

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XX, Number 19

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Wednesday, 9 May, 2012

President U Thein Sein congratulates Russian President Putin

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Vladimir Putin, on his assumption as the President of the Russian Federation on 7 May 2012.—MNA

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.

Waxed ballot complaint by NLD a sham, suggests UEC investigation

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—The secretary of central campaign team of National League for Democracy complained to Union Election Commission on 1-4-2012 by a letter that returning officers in Pale, Mawlamyine, Myanaung, Magway, Taungdwingyi, Kawhmu, Mingala Taungnyunt, Mayangon, Dagon (Seikkan) and Kalaw (Aungpan) Townships gave voters waxed ballot papers unable to put the tick on in 1 April by-election; request for change was turned down; waxing the ballot papers caused destruction to them; and it was happening all around the country.

While UEC was launching investigations into the incident constituency-wise by separate teams, the secretary of NLD central campaign team said in interview with VOA (Myanmar Version) on 2-4-2012 that waxing the ballot was the act destroying it and harmed free and fair election. The story was also run in journals and publications as the secretary disclosed it in a press conference.

Acting on the report of NLD, UEC assigned investigation teams comprised of chairmen and secretaries of Region/State, District and Township Subcommissions and two political parties concerned in 10 townships where the complaint arose to look into the case, enabling them to inspect already-voted ballots in each poll station.

In the light of findings, the investigation teams and some parties suggest that there was no case of waxing the ballots and no legal complaint about it in those 10 townships; it was groundless complaint; 1-4-2012 by-election was a national concern; such false accusation could harm the image of Myanmar's by-election closely watched by the world; and legal action should be lodged against the grumbler.

The NLD campaign manager was also quoted in Vol. (1) No. (93) of Monitor News Journal in pre-by-election period that it was hard to be free and fair election, citing false stories. UEC sent Letter No. 1/NaNgaRa-MaPaTa (1)/KaMaRa dated 1-3-2012 to the chairperson of the party concerned, warning against speaking ill of the election which led to misunderstanding among the people and the international community by any CEC member of the party.

The complaint made by the secretary of the NLD central campaign team is invalid. In accord with the law, UEC has warned the secretary of the party concerned against stating such groundless information, leading to misunderstanding among the people, for taking action if necessary.

MNA

YANGON, 8 May—Asia/Pacific Regional Conference on Ageing 2012 was opened at Sedona Hotel here this morning, with an opening address by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi.

The opening ceremony was attended by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, departmental heads and officials, senior representatives from 29 countries of the Asia Pacific Region and members of social organizations.

First, Regional Director of Help Age International Mr Eduardo Klien presented the representatives to the conference.

In his opening speech, Union Minister U Aung Kyi said more than eight per cent of the population from the Southeast Asian countries is 60 years old and above and it has been estimated that the ageing population of that rate will increase by 12 % by 2030 and 20% by 2050. The change of population proportion can be challenges to developing countries, so all have understood the importance of Madrid International Plan of Action for Ageing—MIPAA. The Union Minister added that the number of 60-year-olds and above in Myanmar has increased from 8.7 % in 2007 to 9.1% in 2010. This means that 10 percent of the total population represents the elderly people. Since 1915, Myanmar has been providing care services for the elderly and started the project on door-to-door services for caring the older people in collaboration with international organizations as well as local social organizations. Community-based associations for caring the aged have been formed in 101 villages of Ayeeyawady, Mandalay and Yangon Regions. As prescribed in the 2008 constitution that the State shall have to care for the aged and the disabled, Myanmar is practically providing services for caring the elderly people in cooperation with partner organizations including the UN. In the time of new government, the pensions of retired service personnel who had difficulties with their insufficient monthly pensions have been increased. In drafting a social security law, provisions on social guarantees for the aged people have been included. Now it is time to adopt aging policies and plans suitable to the regional countries. In conclusion, the

In time of new government, pensions of retired service personnel who had difficulties with their insufficient monthly pensions increased



Participants of Asia/Pacific Regional Conference on Ageing 2012 pose for photo together with Union Minister U Aung Kyi after opening ceremony of the conference at Sedona Hotel in Yangon.

MNA

Union Minister expressed his belief that the conference would be able to seek ways not only to consider for the increased aging population in the future but also to render necessary assistance to the elderly people at present.

After the ceremony, the Union Minister posed for a documentary photo together with the representatives. Then, the conference started and Deputy Health Minister Dr Win Myint, Executive Director of Help Age International Mr Richard Blewitt and U Paw Myint Oo of Htoo Foundation extended greetings. It continues up to 11 May. —MNA

Significant Day Temperatures (8-5-2012)

Chauk	(43°C)
NyaungU	(42°C)
Monywa	(42°C)
Myingyan	(41°C)
Minbu	(41°C)

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 9 May, 2012

A kind of dreadful plague

If a country is totally free from all forms of malpractices including bribery and corruption, it can have greater material and financial power to look after its own people in health, education, social welfare and many other sectors. But it may not be possible to be absolutely free from every kind of dishonest practices as we the human beings are sometimes fond of committing misdeeds or in many cases we can earn easy money or even get rich through bribery and corruption and other illegal means.

Nevertheless, we can mitigate malpractices rife in some parts of our society to the most possible degree ensuring a healthier national economy that can spend more money for public social services and at the same time curbing misconducts in every corner.

We are now witnessing encouraging signs in multiple sectors thanks to the government's democratic reforms covering a myriad of fields from clean government and good governance introducing transparency on a wider scale to better international relations in which we are receiving positive responses from many states all over the world.

And with the introduction of transparency, we are fighting back bribery and corruption a plague many other countries of this planet are suffering from; strengthening clean government and good governance that in fact is the cornerstone of democratic transition; and engendering progress in every area especially the private businesses which actually are the main engine of national economic growth in the future.

Since we have already committed ourselves to democratic reforms, with clean government and good governance as the nucleus, we have action plans under implementation to free our society from all forms of malpractices in general and bribery and corruption in particular as they are a kind of dreadful plague, and if grow bigger and reach the uncontrollable stage will lead us to our doomsday.

NPED Dy Minister meets district/township planning committees in Bago, Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw held a meeting with members of Bago district/township planning committees, local businessmen and employees of district/township planning departments in Toungoo, Bago Region, yesterday.

He also met with members of district/township planning committees, businessmen and employees of district/township planning departments in Mandalay Region at Meiktila District General Administration Department today.

During the meetings, Deputy Minister Dr Kan Zaw urged the committees to collect correct statistics from the state-owned, private-owned and cooperatives sectors in coordination with departments concerned, organizations and townsholders in the respective regions.

He also called for drawing and implementing plans for regional developments and rural areas development projects, reviewing the progress of the implementation of projects for the 2011-2012 fiscal year and monthly supervising the

projects in accordance with the provisions of the National Planning Law for the 2012-2013 fiscal year and sending monthly reviews to the departments concerned in time.

He also discussed matters related to drawing plans for short-term and long-term benefits, reviewing the implementation for the rural areas development and poverty alleviation and collection of integrated statistics.

The deputy minister answered the questions of those present at the meetings.

MNA

Union A&I Minister receives FAO Resident Representative



NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing received FAO Resident Representative Ms Bui Thi Lan at his office

yesterday morning.

They had a cordial discussion on development of agriculture sector between Myanmar and FAO.—MNA

Union Mines Minister receives Member of British House of Lord

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik received Lord Waverley, member of the House of Lord of Britain, at his office here yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters on role of administrative bodies in the mining sector, tax

system and taxes, import and export of mining products, geographical facts, prospects for using high-tech in the mining sector, Airborne Survey System and Remote Sensing System.

MNA

Spanish entrepreneurs interested in putting investment in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein received Bangkok-based Spanish Ambassador Mr Ignacio Sagaz and party at his office, here, at 2.30 pm today.

They cordially discussed investment and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Spanish entrepreneurs are interested in doing business with investment in Myanmar. At the call, they coordinated establishment of connection of merchant associations between the two countries.

MNA



Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein receives Bangkok-based Spanish Ambassador Mr Ignacio Sagaz and party.—MNA

Union Commerce Minister receives Spanish Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint

received a delegation led by Bangkok-based Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain from Thailand Mr Ignacio Sagaz at his office here this morning.

They had a cordial

discussion on promotion of trade and investments sectors between the two more countries and cooperation in private sector more than ever before.

Also present at the call

were Deputy Minister Dr Pwint Hsan, the director-general of Border Trade Department, the managing director of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading and officials concerned.

MNA

Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs arrives in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—A delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland Mr Radoslaw Sikorski arrived here by special flight this evening, and they were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Director-General U Aung Lin of ASEAN Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director-General U Tha Aung Nyunt of Councilor and Legal Affairs Department, Deputy Director-General U San Lwin of Political Affairs Department and officials.

The Polish FM was accompanied by Polish Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Jerzy Bayer and high-ranking officials and businessmen.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister inspects Sittoung Bridge (Natthangwin) worksite

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin inspected the chosen site for the camp of first aid of Myanmar Red Cross Society near mile post No. 115, Yangon-Mandalay Highway on 6 May.

He also looked into Sittoung Bridge (Natthangwin) work site and approach structure being constructed by Special Work Group (2) (Bridge) via Pyu-Penwagon-Kyaukkyi Road.

MNA

IMF says Myanmar could boom if it sticks to reforms

WASHINGTON, 8 May—The International Monetary Fund said on Monday that Myanmar could be Asia's next boom economy if the country sticks to its new path of political and economic reforms.

In its first-ever "Article IV" review of the economy, the IMF praised the initial moves to free up its currency in recent months and encouraged the government, to stick to the path of reform.

"Myanmar's new government faces a historic opportunity to jump-start development and lift living standards," the Fund said in the milestone report.

"Myanmar could become the next economic frontier in Asia if, with appropriate reforms, it can turn its rich natural resources, young labour force, and proximity to some of the most dynamic economies, to its advantage."

