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Thursday, 3 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.

President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Polish counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 May—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Bronislaw Komorowski, President of the Republic of Poland, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Poland which falls on 3 May 2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein felicitates Prime Minister of Poland

NAY PYI TAW, 3 May—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Donald Tusk, Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Poland which falls on 3 May 2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein receives Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of ROK and party

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Mr Kim Sung-hwan and party of the Republic of Korea at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Also present at the call were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and departmental heads.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea and party were accompanied by Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Republic of

the Union of Myanmar Mr Kim Hae-Yong.

At the call, they cordially discussed further strengthening of bilateral relations, more cooperation in technology, engineering and other advanced sectors and sports sector, promotion of economic cooperation through investment in energy, mineral and foodstuff sectors, deep sea ports and special economic zones.—MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein shakes hands with Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Mr Kim Sung-hwan of the Republic of Korea.—MNA



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Mr Kim Sung-hwan and party of the Republic of Korea at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.

MNA

Significant Day Temperatures (2-5-2012)

Chauk (41°C)
Hinthada (40°C)



A visitor takes photos of the financial skyline on the 'OCBC Skyway' linking the Supertrees, ranging from 25-50 metres in height and serving as vertical gardens in the nearly completed Gardens By The Bay just next to Singapore's busy financial district.

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Premier League Players' Kit Scheme re-opens

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PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 3 May, 2012

A firm stance against measles

Measles is a highly contagious, serious disease caused by virus. It is one of the leading causes of death among young children.

The first sign of measles is usually a high fever, which begins about 10 to 12 days after exposure to the virus, and lasts four to seven days. A runny nose, a cough, red and watery eyes can develop in the initial stage. After severe days, a rash erupts.

Most measles complications are more common in children under the age of five, or adults over the age of 20. The most serious complications include blindness, encephalitis, severe diarrhoea, ear infections and severe respiratory infections such as pneumonia.

Measles vaccination resulted in a 78 per cent drop in measles deaths between 2000 and 2008 worldwide.

Myanmar introduced measles immunization in 1987 and since then this has resulted in marked reduction of cases and deaths. And mass measles campaign was conducted in selected areas since 1995. Nation-wide immunization was implemented in three phases from 2002 to 2004. In 2008, measles immunization was given in disaster affected townships in delta region. In 2010, about 88 per cent of children in the country received one dose of measles vaccine.

Mass measles immunization was successfully conducted as a major child health movement throughout the Country in the period between 22 and 31 March 2012, preventing thousands of measles cases and its complications. Such achievement can be attributed to full support and collaboration of local authorities, relevant health departments, social organizations and national and international NGOs.

Automatic and non licensing discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Coordination meeting on Automatic Licensing and Non Licensing for swift flow of export and import was held at the Ministry of Commerce here this morning, with an address by Union Commerce Minister U Win Myint.

He said some countries are adopting Automatic Licensing and Non Licensing systems. To catch up with the world nations, the country need adopt automatic licensing system first, he highlighted. Under the system, applicants are granted licenses within 10 days with no restrictions for price, quantity and others, he said. He assumed a little bit of adaptation could shape automatic licensing system as licenses for some commodities are granted in a day or two, and called for constructive suggestions.

Deputy Minister Dr Pwint Hsan explained matters related to export and import licenses and officials discussed about automatic licensing.—MNA

Basic tailoring course 11 May

YANGON, 2 May—The Women's Life Uplifting Work Committee of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation will open the basic women's wear course 2/2012 at Room 301 of Building 169 on Aungmyathar Road in Ward 5 of Kamayut Township on 11 May.

A total of 20 trainees will be admitted for the course. The training course will be conducted from 10 am to 2 pm from Monday to Friday.

Applications for the course may be taken out from the training centre and the applications are to be sent there, not later than 10 May.

For further information, dial 379231.—Thura Aung

Myanmar, ROK Foreign Affairs Minister meet



Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and Korean delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea Mr Kim Sung-hwan holding discussion.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—The bilateral talks between Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and the Korean delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea Mr Kim Sung-hwan took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here this morning.

The two foreign ministers discussed matters relating to strengthening of bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries, and exchanged views on regional and international issues.

MNA

Union Health Minister addresses 22nd AGM of MMCWA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—The opening of the 22nd Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at MMCWA (Central) Hall in Dekkhinathiri Township here this morning.

The meeting was attended by Honorable Patrons Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Union Health Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin, the MMCWA chairperson, the president of Myanmar Women Affairs Federation, CEC members, council members, directors-general and deputy directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Health, officials of UN agencies and related ministries, reps of social organizations, patrons, chairpersons and members of Region/State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committees and guests.

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin in his address recognized the contribution of above 13 million MMCWA members nationwide to building a modern, developed and democratic nation and to



Honorable Patrons Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Union Health Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin view documentary photos displayed in the hall by MMCWA.

MNA

social development of the people.

He said the leaders of the country have instructed to focus on maternal and child care as mothers and children constitute 60 per cent of the whole population and mortality rates of mothers, infants, and one year old and five years old babies are fundamental

economic, social and health indexes.

Active participation of MMCWA, departments, related social organizations and the entire people in education, economic and social activities could lead to achievement of Millennium Development Goals. Established with helpful and patriotic members, MMCWA could nurture reliable human resources as a result of its yearly plan, he said.

Participation of MMCWA members in rural health education activities and prevention, treatment and health improvement tasks side by side with related departments under the ministry and organizations concerned is its milestone, he said.

Encouraging results in reproductive health activities are outcomes of

MMCWA members nationwide, he said.

He said reports and research papers of the association were classier year by year. He also urged MMCWA to keep in touch with the changing world and contribute to all-round development of rural people more and more.

The honourable patrons, the union minister and guests viewed documentary photos displayed in the hall.—MNA

22nd AGM of MMCWA held

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) Dr Mon Mon Aung presided over and addressed 22nd annual general meeting of MMCWA here this morning.

She said the association is a strong social organization in Myanmar with over 13 million voluntary members.

Secretary Daw Thazin Nwe submitted work report for 2011, Contributing Auditor Daw Than Win 2011-2012 FY audit report, Joint Secretary-1 Daw Tin Tin Win 2011-2012 FY financial statement and 2011-2012 FY budget. The president of the meeting approved the audit report and the financial statement.

Reps from Region/State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committees submitted 2011 annual reports.

MNA

Corrigendum

Please read "call for" in place of "demand for" in Line (12), Paragraph (4), Page (2) of the New Light of Myanmar dated 30 April 2012 under the title "Union FM attends 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting".

NLM

Obama signs strategic pact with Afghanistan



President Barack Obama and Afghan President Hamid Karzai shake hands after making statements before signing a strategic partnership agreement at the presidential palace in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 2 May, 2012. — INTERNET

KABUL, 2 May — US partnership agreement with President Barack Obama Afghan counterpart Hamid signed the strategic Karzai in the wee hours of

Wednesday shortly after he arrived in the Afghan Capital Kabul for a surprise visit, local TV channels reported. According to local *Tolo News*, the agreement will grant stay for some US troops after 2014 when most of the foreign soldiers withdraw. Previously US officials have said as many as 20,000 US troops may remain in Afghanistan after the combat mission ends, but Afghan officials said it still has to be negotiated.

The surprise visit and the signing of the US-Afghan strategic partnership pact coincided with the first anniversary of the killing of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden by US special forces in

Pakistan. The controversial agreement has been welcomed by local analysts as a security stabilizing factor in the militancy-ridden Afghanistan. Before the pact was finalized, the Afghan government had signed two key deals with the United States which obliges US military to hand over the charge of the Bagram detention centre to Afghan administration and allows Afghan security forces to lead special operations including the controversial night raids.

According to a fact sheet provided by the White House, the Strategic Partnership Agreement “provides for the possibility of US forces in Afghanistan after 2014, for the purposes of training Afghan Forces and targeting the remnants of al-Qaeda.”

Xinhua



Israeli troops are on standby along Israel's southern border with the Gaza Strip in March 2012. The Israeli army and Palestinians exchanged fire along the Gaza border on Tuesday in a series of clashes that Palestinian militants said killed one of their members.— INTERNET

Israel, Palestinians exchange fire on Gaza border

GAZA, 2 May — The Israeli army and Palestinians exchanged fire along the Gaza border Tuesday in a series of clashes that wounded one person, the Israeli military and Palestinian security sources said. The Israeli military said its forces came under fire while “performing routine operational activities near the security fence in central Gaza.” “Two armoured vehicles were damaged. IAF (Israeli Air Force) aircraft and Armoured Corps soldiers responded with fire towards suspicious locations.”

Security sources and witnesses said Palestinians opened fire towards Israeli forces as they staged an incursion into Gaza and began clearing land along the border area in the early afternoon. The Israeli military maintains an exclusion zone inside the Gaza Strip along the border and regularly carries out military activity in the area. Palestinian medical sources said Israeli forces opened fire again later in the afternoon in the same area, leaving one Palestinian wounded. A Gaza militant group later reported the death of one of its members, but in circumstances unrelated to the border fighting.

Al-Nasser Salaheddin Brigades, the military wing of the hardline Popular Resistance Committees, said in a statement that “senior leader” Abdallah al-Taweel died on “a jihadi mission,” a phrase used to indicate a training accident or other mishap. On Tuesday evening, a rocket fired from Gaza landed in open ground in southern Israel’s Ashkelon coast district, a spokeswoman for the region’s council told *AFP*. There were no reports of casualties or property damage.— *Internet*

Bombs rock Somalia, as brokers warn fragile progress at risk

MOGADISHU, 2 May — Bomb attacks in Somalia claimed by Islamist rebels killed at least eight people including two lawmakers on Tuesday, as the international community warned that “spoilers” threaten the fragile progress in the war-torn nation. A suicide bomber killed at least six people in an attack in the central Somali town of Dhusamareb as lawmakers met with the public, while a car bomb in the anarchic capital Mogadishu killed two, the latest in a wave of violence. “It was an attack against the enemy,” said a statement posted on a website linked to Somalia’s al-Qaeda-allied Shebab rebels, who have launched a series of guerrilla strikes and vowed to topple the Western-backed government.

The attacks came shortly after the United Nations, African Union and East Africa’s main diplomatic body IGAD warned in a rare joint statement that efforts at establishing peace in Somalia were at risk. The three organisations said they were “greatly concerned” at efforts to undermine a “roadmap” signed by Somalia’s disparate leaders, the latest effort to bring peace after more than two decades of war. “The roadmap continues to be jeopardised by the actions of individuals and groups in and out of Somalia, working to undermine the fragile progress we have collectively made in recent months,” the



A car punctured with bullet holes is pictured after a suicide bomber blew himself up in the central Somali town of Dhusamareb. Bomb attacks in Somalia killed at least eight people including two lawmakers on Tuesday, as the international community warned that peace “spoilers” threaten to wreck fragile progress in the war-torn nation. — INTERNET

statement read. “We have come too far, and too much is at stake, for us to allow the process to backslide at the exact moment Somalia has its best opportunity for peace in decades.” *Internet*

Car bomb kills six after Obama leaves Afghan capital



Afghan security forces members inspect the site of a car bomb attack in Kabul on 2 May, 2012. At least six people were killed in the suicide car bomb attack in the Afghan Capital on Wednesday, officials said.— REUTERS

KABUL, 2 May — At least six people were killed in a suicide car bomb attack in the Afghan Capital on Wednesday, officials said, hours after US President Barack Obama left Kabul following an unannounced visit during which he signed a strategic partnership agreement. The blast, and Obama’s visit, came a year after US special forces

troops killed al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, the architect of the 11 Sept, 2001 attacks, in a raid in neighbouring Pakistan. The Taliban, ousted by US-backed Afghan forces for harboring bin Laden and other militants, quickly claimed responsibility for what it said was a suicide car bomb attack. Wednesday’s attack was the latest in a recent surge of violence after the Taliban announced they had begun their usual “spring offensive”, and that they had

suspended tentative steps towards peace talks with the United States. Kabul police chief Ayoub Salangi said six people, a Gurkha guard and five passers-by, were killed in the Kabul attack. Salangi told *Reuters* a car bomb exploded on Jalalabad road, the main road out of the capital heading east, where several US military bases and compounds housing Westerners are located. He said one of those compounds, known as “Green Village”, was the target.

