

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Tuesday, 1 May 2012

True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

EU should fully lift its economic sanction on Myanmar as it suspended sanction while most countries had already lifted economic sanction on Myanmar

President U Thein Sein

UN will normalize its operations in Myanmar at full capacity as quickly as possible

UNSG Mr Ban Ki-moon



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives a delegation led by Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Ban Ki-moon.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a delegation led by Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Ban Ki-moon at the Presidential Palace here at 9 am today.

Present at the meeting together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin,

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the UN U Than Swe and departmental heads while the UN delegation comprised special advisers to the UN Secretary-General Mr Vijay

Nambiar, Ms Noleen Heyzer and Ms Judy Cheng-Hopkins and senior officials from the UN office.

At the meeting, UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon said that he paid a visit to Myanmar to encourage progress of the transition to democracy in Myanmar and UN will normalize its operations in Myanmar at full capacity as quickly as possible. (See page 8)

All forms of forced labour should be eliminated once and for all for enhancing the eternal principles which are justice, freedom and equality

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—The following is the full text of the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Agga Maha Thayay Sithu, Agga Maha Thiri Thuddhamma U Thein Sein on the occasion of May Day:-

Esteemed workers,

May I extend my warmest regards to you the entire workers of the country who are striving for national economic development within your intellectual and physical capacities and industriousness through might and main in building a modern, developed democratic nation and wish you all physical and spiritual well-being on May Day, 1st May 2012.

Today is an especial day and indeed remarkably meaningful for the workers of Myanmar as May Day is being celebrated nationwide this year to honour the workers like in many other countries that observe this special occasion on 1st May.

To have a decent work for every one is a fundamental objective of the Republic

of the Union of Myanmar that is implementing the Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation task by setting up (8) work programmes. To realize the said objective, efforts are being made for ensuring rapid flow of domestic and foreign investments into the country. As the number of factories, industrial estates, industrial zones and special economic zones, small and medium enterprises and regional business is increasing, the labour market that could create more job opportunities and establish sustainable professions emerges. The work efficiency promotion policy has also been adopted as it is crucially important for the productivity of a country.

(See page 7)

HONOURING WORKERS' DAY 2012

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 1 May, 2012

Education for all

As education has been put high on its agenda, the government is undertaking education for all programmes across the nation to make sure every school-age child goes to school and completes his studies of basic education. Introduction of compulsory education and free basic education systems is seen as an effective approach, but still it is far from the target with formal education alone.

There are still a lot of children whose thirst for intellectual nourishment has been subjugated to the needs of his family. Some children often dream of a student life but cannot afford the time for education. While some have no interest in education at all, some have to drop out of school forced by basic needs. Generally, lack of education makes most of them engage in blue-collar work and weak in self-discipline with poor health knowledge. Opening evening schools and can be a partial solution to this problem.

Moreover, youths behind bars for various reasons should have access to education. There are young prisoners who regret not going to school, committing wrong acts and want to turn over a new leaf. Often, homeless, abandoned and neglected youngsters fall victim to illiteracy as some were forced, persuaded or deceived to join the gangs. Myanmar Correctional Department is reported to be doing its best to help them walk out of sins by organizing meditation hours and reading hours. It would be beneficial both to the nation and to them if an appropriate learning environment can be created for them in prison. In fact, every chance should be given to them to be able to mend their ways.

Nowadays, global economic trends indicate gradual move toward knowledge-based economy in developed and some developing economies in which knowledge is created, obtained, shared and used effectively by individuals and companies and communities for economic and social development, highlighting the growing importance of knowledge.

If we want to move with the times, education should ever be the top priority of the government and lifelong learning is of crucial importance. More informal education systems should thus be researched and developed to make education for all programmes a big success.

UNSG and wife visit poppy-substitute crop cultivation project in Hopon Tsp, Shan State



UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife view bags of rice distributed by UNODC to local people.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—The delegation led by UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife, accompanied by officials of the Home Affairs Ministry and Foreign Affairs Ministry, left here by UN special aircraft at 2 pm today and arrived at Heho, Shan State, at 2.30 pm.

The delegation was welcomed at Heho Airport by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat and wife, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Soe

Htut, state ministers, departmental officials, members of social organizations and local nationals.

The UN Secretary-General and wife and party, together with the chief minister and the commander helicoptered to the poppy-substitute crop cultivation project in Kyaukkachar Village, Hopon Township, being undertaken by UNODC and the government of the Republic of the Union

of Myanmar.

At the project briefing hall, Vice-Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win briefed on the State's efforts made in successive eras for elimination of narcotic drugs as a national duty, emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation free from narcotic drugs, implementation of 15-year drug elimination plan, destruction of more poppy plantations to reduce poppy growing in Myanmar, reduction in opium production and destruction of 23584.85 hectares of poppy plantations in 2011-2012 poppy cultivation season accounting for three more percent compared with the previous year and expediting drug elimination efforts in cooperation with international organizations,

regional countries and neighbouring nations as it cannot be done by Myanmar alone.

From the view deck, the UN Secretary-General and wife and party viewed the poppy-substitute crop plantations.

Then, UNODC officials cordially greeted the local people and viewed distribution of rice. The nationals from Pa-O Self-Administered Zone presented traditional souvenirs to the UNSG and wife.

The UNSG and wife and entourage proceeded to Heho. At the Heho Airport lounge, Shan damsels presented a jewellery-studded painting to the UNSG.

Later, the UNSG and wife and party left Heho Airport and arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.

MNA

Wife of UN Secretary-General and party go sightseeing in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—A delegation led by Mrs Ban Soon-taek wife of UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon, who are still in Nay Pyi Taw, paid a visit to Uppatasanti Pagoda at 9am today, together with Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin and officials concerned.

They were welcomed

by members of Pagoda Board of Trustees. They offered the jade Buddha image with water and flowers after viewing the sculptural paintings of marble, displayed inside the Pagoda Cave. And they signed the guests' book.

Afterwards, the wife of UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon made a cash donation for the renovation of the pagoda through the board of trustees.

On their arrival of Myanmar Gems Museum, they studied Myanmar gems on display on the first floor of the building, and then signed the guests' book.

MNA

Mrs Ban Soon-taek, wife of the UN Secretary-General, visits Myanmar Gems Museum.

MNA



Over 400 people receive free medical treatment in Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—In cooperation with Mon State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, Mon State Women Affairs Organization and Mon State Health Department, a medical team comprising specialists led by Dr Wai Wai Oo, Medical Superintendent of Mawlamyine General Hospital provided free health care services in Mudon Township, Mon State.

They provided medical treatment to local people from Kawkhapon Village and its environs at the Basic Education Middle School at Kawkhapon Village in the township on 27 April.

Parton of the committee Daw San San Lwin and members donated medicines and medical equipment worth K200,000 and Chairperson of Mon State MCWSC K 200,000 to the medical superintendent for the free medical services. Over 200 people received medical check-ups and treatment during the field trip of the medical team.—MNA

Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy personnel (R) walk past a cannon of the Chinese guided missile destroyer Haikou (171), in Hong Kong on 30 April, 2012. The destroyer is open to the public for three days, as part of a series of events celebrating the 15th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover to China.—INTERNET



French journalist missing after Colombia FARC battle

BOGOTA, 30 April — A French journalist reporting alongside Colombian security forces tracking drug-funded FARC rebels was injured and then disappeared after a gun battle that killed three soldiers and a police official, the Defence Ministry said on Sunday. French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said Romeo Langlois, a freelance reporter for French news channel France 24, was taken prisoner on Saturday by the Marxist guerrillas, but Colombia's Defence Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon couldn't confirm his capture.

Langlois went missing after being caught in a firefight with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, known as the FARC. The fight broke out as police and military personnel sought to dismantle drug laboratories in the jungles of Caqueta, southern Colombia, Pinzon told reporters. "We demand that the terrorist organization of the FARC, if they have him, must respect his life and they are responsible for anything that happens to him if they have him their power," he said.



A Colombian soldier injured during a firefight with FARC rebels is carried in a stretcher to a hospital in Florencia, Caqueta Province, on 28 April, 2012. REUTERS

Three soldiers and one police official died in Saturday's attack, the Colombian government said, and six security officials were injured. Langlois may have been shot in the arm, Pinzon said. Five members of the counter-narcotics patrol originally reported missing with Langlois were found alive. "The crisis centre (of the Foreign Ministry) has been mobilized and is liaising with Colombian authorities," Juppe told French media. Langlois, who has been in Colombia about 12 years, removed his bulletproof vest and helmet and ran toward the rebels, possibly in a bid to prove he was not a member of the armed forces, said Pinzon after speaking to one of the soldiers with the journalist.—Reuters

Coast Guard recovers body of sailor killed in racing accident

FAIRFAX, 30 April — The Coast Guard has recovered the body of a sailor killed in a racing accident this month off the coast of San Francisco, the San Francisco Medical Examiner's office said on Sunday. Twenty-five-year-old Jordan Fromm's body was found on the Farallon Islands, Christopher Wirówek of the San Francisco Medical

Examiner's office said.

Coast Guard spokesman Mike Lutz said a biologist working on the islands spotted Fromm's body on Thursday. On 14 April, a powerful wave threw Fromm and his crewmates overboard while the 38-foot (11.6-metre) vessel raced around the rocky islands, which are located about 28 miles off the coast of San Francisco. Immediately after the accident, the Coast Guard recovered one body, but Fromm's and three others,

had not been found.

The accident prompted the Coast Guard to suspend racing in the Pacific Ocean off San Francisco. Fromm, who lived in Kentfield, California, was scheduled to graduate from Dominican University of California next month. On Saturday, three sailors were killed and another was missing after a sailboat racing from California to Mexico collided with a larger ship on Saturday. Reuters



A member of the US Coast Guard reaches for a piece of flotsam during their search for the lone missing crew member of the yacht Aegean off the California coast in this 29 April, 2012 frame grab from video.—REUTERS

Chinese navy vessel visits Malaysia on friendship trip

PORT KLANG, 30 April — China Navy training vessel "Zhenghe" arrived at Malaysia's Port Klang on Sunday, starting a five-day trip to the country to promote friendship. At around 10:00am local time, The People's Liberation Army (PLA)'s ocean-going training ship, named after the Chinese great navigator Zhenghe, slowly entered Port Klang, Malaysia's largest port located some 40 km from the capital city of Kuala Lumpur. The vessel was warmly received by Chinese Ambassador to Malaysia Chai Xi, representatives of overseas Chinese and representatives from the Malaysian military.

The commander, Liao Shining, deputy chief of staff of the PLA navy, said the main purpose of the visit is to promote the ideal of "a harmonious world and a harmonious ocean", as well as strengthen the friendship and cooperation between the two countries

and the two navies. The ship is carrying more than 300 sailors, including 110 students from the Dalian Naval Academy. It is in Malaysia as the second leg of its global goodwill voyage, aiming at promoting friendship and exchanges with visiting countries.—Xinhua



The Chinese Navy training vessel "Zhenghe" arrives at Port Kelang, State of Selangor, Malaysia, on 29 April, 2012.—XINHUA

Fourteen killed and sixteen detained during military operations in Afghanistan

KABUL, 30 April — Fourteen Taleban militants have been killed and 16 others detained during military operations conducted by Afghan forces and NATO-led coalition troops within the past 24 hours, the Afghan Interior Ministry said on Monday morning.

