one explanation for why they crowded into the marina.

The California Department of Fish and Game has blamed the die-

off on oxygen deprivation and is also testing fish for toxins at its animal forensics laboratory. Results are not expected until next week.

Domoic acid is often found in the stomach of fish that have been feeding on plankton during toxic algae blooms. The toxin has been linked to neurological disorders, illnesses and deaths in seabirds, sea lions, sea otters and whales.

Internet



Dead sardines removed from the surface at King Harbor marina in Redondo Beach, Calif, on 10 March, 2011, are contained for removal.

INTERNET

Persian cats pose for pictures during the Cats! Show New York at Madison Square Garden in New York on 11 Oct, 2003.

INTERNET



## Obesity on the rise in America's pets

FORT LAUDERDALE, 12 March—A study says 20 percent of America's 171 million dogs and cats are obese, a 10 percent increase from 2007, with attendant problems like diabetes and arthritis.

As with humans, weight issues in pets produce health woes and can significantly shorten lifespan, the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* reported Friday.

"We just keep seeing more and more overweight pets," Fort Lauderdale veterinarian Dr Jesus Aramendi said. "Some owners recognize it, but others don't. Or they are just in denial."

Part of the problem is that a small weight gain in a pet can be a significant increase, he said, noting

that if a nine-pound cat gains a pound, that's an 11 percent increase.

"That's like a 180-pound man going up to 200," he says. "We need to make pet owners aware of that."

Dogs are natural hunters, so when they find food, their inclination is to eat, said veterinarian Dr Robert.

"In their natural makeup, they'd eat only once every week or two weeks, and that was in a pack," he said. "Then they eat all they can. They're gluttonous by nature. You put food down, they will eat it regardless of whether they need it or not."

The problem is made worse by guilt, he said.

"You rarely seen an owner who has underfed his pet."

Internet

## The Fifth Meeting of the Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders and the great grand Religious Title-Presentation Ceremony of 2011

*Ba Sein (Religious Affairs)*

The State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders of the Union of Myanmar comprising 300 members of the Sangha represents over five hundred thousand members of the Sangha residing in the Union of Myanmar. According to the fundamental principles which were passed and adopted by the very First Successful Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Union of Myanmar in 1980, the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders shall hold its annual meeting at least once a year.

We all Buddhists throughout the Union of Myanmar know that altogether Six Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders leading and contributing to the purification, perpetuation, propagation and promotion of the Buddha Sasana were successfully held by arrangements and supports of Buddhist people and Government of the Union of Myanmar in 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005 respectively. In accordance with the objectives and guidelines laid down by these successful congregations of the Sangha of All Orders, the very first unity of the members of Sangha could be formed in the Union of Myanmar within one hundred years.

We all Buddhists all over the world know that altogether six great Buddhist Councils (Synods) leading and contributing to the purification, perpetuation, propagation and promotion of the Buddha Sasana were convened after the noble demise of the Omniscient Gotama Buddha over 2550 years ago. The Fifth Great Buddhist council was held in Myanmar in the year 2415 of the Buddhist Era (1871 CE) and attended by the 2400 Mahatheras, and the Sixth Great Buddhist Council was also held in Myanmar in the year 2498 of the Buddhist Era (1954 CE) and attended by 2500 Mahatheras from the Five Theravada Buddhist nations, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. The Buddhist peoples from those Theravada Buddhist nations were greatly pleased and honoured for successfully holding the Sixth Great Buddhist Council in the Buddhist world.

It was felt that without the unity of the Sangha, it was impossible to execute purification, perpetuation, propagation and promotion of the Buddha Sasana. As different schools and sects of the Sangha of All Orders appeared separately, they were not able to unitedly implement the noble task of purification, perpetuation, propagation and promotion of the Buddha Sasana. In reality all members of the Sangha and devotees want the everlasting unity of the Sangha of All Orders. They firmly believe that it only can be possible to purify, perpetuate, propagate and promote the Sasana by the unity of the Sangha. The Buddha, Himself urged the members of the Sangha to unite in order to carry out His Teachings.

In fact, the main objectives of holding the First Great Buddhist Council (Synod) through the Sixth Great Buddhist Council (Synod) were to purify, perpetuate, propagate, promote and preserve the Buddha Sasana. Although altogether Six Buddhist Councils (Synods) were held, it was found that different schools and sects still appeared. They were not united and they parted from each other. Because of different schools and sects, many unlawful views (Adhammavadas) which were contrary to and incompatible with the Pitakas of the Theravada Buddha Sasana appeared. In reality, these unlawful views endangered true Buddhism.

Therefore, all the Buddhists felt worried about the situation of true Buddhism. They really want to purify, perpetuate, propagate and promote the Theravada Buddha Sasana. According to the history of Buddhism, it is learnt the schisms and split of schools and sects usually occurred among the Monastic Orders whenever some members of the Sangha of Orders were in trouble through dispute and mutual misunderstanding.

To rebuild the unity and mutual understanding between different schools and sects of the Sangha Orders is deeply needed for the welfare and interest of the nation as well as for the Buddha Sasana. Altogether Six Buddhist Councils (Synods) were held to establish the unity of the Sangha of All Orders so long as the Buddha Sasana exists. All the Buddhists firmly believe that without the unity of the Sangha, it is impossible to promote the Buddha Sasana. As old saying goes, "Whenever religion is pure, the society prospers". The situation of the nation was well-developed and prosperous in those golden times when the members of the Sangha of Orders unanimously practiced the Vinaya Laws and fulfilled their religious duties.

The First, the Second, the Third, the Fourth, the Fifth and the Sixth Congregations of the Sangha of All Orders of the Union of Myanmar successfully have rebuilt the unity of the Sangha of All Orders with the support of Buddhists and the Government since 1980. A single Sangha Organization could be formed in the Union of Myanmar for the first time in one hundred years.

### **The Fifth Meeting of the Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders**

In accordance with the prescribed terms of the Sangha Organizations of the Union of Myanmar, the Fifth Meeting of the Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders are fixed to be held at the Mahapasana Cave (Great Cave) on Kaba Aye Hill, Yangon, from 13 to 15 March 2011. The meeting will be attended by 300 members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders and 111 members of the State Sangha Ovadacariya (Patrons)

representing all members of Sangha throughout the country.

The main objectives of the Fifth Meeting of the Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders are to strengthen more efforts for purification, perpetuation, propagation and promotion of Theravada Buddha Sasana throughout the world. It is further learnt that all necessary arrangements and requirements for holding the Fifth Meeting of the Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders have already been made by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and authorities concerned.