Reuters



Airstrike on al-Qaeda vehicle kills three in Yemen



A Yemeni army military vehicle drives in Abyan Province in April 2012. A French security official working for energy company Total was wounded and a Yemeni soldier killed on Tuesday when gunmen attacked their car, medical and oil industry officials said.—INTERNET

SANAA, 2 May — A Yemeni military official says an airstrike on a vehicle carrying al-Qaeda militants has killed three in south Yemen. The official said on Tuesday the airstrike near Zinjibar, the capital of Abyan Province, was one in a series of air raids on al-Qaeda hideouts in the southern province where the militant groups have found a safe haven. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized

to speak to reporters. For several weeks, government troops have been waging an offensive against the militants, who have taken advantage of political turmoil in Yemen to expand their presence in the south. Also Tuesday, al-Qaeda-linked militants attacked military vehicles carrying soldiers and a French oil expert. One soldier was killed, and the French expert was wounded.

Internet

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Yellowstone supervolcano more active, less 'super'

PULLMAN, 2 May—Yellowstone's supervolcano has erupted more frequently but with less violence than previously estimated, US researchers say. The biggest Yellowstone eruption, creating the 2-million-year-old Huckleberry Ridge deposit, was actually two different eruptions at least 6,000 years apart, Washington State University reported on Monday.

Before the researchers determined the one eruption

was in fact two, it had been estimated as the fourth largest known to science.

"The Yellowstone volcano's previous behaviour is the best guide of what it will do in the future," WSU researcher Ben Ellis said. "This research suggests explosive volcanism from Yellowstone is more frequent than previously thought."

The scientists say the output of the first eruption was 644 cubic miles, roughly 12 percent less than

previously thought, and then a second eruption of 85 cubic miles took place more than 6,000 years later.

By comparison, the 1980 eruption of Mount St Helens produced 0.26 of a cubic mile of ash.

That first Yellowstone eruption still deserves to be called "super," the researchers emphasized, as it is one of the largest to ever occur on Earth and darkened the skies with ash from southern California to the Mississippi River.

The US Geological Survey says the term "supervolcano" implies a volcanic centre that has had



The northeastern part of the Yellowstone Caldera, with the Yellowstone River flowing through Hayden Valley and the caldera rim in the distance.—INTERNET

an eruption of magnitude 8 on the Volcano Explosivity

Index, meaning the measured deposits for that eruption is

greater than 240 cubic miles. Internet



Albatross in flight.—INTERNET

Study: Albatross changing breeding habits

LONDON, 2 May—The breeding habits of the wandering albatross, one of the Earth's largest birds, have changed with earlier egg-laying than ever, British researchers say.

The birds, which have wing spans up to 11 feet, are breeding earlier in the season compared with 30 years ago, the British Antarctic Survey reported on Monday.

Studying the birds on the sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia, researchers found the birds laying eggs an average of 2.2 days earlier than in the past.

"Our results are surprising. Every year we can determine when the birds return to the island after migration, and the exact day they lay their egg," Sue Lewis of the University of Edinburgh's School of

Biological Sciences said.

"We knew that some birds were laying earlier — those who were older or had recently changed partner — but now we see that those which haven't bred successfully in the past are also laying earlier, and these birds are effectively driving this trend in earlier laying."

Scientists say they are unsure what is causing the earlier breeding.

"It is possible that earlier breeding in some females at South Georgia is a consequence of environmental change, but at the moment we are not sure if this is related to weather, a change in oceanographic conditions or food availability to which only some birds are responding," British Antarctic Survey bird ecologist Richard Phillips said.—Internet

Microsoft teams up with Barnes & Noble on e-books

WASHINGTON, 2 May—Microsoft teamed up Monday with US bookselling giant Barnes & Noble in a venture aimed at grabbing a bigger share of the rapidly growing market for electronic books. The world's biggest software group will make a \$300 million investment in a new Barnes & Noble subsidiary focusing on the bookseller's digital reading capabilities, including its Nook tablet, and its college businesses.

The move ends a long patent dispute between the two firms and brings them together to battle Amazon's popular Kindle tablet and e-book reader, as well as the surging Apple iPad.

The Nook, which is the B&N competitor in the segment, will get an application for Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system.

This "will extend the reach of Barnes & Noble's digital bookstore by providing one of the world's largest digital catalogues of e-books, magazines and newspapers to hundreds of millions of Windows customers in the US and internationally," a joint statement said.

The investment will give Microsoft a 17.6 percent stake in the as-yet unnamed unit that "will accelerate the transition to e-reading, which

is revolutionizing the way people consume, create, share and enjoy digital content," the statement said.

The alliance appeared to offer benefits for both firms: Microsoft gets an entry into the tablet computer segment dominated by Apple and devices powered by Google's Android operating system, while B&N gets a much-needed cash injection.

"This is big news for both

Microsoft was to get the Nook to use the Windows operating system.

"This is really Microsoft playing catchup" in the market for e-readers, he said, "but I don't believe it fundamentally changes the e-book market."

Barnes & Noble, which has been struggling with red ink from its brick-and-mortar stores, saw its shares skyrocket in opening trade as

In January, Barnes & Noble—whose market value has plummeted in recent years — had announced plans to spin-off its digital business to maximize value for its shareholders.

"The shift to digital is putting the world's libraries and newsstands in the palm of every person's hand, and is the beginning of a journey that will impact how people read, interact with, and enjoy new forms of content," said Microsoft president Andy Lees. It was not decided whether the separation of the new unit will involve a new stand-alone company, according to the statement.

In February, Barnes & Noble unveiled a new version of its Nook tablet, with the same \$199 price tag as Amazon's Kindle Fire.

The announcement comes weeks after the US Justice Department sued Apple and five publishing firms alleging a conspiracy to raise prices and limit competition for e-books. The suit is expected to open up competition in the market.

More than \$2 billion will be spent this year on e-books, according to Forrester analyst James McQuivey, and the figure is projected to top \$10 billion dollars annually by 2016.

Slightly more than a fifth of US adults reported having used an e-book during the past year, their ranks swollen by the popularity of Kindles, Nooks, iPads and other gadgets during the year-end holiday gift-giving season, according to one survey.

Last year, Microsoft sued B&N and others, claiming the Android-based e-reader violated Microsoft patents. Barnes & Noble responded by alleging Microsoft was illegally trying to kill the Android system by asserting patent infringement.

Internet



Microsoft and Barnes & Noble," said independent analyst Jeff Kagan.

"It not only gives the Nook a shot in the arm, but gives Microsoft new ground to expand their brand and market new services."

Neil McDonald of the consultancy Gartner said that the primary motivation for

much as 85 percent, and in morning trade had gained 65 percent to \$22.53. Microsoft shares gave back early gains and were down a marginal 0.05 percent at \$31.96.

Analysts noted that the investment values the Nook unit at \$1.7 billion, more than value of Barnes & Noble itself before the deal.

Texas wind farms warming the ground

ALBANY, 2 May — Four large energy wind farms in west-central Texas have caused the area to warm at a faster rate than surrounding areas without wind farms, researchers say.

Scientists say they believe the 1.3-degree Fahrenheit rise each decade during the study period is a result of local meteorological effects of the turbines as turbulence in their wakes acts as fans to pull warmer air to the surface.

Researchers analyzed data from NASA satellites for the study published in the journal *Nature Climate Change*.

Data from instruments on NASA's Aqua and Terra satellites observed the warming trend mostly at night, NASA said.

In west-central Texas the land surface temperature after sunset normally cools faster than the air temperature, but as the wind turbines continued to turn the movement brought warmer air to the surface creating a warming effect compared to non-wind farm regions, researchers said. The warming is considered a local effect, not one that would contribute to a larger global trend, researchers at the State University of New York said. "This is a first step in exploring the potential of satellite data to quantify the possible impacts of big wind farms on weather and climate," Chris Thorncroft, head of the Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences department, said.—Internet



Green Mountain wind farm in Langford, Texas. INTERNET

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

To eat better, buy a fruit bowl

OLEAN, 2 May—People who want to eat healthier might do well to use a fruit bowl, as it seems to promote consumption of some fresh fruits, US researchers suggest.

Gregory J Privitera and Heather E Creary, both of St. Bonaventure University, in Olean, tested a total of 96 college students by placing apple slices and carrot cuts in either clear or opaque bowls at a table close to the participants or at a table 2 metres away.

Participants watched as the food was taken out of its packaging and were told they were welcome to eat the snacks. After leaving the students alone with the food for 10 minutes, the researchers found when apples and carrots were left close to the

participants, those healthy foods were more likely to be eaten. Interestingly, making the food more visible to participants by placing them in clear bowls increased the intake of the apples but not the carrots, the researchers said. The researchers explained this might be due to the fact that fruit is sweeter and may induce more motivation to eat than bitter-tasting vegetables.

"Apples, but not carrots, have sugar, which is known to stimulate brain reward regions that induce a 'wanting' for foods that contain sugar," the study authors wrote. "Hence, apple slices may be more visually appealing than carrots." The findings were published in the *Environment and Behaviour*.—*Internet*



A visitor takes photos of the financial skyline on the 'OCBC Skyway' linking the Supertrees, ranging from 25-50 metres in height and serving as vertical gardens in the newly completed Gardens By The Bay just next to Singapore's busy financial district.
INTERNET

Health Tip: Don't forget aerobic exercise

There are plenty of easy ways to work aerobic exercise into your day without visiting the gym.

The American Diabetes Association mentions these suggestions:

- * Instead of driving, walk to nearby destinations.
- * Get off the bus one stop earlier and walk the rest of the way to your destination.
- * Wash your car, rake leaves or do some work in the garden.
- * Engage in vigorous play with your kids.
- * Walk around at a brisk pace while you're on the phone.
- * Park your car at the far end of the store parking lot.

Internet

Scientists find gene that inhibits pancreas cancer spread

PARIS, 2 May—Scientists have identified a gene that slows the spread of pancreatic cancer tumours, paving the way for targeted treatment of one of the deadliest forms of the disease, said a paper published Sunday.

After discovering the gene dubbed USP9X at work in a study of pancreatic cancer in mice, the international research team found it also played a role in humans.

"We looked in human tumour specimens and we

found that it was missing in a fraction of patients—the patients that did very poorly ... the people who died the fastest," researcher David Tuveson told *AFP*.

"Patients that had a low-level of the gene expressed ... they died very quickly after their operation and the patients who at the end of their life had lots of metastasis (spreading of the cancer), they had also a very low-level of this protein."

The existence of the gene, which is found in all of our cells but goes missing in some tumours, was known before but not its role as a cancer suppressor, said Tuveson.

Three other pancreatic tumour suppressor genes are known to exist, but this is the one whose absence "probably causes metastasis—that is what kills people with pancreas cancer," said the

scientist.

The discovery means that "we can wake up the gene by using drugs" known as epigenetic modulators, he added.

"Our observation allows us to potentially treat people that have lost this gene in the pancreas tumours."

It allows us to offer a therapy for the patients that actually have the worst prognosis."

Tuveson said these

kinds of drugs have already been developed, "but people haven't figured out where exactly they would be useful."

"We are proposing that these drugs would be useful in this subset of pancreas cancer patients."

Pancreatic cancer kills about 96 percent of its victims within five years of diagnosis, one of the lowest cancer survival rates.

Early diagnosis is difficult, so the disease is often discovered only after it has already spread.

Internet



An elderly woman receives her routine eye check-up under undergoing a surgery to remove her cataracts at the Tilganga Eye Centre in Kathmandu on 27 April, 2012.—REUTERS

Consumer protection improvement essential to support ASEAN single economy community: Indonesian official

JAKARTA, 2 May—Consumer protection is an essential measure that needs to be conducted in ASEAN countries regarding the implementation of ASEAN Single Economy Community by 2015, a statement released by the trade ministry said here on Wednesday.