"Afghan police, Army and NATO-led Coalition Forces launched five joint cleanup operations in Kabul,

Nangarhar, Zabul, Logar and Ghazni Provinces over the last 24 hours, killing 14 armed Taleban militants and detaining 16 other armed militants," the ministry said in a statement.

The joint forces also discovered and confiscated six AK-47 guns, one rocket launcher, two PKM machine guns and three anti-vehicle mines, the statement said, without saying if there were

any casualties on the side of security forces.

Taleban militants, who have intensified activities since the beginning of spring, known as "fighting season", have yet to make comments. Over 530 militants have been killed and more than 1,170 others detained in the country over the past four months, according to the figures released by the Afghan Interior Ministry.—Xinhua

Captive British aid worker killed in Pakistan

QUETTA, 30 April — The body of a British Red Cross worker held captive in Pakistan since January has been found in an orchard, his throat slit and a note attached to his body saying he was killed because no ransom was paid, police said. Khalil Rasjed Dale, 60, was managing a health programme in the city of Quetta in southwestern Pakistan when armed men seized him from a street close to his office. The identities of his captors are unknown, but the region is home to separatist and Islamist militants who have kidnapped for ransom before.

The director-general of the International Committee

of the Red Cross condemned the "barbaric act." "All of us at the ICRC and at the British Red Cross share the grief and outrage of Khalil's family and friends," said Yves Daccord. Dale's throat had been slit, according to Safdar Hussain, a doctor who examined the body, which was discovered on Sunday. Quetta police chief Ahsan Mahboob said the note attached to it read: "This is the body of Khalil who we have slaughtered for not paying a ransom."

Militants and criminal gangs often kidnap wealthy Pakistanis and less commonly, foreigners. British Foreign Secretary William Hague condemned Dale's

killing, and said "tireless efforts" had been under way to secure his release after he was kidnapped. Internet

Drone strike kills four suspected militants in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, 30 April — A US drone strike killed four suspected militants in Pakistan's North Waziristan tribal region near the Afghan border on Sunday, intelligence officials and witnesses said, the first strike in almost a month. The controversial drone programme, a key element in US counter-terrorism efforts, is highly unpopular in Pakistan, where it is considered a violation of sovereignty which causes many civilian casualties.

A Pakistani parliamentary committee recently demanded an end to drone strikes on Pakistani territory as part of its recommendations for how its relationship with Washington should change. The United States has given no indication it intends to halt the campaign. The remotely piloted aircraft targeted an abandoned girls' high school building used by militants in Miranshah, the main town in North Waziristan, the officials and witnesses said. Three militants were wounded.—Reuters

Pakistani security officials stand next to covered body of British Red Cross worker Khalil Rasjed Dale at the site in Quetta, Pakistan on 29 April, 2012.—INTERNET



Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology



Erno Rubik, left, the inventor of the Rubik's Cube, reaches out to receive a gold and gemstone version of his cube from jeweler Fred Cuellar at Liberty Science Centre, on 25 April, 2012, in Jersey City, N.J. The centre will have an exhibit on the toys and will include the diamond version, which is worth 2.5 million dollars.—INTERNET

Nurses to get drug guide on smartphone app

AMBLER, 30 April—AUS publisher of the Nursing 2013 Drug Handbook said beginning in May it will provide the first mobile app version of the drug guide for nurses.

Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, publisher of the top-selling drug guide since its inception in 1980, said the new smartphone app includes almost 900 drug monographs addressing more than 3,000 generic and brand name drugs.

The app can be used to search for drugs alphabetically, by pharmacologic class and by therapeutic class. The full version

includes a dosage calculator, pill images, detailed monographs and weekly drug updates, all in an intuitive, easy-to-navigate programme, Lippincott said.

The Nursing Drug Handbook app will be available for the iPhone, iPad and iTouch and Android devices early next month, Lippincott said.

A recent survey by Lippincott of nearly 4,000 nurses and nursing students found 85 percent of nurses and students said they wanted a smartphone app version of the drug guide. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins is part of

Wolters Kluwer Health, a provider of information, business intelligence and point-of-care solutions for the healthcare industry.

"Nurses have long relied on our pocket-sized guide to support clinical decisions, but today's nurse wants mobile access to the most current information possible," Judy McCann, chief nursing officer of Wolters Kluwer Health, said in a statement. The survey also found 71 percent of nursing professionals used a smartphone for their job and 66 percent of students used one in nursing school.

Internet

Leaves inspire improved solar cells

WEST LAFAYETTE, 30 April—US scientists say microscopic folds on the surface of photovoltaic materials can significantly

increase the power output of flexible, low-cost solar cells.

Taking their cue from the surface texture of leaves, scientists writing in the

journal *Nature* say adding the folds can provide a 47 percent increase in electricity generation.

Finely calibrated folds on the surface of the panels can guide light waves and increase the photovoltaic materials' exposure to light, researchers said.

"On a flat surface, the light either is absorbed or it bounces back," said Yueh-Lin Loo, a professor of chemical and biological engineering at Princeton University.

"By adding these curves, we create a kind of wave guide. And that leads to a greater chance of the light's



Microscopic folds increase the power output and durability of solar cells.

INTERNET

Earth 'may be one-off fluke and all other planets in Milky Way lifeless'

LONDON, 30 April—The idea that 'billions' of other planets in our own Milky Way galaxy are teeming with alien life forms may just be wishful thinking, a new study has claimed.

Two Princeton scientists used what's known as "Bayesian analysis" — a technique that "boils down" ideas to the actual data, as opposed to scientists' own ideas about what 'should' be true. They suggest that it's very possible Earth is a one-off aberration where life took hold unusually fast — and on the average extraterrestrial planet, the chances of life are very low indeed.

"Fossil evidence suggests that life began very early in Earth's history and that has led people to determine that life might be quite common in the universe because it happened so quickly here, but the knowledge about life on Earth simply doesn't reveal much about the actual probability of life on other planets," the *Daily Mail* quoted Edwin Turner and David Spiegel as saying. "Information about that probability comes largely from the assumptions scientists have going in, and some of the most optimistic conclusions have been based almost entirely on those assumptions.

"If scientists start out assuming that the chances of life existing on another planet as it does on Earth are large, then their results will be presented in a way that supports that likelihood. "Our work is not a judgment, but an analysis of existing data that suggests the debate about the existence of life on other planets is framed largely by the prior assumptions of the participants," they said.—Internet

'Egg-shaped' globule could be 'evidence of life on Mars'

LONDON, 30 April—An 'egg-shaped' object, which was found inside a Martian meteorite that fell to Earth last year, could be final proof of life on the Red Planet.

Professor Chandra Wickramasinghe has asserted that the globule from the rock named Tissint is rich in carbon and oxygen and insisted that they could only have been produced by living organisms.

He said that they could not have been caused by contamination when they fell to Earth.

It is impossible to understand how carbon-rich particles of such uniform sizes

and shapes got inside a rocky matrix if they are not relics of some algal species, the *Sun* quoted Prof Wickramasinghe, 72, who is famous for controversial ideas such as that the flu virus and even life itself was brought to our planet by comets, as saying.

Tissint was collected weeks after it fell, and terrestrial contamination seems unlikely. In any case the structures we found were on newly fractured surfaces, from the interior of the meteorite.

The meteorite was named after the village where it came down in the Sahara

desert in Morocco last July.

It was most likely blasted from Mars when it was hit by an asteroid millions of years ago.

A piece of it was examined at the Buckingham Centre for Astrobiology and Cardiff University.

All the indications are that structures such as we have found are evidence of life on Mars, PhD student Jamie Wallis, who was working with Dr Wickramasinghe, said.

The spheres are probably remnants of polysaccharide shells surrounding algal type cells, Wallis added.—Internet

Margo G Wootan, Director of Nutrition Policy for the Centre for Science in the Public Interest displays foods, toys and giveaways marketed by the food industry towards young children in Washington, 24 April, 2012.

REUTERS



Russian cargo spacecraft meets demise

MOSCOW, 30 April—An unmanned Russian cargo spacecraft plummeted to Earth Saturday with parts that didn't burn during re-entry plunging into the Pacific Ocean, officials said.

Officials at Mission Control said fragments of Progress *M-14M* ended its mission by coming down in a remote area of the Pacific at 6:39 pm Moscow Time and sank, *RIA Novosti* reported.

The spacecraft had left the International Space Station on 19 April and

conducted several days of experiments before meeting its demise, the *Russian* news agency said.

The Russian television network RT reported most of the spaceship, which carried more than a ton of waste from the space station burned up in the atmosphere.

RT said another spacecraft carrying three astronauts who had spent six months at the space station touched down in Kazakhstan's steppe Friday.

Internet

being absorbed."

The research focused on photovoltaic systems made of relatively cheap plastic as opposed to current solar panels typically made of silicon, which is both more brittle and more expensive than plastics.

So far, plastic panels have not been practical for widespread use because their energy production has been too low, but researchers said if they can increase the plastic panels' efficiency, the material could produce power from an array of surfaces from inserts in window panels to overlays on exterior walls or backpacks.

Internet

Microsoft fixes Hotmail password bug helping hackers reset passwords

WASHINGTON, 30 April—Software giant Microsoft has said it has fixed a bug within its Hotmail email service, which had allowed hackers to easily reset passwords and take control of users' accounts.

A security news site had reported that some hackers were offering to hack Hotmail accounts for 20 dollars.

Computer security researchers discovered the vulnerability in early April and told Microsoft about it.

The bug revolved around the way Hotmail handles the data that must pass back and forth when a user wants to reset their password, The BBC reports.

According to the report, as knowledge of the bug spread, YouTube videos highlighting how to perform the hack, also started to surface. Microsoft has issued a statement saying the loophole has now been closed and that Hotmail account holders need take no further action.—Internet



Sweden's Queen Silvia (C), patroness of the World Childhood Foundation, Co-CEOs Bill McDermott (L) and Jim Hagemann Snee of software giant SAP arrive for a Gala to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of SAP in Mannheim 29 April, 2012.—REUTERS

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

China shuts Coke plant over chlorine

SHANGHAI, 30 April—Authorities in northern China have ordered a Coca-Cola bottling plant shut after finding its products were contaminated by chlorine, according to a government statement.

Shanxi Province ordered an investigation after media reports that a batch of drinks contained water with higher levels of chlorine, the province's quality bureau said at the weekend. A receptionist at Coca-Cola Shanxi Beverages Co on Monday confirmed to AFP that the plant had stopped production, but declined further comment.

Coca-Cola in China could not be reached on Monday, a public holiday. The contamination occurred in February when water with small amounts of chlorine accidentally flowed into water used for drinks during maintenance work, the official Xinhua news agency said late Sunday.

An anonymous company whistle-blower told local media that nine batches of products were contaminated, it said.

Xinhua quoted the Shanxi plant as saying that its products were safe and did not present a threat to human health.

Chlorine is used in water treatment to kill bacteria, but high levels can be hazardous to human health. China has experienced several scares over food safety in recent years, many blamed on lax supervision or producers deliberately cutting corners and deceiving consumers in search of profits.

China is one of Coca-Cola's most important growth markets, accounting for around seven per cent of its global volume last year, according to the US company.—Internet



Early quality child care, better in school

AUSTIN, 30 April—The quality of care children get before they start school is correlated with how well they do in school, US researchers suggest.