We all Buddhists throughout the Union of Myanmar are heartily pleased and honoured to be able to pay profound respect to the members of the Sangha present at the Fifth Meeting of the Sixth Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders.

### **The great grand Religious Title-Presentation Ceremony of 2011**

In order to promote and flourish the three kinds of the Buddha Sasana, viz, (1) Pariyatti Sasana (learning Buddha's teachings), (2) Patipatti Sasana (Practical application of Buddha's teachings) and (3) Pativedha Sasana (realization of Buddha's teachings), the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar issued Notification No 1/2011 on the 63<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar which falls on the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011, conferring Religious Titles on the 103 eminent Buddhist monks including 11 from abroad, five elder nuns and 26 laypersons who distinctively carried out purification, perpetuation, propagation and promotion of the three kinds of the Buddha Sasana across the world.

The great grand ceremony for presenting religious titles will be held at the Sasana Maha Beikman (Great Sasana Centre) in the precinct of the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw, the capital of the Union of Myanmar, at 4 pm on the 19 March 2011 (Fullmoon day of Taboung 1372 ME). All religious title recipients have already been invited to attend the great grand ceremony. It is further learnt that altogether 514 members of the Sangha, five elder nuns, 26 laypersons and others will be present on this auspicious occasion.

Besides, the auspicious ceremony for offering of provisions and various articles to 514 members of the Sangha and five elder nuns will be held on a large scale on the same day.

All Buddhists, donors and wellwishers are cordially invited to attend this auspicious ceremony for paying profound respect to the members of the Sangha and sharing merits of good deeds.



**The 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress.**

MNA

**6<sup>th</sup> 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee...**

*(from page 1)*

In the second-day session, Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suradhaja, Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Nandasara and Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Vepulla dis-

cussed Viniççaya affairs, religious affairs and education matter.

They also held discussion on seeking approval for the agenda of the 5th Plenary Meeting the 6th State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders.

Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs. Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sumana,

Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Panditabhivamsa and Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Ariyalankara reviewed discussions on Viniççaya affairs, religious affairs and education matters.

Joint Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Manitasiribhivamsa sought approval for the report. Later, the 13th Plenary Meeting came to an end.

MNA

**PBANRDA Ministry holds 19<sup>th</sup> cash donation ceremony...**

*(from page 1)*

At present, a total of 8,042 villages of regions in dry zone and 15,183 villages of other

regions and states, totaling 23,225 villages have access to potable water.

Development Affairs Committees have so far spent K 10485.20 million out of their fund from 2000-2001 fiscal year to 2009-2010 fiscal year on water supply tasks in rural regions and have budgeted to spend K 2532.08 million for 2010-2011 fiscal year.

34 townships in Sagaing Region, 25

townships in Magway Region and 23 townships in Mandalay Region, altogether 82 townships in the arid zone have access to potable water. Every village in 19 districts was facilitated with a tube well and further efforts will be made for increasing the quantity of tube wells for sufficiency of potable water.

MNA



**Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein accepting cash donation from a wellwisher.**

MNA



**Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Soe Naing accepting cash donation from a wellwisher.**

MNA



**Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein accepting cash donation from a wellwisher.—MNA**

**Industry-1 Maung Myanmar Cycling Contest held in Meiktila**

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — The Industry-1 Maung Myanmar Cycling Contest of the Ministry of Industry-1 was held at Kandawmingala hall in Meiktila this morning.

The men's event started from Ywashae village in Wundwin Township and the women's event from Myatnyinaung Pagoda in Wundwin Township. District and Township departmental personnel, local people and sports fanatics viewed and encouraged contestants along Mandalay-Meiktila Road.

Meiktila District Chairman U Sein Oak, Managing Director U Maung Maung Toe from the Ministry of Industry-1 and officials presented prizes to winners.

The contest was participated by 78 men and 35 women and prizes worthy K 39m were presented to winners.—MNA

**Pakistani delegation concludes visit**

YANGON, 12 March—A delegation comprising instructors and trainees of 40th Pakistan Naval Staff Course led by Commodore Ather Mukhtar of Pakistan Naval War College of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan left here by air this

evening after visiting the Union National Races Village in Thakayta Town-

ship this morning.

They arrived in Yangon of Myanmar at 9

am on 8 March and toured Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Taunggyi.—MNA

**Commodore Ather Mukhtar of Pakistan Naval War College of Pakistan, instructors and trainees visit Union National Races Village in Thakayta Township.—MNA**





## Transport Minister inspects functions of jetties



Minister for Transport U Thein Swe inspects construction of jetty at Asia World Port.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March—Minister for Transport U Thein Swe inspected Pansodan and Botahtaung jetties of Myanmar Port Authority and extension of Strand Road in Yangon this afternoon.

At Asia World Port, the minister inspected progress in extension of pontoon bridge, loading and unloading of containers. He inspected coasters and vessels of Inland Water Transport from Delta Region and loading and unloading process at Wadan Pontoon Bridge and Kaingtun Pontoon Bridge. At Sule No. 5 Jetty, the minister inspected loading of timbers to foreign vessels and the waterway of Yangon River.

In meeting with staff of MPA, the minister called for systematic examination of import and export products, worksite safety, punctuality of vessels that sail on inland waterways, convenience of passengers, tight security, and good public relations.

MNA

## Htoochaung Bridge on Toungoo-Mawchi-Loikaw Road inaugurated

NAY PYI TAW, 11 March— An opening ceremony of Htoochaung Bridge on Toungoo-Mawchi-Loikaw Road in Pasawng Township, Bawlakhe District, which was constructed by Public Works (Kayah State) under the Ministry of Construction, took place on 9 March morning at Mile post No.127/0, attended by Col Aye Cho from Bawlakhe Station and officials concerned, Chairman of Bawlakhe District Peace and Development Council U

Tin Win Shwe, Chairman of Bawlakhe Township PDC U Myat Ko Htwe, Chairman of Pasawng Township PDC U Htet Aung Phyo and departmental heads, members of social organizations and officials from the Public Work.

Col Aye Cho, Chairman U Tin Win Shwe and Acting Chief Engineer U Myint Thein of the Public Work formally opened the bridge.

Together with officials concerned, Col Aye Cho walked on the bridge after

he had unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge.

The newly-opened bridge is of R.P.T truss and RC type. It is 228 feet in length and 24 feet in width, and withstands up to 36 tons for per vehicle.