But the Fund cautioned the government, now starting to enjoy a gush of foreign investment as it opens up, to take each step carefully with a focus on maintaining economic stability.

"IMF economists believe that any rapid reforms on a large scale could make any potential mistakes very costly. Although planned reforms will take time to implement, prioritization is essential to deliver tangible benefits to the majority of the population," it said in a note accompanying the review.

"We see certainly a strong reform momentum coming out of Myanmar," said Meral Karasulu, IMF mission chief for the country.

"Over the past two years, the progress is very tangible." Karasulu said the Myanmar government's move to put the kyat currency on a managed float at the beginning of April was a key beginning.

For years the currency has been tightly controlled, with multiple rates used by the government and various markets, and has served as a deterrent to trade and investment in the

country.

Now, says Karasulu, the government is committed to unifying the rates under a managed float by the time it hosts the Southeast Asian games at the end of 2013.

"There are still many informal market exchange rates," Karasulu said.

But, she added, "I do not find it unrealistic" to aim for complete currency reform by the end of 2013.

"Others took... up to two years" as well. Karasulu said the government has moved away from simply printing money to fund its deficits, which together with distorted exchange rates has fuelled extreme inflation in recent years.

The IMF has seen a "significant decline" in so-called deficit monetization, by "about half," she said.

That has helped calm price rises: inflation that averaged nearly 33 percent in the fiscal year that ended in March 2008 was down to 8.2 percent in fiscal 2010-11, and 4.2 percent in the year just ended.

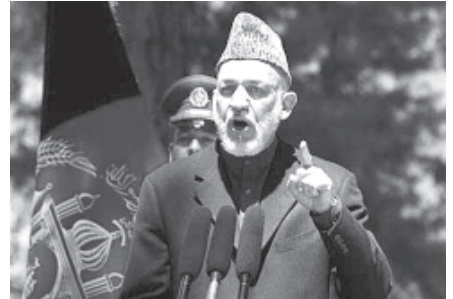
Karasulu said the government could easily further cut the practice by allowing the state banks and insurance companies to invest more of their reserves in state bonds. Currently both groups face tight restrictions on such purchases.

The IMF said the government's finances are fairly stable and show promise in the macroeconomic environment.

The economy grew an estimated 5.5 percent last year and will pick up pace to about 6.0 percent in the current year, with inflation rising to 5.8 percent on average.

With a surge in foreign investment sparking a rise in imports, the country's current account shortfall is expected to widen.

Even so, Myanmar's reserves were \$7.1 billion US dollars in September 2011, and "are expected to remain comfortable" this year.—MNA/AFP/CNA



Afghan President Hamid Karzai speaks during a news conference in Kabul on 3 May, 2012.

REUTERS

Karzai says Afghan civilian deaths could hinder US pact

KABUL, 8 May — The strategic pact sealed by President Barack Obama last week in Afghanistan is at risk of becoming "meaningless" if Afghans do not feel safe, President Hamid Karzai said on Monday, referring to recent civilian casualties inflicted by NATO. Karzai summoned US General John Allen, commander of NATO forces in Afghanistan, and US Ambassador Ryan Crocker to his palace to discuss the civilian deaths, a longstanding thorn in ties between Karzai and his Western backers.

The killing of civilians has soured the feelings of many ordinary Afghans towards foreign forces in a war that is becoming increasingly unpopular and is dragging into its 11th year. Karzai signed the strategic pact with the United States to avoid such incidents (civilian casualties) and if Afghans do not feel safe, the strategic partnership loses its meaning," a presidential palace statement said, referring to an agreement setting out a long-term US role

in Afghanistan. The statement added that dozens of civilians had been killed in the eastern provinces of Kapisa and Logar, northwestern Badghis Province and the southern Taleban stronghold of Helmand over the past three days in NATO air strikes.

A spokesman for NATO said the air strikes were under investigation, and the palace statement quoted Allen as saying: "I personally take responsibility for these incidents." Last year, hundreds of angry Afghans across the country took to the streets to protest the killings of civilians by NATO forces, who are planning to leave their combat role by the end of 2014. Obama swooped into Afghanistan for the one-year anniversary of Osama bin Laden's death on 2 May to sign the strategic partnership, which lays out plans for future aid and advisers. The deal may provide Afghans with reassurances that they will not be abandoned when most NATO combat troops leave as planned in 2014.—Reuters

Markets, Germany wary as Hollande wins in France

PARIS, 8 May—Francois Hollande's election as French President was greeted by jitters on European markets and a dour front in Berlin where ruling conservatives warned the Socialist on Monday that Germans were not ready to pay for his promises of an end to austerity. With investors spooked by Greek voters' rejection of parties which slashed budgets to secure an EU/IMF bailout, festivities in Paris after Hollande defeated centre-right incumbent Nicolas Sarkozy on Sunday soon gave way to a grim sense of getting down to the business of dealing with Europe's deep economic crisis.

Hollande spent the day

closeted with aides who said they reviewed how he may pitch "the priority for growth in Europe" to Chancellor Angela Merkel. They will meet for the first time next week in Berlin to relaunch the Franco-German partnership that lies at the heart of the European Union and the euro currency. "I must prepare myself," said Hollande, who has never been a minister and is little known outside France. "I said that I was ready and now I must make sure I am, completely." His campaign chief Pierre Moscovici said the president-elect discussed how to present his plan to pull troops out of Afghanistan this year, as well as the economic growth strategy.

A promise of a welcome

with "open arms" in Berlin could not conceal unease among Merkel's Christian Democrats about what

France's newly-elected President Francois Hollande waves from a balcony at his campaign headquarters in Paris on 7 May, 2012, the day after his election.

REUTERS



Hollande's centre-left campaign pledges of growth and state spending mean for efforts to contain deficits in a euro zone that is struggling to compete in a world of new economic powers. "Germany is not here to finance French election promises," said Merkel's parliamentary party leader Volker Kauder. Hollande's chief economic adviser insisted he was not about to simply "hand out money" and planned to balance the books.—Reuters

S Korea, Japan step up talks on military accord

SEOUL, 8 May — South Korea said on Tuesday it is close to signing agreements on military cooperation with Japan, the first such accords since Tokyo's brutal colonial rule over Korea ended in 1945. One pact would let the two nations share intelligence on North Korea's nuclear and missile programmes and carry out joint sea search and rescue operations, Seoul's defence ministry said. The other allows for cooperation in logistics, excluding weapons, and service in peacekeeping operations abroad. "We've been discussing dates and agenda with a view to (signing the agreements at) the end of this month," said ministry spokesman Kim Min-Seok.

The two nations said no decision had been made on the signing date. Seoul's defence ministry said the military agreements would be the country's first with Japan.

In Tokyo, a Japanese defence ministry spokesman said talks on signing the accords had been speeded up.—Internet



This file photo, released by South Korean Navy, shows S Korean navy ships during a sea drill near a group of islets claimed by both Seoul and Tokyo, in 2008. S Korea said on Tuesday it is close to signing agreements on military cooperation with Japan, the first such accords since Tokyo's brutal colonial rule over Korea ended in 1945.—INTERNET

Putin seeks close US ties, missile guarantee

MOSCOW, 8 May — Moscow will seek closer ties with the United States but will not tolerate interference in its affairs and wants guarantees a US missile shield will not be used against Russia, under terms of a decree signed by President Vladimir Putin on Monday. Putin set out foreign policy priorities in a wide-ranging document signed hours after his inauguration to a six-year term as president, veering little from an article he wrote on the subject during the election campaign. Moscow wants to bring cooperation with Washington "to a truly strategic level" but relations must be based on "equality, non-interference in internal affairs and respect for one another's interests", the decree said.

Russia will "consistently stand up for its policy in

connection with the creation by the United States of a global missile defence system, seeking firm guarantees it is not directed against Russia's nuclear deterrent forces". The decree touched on policy around the world, but served as a message to the United States ahead of Putin's expected meeting with US President Barack Obama, who hosts a Group of Eight industrial powers summit later this month. Relations improved during the presidency of Putin's protégé Dmitry Medvedev, who signed a landmark nuclear arms limitation pact with Obama in 2010. But ties have been strained over US and NATO plans for an anti-missile shield in Europe and deep differences over the bloody upheaval in Libya and Syria.

Reuters

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Robotic arm to reveal inner working of brain cells

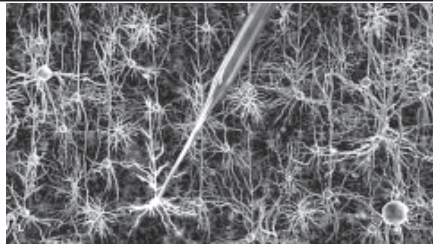
WASHINGTON, 8 May—Gaining access to the inner workings of a brain cell (neuron) in real time offers a wealth of useful information. However, it is such a painstaking and challenging task that only a small number of labs in the world practise it—until now.

Researchers have developed a new automated process to find and record information from neurons such as patterns of electrical activity, its shape, even a profile of which genes are turned on at a given moment, thus eliminating the need for months of training and providing long-sought information about living cells' activities, the journal *Nature Methods* reports.

The method could be particularly useful in studying brain disorders such as schizophrenia, Parkinson's disease, autism and epilepsy.

Ed Boyden, associate professor of biological engineering and brain and cognitive sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US, collaborated with Craig Forest, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology, US, on the project.

"In all these cases, a molecular description of a cell that is integrated with [its] electrical and circuit properties has remained elusive. If we could really describe how diseases change molecules in specific cells within the living brain, it might enable better drug targets to be found," adds



Researchers at MIT and the Georgia Institute of Technology have developed a way to automate a process called whole-cell patch clamping, which involves bringing a tiny hollow glass pipette in contact with the cell membrane of a neuron, then opening up a small pore in the membrane to record the electrical activity within the cell.