"In single economy regime, markets in ASEAN territory will be more integrated. In bid to create high competitive region, we cannot neglect the

consumers' role," Indonesian Trade Deputy Minister, Bayu Krisnamurthi, said in the statement.

The senior official's comment was addressed to the conduction of ASEAN Committee on Consumer Protection (ACCP) ke-5 meeting held in Bali from Wednesday to Friday this week. Bayu said that Indonesia intends to take part in the region's intensive efforts to improve consumer protection measures that

would eventually create smart, critical and independent consumers.

On the other hand, the measures were also expected to encourage business to be more responsible in producing their goods sold in the market, he said.

"If the measures are well implemented, there will be higher quality of goods and services available in the market," Bayu said.

The ACCP was initially formed in 2007, divided in three working groups that comprised of Working Group on Rapid Alert System and Information Exchange (WG RAPEX) led by Indonesia, Working Group on Cross Border Consumer Redress (WG CBCR) led by Malaysia and Working Group Training and Education (WG T&E) led by Vietnam. The latest working group has established cooperation with Australia, conducting several researches, is formed under ASEAN Australia Development Cooperation Programme (AADCP).—*Xinhua*



Bring a 'business sense' to the running of Miami-Dade's public schools is the key to success. That's according to Superintendent Alberto Carvalho who said their latest innovative ideas involve franchising, listen to the consumer and creating a for-profit business model for the school system.—INTERNET



Early diagnosis needed for eye diseases

BETHESDA, 2 May—Early diagnosis, timely treatment and appropriate follow-up care are essential to preventing irreversible vision loss, US health officials said.

Dr Paul A Sieving, director of the National Eye Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, said common eye diseases such as glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration threaten millions of Americans, potentially robbing them of vision, mobility and independence.

Early stages of common eye diseases typically have no symptoms and can only be

detected through a comprehensive dilated eye exam, Sieving said.

Glaucoma causes damage to the optic nerve, which relays visual information from the retina to the brain.

The retina is the light-sensing layer of tissue in the back of the eye, Sieving said.

Diabetic retinopathy causes swelling, leakage and blockage of the blood vessels that nourish the retina, while age-related macular degeneration occurs when cells in the center part of the retina, called the macula, break down.

Recent clinical trials determined that taking high

levels of antioxidants and zinc reduces the risk of developing age-related macular degeneration by about 25 percent.

People at higher risk of glaucoma include African-Americans age 40 and older; everyone age 60 and older, especially Mexican Americans; and people with a family history of the disease.

People at risk of diabetic retinopathy include people with type 1 or type 2 diabetes, while people age 50 and older, whites, smokers and those with a family history of age-related macular degeneration are at greater risk of the disease.—*Internet*

S Korea's trade surplus posts 2.15 bln USD in April despite weak exports

SEOUL, 2 May—South Korea's trade balance posted a surplus of 2.15 billion US dollars last month as reducing exports were offset by falling imports, a government report showed on Tuesday. Trade surplus reached 2.15 billion dollars in April, down from a surplus of 2.45 billion dollars tallied in the previous month, according to the report by the Ministry of Knowledge Economy. For the first four months of this year, the surplus amounted to 3.82 billion dollars.

Exports, which account for more than half of the economy, contracted 4.7 percent on-year to 46.24 billion dollars in April, while imports fell 0.2 percent to 44.11 billion dollars over the cited period. The exports recovered its growth trend in February after recording its first decline in 27 months in January,

but it again marked the on-year contraction for two straight months in April. In March, the exports shrank 1.4 percent on an on-year basis. The ministry attributed the export contraction to high base effect, saying that South Korea's exports temporarily jumped last April due to supply disruption in Japan last year following the Fukushima nuclear disaster.

The negative growth was also attributed to continued reduction in exports to Europe and declining outbound shipments of ships and telecommunication devices. A fall in working days stemming from general election last month contributed to April's weak exports, the ministry said. Exports of telecommunication devices sank 37.1 percent on-year in April, with overseas shipments of ships and

petroleum products declining 21.7 percent and 11.1 percent respectively. Demand for chips, petrochemical products and liquid crystal display (LCD) panels also decreased over the same period.

Auto exports, however, expanded 13.6 percent on-year in April, shoring up the export-driven economy's growth momentum, while shipments of general machinery, autoparts and steel products grew 8.5 percent, 4.8 percent and 4 percent each. By region, exports to the Middle East, the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) increased 34.9 percent, 5.6 percent and 4 percent on-year in April respectively, but shipments to European Union (EU) and Japan tumbled 16.7 percent and 11.3 percent each.—Xinhua

High-end Chinese brands coming soon

BEIJING, 2 May — As foreign luxury brands compete to carve out portions of China's fast-growing market, experts are predicting that Chinese companies will soon develop luxury brands of their own. It is time for domestic enterprises to establish luxury brands, since China has already become the dominant driver of growth in the luxury sector, said Zhou Ting, executive director of the research center for luxury goods and services at the University of International Business and Economics. The sales volume of China's luxury market was 11.5 billion euros (\$15 billion) in 2011, a

year-on-year growth of 25 percent, according to PricewaterhouseCoopers International Ltd.

Potential domestic luxury brands could come from some traditional Chinese industries, including liquor, tea, porcelain and silk, said Yang Qingshan, a guest researcher of luxury goods and services at UIBE. The research center listed 10 domestic brands with the potential to become luxury brands in its luxury report in November. Three liquor brands — Moutai, Wuliangye and Langjiu — are among the 10 brands. Zhuyeqing tea and some

clothing brands, such as NE-Tiger and Shanghai Tang, are also on the list. "Many traditional Chinese products already have a feature of luxury because of their heritage," Yang said.

However, many Chinese enterprises do not want to become luxury brands, since luxury is not a positive word in Chinese culture, as frugality is advocated, Yang said. "Chinese enterprises are usually conservative." For example, the starting price for a bottle of Moutai liquor at a recent auction was 380,000 yuan (\$60,000). But Ji Keliang, honorary chairman of China Kweichow



One World Trade Center has become the tallest building in New York City on Monday, overtaking the height of the Empire State Building. The placement of a column of the 100th floor brought the colossal new steel structure of One World Trade Centre tower to a height of 1,271 feet - surpassing the frame of the Empire State Building, which was New York's tallest skyscraper, by 21 feet.—XINHUA

Moutai Distiller Co Ltd, said that the company opposes labeling its liquor as a luxury product, *Jiefang Daily Newspaper* reported in November. However, some Chinese enterprises have begun to change their attitudes toward luxury and intend to develop high-end brands.—Xinhua

Lady Gaga teacup hits \$50,000 and rising in Japan

Tokyo, 2 May — Fans bidding in a charity online auction to buy a teacup used once by pop diva Lady Gaga had offered more than four million yen (\$50,000) by Tuesday, with five days left before the hammer falls. The china cup and saucer set was used by the star at a press conference in Tokyo three months after the massive tsunami of March last year swamped a large stretch of coastline.

Lady Gaga told reporters at the time that she would auction the cup, marked with her lipstick and bearing the Japanese message "We pray for Japan" along with the star's autograph. All the money raised will be used to help young Japanese artists who want to study in the United States. The cup was put on "Yahoo! Japan Auctions" at midday Monday, with the starting price of one yen. The auction is set to finish at 1400 GMT Sunday. By Tuesday morning, more than 500 bids had been placed, with the top offer at more than 4.1 million yen. The auction can be followed at <http://page3.auctions.yahoo.co.jp/>

jp/auction/c323847712.

The quake-tsunami catastrophe killed some 19,000 people on Japan's northeast coast and sparked the world's worst nuclear accident since the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, leading to a plunge in visitors to the country. The songstress visited Japan twice after the disaster and called on tourists from around the world to follow suit. She is due back in Japan next week as part of an Asian tour.—Internet



US pop diva Lady Gaga drinks tea with teacup with the engravings "Play for Japan" at a Press conference in Tokyo on 23 June, 2011. Fans have offered more than \$50,000 by Tuesday, with five days left before the hammer falls.—INTERNET

Ohio to return wild animals to widow

COLUMBUS, 2 May — Five wild animals will soon be returned to the widow of a man who released them into the Ohio countryside last year, state officials said on Monday, raising concerns of a repeat of the panic that gripped the state when dozens of beasts including lions, tigers and bears roamed free.

Seven months after Terry Thompson released 56 exotic animals near Zanesville, Ohio, and then committed suicide, the Ohio legislature still is struggling to draft regulations on wild animal ownership. Ohio is one of only a handful of states with no restrictions on exotic animal ownership.

The state Agriculture Department said on Monday it had no legal way to prevent the five remaining animals — a spotted leopard, a black leopard, two Celebes Macaque monkeys and a brown bear — from being given to Thompson's widow. Marian Thompson has said she will take them back to the farm and put them in the cages they fled last October.

"This raises concerns, as she has indicated the cages have not been repaired, and has repeatedly refused to allow animal welfare experts to evaluate if conditions are safe for the animals and

sufficient to prevent them from escaping and endangering the community," the Agriculture Department said.

The only hope of preventing the animals' return to the Thompson family within 24 hours is for the county Humane Society to seek a court order to inspect the farm, the agency said.

"I'd love to take the law into my own hands, but I don't have the authority to do it," Governor John Kasich said. The local Humane Society could not immediately be reached for comment, nor could Marian Thompson or her attorney. Terry Thompson had been charged with animal cruelty 11 times in the seven years before he released the animals last October.

Law enforcement warned residents to stay inside and went on a big game hunt, killing 49 of the 56 animals. Six animals were captured and sent to the Columbus Zoo but one spotted leopard later died there.

Another animal was presumed eaten by others and was never accounted for. The animals have been held in quarantine at the zoo for months to watch for infectious diseases and undergo numerous tests and all have been determined free of disease.

Columbus Zoo spokeswoman Patty Peters said on Monday the quarantine was being lifted and it would be up to Thompson to arrange the safe transfer of the animals.

Reuters



A performer from the group Legs On The Wall dances while suspended from cables in front of camera crews during a media call for their production "The Voyage", in Sydney on 1 May, 2012. The Voyage will be performed in Birmingham's Victoria Square, in the United Kingdom, as part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.—INTERNET

Canada may find canola too much of a good thing

WINNIPEG, 2 May — Western Canada's farmers might be getting too much of a good thing by planting canola more often than usual to satisfy voracious demand for the oilseed, which is used to make vegetable oil and livestock meal. Canadian farmers are expected to plant a record-large area to canola for the sixth straight year, snatching acres from cereals and legumes out of their usual rotations.

Planting canola too often allows disease-causing microorganisms to build

immunity to resistant crop varieties, while also cutting production yields an average 15 percent by some estimates for the second of consecutive plantings. "Nobody can argue that there is no risk," said Murray Hartman, oilseed specialist for the Alberta government. "(Farmers) seem to put more emphasis on short term and less emphasis on long term." Crop specialists urge farmers to plant canola only once every four years, but many are more aggressive and some are even planting the oilseed in consecutive years.

Over time, lower yields would slow steadily rising production in the No 1 grower of canola/rapeseed, leaving world vegetable oil market demand unsatisfied. Disease can also affect trade conditions, with China already restricting Canadian canola imports over fungus concerns. The trend is similar to the love affair farmers have with corn in the US Midwest, where planting in consecutive years has become more common leading up to this spring's biggest corn area since 1944.—Reuters



A toy bear hangs on the entrance to Terry Thompson's property, where exotic animals were kept, in Zanesville, Ohio on 20 Oct, 2011.—REUTERS

Third regular session of First Pyithu Hluttaw concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—The 23rd day Pyithu Hluttaw session took place at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 343 MPs.

At the session, affirmation was taken, one bill ratified and parliamentary matters explained.

The name list of the 37 elected as Pyithu Hluttaw representatives in the 1st April by-elections was announced with Notification No. 17/2012 and No. 20/2012 of the Union Election Commission and 34 of those 37 attended the today's session.