It is also the 260<sup>th</sup> facility among 180-feet-and-over ones constructed by Public Works under the Ministry of Construction. Due to this facility, rural people may become more developed in economic, social, education and health sectors. —MNA



Col Aye Cho of Bawlakhe Station, Bawlakhe District PDC Chairman U Tin Win Shwe and Acting Chief Engineer U Myint Thein of the Public Works formally open Htoochaung Bridge.—MNA

## Kanyin Dam Project to expedite development of...

(from page 16)

Pre-engineering tasks for Kanyin Dam Project were launched in 2002-2003. So far, the construction of the diaphragm wall has been

completed cent per cent; and the plastering of the concrete structures, by 84 per cent. Up to November 2010, groundwork had been completed by 77 per cent; the building of the stone-filled dam, by 44 per cent; and groundwork for building the spillway, by 68 per cent. Tasks for building the spillway such as clearing wild plants, groundwork and the building

of concrete structures had been completed cent per cent since November 2010.

Regarding the irrigation work, the main canal is being dug and structures along the main canal and secondary canals are being dug to produce hydropower.

Kanyin Dam Project is being implemented by damming the Kanyin Creek near Tatkon Village in Ingapu Township, Ayeaywady Region with the aim of benefiting around 2500 acres of plantations of paddy and other crops. On average, it receives 273,000 acre feet of water from a catchment area of 129 square miles annually. With two 2.5-megawatt generators, its installation power is 5 megawatts a year.

Upon completion, the irrigation facility will benefit nearby farmlands especially those in Ingapu Township. By then, the irrigated area of Kanyin Dam will meet the benefited area of Nankathu Dam. The electric power generated by Kanyin Dam will go to surrounding areas.

When the Kanyin Dam Project is over, local farmers will be able to boost cultivation of paddy, beans and pulses, edible oil crops such as sesame and groundnut, monsoon and cold season crops. And nearby areas will have access to electricity and enjoy development in the transport, social, economic and education sectors. Therefore, it is a prudent project for the nation and local farmers.

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Translation: MS  
Kyemon: 3-3-2011



A dike under construction in Kanyin Dam Project.

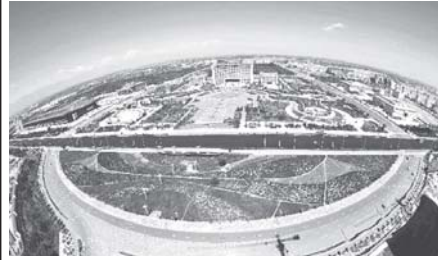
## Expectant mother's poor diet may cause baby health problems

BEIJING, 12 March—A poor diet during pregnancy may result in health problems such as diabetes for the offspring in later life, according to media reports Friday quoting a new research.

Based on a study of rats, researchers from the University of Cambridge altered the protein content of the mother's diet during pregnancy as they found that rats were more vulnerable to the effects of diseases if their mothers were malnourished while they were pregnant. Further, the study also showed that an imbalanced diet in the expectant mother can compromise the long-term functioning of a gene in the child. And the gene, named Hnf4a, is believed to play a major role in the development of the pancreas and in the production of insulin.

The researchers held similar mechanisms seen in the rat study could occur in humans, and that the effects might be felt by more than just the immediate offspring.

Internet



File photo taken on 30 Aug, 2008 shows a panoramic view of the People's Square in Yinchuan City, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. Yinchuan City was awarded the China Human Habitat Environment Prize 2010 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development on 10 March, 2011.—XINHUA

## Pakistan successfully test-fires nuclear-capable missile

ISLAMABAD, 12 March — Pakistan on Friday morning successfully test-fired a short range surface to surface ballistic missile HATF II (Abdali) with the range of 180 km, official sources said.

The missile can carry nuclear and conventional warheads to the target.

The test-fire of the missile was conducted at an undisclosed location witnessed by the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Shamim Hyder Wyne.

It is the second test of this kind by Pakistan in two months.

Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani felicitated the scientists and engineers on the success.

Xinhua



Girls of Hani ethnic group from southwest China's Yunnan Province dance during a performance in Beijing, China, on 10 March, 2011. The performance involving various singing and dancing showcased folk culture of China's ethnic minorities here Thursday, promoting the protection of such art forms scattered nationwide.—XINHUA

## Wal-Mart apologizes for sales of expired food in SW China City

CHONGQING, 12 March—Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, has apologized for selling expired duck meat in a store in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

The Yangjiaping store in Jiulongpo District was caught by a local market regulator selling smoked tea ducks using duck meat that had passed the expiry dates. The Chongqing Administration for Industry and Commerce received a complaint from a consumer on 28 Feb, which said the Yangjiaping Wal-Mart store sold expired ducks after frying them. In a statement to the municipal consumer's association, Wal-Mart said

it will compensate the ducks' buyers 10 times of the bills they paid between 5 and 28 Feb. The retailer also asked all stores to check inspection, storage, production and sales processes to ensure food safety and promised to severely punish some management and staff for dereliction of duty. Meanwhile, it offered an apology to the consumers and vowed to avoid similar incidents.

Wal-Mart and Carrefour, another retailing giant, had earlier been found over-stating discounts by inflating pre-discounted prices or charging prices higher than what was labeled or advertised in several Chinese cities.—Xinhua

## India test-fires nuclear-capable Prithvi, Dhanush missiles

NEW DELHI, 12 March— India Friday test-fired two indigenously developed nuclear-capable ballistic missiles — *Dhanush* from a naval ship in the Bay of Bengal and *Prithvi-II* off coast of eastern state of Orissa, highly placed sources said.

"*Dhanush*, with a range of 350 km, was first test-fired around 10: 05 am from a naval ship in the Bay of Bengal off the Orissa coast at a spot between Paradip and Puri," the sources said.

They added the missile has a pay-load capacity of 500 kg and can hit both on shore and off-shore targets. "At 11:00 am, *Prithvi-II* missile mounted on a mobile launcher was successfully test-fired from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur off Orissa coast.—Xinhua



The home-developed *Dhanush*, or *Bow* missile, takes off from a navy warship in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of eastern Orissa state, India, 11 March, 2011. INTERNET

## Australia's Queensland fights against dengue

BRISBANE, 12 March —Australia's Queensland health authority on Friday declared "trench warfare" on dengue-carrying mosquitoes in the state following two outbreaks of the virus.

Local transmission of dengue fever has been confirmed in Innisfail in north Queensland with two separate outbreaks in the town.

So far, 46 people had been infected with type 2 dengue fever and a further 8 with type 4 since the virus was first discovered in the cane farming town in February, the authority said.

"It is a bit of trench warfare now to try and bring this under control," Queensland Health spokesman Dr Stephen Donohue said.

The virus started in east Innisfail and has now spread to outlying suburbs of the town.