INTERNET

Boyden.

Boyden and Forest designed a robotic arm which, guided by a cell-detecting computer algorithm, identifies and records from neurons in the living mouse brain with better accuracy and speed than a human experimenter, according to an MIT and Georgia statement.

"Our team has been interdisciplinary from the beginning, and this has enabled us to bring the principles of precision machine design to bear upon the study of the living brain," Forest says.—*Internet*

Russia plans ammonia-fueled rocket engine

Moscow, 8 May—A Russian rocket engine company says it is developing an engine to be powered by ammonia, which should reduce the high cost of rocket launches.

Energomash says the engine will be 30 percent more efficient than current designs and will avoid the need to produce hydrogen for fuel, *RIA Novosti* reported on Saturday.

The rocket will operate on a mixture of acetylene and ammonia dubbed atsetam, company officials said.

"A mixture of acetylene and ammonia is 20 times cheaper than hydrogen as a kilogramme of hydrogen costs about 2 thousand rubles [\$67] and a kilo of atsetam is maximum of 100 rubles [\$3.35]," Energomash

Innovative Technology Director Anatoly Likhvantsev said.

The new engine will be based on the existing RD-161 oxygen/kerosene engine and will not require major structural changes, he said, since the physical properties of atsetam are similar to kerosene.

"Using 5 to 7 tons of this mixture, we can save a considerable amount of money," Likhvantsev said.

"In addition, the components that are included in atsetam can be easily stored and transported, whereas hydrogen requires special storage and transportation conditions."

Energomash officials said rockets could be launched with the new engine in 2017-2018.—*Internet*

'Hot Jupiters' found to be loners

GAINESVILLE, 8 May—So-called hot Jupiter-type planets orbiting distant stars are likely alone in their systems, research by a University of Florida astronomer and others found.

Hot Jupiters, giant planets roughly the size of Jupiter but orbiting close to their parent stars—and thus much hotter than Earth or Jupiter—have short orbital periods, speeding around

their parent stars in fewer than 10 days, astronomer Eric Ford said.

Ford and other researchers analyzed data from NASA's Kepler space telescope, looked for signs of additional planets either crossing in front of the host stars or gravitationally tugging on the orbits of hot Jupiters, but found no evidence of additional planets, a university release reported on Monday.

Astronomers say they believe hot Jupiters are solitary because of the way they form.

They are probably formed far from their host star in highly elongated orbits. Researchers say that causes them to pass very close to the host star and then travel far away.

The star's gravitational forces affect the planet, causing its orbit to become smaller and more circular, they said—a process that would remove or destroy other low-mass planets that may have formed initially between the star and the giant planet.

"When a giant planet repeatedly passes through the inner regions of a planetary system on an elongated orbit, it would wreak great havoc on any planets that had formed there," Ford said.

"The other planets would either fall into the star, collide with the hot Jupiter or be kicked out of the system via a gravitational slingshot."

Internet

Fossil gives hints of larger human brains



The Taung fossil, believed to be that of a child of 3 to 4 years old, is the "type specimen," or main model, of the genus Australopithecus africanus.

INTERNET

TALLAHASSEE, 8 May—Features of one of the world's most famous fossils may partly explain the evolution of larger brains in modern humans and our ancestors, US researchers say.

A Florida State University researcher and her colleagues say the findings suggest brain evolution was a result of a complex set of interrelated dynamics in childbirth among early, evolving bipeds.

Evolutionary anthropologist Dean Falk analyzed the Taung fossil, discovered in South Africa in 1924 and estimated to be

about 2.2 million years old.

The fossil, believed to be that of a child 3 to 4 years old, is the "type specimen," or main model, of the genus *Australopithecus africanus*. The first feature Falk and her colleagues found is a "persistent metopic suture," or unfused seam, in the frontal bone, which allows a baby's skull to be pliable during childbirth as it squeezes through the birth canal.

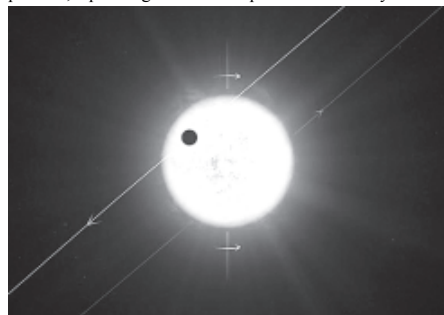
In great apes—gorillas, orangutans and chimpanzees—the suture closes shortly after birth, whereas in humans it does not fuse until about 2 years of age to accommodate rapid brain growth.

The second feature is the fossil's endocranium, or imprint of the outside surface of the brain transferred to the inside of the skull, which allows researchers to examine the brain's form and structure.

Falk and her colleagues say their analysis suggests three important points: that the persistent metopic suture is an adaptation for giving birth to babies with larger brains, is related to the shift to a rapidly growing brain after birth and suggests a related expansion in the frontal lobes.

"These findings are significant because they provide a highly plausible explanation as to why the hominin brain might grow larger and more complex," Falk said in a university release on Monday.

Internet



An artist's impression of a hot Jupiter orbiting close around its parent star.

INTERNET

Emergency traffic system passes test

ANTHEM, 8 May—A small city in Arizona has successfully tested a computer-controlled traffic system to help emergency responders reach the site of an incident, officials said.

Anthem, just north of Phoenix, was the test site for a federally funded traffic management system that will not only protect emergency vehicles from colliding with traffic during rapid response, but can allow them to "talk" to each other

and prioritize each other's routes to help emergency incident, the University of Arizona College of Engineering reported.

In a live demonstration of the SmartDrive system in April 2012, traffic signals at six intersections along a 2.3-mile stretch of an Anthem street were retrofitted with components to allow the signals to "talk" to not only each other, but with at least two other emergency vehicles involved in the

demonstration.

The system uses a combination of short-range radios, WiFi and Bluetooth to maintain connections.

When the incident alert alarm was given to the system, it began clearing a path of green lights for the test emergency vehicle while also reporting the location of the vehicle to coordinators and other vehicles connected to the system.

"It's the capability to talk to several responding

vehicles at once that makes this traffic system unique, and is the focus of our research," said Larry Head, professor of systems and industrial engineering at the UA College of Engineering.

Researchers said the system could also be expanded to give city buses, special needs vehicles and other mass transportation providers a clear path through traffic tie-ups in near-real-time.

Internet



A woman poses with a brain-computer interface (BCI), a solution for future human-machine cooperation, at the Festo stand during a guided press tour at the "Hannover Messe" industrial trade fair in Hanover on 22 April, 2012.—INTERNET

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Chrysler recalls 119,000 vehicles

AUBURN HILLS, 8 May—US automaker Chrysler Group said it is recalling 119,000 vehicles due to fuses that can overheat, which could cause brake problems. The recall involves 2011 and 2012 Chrysler 200 and Dodge Chargers.

The fuse that could overheat is associated with the computer controller that operates electronic stability control systems and anti-lock brake systems, CNNMoney reported on Monday.

The problem was initially

thought to involve only police models sold by Chrysler. But David Dillon, Chrysler's head of product investigations and campaigns, said the company had decided to repair all models — by moving the fuse to a cooler location — to be on the safe side.

"Despite a small number of incidents, we concluded it was in the best interest of our customers to repair the vehicles and eliminate the potential for this condition to occur," Dillon said in a statement. —INTERNET



Tourists pose for photos at the Angkor Wat temple complex in Siem Reap Province on 13 April, 2012. Tourism is one of the key currency earners for Cambodia with a reported growth of 5.0% in services, Asian Development Bank (ADB) said this week in its outlook. Tourist arrivals picked up by 14.8% to 2.9 million in 2011 with arrivals from elsewhere in Asia particularly strong. Growth in tourism benefited the hotels and restaurants, retailing, and transport. —REUTERS

Eye colour linked to severity of skin conditions

WASHINGTON, 8 May—Eye colour can tell whether you're at risk of serious skin conditions. The blue-eyed are less likely to have vitiligo, while the brown-eyed may have lower risk of melanoma, says a new study.

Vitiligo is an autoimmune skin disease in which pigment loss results in irregular white patches of skin and hair. Melanoma is the most dangerous kind of skin cancer.

The study, led by the University of Colorado School of Medicine (UCSM), looked at almost 3,000 people with vitiligo of Non-Hispanic European ancestry, identifying 13 new genes predisposed to vitiligo, the journal *Nature Genetics* reports.

"Genetically, in some ways vitiligo and melanoma are polar opposites. Some of the same genetic variations that make one more likely to have vitiligo make one less likely to have melanoma, and vice-versa," said Richard Spritz, director of the Human Medical Genetics and Genomics Programme at the

UCSM. "Vitiligo is an autoimmune disease, in which a person's immune system attacks their normal pigment cells. We think that vitiligo represents overactivity of a normal process by which one's immune system searches out and destroys early cancerous melanoma cells," added Spritz, according to a Colorado statement.

People with vitiligo are at higher risk of various other autoimmune diseases, such as thyroid disease, type 1 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis and lupus. Their kin are also at higher risk for these same diseases, even if they don't have vitiligo. Spritz said this means there must be some genes that push towards these autoimmune diseases in general, while other genes and environmental triggers determine which autoimmune disease occurs and when.

So, as scientists learn about the genetics of vitiligo, they are also learning about the genetics of these other autoimmune diseases.

—INTERNET

Japan warns France to stick to fiscal reform plans



Finance Minister Jun Azumi (pictured on 3 May) on Tuesday warned French president-elect Francois Hollande to keep the nation's fiscal discipline in place amid worries the new leader will overspend in a bid to boost the economy. —INTERNET

TOKYO, 8 May—Japan on Tuesday warned French president-elect Francois Hollande to keep the nation's fiscal discipline in place amid worries the new leader will overspend in a bid to boost the economy.

"Our stance is unchanged," Finance Minister Jun Azumi told a regular news conference in Tokyo, according to Dow Jones Newswires.