Robert Crosnoe of the University of Texas at Austin and colleagues analyzed care in children from birth to age 4 1/2, using surveys, observations and physical exams. The children's start in

school was monitored as well.

Children who received high quality care before school were more prepared to start school, had mothers who were more involved with school, and benefited from their moms' involvement in their education, the researchers said.

"Mothers tended to be more school-involved when their children had longer



Boeing workers work gather around a 787 at the company's assembly plant in North Charleston, SC, on 27 April, 2012.—INTERNET

NORTH CHARLESTON, 30 April—Airplane maker Boeing rolled out its first South Carolina-built 787 Dreamliner to an assembled crowd of executives, dignitaries and workers, the company said. Boeing announced it would assemble planes at the South Carolina site in 2009 and broke ground on a new facility there in November of that year.

No evidence that mobile phones harm health

LONDON, 30 April—There is no convincing evidence that the use of mobile phones damages human health, a "comprehensive" review of scientific evidence said on Thursday.

Studies have not demonstrated that the use of mobiles causes brain tumours or any other cancer, according to the review by the Health Protection Agency (HPA)'s independent advisory group on non-ionising radiation.

But it said it was important to monitor evidence as the use of mobile phones has become widespread only recently. The HPA also recommends that excessive

use of mobile phones by children be discouraged.

"Overall, the results of studies have not demonstrated that the use of mobile phones causes brain tumours or any other type of cancer," the group said.

"The evidence suggests that radio frequency field exposure below guideline levels does not cause symptoms in humans."

The group's report reviewed scientific studies on exposure to radio frequency electromagnetic fields produced by mobile phones and wireless devices, such as wi-fi, as well as television and radio transmitters.

Boeing hails its first SC-built jet

The plant was completed in June 2011 and the company's first assembled jet was cheered by a crowd of employees and invited guests, *The (Charleston) Post* and *Courier* reported Saturday.

"This team has shown that we can build airplanes in South Carolina that meet the high Boeing quality standards, and do so with an exceptional workplace safety record," Jack Jones, Boeing's South Carolina vice president and general manager, said in a statement. The event was attended by Boeing Commercial Airplanes Chief Executive Officer Jim Albaugh and South Carolina Gov Nikki Haley. "We got some more work to do here," Albaugh said. "Three weeks from now we're going to fly that thing, and then sometime in June we're going to deliver it." The company has set the goal of building three 787 Dreamliner planes in South Carolina each month, but Albaugh told the workers, "If we can build more, we can sell them."

"We build cars, we build tires and now we build dreams —big mack-daddy 787 dreams," Haley said.—Internet

A review of scientific studies on the health impact of mobile phone use has said there is no convincing evidence that using the devices can damage human health.
INTERNET



Eyes can become painfully sunburned

CHICAGO, 30 April—Ultraviolet rays from the sun or tanning beds can cause immediate as well as lasting damage to the eyes, US experts say.

Officials of Prevent Blindness America, the nation's oldest volunteer eye health and safety organization, said in addition to the skin, the eyes can also become "sunburned,"

technically known as photokeratitis.

This painful condition may result in loss of vision for a few days. Pterygium, a growth of tissue that forms on the white of the eye, correlates directly to an individual's UV exposure.

Without treatment, this condition may require surgical treatment, the organization said.

A recent survey conducted by N3L Optics found that more than 40 percent of runners and 35 percent of water sports participants do not consistently wear sunglasses during these type of outdoor activities.

Fifty percent of men and 33 percent of women said they made it a priority to have the right sunglasses for their sport. Reflective surfaces like

snow, water, sand and asphalt can greatly increase the amount of ultraviolet radiation to which the body is exposed, the group said.

Ultraviolet damage is cumulative and has been linked to eye problems later in life, including tumors, cataracts and macular degeneration — an eye disease that currently has no cure.

The group advised all adults and children to wear sunglasses that block 100 percent of UV-A and UV-B rays — sunglasses without ultraviolet protection may shade the eyes but actually cause the pupils to dilate, allowing in even more harmful rays.

Internet

Breastfeeding linked to healthy infant gut

COLLEGE STATION, 30 April—Whether a mother feeds her newborn breast milk or formula is linked to differences in bacterial colonization affecting the immune system, US researchers say.

Study leader Robert Chapkin of the Texas A&M University said the human intestine is lined by epithelial cells that process nutrients and provide the first line of defense against food antigens and pathogens.

The researchers used transcriptome analysis to compare the intestines of 3-month-old-exclusively-breastfed or formula-fed infants, and they related this to their gut microbes.

Transcriptome analysis looks at the small percentage of the genetic code that is transcribed into RNA molecules and is a measure of what genes are actively making proteins. Concurrently the microbes were identified by genetic analysis.

The study published in the journal *Genome Biology* showed that the breastfed babies had a wider range of microbes in their gut than the formula-fed infants.

Internet



A model poses with a luxury vehicle at the Auto China 2012 exhibition in Beijing, on 26 April. As more and more Chinese buy cars, automakers say consumer tastes in the Asian nation have a growing influence on vehicle design the world over.—INTERNET

Health Tip: Why is my aging skin so dry?

As the typical person ages, the skin loses its plump, smooth appearance. Ever wonder why?

The Cleveland Clinic offers these potential explanations:

- * Not drinking enough.
- * Sun exposure.
- * Being in dry air.
- * Smoking.
- * Increasing stress.
- * Less active oil and sweat glands.
- * Taking medication that dries the skin.

Internet

Over 1,000 Cambodian youths dance for world record

PHNOM PENH, 30 April — More than one thousand young Cambodian people on Saturday afternoon performed “the Madison”, a popular dance during Khmer weddings and the Khmer New Year, in an attempt to break a world record, said an organizer.

The kingdom’s largest Madison dance lasted about 5 minutes at the public park in front of the Botumvatey pagoda in Phnom Penh,

capital of Cambodia.

Colin Spurway, project director of BBC Media Action, which organized the event, said the Guinness World Records recognized the largest Madison dance with 459 participants in Feucherolles, France on 18 June, 2011.

“Now, we try to break that record,” he told *Xinhua* after the event. “We will send documents and video

footage about the dance to the World Record body for consideration.”

According to the BBC Media Action’s press release, the Madison, a dance that Cambodians have made their own for more than 40 years, is particularly popular over Khmer weddings and Khmer New Year celebrations. It originated in the United States and France in the 1960s.

Xinhua



China has conducted another test-flight of its J-20 stealth fighter, which is also named the “Black Ribbon” by military fans.

XINHUA



Rescuers work near the wreckage of a destroyed bus on a highway in Fujioka, Gunma prefecture, north of Tokyo on 29 April, 2012. Police say the bus carrying dozens of holiday makers crashed on the highway while heading for Tokyo Disneyland, killing at least seven people and injuring dozens.

INTERNET

Seven killed as bus crashes on way to Tokyo Disneyland

TOKYO, 30 April — A bus carrying dozens of holidaymakers has crashed on a highway while heading for Tokyo Disneyland, killing seven passengers. Police say the other 38 passengers and the 43-year-old driver were injured, 13 of them seriously, in the accident Sunday morning on a highway in Gunma, north of Tokyo. The bus crashed into a roadside wall, with steel wall panels slicing its body in half.

Police are investigating the cause of the accident. Six of the dead were women in their 20s, and the seventh was a man in his 40s or 50s. Police were having difficulty identifying the mangled bodies. The passengers were mostly holidaymakers heading for Tokyo Disneyland as Japan headed into this week’s “Golden Week” holidays.— *Internet*

Saudi Arabia: bin Laden family let in on humanitarian grounds

JEDDAH, 30 April — Saudi Arabia has allowed the family of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden into the kingdom on humanitarian grounds, state media reported on Saturday, almost a year after US special forces killed the world’s most wanted man in Pakistan.

Pakistan deported the family this week, ending months of speculation about the fate of his wives and children who were detained by Pakistani security forces after the 2 May raid.

A Saudi official was quoted by the state *Saudi Press Agency (SPA)* as saying the family arrived in

the kingdom on Thursday. “Travel arrangements of Osama bin Laden’s family were facilitated based on the request of Bin Laden’s family in Saudi Arabia,” the official said. “Saudi Arabia dealt with the matter on a humanitarian, legal and administrative basis,” said the report.

A Pakistani court sentenced the women to 45 days in prison this month for entering Pakistan illegally and ordered their deportation after the end of the prison term, which began on 3 March when they were formally arrested.

The Saudi report did not say how many family

members had arrived in Jeddah but previous reports suggested that three widows, seven children and four grandchildren had been deported.

Their movements are followed closely by security officials because once outside Pakistan, they could shed some light on how the al-Qaeda leader managed to hide inside Pakistan for so long.

SPA quoted the Saudi official as saying however that “it was not appropriate to intrude on the privacy of the bin Laden family in the kingdom in any way”.

Reuters

Seven dead after minivan plunges into river in central China

WUHAN, 30 April — Seven people were killed after a minivan plunged into the Yangtze River in Hubei Province Saturday night, police said on Sunday.

The accident occurred at about 9 pm when the vehicle carrying eight people fell into the river in Guojiaba Township in Zigui County. One person was saved and the bodies of the rest passengers were all found as of 9 am Sunday, local police said. The cause of the accident is still under investigation.— *Xinhua*

Three dead, one missing in mishap during yacht race

LOS ANGELES, 30 April — Three crew members of a sailboat were found dead and a fourth person was missing Saturday after they ran into trouble during a yacht race off the coasts of California

and Mexico. The 37-foot Aegean was participating in the 125-mile Newport, Calif to Ensenada, Mexico, yacht race when vessels near the Coronado Islands in Mexico reported seeing debris from the sailboat Saturday morning, Coast Guard Petty Officer Henry Dunphy said.

By midafternoon, searchers found the bodies and debris from the Aegean, whose home port is Redondo Beach, Dunphy said. The Coast Guard said it was trying to determine what happened to the boat and doesn’t know

if it was in some sort of wreck. Dunphy said conditions were fine for sailing, with good visibility and ocean swells measuring 6 to 8 foot. The names of the dead were not released pending notification of next of kin.

A total of 210 boats were registered in the 65th annual yacht race, according to the Newport Ocean Sailing Association’s web site. The association’s commodore, reached by phone in Ensenada, told *The Associated Press* that he didn’t know the members of

the Aegean. “This has never happened in the entire 65 years of the race that I’m aware of,” Chuck Iverson said. “We’re all shocked by this whole event.”

The Coronado Islands are four small, largely uninhabited islands about 15 miles south of San Diego.

Earlier this month, five sailors died in the waters off Northern California after their 38-foot yacht was hit by waves and capsized during a race. The deadly accident near the Farallon Islands prompted the Coast Guard to temporarily stop races in ocean waters outside San Francisco Bay.

Internet

Three men held in Denmark for suspected terror plot

COPENHAGEN, 30 April — Three men arrested in connection with a terror investigation were held in custody for four weeks at a preliminary hearing at the Copenhagen City Court on Saturday.

The suspects, who were charged with illegal possession of automatic weapons and ammunition, did not appeal the judgment. They will be held in isolation until 10 May. The hearing was conducted behind closed doors as the police had requested to examine the case without the public following all details of their investigation.