Under the Section 8 (b) of the Pyithu Hluttaw Law, 34 Hluttaw representatives took affirmation in the presence of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.

Foreign Currency Expenditure Bill, which was sent back to the Pyithu Hluttaw with the amendments of Amyotha

the tight schedule, 23 rounds of meeting could be held in total during which 516 questions were asked, and 25 proposals were submitted. In detail, 516 questions were replied—126 marked questions were replied verbally, 129 marked questions replied in black and white, 253 non-marked questions replied in letter, and 8 questions withdrawn.

25 proposals were submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw—16 approved, six recorded and one sent to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and two withdrawn. Seven bills were ratified as laws and had been made public. Out of 16 bills initially submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw, three had been promulgated as laws, one yet to be enacted, five in process, two withdrawn, one recorded and four remaining for further action. Of the five bills initially submitted at the Amyotha Hluttaw, one was resolved as law with the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw, one yet to be

coordinate with ministries concerned, and related Union level organizations respecting the separate proposals of the MPs for the people their constituencies concerned in addition to questions and proposals of the MPs. Moreover, the Speaker had held discussions and made coordination with Hluttaw committees, legal affairs and special cases assessment commission and civil society. In the third regular session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw, members of some Hluttaw committees and legal affairs and special cases assessment commission could be reshuffled and reassigned as required and rights and privileges of the commission members were set, which would strengthen and enhance the competency of committees and commissions and contribute much to parliamentary functions.

The two main duties of the Hluttaw were legislation and check and



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann attends 23rd Day Third Regular Session of First Pyithu Hluttaw.
MNA

affairs and special cases assessment commission had also proposed to re-draw the seven laws and thus there had been 57 laws to be amended, cancelled and re-enacted. It would take time to discuss, amend and enact all the laws. If the constitution was to be considered as a law, there had been 397 existing laws so far.

Engaged in legislation, Hluttaw committees, commissions

Speaker were to coordinate with Union government and Union level organizations concerned to amend, cancel and re-draw the laws after assessing the existing laws enacted for said fields. In so doing, they were to act seriously analyzing whether a law could protect the interests of the nation and its people, whether it was in conformity with the constitution, international laws, dogmatism, conventions and treaties contracted by the country.

They while checking whether the rules and regulations, order, instructions, notifications and procedure manuals concerned with the laws enacted by the Hluttaw were in line with original laws, were bound to make sure all the organizations in the State and citizens abide by those laws.

Hluttaw representatives had responded well in unison and unity without party attachment, dogmatism, regionalism, racism, and sectarianism to the urges of the Speaker and thus parliamentary works could be done effectively and successfully. The Hluttaw had appreciated and recorded the actions of all the representatives who

discuss and suggest for ratification of national planning and budget bills which were of crucial importance to interests of the nation and its people.

In conclusion, Hluttaw representatives, being the people's representatives were to put public interests and national interests in the fore, learning and assessing the voices, wishes and aspirations of the people. In so doing, they had to abide by the existing laws including the constitution and cooperate in unity and unison under the laws. While the Hluttaw was adjourned, MPs were to visit the people in their respective constituencies to explain functions of the Hluttaw to them and to learn the difficulties and requirements of the people so as to fulfill their needs under the laws. In conclusion, Hluttaw representatives were to try hard to be loyal, and dutiful people's representatives who could serve the interests of the nation and its people, urged the Speaker in seriousness.

The session came to an end at 10.35 am, marking the successful completion of the third regular session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw.

MNA



34 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives taking affirmation in the presence of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.—MNA

Hluttaw was approved as no proposal was made by Pyithu Hluttaw representatives for further amendments of the bill.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker clarifying parliamentary affairs, said today was the 23rd day and also the final day of the third regular session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw. The third regular session lasted for over three months from 26 January to 2 May 2012. As it was presented on the very first day of the Hluttaw session, the session was intended to table, discuss and approve the national planning and budget bills at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. However, Pyithu Hluttaw sessions were held against

enacted and three in process.

In summary, seven had been enacted, two yet to be promulgated, eight in process, two withdrawn, one recorded and four remaining for further action. Eight in process and four remaining would be proceeded in the coming fourth session of the Hluttaw. Submitting and ratifying of questions, proposals, and bills in the available time would bring about benefits to the people, protecting their rights. The Speaker then appreciated the strenuous efforts and active cooperation of the all the MPs, committees and commissions including the Bill Committee.

The Hluttaw Speaker noted that he had to

balance. According to the analysis of the legal affairs and special cases assessment commission, there were 401 existing laws when the new government took the office and since then five were cancelled as proposed by the Hluttaw. So the number of the existing laws stood 396. During the second session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw 15 laws were amended and enacted and 11 in the third regular session.

In addition, 16 laws were under discussion in the parliament, 14 were proposed by the Pyithu Hluttaw to amend and 20 being prepared for amendment by respective Union level committees, totaling 50 laws proposed for amendment. The legal

and MPs who had to shoulder the responsibilities of the Hluttaw and Hluttaw

Myanmar, Thai discuss Myanmar labour issues in Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint held talks with Labour Minister of Thailand Mr Phadetchai Sasomsub over issues of Myanmar workers in Thailand on 23 April, at the latter's office in Bangkok.

At the office of the Thai Labour Minister in Bangkok, Deputy Minister U Maung Myint raised the concern of Myanmar authority to Thai Minister and requested to ensure the equal rights of Myanmar labourers at Patana seafood factory and to fulfill the promised rights according to the contact signed by Charge d' Affaires of Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok U Myo Tint together with Myanmar Labour Attache' and authority

concerned from Thai Labour Ministry made through discussions with Myanmar workers' representatives on 21 April and a 17-point agreement was signed.

The Deputy Minister requested to follow up the implementation of the agreements and release of eight Myanmar workers detained in Phuket region. Thai labour minister also conveyed the message that there were misunderstanding due to miscommunication between the owner and labourer at the Patana Seafood factory and it occurred while he was out of the country. However, the Minister instructed his ministry to do necessary and promised to protect and treat Myanmar workers equally.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Chairman of International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body and party

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Chairman of International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body Mr Greg Vines and party at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, General Hla Htay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Lt-Gen Hla Min of the Commander-in-Chief's Office, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and Judge Advocate-General Lt-Gen Yar Pyae.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body Chairman and party were accompanied by Employees' Group Vice-Chairman Mr Luc Cortebeek of ILO Governing Body, Secretary of Employers' Group Mr Brent Wilton of ILO Governing Body, Executive Director Mr Guy Ruder of ILO and officials.

At the call, they discussed tasks being carried out by Tatmadaw among the tasks being jointly undertaken by the Government and ILO Governing Body.



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Chairman of International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body Mr Greg Vines and party.—MNA

Union NPED Minister receives Assistant Secretary-General of UN for Peace Building Support



Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein receives Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations for Peace Building Support Ms Judy Cheng Hopkins and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein received Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations for Peace Building Support Ms Judy Cheng Hopkins at his office here this morning.

During the meeting, they had a discussion on aids to be provided for basic needs of the people and job opportunities, and effective management of local and

foreign aids for the people.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Dr Kan Zaw and officials concerned and UN Resident Representative and Humanitarian Coordinator Mr Ashok Nigam.

MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister attends Workers' Day celebration

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win attended a ceremony to mark the Workers' Day for 2012 in Bago yesterday.

During the ceremony, he read out the message for the Workers'

Day sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein.

The Region Chief Minister viewed the documentary photos on activities of factories in Bago displayed at the

ceremony.

The ceremony was also attended by Deputy Speaker of Bago Region Hluttaw, Bago region ministers, departmental officials and workers from factories in Bago.

MNA

Union F&R Minister leaves for Manila to attend 45th annual meeting of Asian Development Bank

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun together with Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein left here by air

yesterday morning to attend the 45th annual meeting of Asian Development Bank to be held in Manila of the Philippines.

They were seen off

at Yangon International Airport by the managing directors and directors-general of departments and enterprises of the ministry.—MNA



Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung delivers an address at coordination meeting for Kaladan River Course Multipurpose Transportation Project. (News reported).

MNA

Kayin State Chief Minister opens Eng: proficiency course in Hpa-an

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Opening of Summer English Proficiency Course - 2012 was held at No 4 Basic Education High School, Kayin State on 25 April, with an opening address by Chief Minister of Kayin State U Zaw Min.

A total of 254 teachers and service personnel are attending the course for the course.

After the ceremony, the State Chief Minister U Zaw Min held a meeting with Ms Yumi Bae, Chief of Field

Operations of UNICEF at the meeting hall of Kayin State government office over social issues in Kayin State.

Afterwards, the Chief Minister and Ms Yumi Bae went to Kayin State People's Hospital and provided cash assistance to quadruplets.

The state chief minister also attended a ceremony to give loans to farmers as part of the rural area development and poverty alleviation plan at a monastery in Kawkyeik Village, Hpa-an Township.

During the ceremony, State Chief Minister U Zaw Min and Kayin state ministers and head of Kayin State Cooperative Department presented agricultural loans to farmers at K1 million for 10 acres rate amounted to K20 million.

They also visited a chicken farm near Taungthugon Village and inspected land reclamation by Kayin State Irrigation Department for rice-cum-fish farming.

MNA



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham presents bouquet to Chinese acrobatic troupe.

MNA

with the Chinese acrobatic dancers to make the concert livelier, he said.

All in all, exchanging concerts in such cultural exchange programmes could boost friendship between the two peoples, mutual understanding and bilateral engagement he said. He wished extension of such cultural exchange programmes and success of tonight show. He again thanked the Chinese acrobatic troupe.

Next, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Junhua extended greetings. The Chinese acrobatic team then entertained with acrobatic skills, followed by performance of Myanmar youths who learned acrobatic

skills from China.

The Chinese acrobatic team again staged their performance and the entertainment came to an end. Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Junhua presented bouquet of flowers to the Chinese acrobatic team.

The Vice-President and guests posed for documentary photo together with the Chinese acrobatic troupe.

The Chinese acrobatic troupe entertained Yangonites for two nights on 29 and 30 April and they will perform at Mandalay National Theatre on 4 and 5 May. The proceeds of the concert will go to charity for Myanmar Libraries Foundation.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham...

(from page 16)

The Union Minister went on to say that according to the ancient Chinese records, a 35-member Pyu artists team from Myanmar in BC 802, went to China for entertainment purpose. Today's entertainment show had proved that the fine tradition of exchanging of cultural troupes between the two nations was still alive since then till now. Such fine traditions had cemented the mutual understanding and amity not only between the two governments but also between the two peoples.

The two nations were among the first countries to adopt and exercise the five principles of peaceful co-existence which was now regarded as the fundamental principles of the international relations today. The two neighbours, based on the five principles of peaceful co-existence, had successfully cooperated over matters of mutual interests in international and regional arena over sixty years of diplomatic ties.

Now, thanks to the bilateral cooperation, the two countries could see milestones of win-win situation in all sectors such as economy, trade, agriculture, hydropower,

energy, oil and gas, and transportation, benefiting much to the people of the two nations.

Today's performance of Chinese acrobatic troupe was displayed as a cultural exchange programme for enhancing mutual understanding and friendship between China and Myanmar peoples, he said. The Chinese acrobatic troupe during their stay in Myanmar from 27 April to 6 May would stage their performance in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay, he said. The proceeds of their shows will go to charity for Myanmar Libraries Foundation, the Union Minister said.

He went on to say that the MLF was established with the purpose for "helping already-established rural libraries emerge and survive as well-founded libraries meeting the five standards in order to transform today's Myanmar society into a learning one". It is a fundamental organization for benefits of future Myanmar society, he pointed out.

On behalf of the Information Ministry and MLF, he thanked Chinese acrobatic troupe for donating all the proceeds from the shows to the foundation.

The audiences would enjoy the performance of 10 Myanmar acrobatic dancers who studied acrobatics in the People's Republic of China in 2009 and 2010 side by side

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan extends greeting at Chinese acrobatic performance.