"We want (France) to do

what has been decided so far, and I'd like to tell them about that if there is the opportunity."

On Monday, Azumi said Hollande "fully understands" the need for rebuilding European finances, despite his calls to review the European Union's fiscal pact to include measures to spur growth. The treaty now stresses austerity efforts.

"I want him to act based on understanding the schemes and thinking that we, the IMF, and the G-7 have cultivated up to now," Azumi said.

Azumi also said on Monday that election results in France and debt-strapped Greece could have a "destabilising" effect on the markets, warning traders against speculative currency moves.

The finance chief said he would respond "properly and appropriately" to any speculative-driven gains in the yen, which makes Japanese exports less competitive, and reduces the value of Japanese firms'

foreign income.

Japan has previously intervened in currency markets to tame the yen's soaring value.

"I think there is a chance they are becoming a destabilising factor," Azumi said of Hollande's victory, while Greek voters punished pro-austerity parties.

"We must closely watch whether there are speculative movements taking advantage of political factors," he told reporters.

The election outcomes are seen as a backlash against austerity measures aimed at battling the eurozone crisis, as pushed by French President Nicolas Sarkozy — who lost to Hollande — and German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Following the elections, the euro skidded to \$1.2954 in early trade Monday, its lowest level since late January, while also slumping to 103.22 yen at one stage, its worst since mid-February.

On Tuesday, the single unit was trading at \$1.3035 and 104.20 yen. —INTERNET

Air Canada sued for plane's plunge

TORONTO, 8 May—Passengers injured when a co-pilot dozed, and then put a jetliner into a dive when he awoke, are suing Air Canada for \$20 million, plaintiffs attorneys said. A Toronto law firm brought the lawsuit Monday, seeking class-action certification on behalf of 95 passengers injured when they were jolted when on Flight AC878 from Toronto to Zurich, Switzerland, in January 2011, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp reported.

Air Canada originally told the passengers the episode was caused by unexpected turbulence, but a Transportation Safety Board of Canada report in April concluded the co-pilot woke up in confusion, thinking the aircraft was about to collide with a US military aircraft.

Plaintiffs' attorney Darcy Merkur said his clients "feel completely manipulated, completely lied to and they are pissed off; they want a corporation like Air Canada to be accountable for misleading them." —INTERNET



The business class section of the first Boeing 747-8 Intercontinental is seen before a delivery ceremony, on 1 May, 2012, in Everett, Wash. Lufthansa is the launch customer for the Intercontinental and will start service with the airplane between Frankfurt, Germany and Washington, DC. The 747-8 Intercontinental is a stretched, updated version of the iconic 747 and is expected to bring double-digit improvements in fuel burn and emissions over its predecessor, the 747-400, and generate 30 percent less noise. Boeing delivered the first 747-8 Intercontinental to a private customer in February, more than a year after originally planned. —INTERNET

Many Brits do nothing but relax after work

LONDON, 8 May—Many British adults admit to being too lazy to climb stairs, cook dinner, have sex or iron wrinkles from clothes, a survey indicates.

The survey by Weight Watchers UK of 2,683 British adults indicated 32 percent said they always drive short distances when walking was a viable option, while more than

half said they duck out of regular exercise sessions in favor of a night on the sofa.

The survey showed the average Briton does nothing but sit down for an average of four nights a week. Seventeen percent said they didn't enough drive to have sex with their partner and went straight to sleep instead. Also on the "can't be bothered" list were:

— Decline a night out because they didn't want to get ready.

— Shove everything under beds rather than tidying properly.

— Join a new gym and then couldn't be bothered to attend.

— Wait for the next bus rather than run for the one leaving. Thirty-three percent admitted they simply can't be bothered to do anything but relax in their spare time.

"More than 14 million adults [in Britain] are leading more inactive lifestyles than is healthy or necessary," Zoe Hellman, head of public health for weight watchers, said in a statement. "The lack of motivation that this research highlights is putting people at risk of far reaching health issues later in life including obesity, type-2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease."

No further survey details were provided. —INTERNET



New studies show shocking numbers in the amount of people with skin cancer, which can be attributed to too much sun. —INTERNET

Health Tip: Caring for a blister

Blisters form when something presses and rubs on the skin. While you should monitor the area for signs of infection, such as pain or redness, experts say the best way to care for a blister is to leave it alone. The University of Michigan Health System offers these suggestions:

- * Avoid popping a blister. But if it is large or a source of constant pain or discomfort, use a sterile needle and carefully drain it.
- * Don't cover the blister unless you have to. If something is rubbing against the area, cover it with a loose bandage, which should be changed regularly.
- * If possible, avoid the activity that caused the blister to form.
- * Always wash your hands carefully before touching a blister.
- * Apply an antibiotic ointment to help prevent infection.

—INTERNET

Qaeda kills 22 Yemen troops after death of leader

ZINJIBAR, 8 May—al-Qaeda gunmen on Monday launched spectacular attacks on two army posts in south Yemen, killing at least 22 soldiers, to avenge the death of a top militant in an air raid, a military official said. Jihadists attacked the military posts outside the city of Zinjibar, which they have controlled since May last year, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity. Four officers were among those killed, he said.

The attacks came after Yemeni al-Qaeda leader Fahd al-Quso, who was wanted in connection with the deadly 2000 bombing of the *USS Cole*, was killed in an air strike in eastern Yemen on Sunday.

“They attacked our positions in retaliation for the killing of Fahd al-Quso,” said a military official, adding that a total of 22 soldiers were killed in the attack. He said the army had been anticipating al-Qaeda retaliation for the killing of Quso, saying that an alert was sent out to all units to expect an attack by the “enemy” following Sunday’s air raid. Some 25 other soldiers



Vehicles stop at a checkpoint set up by Yemeni militants, suspected of being members of al-Qaeda, in the restive southern city of Zinjibar in April 2012.— INTERNET

have not been accounted for, the military official said, adding that dozens of militants took part in the attack, some of whom arrived by sea. A medic in Aden said that 11 soldiers were also wounded.

Internet

Afghan government slams Taliban spring offensive

KABUL, 8 May — The Afghan government on Monday condemned the recent Taliban announcement of the start of their annual “spring offensive,” calling it cowardly and un-Islamic and pledging the country’s forces would thwart any attacks. The offensive begins every year as snows melt and the weather warms across Afghanistan, making both travel and fighting easier. It normally leads to a surge of militant attacks throughout the country as the Taliban attempt to retake lost territory and intimidate the government.

Meanwhile, the US Embassy in Kabul acknowledged a two-year, rarely used programme to release detainees from a military prison run by the American military near the capital, saying it was meant to bolster reconciliation between the Afghan government and the Taliban. The Taliban announcement last week was another sign of the difficulty of reconciling with a group that has been fighting the US-led coalition and Afghan forces for more than a decade. The Taliban said they would target anyone — from government workers to tribal leaders — who works against them and helps foreigners in their “occupation” of Afghanistan.



Afghan girls push plastic containers of water on a cart in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 6 May, 2012.— INTERNET

On Monday, the Interior Ministry said that “while again declaring war against the Afghan people, their government and constitution, the Taliban militants also abuse their religious values in the name of a cause opposed to the basic Islamic principles of peace, education and kindness.” The ministry statement said the Taliban use propaganda and “twist holy religious values to justify their criminal activities,” which have killed thousands of innocent people.—Internet

Anti-terrorism police officer killed in Pakistan

QUETTA, 8 May — A police official says gunmen killed a senior anti-terrorism police officer in southwest Pakistan. Hamid Shakil says two men on a motorcycle opened fire on Shah Nawaz Khan on Tuesday outside his house in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan Province.

Khan was deputy head of Baluchistan’s Crimes Investigation Department, which works exclusively on cases dealing with terrorism and sectarian violence. Shakil says Khan had received threats from militant groups but would not identify them.

Another police official says Khan had in custody militant groups from Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, an al-Qaeda-linked group that has carried out many recent attacks on Shiite Muslims in Baluchistan. The official spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution.

Internet

Paper smuggles fake bomb into London Games park

missiles on rooftops near the Games venue in east London. The government’s Home Office department,

paper because he was concerned that he was searched only when he arrived each morning, and was then able to leave and re-enter without further checks, it said. “If I had terrorist connections I could be bringing in explosives, chemicals - anything at all,” the paper quoted him as saying, without revealing his identity.

Video published on the paper’s website showed the driver being waved past two checkpoints. He also took photos of himself with the mock explosive near the main stadium, a day before it was formally opened at a test event with a 40,000-strong crowd. Britain is spending more than 1 billion pounds (\$1.6 billion)

guarding the Olympics in what will be the country’s biggest peacetime security operation. Typhoon fighter jets and Lynx helicopters will be ready to defend a 9/11-style airborne attack, while on the ground a force of 24,000 guards and soldiers will protect Olympic venues, where spectators will pass through airport-style screening gates.

As one of the biggest supporters of the US invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan, Britain is seen as a prime target for terrorists. Suicide bombers killed 52 people in coordinated attacks on London’s transport network the day after the capital was awarded the Games in 2005.

Reuters

Competitors take part in the finals of the men’s 3000m Steeplechase during the BUCS Outdoor Athletics Championships at the Olympic Stadium in London on 7 May, 2012.— REUTERS



LONDON, 8 May — A newspaper embarrassed the organizers of the 2012 Olympic Games on Sunday by disclosing it had smuggled a fake bomb past two security checkpoints into the London complex housing the sporting festival’s main stadiums. The best-selling *Sun* newspaper conducted the stunt on Friday, at the end of a week-long pre-Olympics military exercise that saw a warship sail up the River Thames and plans announced to put

responsible for domestic security, said it had asked the Games organizers to investigate the incident and report back urgently to interior minister Theresa May.