The suspects have only been identified as a resident 22-year-old Jordanian national, a resident 23-year-old Turkish national and a

21-year-old Danish national resident in Egypt, according to PET, the Danish security and intelligence service. At the hearing, the 22-year-old acknowledged contributing to the illegal possession of weapons, while the other two men declared themselves not guilty.

The men were arrested in the Copenhagen area on Friday, following an action in connection with a terror investigation by PET. PET suspected the men were preparing for a terrorist act, but chose to pursue charges related only to illegal weapons possession.

The 22-year-old suspect met Thursday with an unknown man at the Hareskov local train station, where he arranged delivery of two AK-47 automatic rifles

and appropriate ammunition, according to reports from Danish news agency *Ritzau*. Late Thursday, the second suspect met the same unknown man at the same station, to collect the weapons and ammunition. On Friday morning, the second suspect met the third suspect at Herlev local train station to pass on the weapons, when they were arrested by PET. The first suspect was later arrested at his home in the Herlev area of Copenhagen.

The unknown man who delivered the weapons remains at large, *Ritzau* said. The Copenhagen police is also involved in the investigation to ensure any possible threats have been addressed and averted by the arrests.— *Xinhua*

The Chinese research vessel Dayang Yihao departed from the city of Sanya on Saturday, kicking off the country’s 26th oceanic expedition mission.



XINHUA

All forms of forced labour should be eliminated once and for all for the enhancing ...

(from page 1)

Currently, the Government is focusing on ensuring rights based on Social Justice for entire workers. So, the Government enacted Law, rules and regulations and permitted the formation of independent labour organizations to protect the rights of workers, to foster better relations among workers and between employers and workers.

Moreover, a new Social Security Law which could provide more social protection including the right of medical care, cash benefit, free medical care after retirement, family assistance, superannuation pension benefit and unemployment benefit, invalidity benefit, employment injury benefit, funeral benefit, survivor's benefit and benefits of social security housing project has been drafted.

Our elected government has been in the office for over a year and it is high time we should eliminate all forms of forced labour once and for all for the enhancing the eternal principles of justice, liberty, equality in the Union. Forced or compulsory labour shall mean all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty

and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily.

Therefore, the process of eradicating forced labour in Myanmar has been accelerated and International Labour Organization and the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar have launched a Joint Strategy for the absolute elimination of forced labour in Myanmar by 2015.

Esteemed workers,

In conclusion, I would like to urge all the workers and workers' organizations, employers' and employers' organizations to work together with the Union Government in unity having a strong determination in building a modern, developed democratic nation.

Exchange of letters signed between United Nations and Immigration & Population Ministry for 2014 Population and Housing Census in Myanmar



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and UNSG Mr Ban Ki-moon attend signing ceremony of Exchange of Letters of Immigration and Population for 2014 Population Housing Census in Myanmar.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April — Patron of Central Census Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addressed a signing ceremony of exchange of letters between the United Nations and the

Ministry of Immigration and Population for 2014 Population and Housing Census in Myanmar, held at Myat Taw Win Hotel here this morning.

The signing ceremony was attended by UN Secretary-

General Mr Ban Ki-moon, Under-UN Secretary-General and UN Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Myanmar Mr Vijay Nambiar and delegation members, Chairman of Central Census Commission Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, commission vice-chairmen and members and Myanmar Permanent Representative to the UN (New York) Ambassador U Than Swe.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said today's event is one of the most important milestones in Myanmar, as far as the population and housing census is concerned. From 1872 to 1941, Myanmar regularly collected census nationwide every ten years. The nationwide censuses were collected in 1973 and 1983 respectively. However, they could not be collected nationwide later for various reasons.

Knowing that correct population data are important for ongoing and future plans, the new government took essential steps to collect national census.

As for the forthcoming process for nationwide collection of census in 2014, the government, since taking office, has started the preparatory works for the census and latest data are expected to be announced in 2015, added the Vice-President.

He then assured that Myanmar will have close cooperation with UNFPA in order to get accurate data of international standard.

Then, UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon made a speech.

In the presence of the Vice-President and the UN Secretary-General, Union Minister U Khin Yi and Mr Vijay Nambiar signed the agreement and exchanged the notes.

After the ceremony, the Vice-President and the UN Secretary-General posed for a documentary photo together with those present.

Later, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended a breakfast hosted by the UN Secretary-General.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April — Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint met departmental personnel at the assembly hall of the ministry here this morning.

In his speech, the Union Minister stressed the need for the ministry to appoint more educated youths in the field of giving and taking responsibility by reassessing its administrative sector and reviewing the capability of service personnel and cooperation.

He also spoke on the need for the service personnel to respect the people as they are enjoying income derived from the taxes paid by the people and to have relations with the people to be able to address their difficulties and problems.

MNA

Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint meets staff of Ministry of Cooperatives.

MNA

Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries meets departmental personnel



Coord meeting of agricultural sector's development held

YANGON, 30 April — The coordination meeting for agricultural sector of Myanmar Agricultural

Development Bank for 2011-2012 fiscal year of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was held at the head

office of the bank on 26th and 27th April.

U Thein Swe, Managing Director of Myanmar

Agricultural Development Bank gave instructions on collecting of the remaining loan disbursed in rainy season in the previous year, systematic savings of farmers and disbursement of loans in 2012 rainy season.

MNA

A moderate earthquake jolts

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April — The Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced that a moderate earthquake of magnitude (5.2) Richter Scale with its epicenter at Myanmar Sea about (250) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (19) hrs (37) min (16) sec MST today.—MNA

EU should fully lift its economic sanction on Myanmar...

(from page 1)

The UN would assist in technology, managing and financial sectors for taking the census in Myanmar in 2014, promoting relations between Myanmar and international community in dealing with trade and business sectors and in elimination of opium cultivation through UNODC, he added. He also expressed that he welcomed the efforts of the government for national reconciliation and would encourage the efforts. He also pledged that to be able to take part more in peace making processes in Myanmar, the UN would distribute peace funds to the Union Government and region and state governments and the UN would assist in clearing land mines and would create opportunities for the UN and INGOs to be able to provide humanitarian aids to conflict areas. He also welcomed the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission and expressed his hope for full cooperation with the UNHCR and pledged the UN's technical assistance to Myanmar. He was delighted that the Vice-President would attend the RIO + (UN Conference on Sustainable Development) and invited the President to attend the UN General Assembly in September and hoped that the President would attend the assembly, Mr Ban Ki-moon said.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein expressed his thanks saying that democratic transition in Myanmar would speed up thanks to the assistance and encouragement of the UN and pledged that Myanmar would make more efforts for gaining a mature democracy. He continued to say that there are two processes for peace and stability in Myanmar and they are the process for political stability and the process for elimination of internal conflicts.

Regarding the political stability, the government was keeping in relations with all political parties to establish an inclusive political process and had reached a stage the government and the National League for Democracy could work together, he said. The Government would continue its efforts to be able to practice the democratic principles and freedom correctly, he added.

Regarding ceasing internal conflicts, the Government could achieve a stage to work together with 10 armed groups, out of 11, for ceasefire and peace processes, he said. He expressed his hope that the government could make peace with the KIO as the peace making processes were continued despite differences in some facts. The President continued to say that Ministry of Border Affairs was carrying out the tasks to supply humanitarian aids to the conflict areas and would step up cooperation with international non-governmental organizations including UNDP, WFP, ICRC in supplying humanitarian aids, resettlement, livelihood and creating jobs and social assistance to the areas when the areas enjoyed peace.

The President urged the UN to participate in the rural development and poverty alleviation tasks which included in priority list in Myanmar. He also urged the UN to provide necessary assistance with taking the census in Myanmar as the country has received technical and training assistance from ESCAP.

He also urged the UN Secretary-General to encourage international economic organizations to promote more relations and to do investment in Myanmar regarding the trade and economic sectors in Myanmar. He also urged the UN Secretary-General to urge the EU to fully lift its economic sanction on Myanmar as it suspended the sanction while most countries had already lifted economic sanction on Myanmar.

He also pledged that the government would cooperate with UNODC and neighbouring countries to grow opium-substitute crops and to eliminate drug abuse in Myanmar.

In the national reconciliation processes, ministries, Union-level peace making groups and international organizations were cooperating together and all ethnic organizations were working together with the government to sign final eternal peace agreements at the parliament, he added. The NLD would have rights to participate in the processes in the parliament, he said. He also expressed wishes to promote strengthen relations between Myanmar and the UN and to get more participation in world's peace making process of the UN.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives UN Secretary-General and party

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—A delegation led by UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon currently in Myanmar met Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann at Zabuthiri Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building in Hluttaw Complex here this morning.

Also present at the call

were Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, chairmen and members of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.

They cordially discussed cooperation of the UN with Myanmar and continuous provision of assistance to Myanmar.

MNA



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker

Thura U Shwe Mann meets

*UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon
at Zabuthiri Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building
in Hluttaw Complex.*

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives High Representative of EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives High Representative of European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Mrs Catherine Ashton and party at Zabuthiri Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs

and Security Policy Mrs Catherine Ashton at Zabuthiri Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building in Hluttaw Complex here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees and members and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.

Both sides held discussion on cooperation matters between European Parliament and Myanmar Hluttaw.—MNA

MTF President's Cup Youth Tennis Tournament 12-16 May

YANGON, 30 April—Myanmar Tennis Federation will organize the MTF President's Cup Youth Tennis Tournament at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township from 12 to 16 May.

The tournament will be categorized as the U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-18 boys' and girls' events.

The federation will issue travel allowance and arrange food and accommodation for the tennis players from regions and states.

Those wishing to take part in the tournament may dial 372360, 381992 and 381992 (Ext-0) for information of the tournament.—MNA

President U Thein Sein and wife host dinner to UNSG, wife and party

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win hosted a dinner to the delegation led by United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this evening.

Also present at the dinner were Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Soe Win, Union ministers and departmental heads. The delegation led by the UNSG and wife was accompanied by senior officers.

Before and during the dinner, the artistes of Fine Arts Department under the Ministry of Culture presented traditional songs and dances.

Next, President U Thein Sein presented an album on the visit to UNSG Mr Ban Ki-moon.

After that, President U Thein Sein and UNSG Mr Ban Ki-moon presented flower basket to the artistes and posed for documentary photo with them.—MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win host a dinner to the delegation led by United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.

MNA



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, UN delegation led by UN SG hold talks



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint receives UN delegation led by UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint met UN delegation led by the UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon at the hall of Amyotha Hluttaw at 11.15 am today.

Also present at the call together with Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint were Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, chairmen and secretaries of the committees from Amyotha Hluttaw, officials from Hluttaw office while Mr Ban Ki-moon was accompanied by permanent representative of Myanmar to the UN U Than Swe and Resident Representative of the UN and its agencies Mr Ashok Nigam.

During the meeting, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint clarified the works of the Hluttaw which is set up in accordance with the constitution, meetings of the Hluttaw and undertakings to promote human rights of Myanmar citizens as part of cooperation with the UN. The two sides also cordially discussed matters related to implementation of tasks of Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee and Committee for Public Complaints and Appeals and promotion of cooperation with the UN.

MNA

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw IRC receives Member of German Parliament and party

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo received members of Parliament of Germany led by Mr Manfred Grund, a member of Parliament of Federal Republic of Germany at No.1 meeting hall of Credentials Hall of Hluttaw Complex here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Pyithu Hluttaw Committees' Chairmen U Thurein Zaw and U Win Sein, Secretary U Maung Toe and members.