In the past week, 14 Queensland Health field officers searched 1,117 properties in the town and found 13,628 potential breeding sites in pools of water, in drains or discarded furniture in yards. Donohue said the community really needs to take responsibility to get rid of mosquito breeding sites in homes and yards.—Xinhua

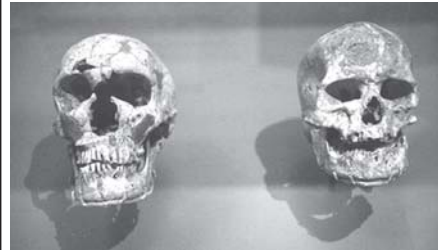
## Syria uncovers weapon freight smuggled from Iraq

DAMASCUS, 12 March — Syrian authorities have uncovered a freight of weapons hidden in an Iraqi truck at al-Tanaf crossing point at the Syrian-Iraqi borders, Syrian official SANA reported on Friday.

The freight included a large number of heavy, medium and light caliber weapons, bombs and night vision binoculars in secret hideouts on the truck. According to SANA, Syrian authorities on Monday stopped an Iraqi person driving a truck coming from Iraq while he was entering the Syrian territories through al-Tanaf crossing point, 260 kilometres east of Damascus. The driver admitted that the

owner of the car loaded the weapons in Baghdad and asked him to transport them to Syria and hand them to someone there for 5,000 US dollars.

The weapons were meant to be used to destabilize internal security in Syria, said SANA. The incident came as protests raged across the region and some of them turned violent.—MNA/Xinhua



A pair of *Homo Neanderthalensis* skulls are seen on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC in 2010. Some defining human traits — a penis bereft of the stiff sensory hairs common to many male mammals, a bulging brain — come less from new genes than genetic material lost through evolution, according to a study published on Thursday.—INTERNET



# Science

## US researchers using sound to map ocean

LA JOLLA, 12 March—Scientists aboard a US Navy research vessel are using sonar to create detailed maps of the ocean floor from South Africa to Chile, officials said.

Since the research ship *Melville* departed from Cape Town 20 Feb, geophysicists have been mapping underwater mountains as tall as 14,800 feet using a sonar system that bounces sound off the seafloor and analyzes the signal that returns, LiveScience.com reported on Thursday.

While rough seafloor maps have been created using satellite data, only about 7 percent of the deep ocean has been mapped using ship data, said David Sandwell, a professor of geophysics at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California.

“Take one of our ships with a multibeam echo sounder (sonar). It would take 125 years to map the deep ocean basin completely,” Sandwell said. “So you can see the problem here; it’s just a huge area and ships go slowly.”

When the *Melville*, which is operated by Scripps, reaches Valparaiso it will pick up other researchers intent on studying the effects of last year’s Chilean earthquake on the seafloor, Sandwell said.—*Internet*



*A market vendor arranges organic vegetables and fruits in Belgrade. Small-scale “eco-farming” could double food production in many of the world’s poorest regions and also help fight climate change, according to a United Nations report.—INTERNET*

## Humans age at same pace as other primates, study finds

CHARLOTTE, 12 March—New research challenges the belief that humans age at a slower pace than other animal species.

It’s long been thought that humans’ relatively long life span and access to modern medical care helps people age more slowly than other animals. Comparisons with short-lived creatures such as mice and rats seemed to confirm that idea.

But researchers who conducted the first-ever comparison of human aging patterns with those of other primates (including chimps and gorillas) found that they all have similar aging rates, which is the rate at which death risk increases with age.

The study findings are published

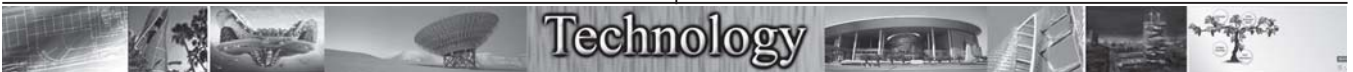
in the 11 March issue of *Science*.

“Human patterns are not strikingly different, even though wild primates experience sources of mortality from which humans may be protected,” the researchers wrote in a letter to the journal.

Some human studies suggest we might be able to live a lot longer than we do now. Looking to other primates to understand where we are and aren’t flexible in our aging will help answer that question,” study co-author Susan Alberts, associate director at the National Evolutionary Synthesis Centre in Durham, NC, and a biologist at Duke University, said in a University of North Carolina at Charlotte news release.—*Internet*



*Mono Lake, near Lee Vining, California. According to reports, NASA discovered a completely new life form, a bacteria that uses arsenic instead of phosphorus in its DNA.—INTERNET*



# Technology

## Check in lately? Foursquare revamps its app

NEW YORK, 12 March—Foursquare, the smart phone service that lets you “check in” to restaurants, bars and wherever else you want to tell friends you’re at, is trying to help you discover new places.

A new version of its application will include a new button, “explore,” which replaces the current “tips” section.

Foursquare co-founder Dennis Crowley said the idea is to find things near you, including the unexpected. So Foursquare might recommend a new burrito joint based on your check-in history, or on what your friends

like. A new search function, meanwhile, lets you type in keywords such as “margaritas outside” or “date night” and get suggestions for where to go.

The update, available for iPhones and Android phones Wednesday, will also let businesses offer new types of incentives, or “specials.” Businesses can already offer deals or discounts to loyal customers or new visitors. For example, a bar can offer its “mayor” — that is, the person who has checked in the most times — happy-hour prices at all times, a free appetizer or a drink special.—*Internet*

*A journalist compares the 3-D televisions of Samsung(L) and LG(C) after a news briefing on 3-D television technology by LG Display in Seoul. South Korea’s electronics giants are engaged in rare public mudslinging about whose 3-D television technology is better, as they battle for a greater share of a potentially huge global market.—INTERNET*



## Microsoft Kinect holds world record for ‘Fastest-selling’ device

WASHINGTON, 12 March—Microsoft announced on Wednesday that it has sold more than 10 million units of the Kinect for Xbox 360 since it launched on 4 November, making it the fastest-selling device in the world.

On the same day, the Guinness World Records reported that the \$150 Kinect holds the title of “Fastest-selling Consumer Electronics Device” in the

world after selling 8 million units in its first 60 days, as Microsoft chief executive Steve Ballmer announced at CES in January. The Kinect sold an average of 133,333 units per day between 4 November and 3 January.

“The sales figures outstrip both the iPhone and the iPad for the equivalent periods after launch,” Guinness World Records wrote in a blog post.

Which means that between 3 January to 9 March, Microsoft sold around two million units of the infrared add-on, or roughly the same number of Kinects sold within the first 24 days.

The Kinect has been one of Microsoft’s most successful products in recent years, buoying the company’s fourth quarter revenue in 2010.