The paper said it had given the fake device — a plastic box containing wires and harmless Plasticine — to the driver of a mechanical digger working on the construction of the park, who then drove with it past security guards into the site. The driver had contacted the

Hollande meets Chinese ambassador, calls for closer ties

PARIS, 8 May — French president-elect Francois Hollande on Monday vowed to further the Sino-French exchange and cooperation in a meeting with Kong Quan, the Chinese Ambassador to France. Hollande said France recognizes China’s important influence over international politics and economy, and would like to see continuous development in a friendly and cooperative relationship between the two countries.

Talking to Kong in Paris before meeting other ambassadors, the president-elect said France and China should continue to strengthen coordination and collaboration in G20 and other international and regional hot issues. Meanwhile, France wish to push forward economic and trade cooperation, and expand mutual investment, Hollande said. The president-elect received a congratulatory message from Chinese President Hu Jintao and asked the ambassador to pass on his gratitude and respect to Hu.

The long-time friendship and cooperation between China and France conforms to the fundamental interests of the two countries and their citizens and also is significant in safeguarding and promoting global peace, stability and development, Hu said in his congratulatory message. The Socialist, who beat the incumbent President Nicolas Sarkozy on Sunday’s second round runoff with 51.6 percent of the votes, will become the second left-wing president of the French Fifth Republic. — *Xinhua*



Artists from Pekin Opera Group of Beijing perform on the stage in Istanbul of Turkey on 7 May, 2012.— XINHUA

Apparent airline bomb plot thwarted: US officials

WASHINGTON, 8 May — The FBI is investigating an explosive device that could have been used by a suicide bomber on an airliner, and which was seized when the United States and its partners thwarted a plot believed linked to al-Qaeda, US officials said on Monday. They said no plane was actually at risk. They said the device was a redesigned model of the bomb used by the so-called “underwear bomber”, who failed to blow up an airliner bound for

Detroit on Christmas Day in 2009. That plot originated in Yemen.

President Barack Obama was first informed about the latest plot in April and has received regular updates, Caitlin Hayden, deputy National Security Council spokeswoman, said. “This device has the hallmarks of previous AQAP bombing attempts,” a counter-terrorism official said on condition of anonymity, referring to al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. “The plot

was disrupted well before it threatened American or US allies, the official said, adding that no airliner had been at risk from this device.

The FBI said it was in possession of the device and was conducting technical and forensic analysis on it.

“Initial exploitation indicates that the device is very similar to IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices) that have been used previously by al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) in attempted terrorist attacks, including against aircraft and for targeted assassinations,” the FBI said in a statement.

Reuters

Improvement of English Proficiency Skills for staff discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein invited Chairman Mr Nicholas J Randall and responsible personnel to his office and held discussions on conducting of English Language Proficiency Course in order to turn out efficient staff for the state this morning.

As Myanmar is taking the place of ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014, English proficiency skills of the staff are of vital importance as well as basic needs. English Language Proficiency Courses will be intended to run in Nay Pyi Taw beginning June, 2012 to next year June, 2013, a whole year.

Also present at the meeting were the director-general of Planning Department, the director-general of Foreign Economic Relations Department, the director-general of Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration, and officials concerned.—MNA

Delegation of US National War College arrive in Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—A goodwill delegation led by Deputy Commandant Mr Richard Norland of National War College of the United States of America arrived in Yangon by air this morning.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Brig-Gen Thit Lin Ohn of Mingaladon Station, senior military officers, US Military Attaché Colonel Brey R Sloan and officials.—MNA

Bamboo chairs marketable in Yedashe Township



YEDASHE, 8 May—During the hot and dry season, chairs made of bamboo are marketable in Yedashe Township for enabling the people to take relaxation at day time. The people can take

Respects paid to aged in Ponnagyun for 16th time

PONNAGYUN, 8 May—The 16th ceremony to pay respects to older persons was held at Dhammayon of Myoma Aye Zedi in Ponnagyun of Rakhine State on 4 May morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi Aung made a speech. Chairman of the Organizing Committee U Aung Tun Sein explained the purpose of paying respects to older persons.

Next, those present donated cash and gifts to 114 older persons of above 80 years old. On behalf of the aged, a grandpa and a grandma gave words of advice.—Myanma Alin



Say it Now!

Khin Aye Kyu

There are all kinds of people in the world. Those who are emotional express their feelings, and those who are unemotional hide their feelings.

Those who are taciturn, little given to expressing their feelings and are thought to be strong but actually they are not. For all of us, being human, we need to face the unalterable fact that any time it may be too late to say the things we really feel but often put off saying. Life is too short. For not saying now, perhaps some simple words “You’re doing well”, “I’m proud of you”, “Thank you”, “Sorry”, “I need you”, we may be regretting it later. Not only to those on the job with us by showing our appreciation, but those right within our homes may need us to say some words of commendation or words like “I need you”, now and then.

On happy occasions, how often we fail to speak the generous word at the moment it is most needed. Like passing exams, getting promotions and so on. Do you readily say it now, when congratulations are in order to or do you just put it off. Sometimes, we fail to say “I’m glad for you,” when a special event takes place in the life of someone we know. Closely akin to congratulations left unsaid is the barrier some of us need to overcome in saying “Thank you”, especially for things or services we take for the granted.

How long has it been since you, a husband, thanked your wife for a good meal? My husband loved my cooking, (which I believe is quite good.) He never praised me, even just a little. He thought it trivial, not important and had just taken it for granted. I am also guilty for I also shared the

same fault of taking him for granted. I had forgotten to thank him for the salary he had brought home every month. I would give anything to say “Thank you” to him now, which is impossible as he had passed away over a year ago.

You regret what you had been unable to say, to express your feelings to the ones you love. We have no excuse to offer, other than the usual going-to-do-it later one. When you feel it you should tell them that you care and don’t feel bad. Express it, for whenever we play the “later” game we risk robbing others of the comfort due to them. Don’t swallow your words—tell your special person that he or she holds a treasured place in your heart, and always will—a special place of love that no one else will ever fill. Try it and see what wonders it will do to your relationship. Try it now!

The next time you are tempted to put off saying it now, just ask yourself: Is my excuse for delaying honest? Do I hesitate merely from fear of being unable to find words to express appreciation, or to make some needy apology? Remember, the most important thing is not what you say in finished form, but that you clearly establish your desire to say it now and end your put-it-offness. If, for example you need to say “I’m sorry” for any reason whatsoever, do it now! Straighten out the misunderstanding, don’t be proud or if you can’t say it, write it. Send a small note of apology saying you’re sorry. At least say this much that “There are usually two sides—let’s try to see them together”.

In a world which desperately needs caring—Say it Now!

DISTRICT NEWS

Coord meeting on Asian Youth and Junior Class Weightlifting Championships held

YANGON, 8 May—A coordination meeting on successfully holding of Asian Youth and Junior Class Weightlifting Championships to be hosted by Myanmar from 5 to 12 November 2012 was held at the hall of the Myanmar Weightlifting Federation at Aung San Stadium at 3 pm on 3 May.

At first, President of the MWF U Thet Lin made a speech. Next, the president, the vice-president and General Secretary U Myint Swe discussed formation of



organizing committees so as to successfully hold the championships, assignment

of duties and functions, preparations and financial matters.

Altogether 45 weightlifting teams from Asian countries will take part in the championships.

Myanma Alin

contributed by Myanmar Libraries Foundation and K 1.2 million by wellwisher U Hla Aye and family.

The structure is 15 feet by 15 feet one-storey building.

Myanma Alin

Twantay Township gets self-reliant village library

YANGON, 8 May—A ceremony to open Thuta Kywe library was held in Talokhtaw Village of Talokhtaw Village-tract in Twantay Township of Yangon South District on 1 May morning.

At the ceremony, Head of Township Information and

Public Relations Department U Thet Oo, Village Administrator U Maung Thaung, Librarian Committee Chairman U Aye Thaung and wellwisher U Hla Aye formally opened the library.

The head of Township IPRD explained durability of library in line with the five-

point standard, increase of book numbers and purpose of opening the library.

Officials accepted 150 books donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation and 100 fiction and non-fiction books by wellwishers.

The library was built at a cost of K 3.5 million

Books, publications donated to libraries of monastic education school in Pyay Township

YANGON, 8 May—A ceremony to donate books and publications to libraries of monastic education school was held at Maha Thukha Zawtika Monastery of Zawtikayon Pali

Tekkatho Kyaungtaik in Pyay on 5 May evening with a view to developing the libraries of monastic education schools in Pyay Township.

Treasurer U Shwe Win

of Pyay Township Writers and Journalists Association donated 1800 books and publications worth K 1 million to State Ovadaçariya Pyay Zawtikayon Monastery Abbot Agga

Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Kundalajoti and member of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Administrator Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suradhaja.

Township WJA

Union F&R Minister receives Indonesian Ambassador, representatives of Indonesian government-owned companies

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono, Ambassador of Indonesia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, representatives of Indonesian government-owned Bank Negara Indonesia (Persero) Tbk Company, Pt. Pertamina (Persero) Company and PT. Ailaya Karya (Persero) met with Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun at the ministry here this morning.

Both sides discussed development affairs in Myanmar, investment in banking services, energy and construction sectors and potential development of economic sectors and bilateral cooperation.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Win Than, Governor U Than Nyein of Central Bank of Myanmar and responsible personnel.

MNA

Union L&F Minister receives Indian ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar

Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri at the ministry here this morning.

They discussed matters related to breeding of cows, cooperation of

India in vocational development of cow breeders and export of Myanmar's marine products to India. The meeting was also attended

by Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Aye and departmental heads under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.

MNA

Special Refresher Course for Basic Education Teachers No (46) commences

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Chairman of Union Civil Services Board U Kyaw Thu yesterday addressed the opening of Special Refresher Course for Basic Education Teachers No (46) at Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar).