Both sides cordially discussed

promotion of further cementing relationships between Myanmar and Germany and cooperation of Hluttaws between the two countries.

MNA

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo receives Mr Manfred Grund, a member of Parliament of Federal Republic of Germany at No.1 Credentials Hall of Hluttaw Complex.

MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw third regular session concludes successfully Address delivered, bill put on record, clarifications on Hluttaw's undertakings made, Joint Committee's report submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—Third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for 29th day at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here at 11.50 am today, attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 600 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives.

An address was delivered, one bill put on record, clarifications made on Hluttaw's undertakings and report of Joint Hluttaw Rights Committee submitted at today's session.

Visiting United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon addressed the Hluttaw. In his address, he said:

What a privilege it is for me to take part in this extraordinary session of the Union Assembly. And what an honour to be the first outside guest to address this august assembly. I believe deeply in the potential of this great land. Above all, I believe in the future of the great people of Myanmar.

That is why, as Secretary-General of the United Nations, I have sought always to help Myanmar open once again to the wider world. We have worked for constructive engagement. We have worked publicly...and we have worked privately...to help advance peace, democracy and development and mobilize international support. This is my third visit as UN Secretary-General. In 2008, I came in the wake of Cyclone Nargis. In those difficult days, the UN helped bring international aid. Even then, amid so much hardship, we sensed the potential for dramatic change.

I returned once again...in 2009... and spoke frankly, as a friend, about the need for dialogue and reconciliation...about the importance of pursuing peace, development and human rights as different faces of the same future...a future held dear by all the people of Myanmar. Today, I return to a new Myanmar...a Myanmar that is making history. The dramatic changes sweeping Myanmar have inspired the world. And we know that your ambitions for the future reach higher still. I have no doubt... that Myanmar will quickly regain its place as a respected and responsible member of the international community.

I have no doubt...that Myanmar will quickly catch up with its Asian neighbours and our fast-changing world. And I have no doubt...that Myanmar has within it a vast potential to become a 21st century model for peace, democracy and prosperity. I am here to urge you to stay on that path. And I call on the international community to work with you. I am here to tell the people of Myanmar: You can count on the United Nations. You can count on me. Together, we will help Myanmar build a new and better future for all its people.

And, I am here to say...and to say clearly; the road before you is exciting. But it will not always be easy. Eventual success will rest largely with this Assembly. This Parliament can transform people's aspirations for democracy and a better life into concrete change. The perils and pitfalls are many. There is no single formula for success. In this Golden Land, blessed with great human and natural resources, the teachings of the Buddha have offered guidance through the ages.

Your sages have long known the Iddhipadis, the basic rules of success: Chanda—Diligence and will; Citta—Right Intent and attitude; Viriya—Perseverance in action; Vimamsa or panna—wisdom. These transcendent values remain your moral compass. In our wider multicultural world, they are a source of inspiration for us all. Let me share with you how I believe these four principles can guide our work together. First, will—political will...leadership.

I commend President U Thein Sein, for his vision, leadership and courage to put Myanmar on the path of change. I salute Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the National League for Democracy and others for joining the political process and participating in the recent elections. For so many years, you displayed resilience and fortitude that for generations have distinguished the Myanmar people. We know that Myanmar can meet the challenge of reconciliation, democracy and development. But it will take your full determination and your common partnership. The path of change is fragile and uncertain, but it is indeed too narrow to turn back.



29th day third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in progress.—MNA

The regional and global economies are growing; so, too, are the expectations of people—especially young people. Let us work together to meet all of these challenges by summoning the political will to make lasting change. Elections and open government are the keystones of democracy. But they must be matched with a healthy and vibrant political climate. This leads me to the second principle, the need for a positive attitude in the face of differences. President U Thein Sein and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi have demonstrated the confidence and statesmanship needed to look beyond politics to the larger interests of the nation. It is not surprising for there to be differences among parties—differences both big and small, as we now see regarding the oath-taking of newly-elected members of Parliament. I am confident that you will resolve these issues by keeping the focus on the longer-term interests of the country—and the immediate needs of the people who look to you for leadership and results.

In a country as complex and diverse as Myanmar, there must be unity of purpose. Confrontation and repression were tried—and they failed. President U Thein Sein speaks of the need to mobilize the “strong force” of a “new political generation for a mature democracy”. Across Myanmar society, the generational shift now taking place – including within the Tatmadaw—requires more understanding, more solidarity and more cooperation from all. The reform agenda gives you a broad framework for addressing different policy priorities – from development to the rule of law, from peace and stability to human rights. This Parliament is at the very centre of your country's democratic transition. It is here that representatives from various ethnicities, religions, and institutional backgrounds come together. It is here that different parties will need to join hands to write an inclusive and forward-looking national agenda for change. Under the chairmanship of Speakers U Khin Aung Myint and Thura U Shwe Mann, the parliamentary framework offers a new space to do this. For Parliament to become the wellspring of democracy, however, it must be fed from many sources. The waters of genuine participatory development must come together in this place. Above all, that means listening to people. It means providing citizens with the political space to take part in national politics at all levels.

Women. Young people. The rural poor. Ethnic and religious communities. Media and civil society. All have a role in building the new Myanmar. This brings me to the third principle—perseverance in action. There is no substitute for action. But action cannot deliver desired

results without perseverance. For the people of Myanmar, expectations are high. They expect this Parliament to not only advance reform, but to accelerate the pace of change. That will require drawing on the final principle: wisdom. True leadership is grounded in wisdom. Each country must walk the path of progress in ways that best suit the needs and aspirations of its people.

For Myanmar, wisdom means parties making the most of what they have. It means not getting locked into rigid dogma or inflexible ideological positions. Wisdom means flexibility in accommodating competing demands in a way that allows all to move forward. There are important milestones ahead. By 2014, Myanmar's chairmanship of ASEAN will raise expectations and responsibilities that come with regional leadership.

By 2015, national elections will take place. At this critical moment, both Myanmar and the international community must work together. We must do so in the name of the people of Myanmar. Those yearning for change. Those braving great risks. Those never willing to give up on their dream for democracy, their thirst for change. Now we must match our actions with their ambitions. There may be differences in pace and approach, but everyone is a partner in this effort.

That is why today, I want to outline a four-point Agenda for Action to advance national reconciliation and the democratic transition at this historic moment. First, ordinary people must quickly see the dividends of democratic transition in their daily lives. The recent decision to increase investments in health and education is a good start. More action is needed across the socio-economic spectrum. That means a focus on job creation and lifting millions out of rural poverty. These are priorities of the people of Myanmar. They must also be for this Parliament. I welcome action taken so far by the international community. But more needs to be done. Today, I urge the international community to go even further in lifting, easing or suspending trade restrictions and other sanctions.

Second, Myanmar needs a substantial increase in international development assistance as well as foreign direct investment. Today, Myanmar receives a small percentage of per capita development assistance compared to other neighbouring countries. The best way for the international community to support reform is to invest in it. At the same time, this Parliament must continue to create conditions to ensure greater aid effectiveness. Learning from the experiences of its neighbours, Myanmar must look

(See page 11)



United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon delivers an address at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw third regular session...

(from page 10)

for ways to develop its natural resources while supporting its emerging manufacturing and services industries, enhancing governance in both the public and private sectors, and preserving the precious landscape and ecology of the country.

Let us work for policies that balance equitable development, so that all communities and regions can share in the benefits of growth. Now is the time for the people of Myanmar to share in the economic dynamism of this region. Third, more action is needed to advance a fully national reconciliation process. This requires progress on a number of difficult issues. Among them, resettlement of displaced communities, security guarantees for various ethnic and political groups and the release of political prisoners.

The positive momentum has to be maintained through steady progress towards lasting peace that is anchored in equality and justice. This is

the way to build trust and restore confidence among the government and the country's diverse ethnic, political and religious groups. I commend the progress made by the Government and ethnic groups in achieving ceasefires, and encourage both sides to rapidly reconcile all outstanding issues. Meanwhile, the situation in Kachin State is inconsistent with the successful conclusion of ceasefire agreements with all the other major groups. The Kachin people should no longer be denied the opportunity that a ceasefire and a political agreement can bring for peace and development. Let me acknowledge the humanitarian access that we now have in Kachin State. That access must continue. Success in national reconciliation will hinge on how these issues are discussed in Parliament and within the newly elected state and regional parliaments. Fourth, a new discourse is needed to develop an inclusive democratic culture

based on the rule of law and respect for human rights, especially those of free association and free speech. There must be safeguards for civil society and protections for the rights of ethnic minorities. The establishment of a new National Human Rights Commission is only a start.

Everywhere in the world, governments have learned they cannot do the job alone. Progress takes partnership. The United Nations stands ready to help in every way we can. I welcome Myanmar's desire for guidance and advice from the United Nations and other multilateral institutions. Initiatives by the UN Global Compact, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and the UN Office of Drug and Control show how partnership can multiply national efforts. Similarly, the UNDP must begin a normal country programme for Myanmar. I am pleased to announce a new partnership by the UN to support Myanmar's first population census in thirty years – a process with far-reaching implications for the country's development.

These include expertise in peace-building, rule of law, electoral assistance, anti-corruption and democratic practices.

Closer partnership between Myanmar and the United Nations is natural. Myanmar, after all, has an important place in the history of our Organization. You are not only a founding member of the UN, but also an early contributor to our peacekeeping operations.

Today, let us renew and strengthen our partnership for the years to come. As Secretary-General, I follow in the footsteps of a great son of this nation, U Thant. He constantly reminded the world to overcome violence, to rise above ego, and to look to our common humanity. He believed in our mutual obligations to one another and stressed the need, as he said, "to understand each other and to develop a spirit of One World." Today, the world needs Myanmar's contribution to help address the global challenges of our time. Answering the call is in your hands.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker spoke words of thanks to the UNSG for delivering the speech which was then put on record by the Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw put **Important Commodity and Service Bill** which was deemed to be approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as both Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw approved it and sent to the President on 27 April to enact it as a law.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said the third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was held for 29 days between 30 January and 30 April 2012. He explained legislation works, the main duty of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in the third regular session. In the third regular session, eight bills approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and three others deemed to be approved by it were signed

and enacted by the President.

Eight Pyidaungsu Hluttaw-approved bills are Ward or Village Administration Law, 2012 Union Supplementary Budget Law, 2012-2013 Fiscal Year National Plan, 2012 Union Budget Law, Law Amending Ward or Village Administration Law, Environmental Conservation Law, Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Law and Farmland Law.

Three bills deemed to be approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are Union Election Commission Law, Labour Dispute Settlement Law and Families of Disabled Tatmadawmen and Fallen or Died Tatmadaw Welfare Law. 2011-2012 Fiscal Year National Plan Bill was put on record by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The Important Commodity and Service Bill deemed to be approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and put on record earlier this morning had been sent to the President to sign and enact it. Six proposals were discussed and approved and one question related to Myanmar-Bangladesh territorial waters answered.

Chairman of Joint Hluttaw Rights Committee U Mya Nyein submitted report of the committee regarding interview with Union Agriculture and Irrigation Minister U Myint Hlaing by writer Ma Ma that run in 23 May issue of Hot News Journal.