*Internet*



*A man listens to music playing through a mobile phone. Swedish music streaming service Spotify says it has reached one million paying users, a number that has doubled in under a year but still represents fewer than one out of six Spotify users. INTERNET*

**Scientists claim peanut allergy ‘gene flaw’ link**

LONDON, 12 March — A gene defect that can triple the risk of a child developing an allergy to peanuts has been identified, scientists have said. An international research team led by Dundee University said it had made a “sig-



*The number of people with peanut allergy has risen dramatically in the past 20 to 30 years.— INTERNET*

nificant breakthrough” in understanding the disease. The gene responsible — Filaggrin — has already been shown to be a factor in causing eczema and asthma. Peanut allergy affects 1-2% of children in the UK and can be life-threatening.

The number of people affected by the condition has increased dramatically over the past 20 to 30 years, the Dundee team said — but the causes of the allergy are unknown. Dr Sara Brown, a fellow at Dundee University, said investigating whether Filaggrin was a cause of peanut allergy was the “logical next step” after a link with eczema and asthma had been established.—*Internet*

**London gets EU reprieve over air pollution**

LONDON, 12 March — The UK has been given three more months to meet EU air quality standards in Greater London. The European Commission says the UK government must show that it is acting to curb emissions of tiny airborne particles called PM10. Last June the Commission gave the UK a “final warning” over air pollution in Greater London and Gibraltar, but now it says Gibraltar is within the lim-



*Tiny sooty particles in London’s air are believed to cause early deaths.— INTERNET*

its. Big fines can be levied if countries are found to have breached EU law. The Commission says PM10, emitted mainly by industry, traffic and domestic heating, can cause asthma, cardiovascular problems, lung cancer and premature death. It is

up to the UK to decide what action to take to cut PM10 levels in London. It could reduce traffic in congested areas where PM10 is above EU limits, or target construction work, ships at berth, industrial plants or domestic heating.— *Internet*

**Mobile communication restored in China’s quake-hit Yingjiang**

BEIJING, 12 March — Mobile telephone services have been resumed in Yingjiang County in southwest China’s Yunnan Province after a 5.8-magnitude earthquake hit the region, Chinese telecom operators said Saturday.

China Telecom, one of China’s major telecommunications companies, said its CDMA base stations in Yingjiang and the neighboring Lianghe County were all back to service. China Mobile, the country’s largest mobile operator, said all of its base stations and telecommunication cables were repaired, and mobile services are available in the county seat of Yingjiang and the villages.

Both companies had sent emergency communications vehicles and rescue teams to the quake-stricken area. China Telecom has also launched the “Global Eye” service, a 3G-based video surveillance service that provides latest situation in Yingjiang to the outside, it said.

A 5.8-magnitude earthquake jolted Yingjiang County near the border with Myanmar Thursday noon, leaving 25 people dead and more than 250 others injured including 134 seriously. About 127,100 residents have been evacuated to safety.—*Xinhua*



*Tourists in Honolulu fled to higher ground as the alarm was raised overnight.— INTERNET*

**Tsunami reaches US West Coast**

HONOLULU, 12 March — Tsunami waves caused by the huge quake off Japan have reached the US Pacific coast, hours after bowling past Hawaii, but it was largely spared major damage. Thousands of people had been ordered to leave coastal areas in the US state of Hawaii ahead of the waves’ arrival. Evacuation orders were also issued in some coastal areas of the western US and Canada’s British Columbia province.

At least five people in California and Oregon were swept out to sea, and some boats were torn from moorings. Waves of over 6ft (2m) struck Crescent City in California, damaging vessels and harbour docks, while Santa Cruz sustained about \$2m (£1.25m) in damage, emergency officials said.

The tsunami warning has now been downgraded to an advisory in Hawaii but officials urged people still to stay away from beaches. The West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Centre has also downgraded its warning to an advisory, California Emergency Management Agency spokesman Jordan Scott said. “Things seem to be settling down at the moment,” he said.

*Internet*

**Event ‘sets rubber chicken record’**

MICHIGAN, 12 March — A 10-day comedy festival in Michigan has opened with what looks like a record rubber chicken toss. The start of the 10th annual Gilda’s LaughFest saw organisers try to break the Guinness World Record for the number of people tossing rubber chickens at once.

Spokesman Tyler Lecceadone said volunteers threw 925 chickens onto the Rosa Parks Circle ice rink. If certified, that would eclipse the record of 265 that the

Haywire Group set on 25 April last year at Artesani Park in Brighton, Massachusetts.

*Internet*



*A rubber chicken toss at a comedy festival in Michigan is thought to have broken a world record.— INTERNET*

**Indonesia volcano erupts**

JAKARTA, 12 March — One of Indonesia’s most active volcanos has erupted, sending lava and searing gas clouds tumbling down its slopes. Volcanology offi-

cial Agus Budiando said today that authorities were still trying to evacuate residents living along the slopes of Mount Karangetang. There were no immediate reports of injuries or serious damage.

The 1,784-metre mountain is located on Siau, part of the Sulawesi island chain. It last erupted in August, killing four people. Indonesia, the world’s largest archipelago, is located on the so-called Pacific “Ring of Fire,” an arc of volcanos and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin. The eruption happened hours after a massive earthquake in Japan that triggered a Pacific-wide tsunami.

*Internet*

**Pirates threaten to kill Danish family in Somalia**

ABUJA, 12 March — Pirates moved a captive Danish family on to a ship off the Somali coast yesterday and threatened to kill them if further attempts were made to free them. The threats follow a botched rescue attempt on Thursday by forces from Somalia’s semi-autonomous northern region of Puntland. Five soldiers died in the attempt to rescue the Danish couple, their three children and two Danish crewmen.

“We have moved the hostages on to a ship our friends are holding for security reasons,” said a pirate called Hassan Abdullahi. “But our armed troops are on the shore to fight those trying to attack us. The hostages are healthy and safe now but suffering from homesickness.” Another pirate, going by the name of Bile Hussein, warned the hostages will be killed if there are more rescue attempts.

*Internet*

**Woman at court with monkey in bra**

NEW YORK, 12 March — A woman turned a few heads when she walked into a courthouse in the US with a tiny monkey — clad in a pink-and-white dress — tucked in her bra. The woman brought the palm-sized marmoset to Amherst County Courthouse in rural Virginia for a hearing in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

Officials apparently did not notice the monkey until the woman went to an office to complete some paperwork. In an interview with a local newspaper,

the woman said the marmoset is seven weeks old and requires constant attention. She said she bought the animal on an online auction site and had its clothes specially made.—*Internet*



*A woman walked into a US courthouse with a marmoset monkey in her bra.— INTERNET*

## Thieves break-in to New Zealand prison

A New Zealand prison suffered a reversal of the norm when it became the victim of a break-in.