He urged teachers not only to teach text but to focus on development tasks of each subject. He also called for meeting weekly schedule in each basic education level and

for compiling Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR). The chairman promised the teachers that the government, UN agencies, international organizations and wellwishers would fill the gaps in need tasks.

The top-down education system had been transformed into participatory one, he said.

He urged the teachers to strictly abide by 10

guidelines laid down the President regarding the education.

As development of a country in 21st century rests largely on its human resources, compulsory primary education would be implemented through the means of education, administration and legislation, he said. The State would provide all text books and six exercise books to each student as well as stipend to

outstanding students in coming academic year, he said.

He said that the teachers are to distance themselves away from collecting extra fees and selling student's guides, notes and exercise books.

The ceremony was also attended by Member of Union Civil Services Board U Soe Oo, Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing, officials and 1507 trainees.—MNA

ACCAHZ Preparatory Committee meets



The 1st Meeting of ASEAN Coordination Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses ACCAHZ Preparatory Committee in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—The 1st Meeting of the ASEAN Coordination Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses ACCAHZ Preparatory Committee was held at Sky Palace Hotel here today.

Deputy Director-General of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Aung Gyi delivered an opening address at the meeting.

The meeting was participated by delegates from ASEAN nations, ASEAN Secretariat, Regional Supporting Unit of FAO-RSU, World Health Organization-WHO, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Southeast Asia-OIE-SRR.

During the meeting, they discussed matters on organizing a preparatory committee for establishing

the centre for ASEAN Coordination Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses ACCAHZ Preparatory Meeting, roles and tasks of the committee, control of animal health and zoonoses, control of transboundary animal diseases, tasks planned from 2012 to 2017, opening the centre for ASEAN Coordination Centre, fund raising and spending.—MNA

World Red Cross Day...

(from page 16)

Chairman of MRCS Dr Tha Hla Shwe addressed the second session of the ceremony.

MRCS Contributing Secretary Dr Hla Pe and officials presented awards to winners in commemorative first aid skill contests and certificates of honour to judges.—MNA



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to Myanmar Resident Representative Mr Bernd Schell reading out message.

MNA

Establishment of political parties scrutinized, passed

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Those wishing to set up a political party has been applying for permission of the Union Election Commission. A total of 15 members including U Khun Tun Oo today submitted an application to found Shan

Nationalities League for Democracy to the commission.

The commission has allowed to set up the party as it found the party's application is in line with laws and bylaws.—MNA

By Education Minister receives Ambassador to Global Women's Affairs of USA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe received Ambassador Melanne Verver to Global Women's Affairs of the United States of America and party at his office here this

afternoon. During the discussion, both sides discussed implementation of education system in Myanmar, opportunity of learning education for Women,

conditions of Science Laboratory in Basic Education Schools, informal education, plan to turn out Science and Mathematics scholars, and cooperation matters.

MNA

Tube-well satisfies water demand of Nanmyint Hill religious region in Myingyan

Byline: Ko Htwe

A four-inch diameter tube-well was successfully sunk in the precinct of Nanmyint Hill religious area where water was shortage in the past in Myingyan Township of Mandalay Region so as to supply potable water to the local people for their consumption and to green the region.

As the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Maung Yin Paw Monastery who is undertaking missionary work on Nanmyint Hill in Myingyan Township said that there was shortage of water for consumption, Myingyan District Water Resources Utilization Department conducted the seismic works to sink tube-well.

According to the survey results, the place near

the creek, east of Myingyan-Meiktila Road near Kyauktan Village of Gwaybinyoe Village-tract in Myingyan Township was designated as the most suitable place for sinking tube-well.

Workers of the Underground Water Branch of Water Resources Utilization Department started sinking the tube-well at the designated place with the use of RG-08 on 5 January 2012 and successfully pumped out water from the well on 20 January.

The tube-well pumps out 4000 gallons of water per hour. According to the laboratory test, quality of water can be used for consumption.

At present, water pipeline is laid to supply water to the foot of Nanmyint Hill. As a result, Yadana Mying Monastery and Maung Yin Paw Monastery on the hill can enjoy fruits of water supply and greening of environment.

Translation: TTA Myanma Alin: 7-5-2012



DISTRICT NEWS

Palethwe hybrid paddy harvested on model plot in Wakema Township

WAKEMA, 8 May—The harvesting of Palethwe paddy model plot was held on three acres of farmland of farmer U Khin Maung Swe in Lanthamainglay Village in Wakema Township of Ayeyawady Region on 27 April morning.



The ceremony was attended by Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Aung Ko Tun, Head of Township Agriculture Department U Than Aung and

members of Township Agriculture Development Committee, Deputy Head of

Township Agriculture Department U Thant Zin and staff.

Local farmers are interested in thriving of Palethwe paddy and they are keen to grow such strain in coming monsoon.

Myanma Alin



UNIFORMS PROVIDED: A ceremony to present uniforms to staff of General Administration Department was held in Insein Township of Yangon North District on 30 April evening. Township Administrator U Tin Naing Soe gives uniforms for staff to Deputy Head of Department U Kyaw Hsan Oo.—KYEMON

AIDS Knowledge and Hygienic Habit Course conducted

YANGON, 8 May—With the assistance of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Myanmar Medical Association (Central) and Myanmar Medical Association (Pathein) jointly organized the 6th AIDS Knowledge and Hygienic

Habit for Teenage Development Course at the hall of the association (Pathein) from 26 to 29 April. Chairman of MMA (Central) Orthopaedist Dr U Kyi Pe explained the purpose of opening the training course.

Youth Development Programme Project Officer Dr U Khaing Soe Win and party of MMA (Central) provided lectures to the trainees.

The course was attended by 41 youths from 15 to 24 years old.

U Kyi Pe

Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 5-8 June

YANGON, 8 May—Organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, the Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship will be held with the sponsorship of Myanmar Brewery Ltd at

Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon of Insein Township of Yangon North District in Yangon Region from 5 to 8 June.

The championship will allow the amateur golfers

with handicaps from 0 to 12 to take part in the competition.

The golf championship will be held in line with the R&A rules (St Andrew) rules and regional golf rules.

Kyemon

Meiktila District observes Fire Brigade Day

MEIKTILA, 8 May—The 66th Anniversary Fire Brigade Day was observed at the hall of Meiktila District Fire Services Department on 5 May morning.

Deputy Commissioner of District General Administration Department U Sein Oak read the message sent by Fire Services Department (Head Office).

At the ceremony, Township Edible Oil Association donated two batteries worth K 220,000, U Cho Gyi family two batteries worth K 220,000, U The Zaw Nyunt (KMD) family two printers worth K 180,000, U

Myint Aung and family K 50,000, U Hla Myint and family K 40,000 and Township War Veterans Organization K 10,000.

Deputy Commissioner U Sein Oak, Commander of District Police Force Zaw Min Thant, Head of District Fire Services Department U Kyaw Hsan and officials accepted donations and presented certificates of honour to donors.

Next, officials gave gifts to trainers of Urban Rescue Course No. 1/2012 and completion certificates to the trainees.

Kyemon

Settlement and Land Records Department concludes Survey Officer Course



YANGON, 8 May—The Survey Officer Course No. 5 concluded at the central land record development training school of Settlement and Land Records Department in Taikkyi Township of Yangon North District on 4 May morning.

On behalf of the Director-General of the

Settlement and Land Records Department, Director of Administration Division U Thein Win made concluding remarks.

It was also attended by director, deputy directors, the principal of the training school, course instructor and instructors, heads of township Settlement and Land Records

Departments of Yangon North District and 27 trainee officers.

The course lasted one year from 165-2011 to 4-5-2012. The trainee studied basic land survey, modern land survey and mapping in practical and theoretical works.

Kyemon

Traffic rules talked in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 8 May—An educative talk was given to those who sit for test of motorcycle and vehicle licences at the driving range of Tachilek District Directorate of Road Administration in Tachilek of Shan State (East) on 26 April.

Head of Shan State (East) Directorate of Road Administration U Kyaw Lwin gave talks on traffic rules and road disciplines to be followed.

Head of District DRA U Aye Win talked about disciplines to be followed in riding motor cycles.

Road Transport



Workers' Day observed in Pantanaw

PANTANAW, 8 May—The Workers' Day was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Pantanaw Township on 1 May.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Mya Oo read the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein for the Workers' Day 2012.—*Myanma Alin*

Bo tree watered at Shwedagon Pagoda in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 8 May—The water pouring ceremony took place at Bo tree on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda in Tachilek on Fullmoon Day of Kason, 5 May.

Members of the Sangha led by State Ovadaçariya Naga Hnakaung Monastery of Tachilek Township Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Dhammasiri offered meals, flowers, water and lights to the Buddha image at

Shwedagon Pagoda. Deputy Commissioner U Thet Lwin of Tachilek District General Administration Department, Township Administrator U Ye Htoo and guests offered lights and fragrance to the sandy pagodas.

Next, officials and wellwisher U Tin Hlaing-Daw Nan Mi Mi Lay offered meals to members of the Sangha.

Later, they poured water at Bo tree on the platform of the pagoda.

Myanma Alin

FIRE BRIGADE DAY OBSERVED: A ceremony in commemoration of the 66th Anniversary Fire Brigade Day was held at the fire station of Kyaukme District in Shan State (North) on 5 May. Deputy Commissioner U Khin Maung Lay of Kyaukme District General Administration Department delivers an address at the ceremony to mark the Fire Brigade Day 2012.

KYEMON





Tennessee Bureau of Investigation agents inspect the home and garage of a woman and her three young daughters who authorities say were abducted near Whiteville, Tenn, on 6 May, 2012.—INTERNET

FBI says bodies of missing Tenn mom, daughter found

GUNTOWN, 8 May — The bodies of a Tennessee mother and her oldest daughter were found behind an alleged kidnapper's house in north Mississippi, the FBI said on Monday, and authorities believe the woman's two other daughters are still with the man accused in their abduction. Jo Ann Bain and her three daughters disappeared on 27 April as the family was packing to move to Arizona. The bodies of Bain and her 14-year-old daughter, Adrienne Bain, were found behind Adam Mayes' house near Guntown, a rural area police have been searching.