The report finds the interview between writer Ma Ma and the Union Minister could lead to misunderstanding, mistrust and disrespect of the people to the entire Hluttaw and MPs. The Union Minister himself had begged pardon of the Hluttaw if there was any mistake in this interview for it was the family-style

frank discussion on agro industry with no intent to speak of the Hluttaw. The report requests MPs to accept apology of the Union Minister and demands the Union Minister in person apologize MPs at the Hluttaw in session, informing his attitude and point to the Hluttaw.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing made clarification, saying a complete interview was published again in the Leyar Sipwar Journal and special appeal had been made regarding his answers to a journalist made with genuine goodwill to farmers and their families who constitute above 70 percent of the whole population of the country. In response to the calls for explaining and apologizing regarding the piece of writing in Hot News Journal, a detailed explanation had been made with original voice record on 27 April. And he said he is ready to express regret if necessary.

He reiterated his request for forgiveness from the Hluttaw Representatives.

The two Hluttaw Speakers decided to postpone case whether committees, commissions and organizations formed by the Hluttaws are Union level organizations as a broad study is needed, and discussion and approval of 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Bill and 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Bill to the fourth regular session. There would be separate sessions of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw on 2 May (Wednesday) and it would be further informed to MPs after negotiation of the two speakers.

Today's session concluded at 1.10 pm and the third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw successfully concluded.

MNA

Union-Level peace making group hosts working lunch to UN SG and party

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April—United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and party enjoyed a working lunch hosted by Union-Level peace making group at Myat Taw Win Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone here this noon.

At the luncheon were leader of Union-Level peace making group Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min, Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Union Minister for Electric Power-2 U Khin Maung Soe and members of the group the deputy ministers including the delegation members.

On the occasion, United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and the Union-level peace making group leader extended greetings to each other.

After that, they had the working lunch.—MNA

Union FM holds talks with German counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April — Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin held a meeting with a German delegation led by Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Guido Westerwelle of Federal Republic of Germany at his office here today.

During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on matters related to promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation.

MNA



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (302)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (302) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.5.2012 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MINDORO VOY NO (123)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MINDORO VOY NO (123) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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: TOKO KAIUN KAISLA LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV POSITIVE STAR VOY NO (71)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV POSITIVE STAR VOY NO (71) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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: EASTERN-CAR LINER S'PORE
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**5.6-magnitude
quake hits near
the east coast
of Honshu,
Japan**

HONG KONG, 30 April — An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter scale jolted near the east coast of Honshu, Japan at 15:02:19 GMT on Sunday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 10.50km, was initially determined to be at 39.7818 degrees north latitude and 142.1724 degrees east longitude.—Xinhua



Pakistani police commandos take part in an operation against criminal gangs in the troubled Lyari area in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi, on 29 April, 2012. Over 12 people including police officials were killed and several other including two journalists were injured in the two days operation by Pakistani police swoop in the neighborhood infested with criminal gangs.

XINHUA

**213 hospitalized in Mexican
food poisoning**

MEXICO CITY, 30 April — As many as 213 people, mostly children, have been hospitalized due to food poisoning in Acapulco, a major sea port on the Pacific coast of Mexico, an official said on Sunday.

They were afflicted by vomiting, diarrhea and high fever after eating food at a Children's Day event at an elementary school, said Lazaro Mazon Alonso, a health official of Guerrero state, where the resort is located.

Alonso said most victims were in stable condition and an official report on the cause of the incident would be released on Monday. The victims were being treated at different clinics around the resort, 300 km southwest of Mexico City, but no deaths have been reported, Alonso added. The food served at the event consisted of roast beef, spaghetti and cake, which initially sickened 84 people, including three adults. The number of victims rose to 213, including seven adults, by 11 pm local time Saturday (0500 GMT Sunday), Alonso said.—Xinhua

**18 dead, eight
injured in
China road
accident**

YINCHUAN, 30 April — A road accident has killed 18 people and injured eight others in north China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region on Monday morning, local authorities said. The accident happened at 7:08 am when an Iveco van collided with a truck in Wangtuan Township of Tongxin County, said sources with the county government. The cause of the crash is being investigated.—Xinhua

**China's railways experience heavy traffic as
May Day holiday begins**

BEIJING, 30 April — As the three-day International Labour Day holiday begins in China, a record number of 8.2 million passengers traveled by train on Sunday, China's Ministry of Railways said.

In response to the surge in passengers, the ministry arranged 303 extra trains on Sunday to provide sufficient transport capacity.

The ministry on Friday predicted that the country's railway network will carry around 31.1 million passengers during the holiday. This year's International Labor Day holiday runs from Sunday to Tuesday.—Xinhua

**Two policemen killed, three injured in armed
robbery in Egypt's Sinai**

CAIRO, 30 April — Two policemen were killed and three others injured on Sunday during an armed robbery on a post vehicle in Egypt's Arish, capital of North Sinai Governorate, local security sources told Xinhua.

The policemen were securing the post vehicle on its way from Arish to Bear al-Abd zone, when anonymous armed men attacked them in a small truck, and robbed the vehicle before running away. The injured were transferred to the Arish public hospital, as investigations are underway.—Xinhua



Technicians work at the control centre of the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in Xichang, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 30 April, 2012. China Monday morning successfully launched two satellites from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre into space with a Long March-3B carrier rocket, the 12th and 13th of its indigenous global navigation and positioning network known as Beidou, or Compass system, the launch centre said.—XINHUA



The One World Trade Center and Manhattan skyline is seen from New Jersey on 29 April, 2012. A steel column will be hoisted atop the One World Trade Center on Monday, making it New York's tallest building, local media reported. The first column of the 100th floor of One World Trade Center will bring the tower to a height of 1,271 feet (387 meters), making it 21 feet (6 meters) higher than the Empire State Building, media said. — REUTERS

**Shootout claims 2 lives in South Africa anti-rhino
poaching operation**

JOHANNESBURG, 30 April — A policeman and a game ranger were killed in an exchange of gunfire during an anti-rhino poaching operation in South Africa's Kruger National Park, authorities said on Sunday. A gunman opened fire at the policeman, who returned fire and fatally wounded the shooter, said Police spokesman Colne Vishnu Naidoo. The shootout took place on Saturday morning on the southern part of the giant park near the Mozambican border, Naidoo said.

The policeman, whose name was being withheld, was searching for suspected rhino poachers when he came under fire by the gunman who was in fact an on-duty South

Africa National Parks game ranger, according to Naidoo. An investigation has been launched to determine the circumstances and cause of the incident. The Kruger National Park has borne the brunt of rhino poaching in South Africa. Since the beginning of this year, 111 rhinos have been killed in the park, according to the environmental department.

Nationwide, the record of rhinos poached in 2012 stands at the disturbing figure of 181, while 113 suspected poachers have been arrested, the department said. Last year, 232 suspected poachers were arrested in South Africa, including 26 who died in clashes with the authorities.—Xinhua

More than 100 turn out for dog wedding

More than 100 people turned up at a California country club to witness the unusual wedding of a pair of small and furry lovers — two dogs. Ernie Rubin's dog, Scruffy, donned a custom couture dress, leash and veil made by Jan Farber for the canine wedding Sunday at the Palm Desert Resort Country Club; while Ann Carter dressed her dog, Snickers, in a doggie tuxedo designed by Spoiled Dog Design. The (Palm Springs, Calif) Desert Sun reported on Wednesday.

The wedding came complete with a cake, open bar and a reception following the ceremony.

Rubin and Carter, who used the ceremony to collect donations for the Orphan Pet Oasis Humane Society of the Desert in North Palm Springs, said they originally planned a

small wedding, but the event grew as more and more people asked to attend.

"The whole thing just took on a life of its own and kept growing and growing," Rubin said. "But that was OK because the donations we collected for the shelter were just amazing."



Bakers and their supporters hold a giant sausage roll as they protest opposite Downing Street in central London April 26, 2012. Hundreds of British bakers wearing chefs hats and carrying placards converged on Prime Minister David Cameron's official residence on Thursday to say his plan for higher sales tax on their products was half baked.

Man knocked from scooter chair, ticketed

A 76-year-old Connecticut man who was knocked from his scooter chair when it was struck by a car was ticketed by police. Police said Thomas Galvin was driving his motorized chair north in the southbound lane of Thomaston Avenue in Waterbury about 4 pm Tuesday when he was struck by a 1992 Ford Crown Victoria exiting a gas station, the Waterbury Republican American reported on Wednesday. An ambulance took Galvin to Saint Mary's Hospital, where he was treated for non-serious injuries.

Galvin was issued citations for improper operation of a motor-driven cycle on the roadway and violation of a permit provision. Police said Galvin does not have a medical prescription for the chair.

Cab driver refuses to take shoplifters

Police in Massachusetts said two suspected shoplifters were busted when a taxi cab driver refused to give them a ride home with their ill-gotten gains.

Salem police said they were called to the Walmart store about 7:30 pm Tuesday on a report of two shoplifters fleeing the store with four cases of beer, two cases of diapers and a case of baby formula, the New Hampshire Union Leader in Manchester reported on Wednesday.

Investigators said the men had called a cab to pick them up at the store, but the driver, sensing something was up, refused to give them a ride.

Officers chased Shaun Klier, 29, of Lawrence, Mass, to the parking lot of a nearby gas station and John Murphy, 46, of Lawrence, was arrested in the parking lot of a nearby fitness centre. Klier was charged with theft and a probation violation. Murphy, who allegedly lied to officers about his name, was charged with theft, false reports to law enforcement and resisting arrest.

Ice breaks, contest winner not yet known

Officials with Alaska's Nenana Ice Classic, which asks people to guess when the Tanana River ice will go out, said it will be a week before the winner is known.

The officials said the ice went out at 8:39 pm Monday, making the winning time guess 7:39 pm, as the contest does not go by daylight time, the Fairbanks (Alaska) Daily News-Miner reported on Wednesday.

Ice Classic manager Cherrie Forness said workers are still taking down all the names and guesses from more than 200,000 tickets sold from February to April.

"It will be about a week before we know how many winners there are," Forness said.

News Album

Courtney Love's art on display

NEW YORK, 30 April—Musician Courtney Love says her first art exhibit in New York City takes a look at her relationships and features women in vulnerable mental states.

"And She's Not Even Pretty," which opens Thursday at the Fred Torres Collaborations gallery, includes more than 45 works in colored pencil, pastel and watercolor, a release from the gallery said.

Love called the collection a "Kurt-free zone," referring to her marriage with late rocker Kurt Cobain, the *Huffington Post* reported on Friday. Instead, she said the works take an inward look at her relationships, such as her friendship with actress Gwyneth Paltrow.

"A lot of this collection is about one romance," Love said without identifying the subject of said romance.

Anne Pasternak, president and artistic director of Creative Time, an organization that commissions public arts projects, said the drawings bare it all. "As Courtney always does."

"With pure line, colour and raw emotion, Courtney Love makes drawings of turmoil and contradictions. Sometimes whimsical and carefree, they too express dark psychological states. Sometimes coy and sexually alluring, they ultimately speak of her vulnerability and longing for fairytale romance," Pasternak said.

Internet



Musician Courtney Love

Norah Jones inspired by Elvis

LOS ANGELES, 30 April—Singer Norah Jones says she finds inspiration from Elvis Presley and his Graceland home in Memphis, US, for her music.

The 33-year-old is a huge fan of the late King of Rock 'n' Roll and says everyone should visit Presley's Graceland home at least once in their lives for inspiration.