Police said Saturday that thieves had broken into the prison at New Plymouth, on the west coast of the North Island,

just before midnight and stolen a large plasma television.

"If any members of the public saw anyone carrying a big TV at that time of night, or heard or saw anything in the area of the prison, let police know," Sergeant Thomas

McIntyre said. The New Plymouth Prison is the oldest operating jail in New Zealand, having been in continuous use since the 1860s when it was converted from an army hospital.

The old jailhouse is surrounded by a large stone wall topped with razor wire, while a newer unit is surrounded by a fence topped with barbed wire.

*A locked cellblock at a prison in the US. A New Zealand prison suffered a reversal of the norm when it became the victim of a break-in.*



*A man whips a 105-kilogram spinning top in Guiyang, southwest China's Guizhou Province.*

## Bank robbery attempt thwarted when teller just says no

A would-be thief's attempt to rob a suburban New York bank on Wednesday was abruptly thwarted when the teller simply said no to the robber's demand for money, police said.

The unsuccessful thief remained at large, said police in New Rochelle, New York, about 25 miles north of New York City.

He tried to rob a Citibank branch shortly before 10 a.m. by asking

a teller for money, said police captain Joseph Schaller.

"He slipped a note through the teller's slot that said 'money in bag,'" Schaller said. "She refused and with that, she activated the alarm, turned away from the window and he ran out the door."

The unidentified suspect was wearing a black puffy winter jacket and brown work boots.

The bank closed briefly but soon reopened for business, police said.

*Local people in traditional buso dresses celebrate the traditional Buso Carnival in Mohacs, southern Hungary on 6 March, 2011.*

## News Album



## Swedish bank robber busted by forgotten urine

A Swedish bank robber forgot to cover his tracks and left three bottles of urine behind after hiding inside a bank vault in Copenhagen for three days. The 27-year-old man and his accomplice used the bottles to relieve themselves after sneaking into the vault on a Friday in May and remaining there until the bank opened again the following Monday.

While inside, the robbers emptied 140 safety deposit boxes of at least \$500,000 in cash and jewelry. But Prosecutor Frederik Larsen said Wednesday they forgot to take the urine when they left "so we were able to get their DNA samples from the bottles." The evidence helped prosecutors win a 21-month prison sentence for the Swede on Tuesday. His accomplice is still at large and the loot hasn't been recovered.

## Clapton guitar replica sold at NY auction for \$30K

NEW YORK, 12 March—Even without his nimble fingers touching their strings, Eric Clapton's guitars rocked New York City on Wednesday as an auction of them brought in millions of dollars.

A 1948 Gibson L-5P sold for \$82,960, well above its presale estimate of \$20,000 to \$30,000. And a replica of a prized Clapton guitar that duplicates the cigarette burns and belt buckle scratches found on the original sold for \$30,500 at the auction.

The sale at Bonhams New York included 75 guitars and 55 amplifiers from the British artist's collection and brought in \$2.15 million. Proceeds were to benefit a drug and alcohol treatment centre Clapton founded in the West Indies.

The 65-year-old Rock and Roll Hall of Famer is a recovered addict who established the nonprofit Crossroads Centre in Antigua in 1998.

*Internet*



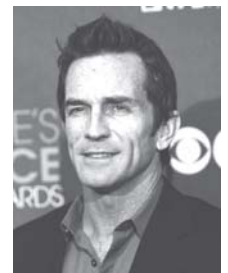
*In this 26 June, 2010 file photo, Eric Clapton performs during the Crossroads Guitar Festival in Chicago. Clapton has donated 75 guitars and 55 amps to the Bonhams New York auction.—INTERNET*

## Probst returning for two more 'Survivor' seasons

LOS ANGELES, 12 March—Jeff Probst won't be snuffing out his own torch any time soon.

The "Survivor" host and executive producer will return for the next two seasons of the CBS reality TV competition, the network announced on Wednesday.

Probst, who has won three outstanding reality TV host Emmys for his role as Tribal Council moderator, has hosted the contest featuring castaways outwitting, out-



*Jeff Probst.*

playing and outlasting each other for \$1 million since it debuted in 2000.

The Nicaragua-set 22nd edition of the series, "Survivor: Redemption Island," is currently broadcast Wednesdays on CBS and added dismissed contestants battling to return to the game.

*Internet*



*A contestant presents the ancient style costume during a workingwoman fashion contest held in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 7 March, 2011.*

*XINHUA*



*A model presents a collection by Japanese designers Kaito Hori and Iku Furudate for Commuun as part of their Fall-Winter 2011/2012 women's ready-to-wear fashion collection during Paris Fashion Week, in Paris, France, on 7 March, 2011.*

*XINHUA*

## Julianne Moore to play Sarah Palin in HBO film

LOS ANGELES, 12 March—Julianne Moore will play former Alaska governor Sarah Palin in "Game Change," an HBO movie about John McCain's unsuccessful presidential campaign.

Based on the bestselling book of the same name by John Heilemann and Mark Halperin, the film will centre on McCain's selection of Palin as his running mate and their defeat in the 2008 election by Barack Obama. Jay Roach will direct from a script by Danny Strong. They previously worked together on HBO's 2008 movie "Recount," which followed the nail-biting conclusion to the 2000 presidential race.—Reuters



*Actress Julianne Moore poses during a photo call for her movie "The kids are all right" at the Rome Film Festival on 2 Nov, 2010.—XINHUA*

## Bolton beats Birmingham to reach FA Cup semifinals

LONDON, 12 March—Lee Chung-yong's 90<sup>th</sup>-minute header sent Bolton through to the FA Cup semifinals with a 3-2 victory over Birmingham on Saturday.

The South Korea winger ghosted into the penalty area to meet Kevin Davies' header across the goal to score after Bolton had twice thrown away the lead. Bolton forward Johan Elmander's fierce strike was canceled out by Cameron Jerome before halftime.

Kevin Davies restored Bolton's lead with a 66<sup>th</sup>-minute penalty after being brought down by defender Curtis Davies. Birmingham equalized in the 80<sup>th</sup> when Kevin Phillips hooked the

ball over goalkeeper Jussi Jaaskelainen.

On Sunday, Manchester City plays Reading and West Ham is at Stoke.