The bodies were discovered late last week and positively identified. The FBI did not say how the two died. The FBI said it believed the other daughters — 12-year-old Alexandria and 8-year-old Kyliyah — were still with Mayes. The agency did not say in a news release why it thought that, and FBI spokesman Joel Siskovic said no further details were available on the bodies or the search for Mayes and the girls. Mayes, a longtime friend of Bain's husband, had stayed over at the family's house to help them pack and load a U-Haul to drive across the country to Arizona, authorities said. Gary Bain, who was at the house that night, awoke to find his wife, daughters and Mayes gone.—*Internet*

20 rescued in transplant raids

BEIJING, 8 May — Twenty young men lured into selling their kidneys were rescued by police as they waited to be operated on. Police in Changzhou in eastern China's Jiangsu Province said yesterday that they had come across the men when they busted four organ-trafficking rings and seized 16 suspects. One of the rings, led by a man surnamed Wei, had advertised online seeking people who were in desperate need of

money. They provided accommodation for people willing to sell one of their kidneys, arranged health checks for them and contacted buyers and transplant surgeons, also via the Internet, police said.

Before the arrests, the ring had made 12 deals, including sending one man from Yangzhou, also in Jiangsu, to Indonesia to have surgery. Each year, about 1.5 million Chinese patients

need organ transplants, while fewer than 1 percent can receive surgery because of a serious shortage of organs. The organ shortage and restrictions on transplants create the opportunity for a lucrative black market in the sale of organs to flourish. The sums said to be involved are such that many young people are attracted to the idea of making easy money by selling one of their kidneys. There have been reports of

youngsters going through an operation so they could buy an iPad or iPhone.

In reality, such "donors" usually only get a small sum of money, while putting their health at great risk. Most of the money is earned by agents and other people in the chain. In an article, Huang Jiefu, China's vice health minister, wrote that about 65 percent of transplant operations in China used organs from deceased donors, most of whom were executed prisoners.—*Xinhua*

Mothers cling to chubby ideal for toddlers

CHICAGO, 8 May — Mothers of overweight toddlers often mistakenly think their children are normal weight, and mothers of underweight toddlers often wish they were plumper, US researchers said on Monday.

The findings, based on a study of poor women in Baltimore, suggest that US mothers often do not have a realistic idea of their offspring's weight, and many still cling to the notion that a chubby child is healthy child. "A long time ago, it was OK to value a chubby baby when kids were underweight and we had potato famines and what not. It was a sign you're doing well for yourself," said Erin Hager of the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

"But that is not how it is today in the United States," said Hager, whose study appears in the journal *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*. Hager works with low-income mothers in clinics in the Baltimore area to find ways to help prevent obesity, a condition that now affects about 17 percent, or 12.5 million, American children and adolescents ages 2 through 19. Poor children are hit especially hard. As many as one in seven low income preschool-age children are considered obese, according to the US Centres for Disease Control.

The researchers wanted to get an idea of how moms see their children, and how that might affect the way they

feed them. For the study, they used a cartoon drawing of seven diaper-clad toddlers arranged in a row from underweight to obese.

Reuters

A baby waits to have his body mass index measured in a Peapod machine at The Children's Hospital in Aurora, Colorado on 23 Aug, 2010 during a research study on obesity in infants.—REUTERS



EA loses Star Wars users, shares tumble

NEW YORK, 8 May — Electronic Arts lost 400,000 subscribers of "Star Wars: The Old Republic" in the fourth quarter, dealing a blow to its efforts to rely on the new game for growth and sending the game maker's shares down about 9 percent. EA has poured more money and firepower into "Star Wars: The Old Republic" than it has any game in its 30-year history. Wall Street is closely watching to see if the game can succeed, since it could bring EA riches for years to come. If it struggles, EA's earnings will be hurt in future quarters.

Interim Chief Financial Officer Ken Barker said in an interview that EA is pleased with the stability of the game, but it wants to boost the subscriber base up with the release of two expansion packs this quarter that deliver players more content. The subscriber numbers EA reported on Monday missed some analyst estimates. Brean Murray analyst Todd Mitchell was expecting 1.5 million paying subscribers. "Star Wars" is a nice role playing game but people are playing through it and leaving," Mitchell said.

EA had been hoping to take on its biggest rival, Activision Blizzard, which

had more than 10 million subscribers to "World of Warcraft" last quarter. "Warcraft" is the 7-year-old Internet game that is Activision's most profitable franchise. Video game companies such as EA and



Star Wars Storm Trooper characters cross the street outside the NASDAQ Market Site in New York's Times Square after taking part in ringing the opening bell for the trading day, on 20 Dec, 2011.—REUTERS

Activision have been trying to turn gamers from one-time purchasers into subscribers who generate a steady and predictable revenue stream to boost business and protect against economic uncertainty.—*Reuters*

Coroner: Valium, alcohol killed painter Kinkade

SAN JOSE, 8 May — An autopsy has found that artist Thomas Kinkadee's death was caused by an accidental overdose of alcohol and prescription tranquilizers. *NBC Bay Area News* reported on Monday that the Santa Clara County medical examiner concluded that the self-described "Painter of Light" stopped breathing at his Northern California home on 6 April from a combination of alcohol and Valium.

Before his death, the 54-year-old Kinkadee produced sentimental scenes of country gardens and pastoral landscapes that he sold in a nationwide chain of galleries. In recent years, however, he had run into personal difficulties, including a 2010 bankruptcy filing by one of his companies. His brother has said Kinkadee battled alcoholism and relapsed before his death. A judge last month issued a restraining order against a former girlfriend that prevents her from talking about the late painter.—*Internet*

Army: No bullet wound found in soldier Skype death

WASHINGTON, 8 May — Army investigators said Monday they found no bullet wound or evidence of foul play in the death of a soldier in Afghanistan who died during a Skype video chat with his wife. Capt Bruce Kevin Clark collapsed while

speaking to his wife on 1 May from his base in Tarin Kot, Afghanistan, southwest of Kabul. His wife, Susan Orellana-Clark, has suggested that Clark was shot, citing a hole visible in the closet behind him that she believed was a bullet hole.

Investigators said an initial probe showed no trauma to the body except that Clark broke his nose when he fell forward. Orellana-Clark said he didn't seem alarmed before he collapsed. Christopher Grey, a spokesman for the Army Criminal Investigation Command, said Monday that the investigation is still under

way. "But the important thing is that there was no bullet wound, no trauma," except that Clark's nose was possibly broken when he fell on his desk, Grey said in a telephone interview. "We can positively say that Captain Clark was not shot," Grey later said in a statement.

An autopsy was done Friday but it could take several weeks to get results of toxicology and tissue testing done at that time, Paul Stone, a spokesman for the Armed Forces Medical Examiner, said on Monday. Clark's family released a statement Sunday describing what his wife saw in the video feed recording her husband's death.—*Internet*

Tunnel fire in Taipei kills two, injures 22

TAIPEI, (China), 8 May — Local transportation authorities have revised the death toll of a bus fire to two after the media previously claimed three people were killed in the accident in a tunnel in northeast Taipei. Another 22 were injured, including seven in a serious condition, while hundreds of people were successfully relocated from the tunnel that was briefly engulfed by heavy smoke after the accident, according to a Press release from authorities.

Two passenger buses and a car

travelling southward collided while attempting to a dodge a stationary van with a punctured tire in the tunnel. The car caught fire instantly after being hit from behind by one of the passenger buses. The driver and a passenger in the car were killed. The fire was extinguished about 40 minutes after the accident. Traffic through the tunnel has partially resumed. The tunnel, which is part of a north-to-south highway linking Yilan to Taipei, is about 55 km to the southeast of the island's capital.—*Xinhua*

Official say 37 left homeless in San Francisco fire

SAN FRANCISCO, 8 May — Officials said a fire that roared through a four-story apartment building in San Francisco has left several dozen people homeless.

The blaze was first reported at around 10 am on Sunday in a wooden building in the city's Mission District.

When firefighters arrived, flames and smoke were pouring out of several windows on the top floor of

the structure. Flames eventually spread to at least one adjacent building.

American Red Cross spokesman Woody Baker-Cohn says the number of people left homeless was estimated to be around 37, including seven children.

He says that number was expected to rise as residents returned to the building.

The Red Cross was working on placing people in

either motels or a shelter.

The fire was contained by noon. The cause is under investigation.

Internet

San Francisco firefighters battle a four-alarm fire at a residential and commercial building on the corner of Valencia Street and Duboce Avenue in San Francisco, on 6 May, 2012.—INTERNET



Walid Bin Attash, also spelled Waleed bin Attash, appears at his arraignment as an accused 9/11 co-conspirator in this courtroom sketch reviewed and approved for release by a US military security official, at Guantanamo Bay Navy Base, Cuba, on 5 May, 2012.—REUTERS



US prosecutors say ready for long haul in 9/11 case

GUANTANAMO BAY US NAVAL BASE, 8 May— Prosecutors and defence attorneys for five defendants in the 11 September attacks dug in on Sunday for a long legal battle that one lawyer said may never be resolved. The military tribunal is

not expected to start for almost another year and if Saturday's 13-hour arraignment was an accurate preview, the trial will be chaotic and drawn out with continuing disputes about torture and whether a military trial is appropriate.

The defendants on Saturday refused to enter pleas and demanded a full reading of the charges against them. The proceeding was interrupted by outbursts from the defendants, one of whom stripped off his shirt to show scars. The judge, Army Colonel James Pohl, set the next hearing for 12 June and said the trial will not start

until at least mid-2013. Chief Prosecutor Army Brigadier General Mark Martins said at a Sunday news conference he was not discouraged by the slow pace. "However long the journey... the United States is committed to accountability under law for those who have plotted to attack our nation and to kill innocent people," he said.