MNA



Work Committee for progress of border areas and national races holds coord meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May— The work committee for progress of border areas and national races held its work coordination meeting No. 1/2012 today at Ministry of Border Affairs here today.

Chairman of the committee Union Minister for Border Affairs and Myanmar Industry Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Secretary of the work committee Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win and members of the work committees deputy ministers, state/region security and border affairs ministers and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay said 17 ethnic armed groups and 23 small groups had already returned to the legal fold since 1988 and the ministry had implemented yearly plans to assist in resettlement and livelihood of their families.

He called on work sub-committees for reviewing the tasks which were carried out in the 2011-2012 fiscal year and for coordinating the targeted plans to be implemented from the 2012-2013 fiscal year to the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

From the 1989-1990 fiscal year to the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the ministry had spent K177.719 billion from the border areas development budget and K 289.886 billion from other ministries, amounted to K467.605 billion so far, the Union Minister said.

Regarding the cooperation with international organizations for border areas development, he said that the ministry had worked together with six UN agencies and

17 NGOs, signing MoUs with international organizations on implementing development tasks in 270 townships, contributing K381.524 billion equivalent to US\$ 476.906 million directly to the people.

The ministry has a plan to implement the 3-year project for settlement and security for migrant people in Myainggyingu Region, Kayin State, the 3-year plan for development of Naga self-administrative zone and the development projects in Chin State which has 73% of poverty rate. The ministry would spend K6094.613 million on border areas development tasks in the 2012-2013 fiscal year, he added.

He stressed the need for extensive cooperation between the Union Government, state governments, international organizations, INGOs, local NGOs, people of national races for the development border areas.

Secretary of the work committee Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Win said that the ministry would implement 29 projects for road facilities in the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Regarding the situation in Kachin State, he said that Kachin State government has been working together with ministries concerned, Hluttaw representatives, NGOs, INGOs for resettlement and rehabilitation of Internal displaced people.

Participants of the meeting took part in the discussion and the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the Union Minister.

MNA



Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Junhua extends greeting.—MNA

Union Energy Minister receives General Director of Production Association BELORUSNEFT Company of Belarus

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May— Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay received General Director Mr A Lyakhov of Production Association BELORUSNEFT Company of Belarus at the ministry, here, this morning.

They discussed cooperation in oil and natural gas industry between Myanmar and Belarus, technological assistance of BELORUSNEFT to technicians of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and conducting of training courses.

The Union Minister also received

Russian Ambassador Dr Mikhail M Mgeladze and General Director Mr Edward Kropp of JSC Dalmorneftegeophysica Company of Russia. The Russian company expressed their willing that it would like to mutually cooperate with Myanmar in seismic exploration in offshore and onshore oil blocks. The Union Minister explained the rules and regulations for the oil industry and allowed the company to take part in the works in line with the prescribed procedure.—MNA

Third regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw concludes



Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint attends 21st day third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—The 21st day third regular session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw was held at the Hall of Amyotha Hluttaw, Hluttaw Complex here at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 161 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

At the meeting, four new Amyotha Hluttaw representatives took

affirmation in accord with the Amyotha Hluttaw Law section (8), subsection (b) in the presence of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, and signed.

After that, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker wished the representatives reach their home without any difficulties, and may all representatives meet their wishes to the full. He also wished may all

representatives attend fourth regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw which is scheduled to be held in coming July.

The Hluttaw announced that the 21st day third regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw was ended and the meeting was successfully concluded.

The meeting came to an end at 10.15 am.

MNA

Four Amyotha Hluttaw representatives taking affirmation in front of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker.

MNA

Union FM felicitates Polish counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 May—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Radoslaw Sikorski, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Poland which falls on 3 May 2012.—MNA

Development, poverty alleviation efforts stepped up in Paletwa Township

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun inspected forests and environmental conservation works along the Kaledan River in Paletwa, Chin State, on 30 April.

During the visit, the Union Minister met with local people in Paletwa and pledged that the union government would assist in improving livelihood of local people as part of efforts for poverty alleviation project as Paletwa township located



Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun views Basic Education High School in Paletwa Township.—MNA

in the southern most part of Chin State was an under-developed area.

The union government had been implementing tasks for promoting health, education and social sectors and for generating hydro power and construction of roads linking villages in 12 townships in Chin State and road transportation would be improved in the state, he said.

Besides, peace making process are being made in Chin State as part of efforts for peace and stability in the state, he said.

As Kaledan River project is being implemented, Paletwa would enjoy fruits of development, he said.

The Union Minister also stressed the need for creating job opportunities for the local people, pledging micro-credit schemes for the local people to be able to take part in the one village, one product projects.

Afterwards, the Union Minister handed over a total of K74.2 million for taking development tasks in Paletwa Township.

During the visit, the Union Minister inspected the Basic Education High School and the township people's hospital in Paletwa Township and fulfilled the requirements of the hospital.—MNA

KIA (Kachin) armed group blasts Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—About eight inches of both sides of railway between Pyidaung railway station and Malikha railway station on Mandalay-Myitkyina Railroad were cut in explosion of mine planted by KIA (Kachin) armed group at 2.25 am today.

The body with KIA camouflage uniform was found 50 feet east of the railway near the scene. Engineers' team of Mogaung railway station repaired the damaged railroad and normal

Basic English Course conducted at Union Auditor-General's Office

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—The opening ceremony of Basic English Course No. 1 was held at the meeting hall of Union Auditor-General's Office this morning, attended by Deputy Auditor-General U Myo Myint.

Making a speech on the occasion, the Deputy Auditor-General urged the

trainees to improve their English skills better than ever. This course aimed ennobling the trainees to gain knowledge from the world as a result of learning English and to turn out many outstanding staff who are reliable for the department.

MNA

Maintenance of roads, bridges inspected in Ayeyawady Region

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin on 29 April inspected maintenance of Twantay-Maubin Road and Khihtiya Bridge.

He looked into maintenance of road section between mile posts 22/7 and

23/0 on Maubin-Kyaiklat-Pyaon-Bogaleroad, Kyonku Bridge on Pyaon-Bogale Road and Kalagi Creek Bridge.

He viewed progress of piers and approach bridge at Bogale River Bridge Project.

The deputy minister inspected conditions of gravel section from mile posts 0/0 and 8/4 on Bogale-Kyeinchaung-Kadonkani section and earthen section, approach structure and concrete posts of Kyein Creek Bridge.—MNA

transport resumed at about 10.30 am. Local people are concerned about such destructive acts of KIA (Kachin) armed group in these days.—MNA

Prizes awarded in Maha Thingyan in Kawthoung

KAWTHOUNG, 2 May—A ceremony to present prizes to the winners was held at Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival in Kawthoung of Kawthoung District on 16 April evening.

It was attended by Deputy Commissioner U Myint Than of District General Administration Department, Township Administrator U Parcy and departmental officials,



choral dancers and local people.

The Deputy Commissioner of the District General

Administration Department extended greetings. Officials presented prizes to the winners.—*Myanma Alin*

RESPECTS PAID: *Chairman of Myittawadi Meals Offering Dhammayon U Thein Win, the ward administrator and members and local people paying respects to 43 older persons at the Dhammayon in West Ywathit of Aung San Ward in Insein Township on 17 April.*—MYANMA ALIN



DISTRICT NEWS

Toungoo Township Writers and Journalists Association holds Annual General Meeting

TOUNGOO, 2 May—Toungoo Township Writers and Journalists Association held the meeting at the hall of Township Information and Public Relations Department in Toungoo on 28 April.

Meeting Chairman U Pwint Thu Aung and Staff Officer of the District IPRDU Sein Mya delivered speeches.

Secretary of the association U Mya Thein submitted the report of the township executive committee, and treasurer U Yu Lwin (Maung Kyay Si-Ketumati) the financial statement.

Next, U Aye Shwe (Aye Shwe-Ketumati), U Mya Thein (Toungoo-Aung Htoo), U San Hla (San-Ketu), U Pwint Thu Aung (Tekkatho Pwint Thu Aung) and U Soe Myint (Lwan Thitsa) were elected as members of the township organizing committee.

Thiha Ko Ko Myanma Alin

Plan to extend meteorological stations in five places

MANDALAY, 2 May—A plan is underway to extend construction of meteorological stations for performing surveillance of climate change in Myanmar and for issuing weather forecasts to the people in time.

Two stations will be built in Kayah State, two more stations in Kayin State and one station in Labutta Township of Ayeyawady Region. Preparations are being made for installation of seismological equipment.

The offices of Meteorology and Hydrology are opened in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.

A total of 100 meteorological stations have been opened in cities of regions and states and districts to issue weather forecasts through TV, radio and newspapers in time.

Thiha Ko Ko

Future Youth Library put into service in Ahmar



AHMAR, 2 May—A ceremony to open new building of Future Youth Library was held in conjunction with the cash and book donation ceremony in front of the library in Aukseikkwin Village of Ahmar Sub-Township in Pyapon Township of Ayeyawady Region on 9 April morning.

Administrator of Ahmar Sub-Township U Aung Win,

Deputy Head of Sub-Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Naw Lay Liyan and Village-tract administrator U Kyar Sein formally opened the building of the library.

Later, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and well-wisher local people donated books and cash to the fund of the library.

Myanma Alin

Hopin Sub-Township gets new gravel road

HOPIN, 2 May—The gravel road, 1120 feet long and 12 feet wide, was inaugurated in Myazeya Ward of Hopin Sub-Township in Mohnyin District of Kachin State on 6 April morning.

The road was built at a cost of K 7183900 by Township Development Affairs Committee in 2011-2012 fiscal year.

Officials explained



matters related to the road. Kachin State Hluttaw representative U Nyi Lay, Sub-Township Administrator U Khaing Tun Zaw, in-charge of the Sub-Township Development Affairs Committee U Soe Than, IP Yan Naing Win of Sub-Township Police Station and Myazeya Ward administrator U Nyunt Win formally opened the new road.—*Myanma Alin*

Plans underway to upgrade parks, playgrounds in Yangon

YANGON, 2 May—Parks and Playgrounds Department of Yangon City Development Committee has planned to upgrade parks and playgrounds this fiscal year.

“The task will be undertaken to upgrade present status of the parks and playgrounds for betterment. Mainly, plans have been adopted to enable the people to take relaxation at the parks and playgrounds. At present, upgrading tasks are being carried out at five parks and 22 playgrounds,” said the

deputy head of Parks and Playgrounds Department of YCDC at an interview.

The department calculates cost for the upgrading the parks and playgrounds at present. It was reported that plans are underway to ensure tranquility and security for relaxation of the people at the parks and playgrounds.

“The parks are Maha Bandoola Park on 7.43 acres of land, Kandaw Mingala Park on 22.02 acres of land, People’s Square and People’s Park on 135 acres, Kanthaya Kokkine Park on

2.13 acres of land and Shukhintha Park on 19.39 acres of land. All parks will be upgraded this fiscal year. With regard to playgrounds, priority will be given to upgrading the facilities in the busy places,” he continued.

There are 58 parks and 85 small and large playgrounds in the municipal area of Yangon City Development Committee.

In the previous years, upgrading works have been undertaken in the parks and playgrounds of the YCDC.

Khin Lay Myint Aung

MLF invites cash, books

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.



ISSUANCE OF CSC INSPECTED: *Nyaunglebin Township Immigration and National Registration Department implemented Moe Pwint-2 Plan at Myoma Ward 1 Administrative Office in Nyaunglebin Township of Bago Region. On 20 April, Staff Officer U Myo Lwin of the Township INRD and staff carrying out issuance of the citizenship scrutiny cards under supervision of Bago Region Hluttaw representative U Soe Paing and officials.*—TOWNSHIP IMMIGRATION

Fire breaks out in Kyansittha Ward of Myinmu



MYINMU, 2 May—A fire broke out at house of Ma Mya Thet, 37, in Kyansittha Ward in Myinmu Township of Sagaing Region, starting at 10.10 pm on 26 April.

The fire burnt nine houses, leaving 32 people of nine households. There was no casualty of man and animal.