*Internet*



**Bolton Wanderers' Lee Chung-yong celebrates scoring their winner in the FA Cup sixth-round game at Birmingham City.—INTERNET**

## ManUtd 2-0 Arsenal

**Fabio & Wayne Rooney send Red Devils into semi-finals & ensure Gunners' miserable week ends in FA Cup exit**

MANCHESTER, 12 March—Manchester United extended their unbeaten home run against Arsenal to seven games as they sealed their place in the semi final of this season's FA Cup with a 2-0 over the Gunners.

Goals from Fabio da Silva and Wayne Rooney won the game for United and dumped Arsene Wenger's men out of a

third competition in two weeks, leaving them with only the Premier League to concentrate on.

*Internet*



**Fabio da Silva celebrates after scoring the opener for ManU.**

## Russia's Anzhi sign Boussoufa

Moscow, 12 March — Russian Premier League side Anzhi Makhachkala have signed Moroccan international midfielder Moubarak Boussoufa from Belgian outfit Anderlecht on a three-year contract, local media reported on Friday.

Reports said that the club from the capital of the Russian republic of Dagestan paid

Anderlecht 12 million euros for the 26-year-old Boussoufa, who scored 60 goals in 200 appearances for the Belgian side.

*Internet*



**Anderlecht's Moroccan Moubarak Boussoufa**

## Beleaguered Marseille relaunch title bid

PARIS, 12 March — Beleaguered Marseille relaunched their title bid with a comprehensive 2-0 away win at Rennes which lifted the reigning champions up to third in the French top flight ahead of the weekend's remaining fixtures.

Marseille's battle for glory on three fronts this season — in the league, league cup and the Champions League — was overshadowed earlier this week with unwelcome off-field news.

Brazilian Brandao was taken off the team

sheet after he was accused of rape.



Coupled with reports that coach Didier Deschamps could quit Marseille and return to former club Juventus, their need for a win arguably went beyond a simple three points.

And on the pitch they had lost to league leaders Lille last weekend.

*Internet*

## Julio Cesar rescues point for 10-man Inter

ROME, 12 March — Goalkeeper Julio Cesar saved a last minute penalty to rescue a point for 10-man Inter Milan away to Brescia on Friday night.

Samuel Eto'o scored his 31st goal of the season to give the champions a first half lead before Andrea Caracciolo equalised six minutes from time.

But then substitute Ivan Cordoba was sent-off for bringing down Eder in the box only for Cesar to save Caracciolo's spot-kick. In a bizarre finish, Caracciolo then also received his marching orders for a second yellow card.

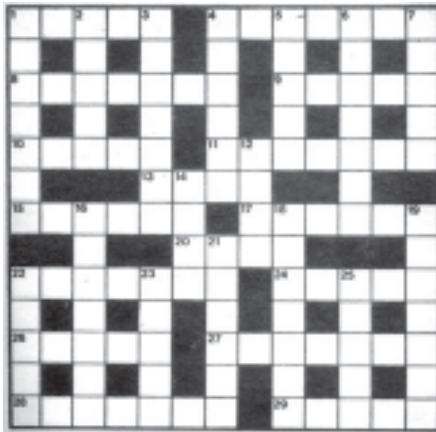
The point means AC Milan could extend their Serie A lead to seven points if they beat rock-bottom Bari on Sunday.

Inter coach Leonardo claimed his side had deserved more than a draw.

*Internet*

# S P O R T S

## CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 1 Append
- 4 Circus-swing
- 8 Smoke-escape passage
- 9 Fertile desert spot
- 10 Cogs
- 11 Mean person
- 13 Character in Othello
- 15 Settle, confirm
- 17 Special ability
- 20 Dutch cheese
- 22 Devour
- 24 Give voice to
- 26 Pick me-up
- 27 Gourmet
- 28 Swell
- 29 Large

### DOWN

- 1 Strict hermit
- 2 Din
- 3 Yellowish
- 4 Causing strain
- 5 Amidst
- 6 Subjugate
- 7 Relaxed
- 12 Jot
- 14 Sound of polite cough
- 16 Spell at wicket
- 18 Entertraining
- 19 Rushing stream
- 21 Guard against attack
- 22 Quoted
- 23 Male relative
- 25 Suspension of war

## Mahan loses his cushion but keeps lead at Doral

DORAL, 12 March — Martin Kaymer is the new No 1 in golf and getting the same kind of respect another No 1 once did.

Never mind that Hunter Mahan had a one-shot lead going into the weekend of the Cadillac Championship after stum-

bling with a pair of bogeys in the final hour of his second round on Friday for a 1-under 71.

It was the guy right behind him who made some players take notice. Kaymer opened his season with an eight-shot win in Abu Dhabi.—*Internet*



**Hunter Mahan tees off on the fifth tee during the second round of the Cadillac Championship golf tournament.—INTERNET**

## Rising star Raonic advances at Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS, 12 March — Milos Raonic is soaring up the world tennis rankings faster than his 150-mph serve.

The 20-year-old Canadian hammered 10 aces and used his thundering forehand to overpower Turkey's Marsel Ilhan 6-

2, 7-6 (7/4) in his opening match at the Indian Wells WTA and ATP Masters hardcourt event on Friday.

"I feel good. I feel like I played a lot better today," Raonic said. "My goal is to keep getting better and better and improving." Raonic unleashed a 148-mph (238-kmh) ace in the second game of the second set against Ilhan in front of a crowd of 5,000 on an outer court.—*Internet*



**Milos Raonic of Canada**

## Busch bungles qualifying runs in NHRA pro debut

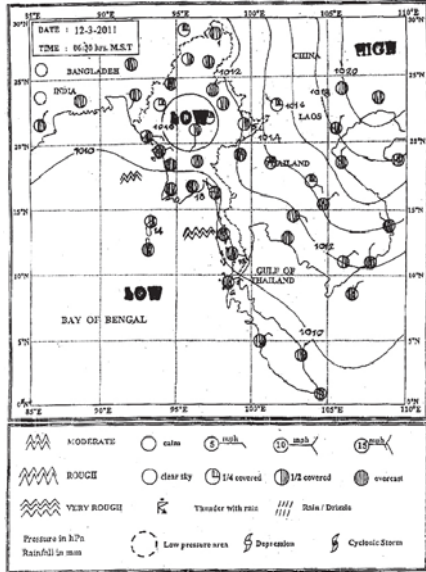
GAINESVILLE, 12 March — Kurt Busch expected a "full dose of humble pie" during his professional drag-racing debut.

He got something way worse. Busch botched both qualifying passes Friday at the NHRA Gatornationals, leaving him little room for error heading into his final two runs Saturday.

"An interesting day to say the least," Busch said. "A lot of rookie things that I'm ready to put behind me. We've done this before. I've done testing. I know what to do, I know what to expect."