"I love it in Memphis. It's the most amazing city full of warm people and great food. Everybody should visit Elvis' home Graceland once in their lives and while they're at it they should take a trip to the Sun Records museum. It's the

record label that launched Elvis, Johnny Cash and Jerry Lee Lewis," contactmusic.com quoted her as saying.

Jones, daughter of legendary Indian sitar player Pt. Ravi Shankar, is more inspired by artists from the 1950s and 1960s than modern musicians.

She often dreams of hosting her idols at a dinner party.

She said: "I'm really inspired by other music and musicians. My fantasy dinner party would include Willie Nelson, Ray Charles and Billie

Singer Norah Jones

Holiday. They're just some of the people I look up to. I have about 50 musical icons."

Internet



Sir Elton is 'surprised' and 'disappointed' over Nikita Lawsuit

WASHINGTON, 30 April—The 'baseless' lawsuit accusing Sir Elton John of stealing the lyrics to their hit song Nikita has left him 'surprised' and 'disappointed'.

Guy Hobbs has filed a copyright violation lawsuit in Illinois, claiming that Sir Elton's 1985 chartbuster

'Nikita' that was penned in collaboration with Taupin has uncanny similarities to his own track Natasha.

In the court papers that he has filed Hobbs says that he came up with the tune, about his love affair with a Russian cruise ship waitress, and then had it copyrighted before sending it out to various publishing companies, including Big Pig. Hobbs claims of having composed the song three years prior to 'Nikita'.

On the other hand representatives for both Sir Elton and Taupin have dismissed the suit as "completely merit less"

"Sir Elton John and Mr Bernie Taupin were surprised and disappointed to learn of the lawsuit for copyright infringement brought against them by Guy Hobbs concerning the lyrics of their 80s hit Nikita.

"Sir Elton and Mr Taupin do not know the plaintiff, nor did they make use of any song lyrics he claims to have written when they wrote Nikita. In



Sir Elton John

short, the suit is completely meritless.

The fact that Hobbs has chosen to wait more than 26 years after the release of Nikita to bring this lawsuit calls his motives into question. Sir Elton John and Mr Taupin fully expect to prevail against this baseless claim," Contactmusic.com quoted a statement issued to the *New York Post*. However Hobbs alleged that it took him two decades to take legal action because he moved to Africa in 1984.—Internet

Winstone worked for free in daughter's film

LONDON, 30 April—Actor Ray Winstone worked for free in the movie "Elfie Hopkins" after his daughter Jaime asked him to make an appearance. The film is about an aspiring teen detective who finds herself caught up in a grisly case and the 55-year-old plays the role of a Butcher Bryn in the film.

"I don't think we could quite afford my dad. I think it was really lovely for him to be involved and it was a real honour to act with someone like him," Jamie told thesun.co.uk.—Internet



Actor Ray Winstone

Gibson has 'a little bit of a temper'

BURBANK, 30 April—Mel Gibson admitted he has "a little bit of a temper" in response to screenwriter Joe Eszterhas' accusation the actor screamed anti-Semitic profanities.

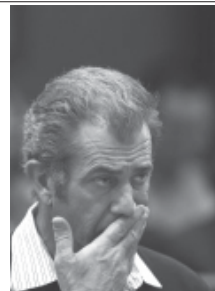
Gibson appeared Friday on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and discussed the incident that occurred earlier this month with the screenwriter, MSNBC reported.

Eszterhas wrote the screenplay for "Maccabees," about Jewish icon Judah Maccabee, and Gibson is producing.

Gibson said he had been "peeved" because there was a delay in the script. Eszterhas released an audio tape of Gibson yelling at him.

"Was it just you swearing at the guy?" Leno asked about the tape.

"Yeah, pretty much!" Gibson said. "You know, maybe you don't know this about me, but I've got a little bit of a temper."—Internet



Mel Gibson

Real sight La Liga title, Barca hit seven

MADRID, 30 April — Real Madrid edged closer to their first league title in four years with a 3-0 win over Sevilla on Sunday, but Barcelona ensured their celebrations were put on hold with a 7-0 mauling of Rayo Vallecano. Karim Benzema struck a second half brace after Cristiano Ronaldo had given Real the lead to beat Sevilla as the Madrid side took their record-breaking haul of league goals for the season to 112.

Victory against Athletic Bilbao on Wednesday will guarantee a first title since 2008 for Jose Mourinho's team. "It was an important win and the team deserves to be champions as the players have shown their mentality and character," said Real assistant coach Aitor Karanka. Referring to their Champions League exit at the hands of Bayern Munich, he added: "The players went into the game tired and down but they responded well, even though winning the league will not cure anything."

"We will go out looking to win games even when we are the champions, if that happens, as we only have one plan. It will be fantastic to win the league and it is the most important



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo from Portugal, right, scores his goal besides Sevilla's Cala, during a Spanish La Liga soccer match at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, on 29 April, 2012. — INTERNET

objective at the moment." Mourinho, looking to wrap up the championship as quickly as possible, fielded his strongest side with the only change from the Bayern match being the introduction of Esteban Granero for Sami Khedira. — Internet

London Olympics 2012

London 2012 Olympic soccer tickets go on sale

LONDON, 30 April — Some 1.4 million Olympic football tickets will go on sale from Monday, the BBC said here on Sunday. Olympics organizers confirmed the tickets will be available from 11:00 BST, with the sales window due to stay open until 23:00 BST on 6 May.

A further one million tickets to other Olympic events will go on sale in mid-May. Meanwhile, organizers have admitted only 10,000 tickets have been sold for the first event of the Olympics. The only football matches for which tickets will not be offered on Monday are Britain vs. Uruguay, the men's quarterfinal, the men's semifinal, and both finals.

Xinhua

International Sports

Badminton horse trials cancelled due to rain

LONDON, 30 April — Organisers cancelled this year's Badminton Horse Trials, arguably the world most prestigious annual three-day event, saying Monday there was "no chance" of the ground drying in time for that would have been a key part of many riders' Olympic preparations. The competition, which takes place in the grounds of Badminton House in Gloucestershire, south-west England, was due to start on Friday.

As well as the upcoming London Olympics Games, this year's Badminton had been given added significance by the fact Britain's world number one William Fox-Pitt was gunning for the £220,000 (\$358,000)

Rolex Grand Slam prize awarded for any rider who wins consecutive Burghley, Kentucky and Badminton titles. Fox-Pitt added the Kentucky title on Sunday to his Burghley victory seven months ago, both aboard Parklane Hawk. But his chance of a clean sweep has now been dashed.

"The recent exceptional rainfall has left the ground at Badminton totally waterlogged and partially flooded," Badminton director Hugh Thomas said Monday. "Further rain is due this week, leaving no chance of the ground drying out. "Very sadly, therefore, the 2012 Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials has been cancelled." — Internet

Tottenham cruise to win over Blackburn

Goals from Rafael van der Vaart and Kyle Walker seal victory over Rovers

LONDON, 30 April — Tottenham Hotspur 2-0 Blackburn Rovers. Tottenham moved back into fourth place in the table with a comfortable win over struggling Blackburn in the Barclays Premier League.

Rafael van der Vaart opened the scoring from close range midway through the first half after Gareth Bale's effort had been cleared off the line, while William Gallas headed against the bar in the opening period.

Kyle Walker, who had missed from close range in the first minute of the match, ensured Tottenham of the three points with a superbly struck free-kick that flew past Paul Robinson.

Blackburn struggled to carve out any goalscoring opportunities and they remain three points off safety with only two matches remaining. — Internet



Tottenham's Rafael van der Vaart broke the deadlock midway through the first half. — INTERNET



Russia's Maria Sharapova poses for photos with the winner's prize, a Porsche 911 Carrera, after defeating Victoria Azarenka of Belarus in the final of the WTA Porsche Tennis Grand Prix in Stuttgart, southwestern Germany, on 29 April. Sharapova won 6-1, 6-4. INTERNET

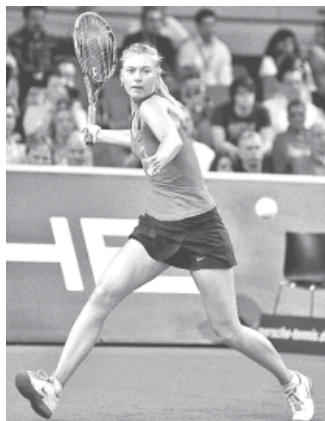
Stuttgart title gives Sharapova French Open boost

STUTTGART, 30 April — Maria Sharapova said she was happy to open her clay-court season by winning Stuttgart's WTA tournament as part of her French Open preparations and to break her losing streak in finals. With the Madrid and Rome clay-court tournaments still to come before Roland Garros begins on 27 May, the world number two said she still has plenty of work ahead of her as she bids to win the one Grand Slam which eludes her.

Having once described herself playing on clay as like "a cow on ice", Sharapova was in impressive form here as she saw off US Open winner Samantha Stosur and Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova en route to the final. She blasted her way past subdued world number one Victoria Azarenka, who had problems with her right wrist all week, for a 6-1, 6-4 victory in Sunday's final.

It was her first title of the year having lost her three previous finals in 2012. She also gained revenge for her Australian Open final defeat to Azarenka to claim her 25th title of her career, but having reached the French Open semi-finals last year, the goal is to lift the trophy in Paris. "It's a big win for me, it was my

first time here and I am happy to have got a title," said world number two Sharapova. — Internet



Maria Sharapova of Russia returns the ball during the final against Victoria Azarenka of Belarus at the Porsche tennis Grand Prix in Stuttgart, Germany. — XINHUA

History man Nadal builds towards seventh French Open

BARCELONA, 30 April — Rafael Nadal is back on top of his mental and physical game after completing a fortnight of history-making with the Spanish king of clay adding another line for the record books. The world number two on Sunday became the first man to win two separate events seven times, as he defeated battling compatriot David Ferrer 7-6 (7/1), 7-5 to win a seventh trophy at the Barcelona Open.

That success came seven days after he thrashed world number one Novak Djokovic for an eighth consecutive title at the Monte Carlo Masters. At the start of the month, Nadal would not have liked

his victory chances after being forced to quit before his Miami semi-final with Andy Murray due to left knee pain. But a week or so of therapy, married to his iron will, has put the 25-year-old on course for what would be an unprecedented seventh French Open title.

His Barcelona triumph marked his seventh title in eight editions, with his only loss prior to 34 straight victories coming in 2003 to current Davis Cup captain Alex Corretja. "I've won two extremely difficult events — Monte Carlo and Barcelona without losing a set," said Nadal. "No one deserves more than David to win here, but I



Rafael Nadal of Spain holds the trophy after his victory over David Ferrer of Spain during an Open tennis final match in Barcelona, Spain, on 29 April, 2012. — INTERNET

had the luck on the day. — Internet

Juve closing on Serie A title

ROME, 30 April — Juventus thumped hosts Novara 4-0 on Sunday to move a step closer to the Serie A title while AC Milan beat Siena 4-1 to remain three points adrift. Mirko Vucinic got two, opening and completing the scoring, while Marco Borriello and Arturo Vidal were also on target as Juve retained their three-point lead over AC Milan at the top. Second-bottom Novara are almost down, eight points from safety with three games left. AC Milan maintained their challenge with a convincing 4-1 win at Siena.