Local people put out fire

with the use of fine engines from Myinmu Township Fire Services Department, Myanmar Petroleum Product Enterprise and Bandoola Ward, water tankers, totalling 10. The fire was died out at 11.40 pm.

Action was taken against Ma Mya Thet, under Pa 90/2012, Section 285 of the law.—*Kyemon*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (015)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (015) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-7 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: NYK LINE, TOKYO JAPAN

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CLIPPER MEADOW VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CLIPPER MEADOW VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-2 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 SCAN-TRANS
KUALALUMPUR MALAYSIA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (07A)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (07A) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DELIGHT VOY NO (157)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELIGHT VOY NO (157) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Over 25% of Japanese in twenties mull suicide

Tokyo, 2 May — More than a quarter of Japanese in their twenties have thought about taking their own life, according to a survey released on Wednesday, in a nation with one of the world's highest suicide rates.

The survey found that 28.4 of respondents in their twenties had contemplated suicide, the highest of any age group, while 36.2 percent of that group had considered taking their own life in the past year, according to the report.

"The data show that the younger people hesitate to talk to others, or cannot find

anyone to talk to when they have a problem because of shallow relationships with others," said the survey conducted by Japan's Cabinet Office. "They tend to suffer alone," it added. Overall, 23.4 percent of the more than 2,000 adult respondents said they had thought of committing suicide, up 4.3 percentage points from the previous and first such survey conducted in 2008. The ratio stood at 27.1 percent for women and 19.1 percent for men. Japan, with a population of about 128 million, has one of the world's highest suicide rates, according to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. More than 30,000 people take their lives annually in Japan amid rising unemployment, with family troubles and health problems also cited as key factors behind many of those suicides.

Internet



A pair of female tiger cubs enjoy themselves at a pond during a hot summer day in Gandhi Zoological Park in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh of India, on 30 April, 2012.

XINHUA

SARASOTA, 2 May — Two Florida grandparents have been arrested after police say they hooked their granddaughter's plastic toy car to their SUV and gave her a ride. A Sarasota County deputy said he spotted the 7-year-old wearing a bathing suit and no helmet as she was towed behind the SUV Sunday. Her toy car was tied to a trailer hitch with dog leashes. She was not harmed.

The Sarasota Herald-Tribune reports the vehicle was travelling less than 10 mph. Paul Berloni was charged with driving under the influence, child endangerment and driving with a suspended license. Belinda Berloni faces a child endangerment charge. Both admitted they had been drinking.— *Internet*

Corrigendum

Please read 2,178±10% Metric Tons instead of 2,78±10% Metric Tons in INVITATION FOR TENDER of Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise appeared in this newspaper on 2-5-2012.

Grandparents charged with towing kid behind SUV



Rescuers sitting on rubber boats Tuesday crisscrossed on the wide water to look for possible survivors of a doomed ferry, which capsized and sank in northeast India.

XINHUA

Oscars' home renamed Dolby Theatre

LOS ANGELES, 2 May — The home of the Academy Awards, former Kodak Theater, is being renamed Dolby Theatre as the theater owner CIM group announced on Tuesday a 20-year naming agreement with Dolby Laboratories. The audio technology giant beat out 10 other bidders for the naming rights. Dolby Laboratories said in a statement on its website that the Dolby Theatre would "serve as a

showcase for the latest innovations from the leader in entertainment technology."

It said that Dolby would start its enhancement of the 180,000-square-foot, 3,400-seat theatre first by installing Dolby Atmos, a breakthrough audio technology that delivers the most natural, life-like sensory experience. The company will also continue to update the theatre with newer technologies as it arrives.

"These improvements will make the Dolby Theatre a top venue for the world's biggest movie premieres and launch events for years to come," the statement said.

On the same day, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences and CIM also announced a new agreement to extend the lease to keep the awards presentation for 20 more years. Kodak signed a 20-year

contract in 2000 for naming rights of the Hollywood theater. However, the deal was terminated as the century-old photography giant filed bankruptcy earlier this year. Under the new contract, the Dolby Theatre will host the Academy Awards through 2033.

Dolby Laboratories was founded by American Ray Dolby in London in 1965 and then moved back to the United States in 1975. Since the 1960s, Dolby Laboratories has been a leader in audio innovation. Beginning with Dolby noise reduction, a form of audio compression and expansion that reduces background hiss in tape recording, Dolby Laboratories has developed many groundbreaking technologies, advancing the science of audio reproduction, including Dolby Digital 5.1 audio, Dolby Surround, Dolby 3D Digital Cinema and others.— *Xinhua*

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Mexico shaken by several quakes

MEXICO CITY, 2 May — Several earthquakes rattled Mexico on Tuesday, but there were no reports of injuries or damage as the country celebrated a national holiday.

The first quake shook near the northwest, off the coast of Baja California, just before 9 am local time and there were no reports of damage.

That quake registered a

5.0 magnitude at a depth of 6 miles, the US Geological Survey said. The second tremor, in the central state of Michoacan, struck before noon and shook Mexico City, although the epicenter was more than 100 miles away.

Traffic and street life in the capital continued as normal just moments after the tremor, witnesses said. "I've lived through plenty of

earthquakes. But I didn't feel that one," said Elias Munoz, 70, who runs a kiosk in Mexico City's central Roma neighbourhood.

The USGS said the quake that hit Michoacan had a magnitude of 5.7 and was recorded at a depth of 56 miles.

The magnitude was revised from 5.5. The epicentre was 128 miles southwest of the Mexican Capital. Fausto

Vallejo, governor of Michoacan, said on his Twitter account there were no reports of damage in the state.

Mexico City Mayor Marcelo Ebrard tweeted there were no reports of damage there.

The third quake, a magnitude 6.3, struck off the coast of southwest Mexico near the Guatemalan border, said the USGS.

Internet

Teacher suspended for student test bets

Officials at a Swedish school said a teacher was suspended and faces dismissal after making a cash wager with students about whether they would pass his exam.

Vaxjo municipality education officials said the teacher, whose name was not released, told his students he would pay them each \$14.85 if they passed the exam, but they would each have to pay him \$29.75 if they failed, *The Local* reported on Friday.

Of the four students who accepted the bet, one passed, one failed, one was absent due to illness and one never turned in the exam.

"I wanted to be fair and honest and give

my teacher 200 kronor (\$29.75) seeing as I failed the test," the student who failed said.

The student said he believes the school board is "overreacting" to the incident.

The teacher said he regrets making the bet, which he described as an incentive to help students raise their test scores amid pressure from the school board.

Michael Fardigh, the municipality's personnel manager, said the teacher is likely to be dismissed.

"It is a question of taking advantage of a person who is dependent on you. To make them hand over money for not passing a test is highly inappropriate behaviour," he said.

Thieves: Sheep are in 'protective custody'

The culprits behind the theft of 31 sheep slated to be culled in Canada due to suspected illness said the animals are in "protective custody."

The sheep, belonging to Montana Jones of Wholearth Farmstudio in Trent Hills, Ontario, were quarantined by Canadian Food Inspection Agency officials in January 2010 after a sheep sold to another ranch in 2007 was found to have died of the

neurological disease scrapie, the *Globe and Mail* reported on Monday.

Jones attempted to fight in court to have the quarantine lifted and prevent officials from having the animals culled, but the agency announced plans on 2 April to have the 31 remaining sheep in the flock destroyed.

However, the sheep disappeared from the ranch earlier this month, with a group calling itself the Farmers'

Peace Corps taking responsibility in a note.

"We have taken the animals into protective custody until an alternative to killing has been found, or conclusive independent proof or clear evidence of disease has been proven. This has been done without the knowledge or participation of the owner," the note read.

Police said they are searching for the thieves and the flock.

Prosecutor investigated for pot growing

A California deputy district attorney is being investigated after authorities discovered about 150 marijuana plants growing at his home. Mendocino County Sheriff's Capt Kurt Smallcomb said a search warrant was served at the Ukiah-area home Deputy District Attorney Sergio Fuentes shares with his mother, and deputies discovered about 150 marijuana plants growing inside the house, *The Press Democrat* of Santa Rosa reported.

District Attorney's Office spokesman Mike Geniella said Fuentes has been placed on paid administrative leave while the investigation is ongoing. No arrests have yet been made in the case.

Prison bus involved in highway crash

Illinois State Police said there were minor injuries but no reports of escapes when a prison bus was involved in a crash on Interstate 55.

Police said traffic was slowed after the bus was involved in a crash on Interstate 55 near the Pulaski Road exit, WBBM-AM, Chicago, reported.

The crash resulted in

minor injuries to a sheriff's officer and a prisoner, police told the *Chicago Sun-Times*.

The newspaper reported that the bus in the accident was part of a convoy taking prisoners to Stateville Correctional Centre in Crest Hill, Ill.

News Album



Thieves stole 31 sheep from a farm in Ontario, Canada.

Legend replaces Richie on 'Duets'

LOS ANGELES, 2 May—Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter John Legend has joined the cast of the US singing competition series "Duets," ABC said Monday.

Legend and fellow recording stars Kelly Clarkson, Jennifer Nettles and Robin Thicke will individually search the country for two singers each thinks is worthy of being their duet partners. The stars will then compete alongside the newcomers each week before a live studio audience. The winning duet



Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter John Legend has joined the cast of the US singing competition series "Duets," ABC said on Monday.—INTERNET

partner will be awarded a recording contract with Hollywood Records.

Lionel Richie initially was announced as a cast member of "Duets," but his name wasn't mentioned in a news release ABC issued Monday and no explanation was given for the casting change.

The show is to premiere on the network on 24 May, with TV personality Quddus serving as host.

"I'm thrilled to be part of 'Duets' and I'm looking forward to finding an undiscovered gem out there. This is going to be a lot of fun," Legend said in a statement Monday.—INTERNET

Chris Evans picky about dating

LOS ANGELES, 2 May—Actor Chris Evans, who has dated actresses Jessica Biel Amy Smart, says he has a strange choice when it comes to girls. "I like strange things. I wish you could see some of the girls I have genuinely had crushes on in my life. They're not the girls you would assume," *dailystar.co.uk* quoted him as saying.

"I like girls who are self-deprecating. I like girls who can make fun of themselves and I like generosity. I like compassionate people," he said.

"I am not looking for some businesswoman who's out there making millions and just here to take the world by storm. I just want someone with a good soul," said the 30-year-old. *Internet*



Actor Chris Evans

Robert Wagner's daughter faces charges

MALIBU, 2 May—Courtney Wagner, the 38-year-old daughter of actor Robert Wagner, was arrested in California on drug-possession charges, TMZ reported. Law-enforcement sources told the celebrity news Web site Wagner was arrested

on 22 April on cocaine and heroin possession charges after police were called to her home to investigate a complaint of a loud fight involving a gunshot.

No injuries were reported in the incident.

TMZ said Monday an unidentified male was arrested at the scene for negligent discharge of a firearm.

Wagner posted \$10,000 bail but it was unclear if the other person is still in custody, the Web site said.

Courtney Wagner's mother, Natalie Wood, a star in "Miracle on 34th Street," "West Side Story," "Splendor in the Grass," "Gypsy" and other movies, died in November 1981. Her death was ruled an accidental drowning.

Robert Wagner, 82, starred in the TV shows "It Takes a Thief," "Switch" and "Hart to Hart."

Internet



Robert Wagner at a movie premiere with his daughters Courtney, left, and Katie.

INTERNET



Kevin Jonas and his wife Danielle Deleasa

Kevin Jonas to star in E! reality series

LOS ANGELES, 2 May—US cable network E! says it plans to air a reality show about pop singer Kevin Jonas and his wife, Danielle. Jonas is a member of the fraternal music group the Jonas Brothers. He met Danielle Deleasa while on a family vacation in the Bahamas, and the couple married in 2009.

"Danielle is living a true Cinderella story after marrying into pop royalty, partnering in Kevin's larger-than-life career and becoming a 'Jonas,' a name synonymous with hit music and a worldwide fan base," Lisa Berger, president of entertainment programming for E!, said in a statement Monday.