It sure didn't look that way on Friday.—*Internet*

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**



**WEATHER**

**Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2011**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.**  
 During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Yangon Region, scattered in Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, isolated in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States weather has been partly cloudy over the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in Upper Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kachin and Southern Shan States and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin), Nay Pyi Taw (Pinyinmana), Chauk, Minbu, Magway, Aunglan and Pyay (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nyaunglaybin (1.42) inches, Maubin (1.02) inches, Myeik (0.75) inch, Kawkareik (0.71) inch, Cocogyun (0.55) inch, Bago and Khayan (0.43) inch each, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and Zalun (0.39) inch each.

**Nay Pyi Taw**

Maximum temperature on 11-3-2011 was 104°F. Minimum temperature on 12-3-2011 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-3-2011 was (76%). Rainfall on 12-3-2011 was (Nil).

**Yangon (Kaba-Aye)**

Maximum temperature on 11-3-2011 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 12-3-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-3-2011 was (71%). Total sunshine hours on 11-3-2011 was (3.0) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 12-3-2011 was (0.15) inch at Mingaladon, (0.39) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.35) inch at Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (2.44) inches at Mingaladon, (2.52) inches at Kaba-Aye and (4.37) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southeast at (15:30) hours MST on 11-3-2011.

**Bay Inference:** Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy over elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**State of the sea:** Strong Easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthyi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Lower Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 13-3-2011:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-3-2011:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-3-2011:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Fit Beckham unsure of post-MLS future**

LOS ANGELES, 12 March—English midfielder David Beckham says he is healthy entering his final season with the Los Angeles Galaxy but uncertain whether or not he has played his last for an English club.

In an online chat with fans on ESPN's website Friday, the 35-year-old superstar said he is ready for Tuesday's Major League Soccer season opener at Seattle, his fifth campaign in the US league.

"I'm excited. I'm ready for the season," Beckham said. "I wanted to make sure my fitness was right. That's why I went to Tottenham. I've been working hard."

English  
 midfielder  
 David  
 Beckham  
 INTERNET



Beckham, who has scored nine goals for the Galaxy after prior star stints at Manchester United and Real Madrid, missed six months because of a torn left Achilles' tendon.

"I would say I'm 100 percent right now," Beckham said. "Last season was difficult with the injury. But I've worked hard this season and gotten my body back to where it needs to be. I'm very close."—Internet

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (13-3-2011) (Sunday)**

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	- (13-3-11 09:30 am ~ 14-3-11 09:30 am) MST

**Local Transmission**

- \* Opening
- \* News
- \* Daily Routine About Abank (Ayeyawady Bank)
- \* News
- \* Sports Show (Horse Racing)
- \* Automobile & Autoparts Expo-2011
- \* News
- \* Record Album
- \* News
- \* Myanmar Movie Impact "Schedule for Tomorrow"

**Oversea Transmission**

- \* Opening
- \* News
- \* Daily Routine About Abank (Ayeyawady Bank)
- \* News
- \* Sports Show (Horse Racing)
- \* News
- \* Automobile & Autoparts Expo-2011
- \* News
- \* A Garden of Aspiring and Promising Flowers
- \* News
- \* Myanmar Movie Impact "Schedule for Tomorrow"
- \* News
- \* Myanmar Pottery
- \* News
- \* Serenely Pleasant Pindaya
- \* Noble Charity (Kaung Hmu Daw Pagoda)
- \* News
- \* Kambozathadi: Palace of Conquerors
- \* Myanmar Movie "Regretful Game"



**Sunday, 13 March**  
**View on today**

- 7:00 am**  
 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:25 am**  
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:30 am**  
 3. Morning News
- 7:40 am**  
 4. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:50 am**  
 5. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am**  
 6. Health Programme

- 8:10 am**  
 7. (38) Phyar Mingalars
- 8:25 am**  
 8. Songs in honour of (66)<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day
- 8:40 am**  
 9. International News
- 8:45 am**  
 10. Musical Programme
- 11:00 am**  
 1. Martial Song
- 11:10 am**  
 2. Musical Programme
- 11:20 am**  
 3. Round Up Of The Week's International News
- 11:30 am**  
 4. TV Drama Series
- 12:30 pm**  
 5. Golf Magazine (TV)
- 12:50 pm**  
 6. Myanmar Movies

- 2:40 pm**  
 7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 2:50 pm**  
 8. International News
- 4:00 pm**  
 1. Martial Song
- 4:05 pm**  
 2. Dance Of National Races
- 4:10 am**  
 3. Musical Programme
- 4:20 pm**  
 4. Songs in honour of (66)<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day
- 4:35 pm**  
 5. University Of Distance Education (TV Lecuters) -First Year (English)
- 4:50 pm**  
 6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

- 4:55 pm**  
 7. Songs in honour of (66)<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day
- 5:05 pm**  
 8. Sing & Enjoy
- 5:40 pm**  
 9. Documentry
- 6:00 pm**  
 10. Evening News
- 6:15 pm**  
 11. Weather Report
- 6:20 pm**  
 12. Cartoon Series
- 6:40 pm**  
 13. Tamyethnar Takwetsar
- 7:00 pm**  
 14. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm**  
 15. News
16. International News
17. Weather Report
18. Cartoon Series
19. TV Drama Series
20. Yinhlaingkhathan Taythihan (Song Competition)

- ★ 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

### Kanyin Dam Project to expedite development of regions on west of Ayeyawady River

Byline and photos: *Min Win Than*



*Main canal of Kanyin Dam irrigates farmlands on western bank of Ayeyawady River.*

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has been doing feasibility study constantly to boost utilization of water and land sources for national economic growth. As part of the prudent drive, it is now implementing Kanyin Dam Project in Ingapu Township to give an augment to the development of

the areas on the western bank of Ayeyawady River. The multipurpose dam project is to irrigate about 25000 acres of farmlands in Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Region, and to generate 5 megawatts of hydropower to surrounding villages. (See page 9)

### IPRD organizes talks on reading habit in Hsenwi Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 12 March — Hsenwi Township Information and Public Relations Department organized educative talk on prolonged existence of rural libraries and reading habit and reading sessions at Pyinnya Alin Library in Sanlaung village in Hsenwi Township in Lashio District in Shan State (North) on 9 March. Similar events were held at Nasot village Pyinnya Alin Library on the same day and Kaunghaw village Pyinnya Alin Library on 10 March.—MNA

### Apple's iPad 2 launch



*Photo shows the second generation iPads displayed during Apple's special media event.*

Apple began selling the iPad 2, which was unveiled by chief executive Steve Jobs last week, online overnight and it was available in the gadget-maker's 236 US stores starting on 11 March.—INTERNET