Antonio Cassano marked his first AC Milan start in six months. The result leaves Inter Milan and Napoli also even on points with Udinese and Lazio as the race for Serie A's final place in the Champions League looks set to go down to the wire. Inter Milan maintained their late charge for a Champions League berth with a battling 2-1 win at home to relegated Cesena.

Lecce remained in the Serie A relegation zone after losing 2-1 an exciting clash with mid-table Parma at the Stadio Viadell Mare. The result

leaves them third from bottom and a point below Genoa. Atalanta ended any lingering fears about relegation after continuing their recent good form with a 2-0 home victory over Fiorentina, who still have a little work to do before they can celebrate safety themselves. Goals at the start of either half from German Denis and Giacomo Bonaventura earned Atalanta a third win in four games and moved them 11 points clear of third-bottom Lecce with only three games remaining. — Xinhua

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(1-5-12 09:30 am ~ 2-5-12 09:30 am) MST

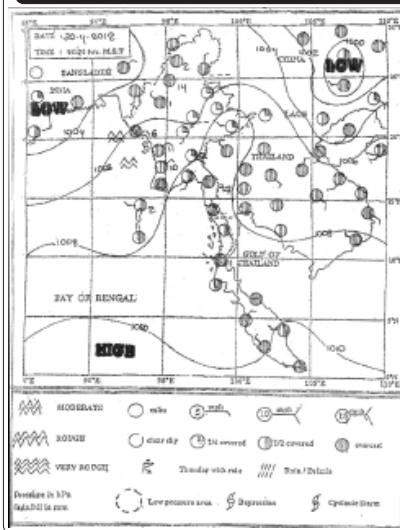
- News
- 12 sign ascendants in May 2012
- News
- Music Programme
- Awesome Myanma Sculpture
- News
- "Myanmar Mega Factories" Industrial Training Centre (THAGAYA)
- News
- Significant Month of Kason
- News
- Care the olds! Be Blessed!
- Myanmar Teak in Higher Demand
- News
- Seven Special Stops around Inlay Lake
- News
- "Myanmar DVD" Who's your dearest?
- News
- She & Her Melodious Music
- Myanmar Movie "As her real son"

MYANMAR TV

(1-5-2012)(Tuesday)

- 7:00 am**
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am**
- 2. To be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am**
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:15 am**
- 4. Song of National Races
- 8:35 am**
- 6. International News
- 4:00 pm**
- 7. Martial Song
- 4:30 pm**
- 8. Teleplay (Traffic)
- 5:10 pm**
- 9. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:25 pm**
- 10. Documentary (May Day)
- 6:35 pm**
- 11. Sing a Song
- 8:00 pm**
- 12. News
- 13. TV Drama Series
- 14. India Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 1st May, 2012

S. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	28.82	20.68	Likelihood of early widespread rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
2	Kayah	31.88	20.68	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
3	Kayah	36.97	24.75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
4	Chin	19.66	14.57	Likelihood of early widespread rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
5	Upper Sagaing	29.84	20.68	Likelihood of early widespread rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
6	Lower Sagaing	29.84	22.72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
7	Yamethay	35.95	25.77	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
8	Shan	37.99	25.77	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
9	Magway	35.95	26.79	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
10	Mandalay	31.88	25.75	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
11	Moa	34.93	26.79	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
12	Yangon	38.100	24.75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
13	Rakhine	27.81	24.75	Likelihood of early widespread rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
14	Southern Shan	25.77	16.81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
15	Northern Shan	28.82	15.59	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
16	Eastern Shan	35.95	19.66	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
17	Ayeyawady	38.100	26.79	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	36.97	24.75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	38.100	24.75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	31.88	24.75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(60%)

During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderstorms have been isolated in Ayeyawady Region, Kayah and Kayah States, scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon and Yamethay Regions, Shan State and early widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay Region. Day temperatures were (°C) to (°C) below April average temperature in Upper Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kayah and Rakhine States and (°C) to (°C) below April average temperature in Lower Sagaing and Mandalay Regions and above April average temperature in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Thawaddy, Kyaukpadaung and Kayah (40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Shweboya (1.51) inches, Taunggyi and Kyauksemye (1.41) inches each, Pyaw Oa (1.18) inches, Kyauksemye (1.14) inches, Mawmyi (1.02) inches, Patheingyi and Pyaw Oa (0.70) inches each.

Weather is partly cloudy in the West Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Slight decrease of day temperatures in the whole Country.

Finnish fashion wins at Hyères

PARIS, 30 April—The top fashion design prize of the 27th Hyères International Fashion Festival, held in the south of France (April 27-30), was awarded Sunday to a trio of Finnish designers: Elina Laitinen, Siiri Raasakka and Tiia Siren. After the ten finalist designers presented their collections in a runway show, the international jury, headed by Japanese designer Yohji Yamamoto, chose to single out the menswear collection from the young Finnish team for its use of color and futuristic styling.

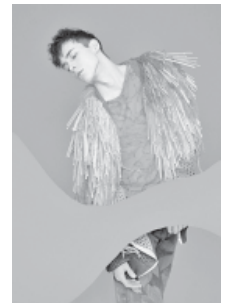
designers to present their collections to professionals from the fashion industry as well as to members of the public.



Hyères 2012: Steven Tai, Canada, Women's Collection

While the most prestigious prize of the festival, worth •15,000, was handed out to the three young Finnish designers, Canadian designer Steven Tai won the inaugural Chloé prize (also worth •15,000) for his womenswear collection, while Ragne Kikas of Estonia took the Première Vision prize (worth •10,000) and the public vote for his menswear collection.

The Hyères International Fashion and Photography Festival is an occasion for rising talents in these two areas to present their work



Elina Laitinen, Siiri Raasakka & Tiia Siren, Finland, Men's Collection

and has in the past awarded designers such as Viktor & Rolf and Felipe Oliveira Baptista.—Internet

18 killed in Nigerian university attack

KANO (Nigeria), 30 April—At least 18 persons were killed in an early Sunday morning attack in Nigeria's northwestern Kano State during a church service in the

heart of Bayero University Kano, eyewitnesses and health workers reported. Among the victims of the attack are professors Jerome Ayodele of the Chemistry

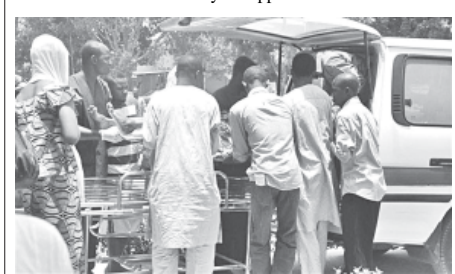
Department and Andrew Leo of the Library Science Department respectively of the Bayero University Kano.

An eyewitness told Xinhua that some gunmen attacked the faithful when they were holding a service at 8:45 am local time in a lecture theater at the old site of the university. The witness said the gunmen threw some improvised explosive devices in the lecture theater and opened fire on those who attempted to run away from the scene.

The witness said members of the Joint Military

Task Force (JTF) later arrived at the scene and engaged the attackers in a gun battle. Although University spokesperson Mustapha Zahraeden told reporters in Kano, the state capital, that the actual casualties were only seven, local health workers said rescue operators removed at least 18 dead bodies from the scene.

Zahraeden told Xinhua that the gunmen who stormed the university premises on motorcycles took everybody unawares because it had never occurred to them that such an attack could happen.—MNA/Xinhua



The attacks mirrored others carried out by a radical Islamist sect known as Boko Haram.—REUTERS

Ex-drugs cheats free to compete in Olympics

LONDON, 30 April—The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) on Monday ruled that the British Olympic Association's (BOA) lifetime ban on drugs cheats was not in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code.

The CAS decision gives the green light to such as British sprinter Dwain Chambers and cyclist David Millar to take part in this summer's London Games should they achieve the qualifying standard.

"The CAS Panel has ruled that the BOA bye-law related to the selection of British athletes for the Olympic Games was not in compliance with the World Anti-doping Code," CAS said in a statement.

"Such decision confirms the jurisprudence established last year in the case between the US Olympic Committee and the International Olympic Committee."

WADA had fought the BOA's policy of imposing life bans for the Olympics arguing that it contravened their own code. Former European 100m champion Chambers, who won 60m bronze in this year's world indoor event in Istanbul last month, was banned for two years after testing positive for the anabolic steroid THG in 2004. Millar also served a doping ban in 2004.—Internet

Social economic development coordinated in Hmawby

YANGON, 30 April—The coordination meeting for implementation of Social Economic Development and Planning was held at the hall of Township Administration Department in Hmawby Township on 27 April morning, with an address by Township Administrator U Kyaw Soe Lwin.

Staff Officer Daw Ohnmar Nyein of Township Planning Department explained collection of data in wards and villages.

It was attended by departmental personnel and ward and village administrators.—Myanma Alin



Thailand's Suvarnabhumi voted 10th best airport

BANGKOK, 30 April—Thailand's Suvarnabhumi Airport was voted by over 12 million passengers worldwide as the world's 10th best airport in a recent survey conducted by SKYTRAX, the world's largest airport and airline review site.

Thailand's Suvarnabhumi Airport was ranked as the world's 10th best airport for its outstanding service under the category of airports handling 30-50 million passengers annually.

The results are based on 12 million passenger surveys completed during a 10-month survey period, from July 2011 to the beginning of 2012, covering over 385 airports.

Earlier, Suvarnabhumi Airport had been dubbed by the Airports Council International (ACI) as the world's 7th best airport of 2011 in the category of 40 million passenger-size.

MNA/Xinhua

President U Thein Sein receives High Representative of European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a delegation led by High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Mrs Catherine Ashton at the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Also present at the call were Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and departmental heads.

High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Mrs Catherine Ashton and party were accompanied by Ambassador of European Union Mr David Lipman.

At the call, they cordially discussed raising



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and party and High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Mrs Catherine Ashton and delegation members pose for a documentary photo.—MNA

recognition of the EU for reform process of Myanmar and its encouragement as a partner organization,

realization of internal peace making process to achieve eternal peace, economic and human resource

development in Myanmar lifting EU's economic sanctions which is suspended, cooperation for

promotion of technology and capability and other necessities in education and health sectors, and

participation of EU and its all member countries in microfinance institution. MNA

President U Thein Sein holds discussion with Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and party of Germany



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives the delegation led by Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Guido Westerwelle at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 April— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a delegation led by Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Guido Westerwelle, which arrived in here yesterday, at the

Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here at 2 pm today.

Also present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the

President Office U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein and departmental heads.

The German delegation was accompanied by German

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Christian-Ludwig Weber-Lortsch.

At the meeting, both sides discussed current political developments in the country, law enforcement, providing assistance for development in education and health sectors, making investments in oil and natural gas exploration, foodstuff, fisheries, heavy industries and infrastructures for smooth transport, assisting in industrial vocational education, conservation of water resources and micro finance enterprises in Myanmar. Besides, the meeting also focused on matters relating to bilateral cooperation, further cementing relationships between the two countries.—MNA

Russia's Maria Sharapova poses for photos with the winner's prize, a Porsche 911 Carrera, after defeating Victoria Azarenka of Belarus in WTA Porsche Tennis Grand Prix in Stuttgart on 29 April.



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Rafael Nadal of Spain holds the trophy after victory over David Ferrer of Spain during Open tennis in Barcelona, Spain, on 29 April.



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