"The series presents a unique look at a young couple and their families from two entirely different worlds—one small town and one dealing with international fame—coming together as one and starting a whole new life together."

"Married to Jonas" is to premiere on 19 Aug.

Internet

Whitney Cummings gets E! chat show

LOS ANGELES, 2 May—US cable network E! says it plans to start airing the new weekly talk show "Love You, Mean It with Whitney Cummings" in late 2012.

"This show gives me a chance to get back to my stand-up roots," Cummings, an actress and writer, said in a statement. "And I'm really excited to be able to say (almost) whatever I'd like on



Whitney Cummings attends the NBC Universal Press Tour All-Star Party in Pasadena, California on 6 Jan, 2012.

INTERNET

TV again. So thanks, E!" "Bringing audiences even more distinctive comedic voices and clever humor is an important part of our programming strategy and brand evolution," said Lisa Berger, president of entertainment programming E! "We knew that Whitney was something special when she was starting her comedy career on our 'Chelsea Lately' roundtable.—INTERNET

Colin Firth fights for Brazilian tribe

LONDON, 2 May—Actor Colin Firth has launched an appeal to save the lives and land of the Awa people, a hunter-gatherer tribe in Brazil's rain forests, from illegal loggers. "When the loggers see them, they kill them. Their bows and arrows are no match for guns. Another people



Actor Colin Firth

wiped out," *femalefirst.co.uk* quoted him as saying in the video for Survival International. "One man can stop this Brazil's Minister of Justice. He can send in the federal police to catch the loggers, and keep them out for good. But we need enough people to message him. This is our chance, right now, to actually do something. And if enough people show they care, it will work," he said.

Internet

Premier League Players' Kit Scheme re-opens

LONDON, 2 May — The Premier League Players' Kit Scheme has re-opened, with schools and clubs encouraged to apply for kit for the new football season. So far more than 700 teams have been selected by the Premier League Charitable Fund to receive the kits, which is a full set of strips and training gear. The teams successfully applied for the Scheme at premierleague.com during the first two application periods this season. A third and final application phase is now open and the Premier League is urging local clubs to get involved so that they can have brand new kit for the next football season.

Everton defender Leighton Baines helped launch the latest application phase when he



Leighton Baines with pupils from St Joseph The Worker Catholic Primary School.—INTERNET

visited his old primary school in Kirkby, Merseyside to hand over the free football kit and training equipment in person. Baines surprised pupils by turning up to a special training session, which was being delivered by coaches from the club's official charity, Everton in the Community, and offered the youngsters tips and advice about the game before taking part in a question and answer session. Speaking about the donation, Baines said: "It was great to come back and meet the kids and see some of my former teachers and it feels great to help the school out with the kit.

"I've got a cousin who works at the school who said they needed it. I'm not sure if they were still using the same kit from the time when I was here but by the sounds of it they might have been. The kids seem really happy and I'm sure it will go to good use over the coming years." One of the 700 teams to benefit from the Premier League Players' Kit Scheme was Bolton Woods Junior Football Club in Bradford, and General Manager Tony Miller explained how significant the kit would be. "Bolton Woods focuses on socially and economically deprived areas of the city," said Miller.

"We aim to help young people overcome feelings of isolation and to break down territorialism in a relaxed and non-competitive atmosphere through sport.—Internet



Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini.

INTERNET

MANCHESTER, 2 May — Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini says the Barclays Premier League title race is far from over despite their 1-0 victory over Manchester United on Monday. City's slender win sent them top of the table on goal difference from United with only two matches left in the 2011/12 season. If City win at Newcastle United on Sunday and then at home to Queens Park Rangers the week after, it should be enough for them to lift the Premier League trophy for the first time.

But Mancini is refusing to get carried away, and the Italian still believes United—who have matches against Swansea and Sunderland left

Mancini: Title race is not over yet

to play—are favourites. "We have the title in our hands, but Manchester United are still the favourites," said Mancini after his side completed a League double over their neighbours. "It's a great victory and we are top again, but United have two easy games left because Swansea and Sunderland have nothing to play for and we have two difficult ones.

"It's far from finished. If we think it is finished we are making a big mistake. I am

happy we are top, but it doesn't change anything. Football is crazy. "Tonight, we wanted to win and they wanted a draw. They had all their players behind the ball. That is the difference. We wanted to win, we played better and we took our chance." Captain Kompany, who headed home at the end of the first half to earn City all three crucial points, agreed with his manager that the team's real test now lies in the next two matches.—Internet



Manchester City captain Vincent Kompany heads in their winner against Manchester United. INTERNET

Defending champion

Davydenko upset in Munich

MUNICH, 2 May — Colombian qualifier Robert Farah upset defending champion Nikolay Davydenko 6-3, 6-2 in the opening round of the BMW Open on Tuesday. The seventh-seeded Russian, who also won the tournament in 2004, dropped serve four times.



Defending champion Nikolay Davydenko of Russia.—INTERNET

Sixth-seeded Mikhail Youzhny of Russia, the 2010 champion, edged out Philipp Petzschner of Germany 7-5, 7-5, and eighth-seeded Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus outlasted Tobias Kamke of Germany 6-1, 3-6, 6-3 for his first clay-court win of the season.

Baghdatis broke serve four times and saved six of eight break points to advance in a tournament he has twice been a semifinalist. Also advancing were Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ernests Gulbis, Dustin Brown, Matthias Bachinger, Potito Starace, Tommy Haas and Marinko Matosevic.—Internet



West Bromwich Albion manager Roy Hodgson speaks to the media after he is named as England's next football manager at a Press conference in Wembley Stadium, west London.—INTERNET

Hodgson vows to win over Euro sceptics

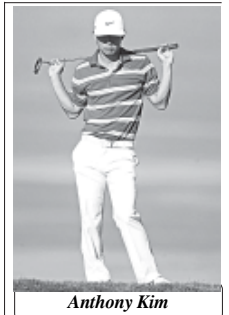
LONDON, 2 May — Roy Hodgson insists he can win over the sceptics following his surprising appointment to the England manager's job ahead of Tottenham boss Harry Redknapp. Hodgson was unveiled as England manager by the Football Association on Tuesday after emerging as the shock choice to succeed Fabio Capello following the Italian's resignation in February. The 64-year-old's elevation to the poisoned chalice of English football came amid a lingering sense of incredulity that the FA had not sounded out Redknapp as a possible candidate for the role.

However Hodgson, whose long career includes

stints as coach of Switzerland and Inter Milan, is confident that his experience of elite management will equip him for the task of convincing his detractors. The most important audience will be England's senior squad, several of whom such as Wayne Rooney, Rio Ferdinand and Jack Wilshere had already issued public calls for Redknapp to be appointed back in February. "Every coach has got to win over players," Hodgson acknowledged. "It won't be the first time I've stepped into a job where I'm meeting a group of players, many of whom I don't know, and my job is to win them over.

"I'd like to think that

given my CV, given the work I've done over the years I've succeeded fairly well with that. "Every coach's job when he enters a new job is to win the players over and make sure he gets the players united behind our cause.—Internet



Anthony Kim

Fulham defeat won't affect FA Cup confidence: Dalglish

LIVERPOOL, 2 May — Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish insists his team will still enter Saturday's FA Cup Final with Chelsea in confident mood despite a dispiriting 1-0 home loss to Fulham in their last game before the Wembley showpiece. An early own goal from Martin Skrtel condemned



Liverpool's English midfielder Stewart Downing (R) heads the ball during the English Premier League football match between Liverpool and Fulham at Anfield in Liverpool.—INTERNET

Liverpool to another home loss in a season which has seen them set records for futility in terms of their league format at Anfield. With Dalglish opting to rest Pepe Reina, Daniel Agger, Luis Suarez and Steven Gerrard with Chelsea in mind, it was hardly ideal preparation for Liverpool's

second domestic cup final of the season.

But the Scotsman insisted that the defeat would have no bearing on the outcome on Saturday as his team attempts to add the FA Cup to the League Cup they won earlier this year. "If we had won this game 4-0 it wouldn't have made any difference for Saturday," said Dalglish. "It won't affect the Cup Final but it's disappointing and doesn't mean to say it makes it right. "The attitude and desire was not there. We can't play at that tempo, we have to play quicker than that. "I have to take part of the blame because I wanted to give everyone an opportunity to get minutes on the pitch and a chance to push their case. "But the performance and attitude were

very poor and that's not like us. Our attitude and approach is where it went wrong.

"A lot of people have to take responsibility for that.



Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish insists his team will still enter on Saturday's FA Cup Final with Chelsea in confident mood despite a dispiriting 1-0 home loss to Fulham in their last game before the Wembley showpiece.

INTERNET

We tried to be fair to give everyone an opportunity and stake a claim for the Final.

Internet

Anthony Kim on the track to nowhere

CHARLOTTE, 2 May — The practice range at Quail Hollow was filled with PGA Tour players Tuesday afternoon, making it too busy for Anthony Kim. He took his game—or what's left of it—behind a row of trees near the short-game area where no one could watch. He found a patch of grass where he could fire shots through a wide gap in the trees, and Kim stayed there for nearly two hours under a hot sun. Kim didn't want anyone to watch. And he didn't want to hear the whispers that have followed him for the last four months. What's wrong with this guy? He attributes it to nagging injuries—the left thumb that was operated on in 2010 and cost him a spot on the Ryder Cup team, right elbow, right

wrist. There is no structural damage and nothing to keep him from playing, though he is losing practice time. And it shows. Kim has completed only two of the nine tournaments he has played. He has missed the cut four times. He was disqualified after opening with a 78 at Riviera.

He withdrew from the last two tournaments he played, after a 79 in the first round at Houston and midway through the opening round in San Antonio after he hit a 5-iron out of bush without realizing there was a rock next to his ball. Kim said the ball went 200 yards and the rock went 15 yards. Kim said his caddie cleaned out his locker at the Texas Open when he pulled out.—Internet

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(3-5-12 09:30 am ~ 4-5-12 09:30 am) MST

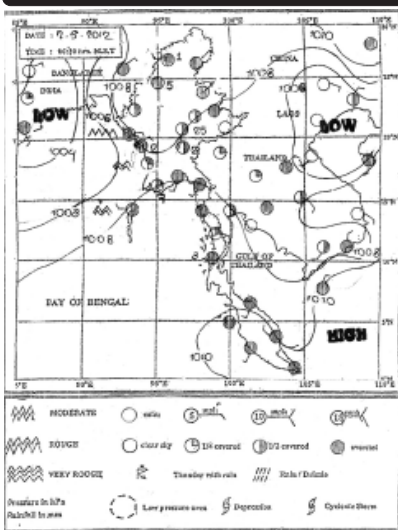
- * News
- * World Autism Awareness Day 2012
- * Healthy Dragon Fruit for Beneficial Investment
- * News
- * Water Pouring Festival on Bo Tree
- * Historic of Kyaukka Shwe Gu Ni Pagoda
- * Fantastic Scenic Sunsets of Myanmar
- * News
- * Song For You
- * News
- * Youth & Volunteer Service
- * News
- * Shwe Bo Township Bearing Five Names (Part-2)
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * Orchid Survey in Hponkanrazi
- * News
- * Let's observe the tradition of Matupi
- * News
- * Mant Hero, Beauty Queen On Shweli River
- * Myanmar Movie "Night Walker"
- * Short Story "Enslaved"

MYANMAR TV

(3-5-2012) (Thursday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:40 am
- 2. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:20 am
- 3. Teleyay (Traffic)
- 8:40 am
- 4. International News
- 4:00 pm
- 5. Martial Song
- 4:35 pm
- 6. One Village and One Product
- 5:00 pm
- 7. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:20 pm
- 8. Cute Little Dancers
- 5:40 pm
- 9. Science and Environment
- 6:20 pm
- 10. Myanmar Series
- 7:00 pm
- 11. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 12. News
- 13. TV Drama Series
- 14. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 3rd May, 2012

S. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	34/93	20/68	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
2	Kayah	32/90	20/68	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
3	Kayin	38/100	24/75	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
4	Chin	20/68	12/54	Likelihood of early widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
5	Upper Sagaing	30/86	18/64	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
6	Lower Sagaing	33/91	23/73	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
7	Tanintharyi	36/97	25/77	Likelihood of early widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
8	Bago	39/102	26/79	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
9	Magway	39/102	24/75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	25/77	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
11	Mon	35/95	24/75	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
12	Yangon	39/102	26/79	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
13	Rakhine	32/90	24/75	Likelihood of early widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
14	Southern Shan	26/79	16/61	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
15	Northern Shan	32/90	18/64	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
16	Eastern Shan	35/95	22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
17	Ayeyawady	36/97	25/77	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
18	Neighbouring Nya Pyi Taw	38/100	24/75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	39/102	26/79	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	25/77	Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin State, early widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Shan, Rakhine and Mon States, isolated in Magway and Tanintharyi Regions, Kayah and Kayin States and weather has been partly cloudy in the Lower Sagaing Region. Day temperatures were (32°C) to (42°C) above May average temperature in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions, Kayin and Mon States, (35°C) below May average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region, (37°C) to (45°C) below May average temperatures in Lower Sagaing Region, Kachin State and about May average temperatures in the remaining Region and States. The significant day temperatures were Chank (41°C) and Hkamti (40°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoong (2.48) inches, Pilewa (1.89) inches, Kyaukse (1.50) inches and Hkamti (1.45) inches.

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

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

Outlook for subsequent ten days
Likelihood of slight increase of day temperatures in the Upper Myanmar areas.

Self-reliant concrete commissioned

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 2 May—A ceremony to inaugurate self-reliant concrete of Moenyo Kyaung Street was held in Myoma Ward 12 in Mawlamyinegyun on 20 April morning. Township Administrator U Htay Maung, Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Zaw Hlanig and townselder U Kyaw Maung formally opened the newly-concreted Moenyo Kyaung Street.



The facility is 530 feet long. It was built at a cost of K 7.7 million by the local people.

Myamma Alin

Mr. Cheng Tieh Chuan (a) U Bo Yan (a) U Hla Win Aged (64) Years

Son of (U Tin Hoke Hwet and Daw Lin Shwe Tin), beloved husband of Mrs. Huan Su Lei and Daw Nhin Wint Kyaw, residing at level (5), No.(57), 3rd Street, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon, brother of Mr. Cheng Shing Chi (Sr. Consultant of MOB) +Mrs. Wu Lilian Yuet Hung, Daw Myint Myint Than +U Soe Win, U Than Win (Sr. G.M of M.O.B)+Mrs. Liu Zui Chui, U Tun Win, Daw Kyi Kyi Than(M.D of MOB)+U Myint Thein (MD of Oriental Leasing Co.), and U Win Myint+Daw Lei Lei Khaing, father of Ma Yoon Hla Thiri Kyaw, Ma Swan Hla Theingi Kyaw and Maung Pyit MinAnt passed away peacefully on (2-5-12) Wednesday at (1:00)am and funeral service will take place at Yay Way Cemetery on (6-5-12) Sunday at (11:00)am. Trasport will leave the residence at (9:30)am.

Bereaved Family

Syria accused of war crimes, rebels kill 15

BEIRUT, 2 May—Syrian rebels killed 15 members of the security forces in an ambush on Wednesday, a monitoring group said, and a human rights organization accused Damascus of war crimes in last month's run-up to a UN-brokered truce.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which has been tracking the 14-month-old uprising against President Bashar al-Assad, said two rebel militiamen also died in clashes that followed the

ambush in the northern province of Aleppo. State media carried no news of the attack, the latest in a series of heavy losses inflicted on pro-Assad forces in the last week by some of the disparate

turned into a bloody guerrilla insurgency. The United Nations now has 30 blue-helmeted monitors inside the nation of 23 million people, and this week accused both pro- and anti-Assad forces of



A view of the damage at the site where two bombs detonated near state buildings in the northern city of Idlib on 30 April, 2012.—REUTERS

violating the three-week-old truce.—Reuters

Borussia Dortmund's Paraguayan striker Lucas Barrios celebrates after scoring in Borussia Dortmund's 5-2 league victory over Kaiserslautern on 28 April. Dortmund have confirmed that Barrios has signed a four-year deal with Chinese club Guangzhou Evergrande.—INTERNET

Dortmund's Barrios signs for Guangzhou

BEIJING, 2 May—Borussia Dortmund's Paraguayan striker Lucas Barrios has signed a four-year deal with Chinese club Guangzhou Evergrande, the German side announced on Wednesday. Barrios will leave the German champions, the club he joined in 2009, after this weekend's final game of the 2011-2012 season.

Dortmund's sporting director Michael Zorc paid tribute to the 27-year-old forward, saying: "Lucas Barrios has won two league titles with us and scored 39 goals in 82 Bundesliga matches." He was Dortmund's top goalscorer in his first two seasons but ceded his starting place this campaign to Robert Lewandowski after a lengthy lay off due to injury. The Argentine-born Barrios scored a hat-trick last weekend in the 5-2 win at Kaiserslautern and is set to make his final appearance in Germany on Saturday against Freiburg.—Internet



Jennifer Lopez, Enrique Iglesias and Wisin Y Yandel announce summer concert tour

LOS ANGELES, 2 May—Jennifer Lopez, Enrique Iglesias and Wisin Y Yandel are touring together this summer.

Lopez and Iglesias announced Monday in Los Angeles that the 20-city MEGA concert tour will begin July 14 in Montreal.

"We are going to give you everything we got," Lopez said. "I think it's going to be one of the most historic tours ever.

Because I don't know that there has ever been something ... where these Latinos have come together like this as family."

Iglesias said the tour will include individual hits as well as collaborative performances. "I have a bunch of songs with Wisin Y Yandel and obviously with Jennifer," he told the crowd.

Lopez said her 4-year-old twins, Max and Emmie, will also be on the tour bus.

And if they get stir crazy? "There's always Grandma's house," she said.

Internet

Jennifer, seen here with Yandel of Wisin Y Yandel and Enrique, accessorized her Lanvin dress with a large snake necklace. Sssey! Tickets for the Jennifer Lopez and Enrique Iglesias tour go on sale on 4 May.

INTERNET

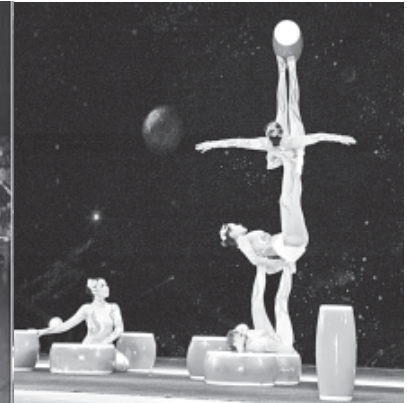
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham enjoys performance of Chinese acrobatic troupe

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May— Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham enjoyed the entertainment show of the Chinese acrobatic troupe at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall open air theatre this evening.

Among the spectators were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Winna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Fundamental Rights of Citizens, Democratic Affairs and Human Rights



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham enjoys entertainment show of the Chinese acrobatic troupe at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall open air theatre.—MNA



Affairs Committee U Htay Oo, General Hla Htay Win from Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Office, Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Maung

Maung Aye, deputy ministers, departmental heads of the ministries, personnel, acrobatic fanatics, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua, and staff of the

embassy.

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan in his greetings said the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the People's

Republic of China shared over 1300 long land border and had ever been the friendly neighbours for years countable by the thousand. So, the two nations had a lot

in common in culture and tradition, preserving the fine tradition of Pauk-Phaw relationship since time immemorial.

(See page 9)

Sanitation tasks, blood donation hail Fire Brigade Day

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May— Mon State Development Affairs Minister Dr Toe Toe Aung today encouraged sanitation tasks in historic Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine carried out by over 100 fire brigade and auxiliary fire brigade members led by Head of State Fire Services Department Ye Thurein Aung Win Sein hailing 66th Anniversary Fire

Brigade Day.

Fifteen fire brigade members, hailing Fire Brigade Day, donated blood at Blood Bank of General Hospital in Mawlamyine.

The state minister, Medical Superintendent Dr Wai Wai Oo and in-charge of the blood bank Dr Than Htaik encouraged them.

MNA

Myanmar Traditional Chess Championship kicks off

YANGON, 2 May—The Myanmar Traditional Chess Championship, jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Chess Federation, was kicked off at Aung San Gymnasium, here, at 1 pm today.

President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin extended greetings.

Vice-President of the federation U Win Aung explained matters related to the championship.

Next, President U Maung Maung Lwin and Vice-President U Win Aung opened the championship.

The Myanmar traditional chess players allowed to take part in the championship are Aung Naing, Win Tun, Nyein Chan, Ko Ko Gyi, Lin Naing Oo, Aung Kyaw Aye, Myint Han, Nay Oo Kyaw Tun, Soe Min Kyaw, Naing Myo Lin, Zaw Win Lay and Ohn Kyaw.

The championship will be held at the Aung San Gymnasium from 2 to 11 May.—MNA

Hlawga Park to receive visitors on Kason Fullmoon Day

NAY PYI TAW, 2 May—Hlawga Park will be kept open extensively from 8 am to 6 pm on 5 May (Fullmoon Day of Kason) for public relaxation.—MNA



One World Trade Center has become the tallest building in New York City on Monday, overtaking the height of the Empire State Building which was New York's tallest skyscraper, by 21 feet.

PAGE 6

Liverpool's English midfielder Stewart Downing (R) heads the ball during the English Premier League football match between Liverpool and Fulham at Anfield in Liverpool.



PAGE 14

Levante striker Kone 'scoring too many goals'

MADRID, 2 May— Levante's Ivorian striker Arouna Kone faces a bizarre problem: he risks scoring too many goals.

Kone has already put the ball into the net 17 times this season for the Spanish club in all competitions.

But if he scores an 18th, his highly successful period with Levante — where he is on loan from former club Sevilla — could come to an abrupt end.

A clause in the loan contract means the Ivorian international must return to Sevilla if he scores 18 goals this season.

That may not be an enticing prospect for Kone, who started at Sevilla five years ago after bouts with Lierse and PSV Eindhoven but never found his feet, scoring only two goals in 49 matches.

Never managing to win the confidence of successive coaches at Sevilla, he ended up being loaned out first to Hanover and then, most

successfully, to Levante.

Two curious twists of fate may prevent him from scoring the fateful 18th goal.

During Levante's 3-1 win over Granada last Saturday, a grinning Kone celebrated his 17th goal by lifting his shirt and thus earning a yellow card, his fifth this season — which sidelines him from Wednesday's Levante-

Zaragoza clash.

In the same match, the centre-forward then asked to come off after bruising his left foot. According to the Levante club's web site, the injury could take one-two weeks to heal. Call it luck or coincidence, but the Spanish league will be over in just two weeks.—Internet

Levante striker Arouna Kone



Stoke's Jermaine Pennant arrested over assault



Stoke City winger Jermaine Pennant, seen here in 2007, has been arrested for allegedly assaulting a woman in a nightclub.

LONDON, 2 May—Stoke City soccer player Jermaine Pennant has been arrested

after a woman was assaulted in a nightclub in Manchester, police sources said on Wednesday.

The former Real Zaragoza and Liverpool player was also charged with drink driving, driving whilst disqualified and driving with no insurance, police said.

Pennant, 29, once tipped as one of England's brightest footballing talents, was arrested early on Sunday morning following a crash between a white BMW and a silver Audi that occurred around two hours after the nightclub attack.

While in custody for the driving offences Pennant was also arrested over the assault, the sources added.

Greater Manchester Police said they had arrested and bailed a 29-year-old man on suspicion of "section 47 assault", an offence involving actual bodily harm.

Pennant, a former England under-21 player who has also appeared for Arsenal, Birmingham City and Leeds United, is due to appear before magistrates over the driving offences on 9 May.—Reuters