Almost 3,000 people died in 2001 when operatives from Osama bin Laden's militant Islamic group al Qaeda flew hijacked airliners into the World Trade Centre towers in New York, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania.

Reuters

The statement also encouraged press and publication administrative agencies to donate dictionaries and other basic reference books for the rural students. Moreover, the statement urged to step up the crackdown on piracy of dictionaries and reference books.

Xinhua

China provides dictionaries for rural students

BEIJING, 8 May — China's General Administration of Press and Publication has urged further efforts to ensure the accessibility of dictionaries for the students in the country's rural and less-developed areas. The administration's appeal

came after earlier media reports that primary and secondary school students in rural areas in south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region are in bad need of authoritative Chinese language dictionaries.

Bookstores nationwide should cooperate with

the publisher of the most authoritative Chinese dictionary "Xinhua Dictionary," or "New China Dictionary," in distribution, in order to ensure the timely supply of the dictionary at its bottom price, the administration said in a statement.

China launches new mapping satellite

JIUQUAN, 8 May — China successfully launched its Tianhui 1-02 mapping satellite from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China's Gansu province at 3:10 pm on Sunday.

The satellite, which was launched using a Long March 2-D carrier rocket, has entered its preset orbit. Another similar satellite, the Tianhui 1, was launched into space in August 2010.

The satellite, developed and produced by a company under the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), will mainly be used to conduct scientific experiments, carry out land resource surveys and map territory, according

to a statement released after the launch.

Remote sensing information and test results from the satellite will boost both the country's scientific research and economic development, said the statement.

The mission marked the 161st launch for the Long March rocket family since 24 April, 1970, when a Long March-1 rocket successfully sent the country's first satellite, the Dongfanghong-1, into space.—Xinhua



A Long March 2D carrier rocket carrying Tianhui 1-02 mapping satellite blasts off from the launch pad at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China's Gansu Province, on 6 May, 2012.—XINHUA

AT&T making big investment in home monitoring

NEW YORK, 8 May — AT&T Inc is making a big investment in a nationwide wireless home monitoring service that could potentially add \$1 billion to its annual revenue as part of the No 2 US mobile operator's ongoing effort to expand beyond cell phones. It is planning a service called "Digital Life" to monitor homes for everything from water damage to burglaries and to let customers remotely do things like adjust temperature or unlock doors, using an Internet connection. The service, of which AT&T will start trials this year, involves sensors and cameras linked to a central home system that connects wirelessly to AT&T monitoring centres, said Glenn Lurie, the AT&T



executive spearheading the project.

Lurie said, in an interview with Reuters ahead of the CTIA wireless show in New Orleans, where AT&T will announce the plan Monday, that AT&T is hiring "lots of people" to support the service. He did

not want to set a specific revenue target for the business but said he sees it as one of AT&T's largest revenue growth opportunities, "if not the largest," with "very significant" incremental growth in 2013. "When you're a company like AT&T

An AT&T logo is seen atop a store in Beverly Hills, California. REUTERS

... you look at opportunities that are billion-dollar opportunities," Lurie said. "Obviously to grow our business at any level, when you're a \$130 billion plus company, you have to look for significant opportunities. We view this as a significant opportunity."—Reuters

Training immune system to fight cancer comes of age

NEW YORK, 8 May — More than 100 years after researchers first explored the potential to harness the body's immune system to fight cancer, the field's leading doctors see the concept finally proving itself on a large scale in the next year or two.

Two drugs based on immunotherapy are already available and have met with mixed results. Bristol-Myers Squibb's Yervoy has been hailed as a major breakthrough for treatment of melanoma since its approval last year, while Dendreon Corp's Provenge prostate cancer vaccine has been hampered by management missteps and doctors' reluctance to adopt the difficult-to-administer therapy after two years on the

market.

They are viewed as harbingers of a treatment revolution that could gain a significant share of the global market for oncology drugs, estimated by IMS Health to reach \$75 billion by 2015. Scores of new immunotherapy vaccines and other immune system modifiers are being tested against a variety of cancers. "We have entered into a new era where immune therapies can be recognized as an important component of cancer treatment," said Dr Glenn Dranoff, co-director of the Dana-Farber Cancer Vaccine Centre in Boston. "There's certainly more excitement and more confidence in the field than there ever has been before."

Reuters



This file photo shows customers picking out vegetables at a street stall in Shanghai, in 2011. China is investigating claims vegetable sellers are spraying cabbage with harmful formaldehyde to keep it fresh, an official said on Tuesday, in yet another food safety scare to hit the country.—INTERNET

Micron wins exclusive right to bid for Elpida

TOKYO, 8 May—Micron Technology won the right to negotiate exclusively to buy Elpida Memory Inc after offering more than 200 billion yen (\$2.5 billion) for the failed Japanese chipmaker, according to a source with direct knowledge of the deal that would more than double the US company's global market share. By acquiring Elpida, Micron would boost its market share to 25 percent, surpassing South Korea's SK Hynix and becoming the second-biggest maker of DRAM memory chips used in personal computers, according to US technology research firm IHS iSuppli. Samsung Electronics is the largest.

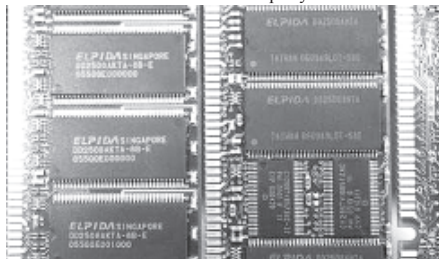
Elpida, which also makes chips used in smartphones and tablets, has been searching for an investor to sponsor its restructuring after filing for bankruptcy protection in February with 448 billion yen in liabilities. Part of the 200 billion yen would be used to repay Elpida's debts and part of it will be invested in the chipmaker's operations, the source said, declining to be identified because the negotiations are confidential. With investors concerned about how much

Micron might pay, its shares have fallen about 20 percent since late March when it was first identified as a bidder for Elpida.

Waddell & Reed analyst Brad Warden said Micron's offer was half a billion dollars more than he had expected but that the potential tie-up would improve the memory industry. Waddell & Reed owns \$155 million worth of Micron's stock. "The most

debt totaled \$2.2 billion, according to the company's earnings statement for the quarter ended March 1. It issued an additional \$870 million of convertible senior notes in April.

In the final round of bidding that closed last Friday, Micron also offered to keep open Elpida's two main factories in Japan and guarantee jobs for the company's current



Elpida chips are seen at an electronic store in Tokyo's Akihabara District on 24 April, 2012. — REUTERS

important thing is, after this deal you end up with three major players in DRAM, which makes it a more rational market, with more rational capital decision-making and probably more stability from a pricing standpoint," Warden said. Micron held \$2.1 billion of cash and short-term investments, while long-term

employees for the time being, the source said. Those promises helped it to outmaneuver SK Hynix, which dropped out of the race last week. US private equity

Study finds psychopaths have distinct brain structure

LONDON, 8 May — Scientists who scanned the brains of men convicted of murder, rape and violent assaults have found the strongest evidence yet that psychopaths have structural abnormalities in their brains.

The researchers, based at King's College London's Institute of Psychiatry, said the differences in psychopaths' brains mark them out even from other violent criminals with anti-social personality disorders (ASPD), and from healthy non-offenders.

Nigel Blackwood, who led the study, said the ability



A brain scan shows areas of reduced gray matter volume in the medial prefrontal cortex of the brain of the psychopathic group of antisocial men compared to the non-psychopathic group of antisocial men.

REUTERS

to use brain scans to identify and diagnose this sub-group of violent criminals has important implications for treatment.

The study showed that psychopaths, who are characterized by a lack of empathy, had less grey matter in the areas of the brain important for understanding other peoples' emotions.

While cognitive and behavioral treatments may benefit people with anti-social personality disorders, the same approach may not work for psychopaths with brain damage, Blackwood said.

"To get a clear idea of which treatments are working, you've got to clearly define what people are like going into the treatment programmes," he said in a telephone interview.

Essi Viding a professor in the psychology and language sciences

department of University College London, who was not involved in Blackwood's study, said it provided "weighty new evidence" about the importance of distinguishing psychopathic from non-psychopathic people rather than grouping them together.

The findings also have implications for the justice system, because linking psychopathy to brain function raises the prospect of arguing a defence of insanity.

Interest in what goes on inside the heads of violent criminals has been sharpened by the trial of Anders Behring Breivik, the Norwegian who massacred 77 people last July.

Two court-appointed psychiatric teams who examined Breivik came to opposite conclusions about his mental health.

The killer himself has railed being called insane.

Reuters

White House on al-Qaeda hostage's plea: 'We cannot and will not negotiate'

WASHINGTON, 8 May — President Barack Obama is aware of the video—released by al-Qaeda on Sunday—that shows an American hostage's desperate plea for help and is "greatly concerned" for his safety, but refuses to negotiate with the terror group.

"The president is aware of it," White House Press secretary Jay Carney said on Monday of the video plea. "I do not believe he's seen it, or I do not know that he's seen it."

"My life is in your hands, Mr President," Warren Weinstein, the 70-year-old hostage, said in the two-minute video, posted on several Islamist websites. "If you accept the demands, I live. If you don't accept the demands, then I die."

"We remain greatly concerned for Mr Weinstein's safety and his well-being," Carney

continued.

"Our hearts go out to him and his family. We condemn his kidnapping in the strongest terms and call for his immediate release.

The US government will continue making every effort to see Mr Weinstein released safely to his family, but we cannot and will not negotiate with al-Qaeda."

Weinstein, a development consultant living in Pakistan, was reportedly kidnapped from his home last August. al-Qaeda later claimed responsibility for the abduction.

The demands made by al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri include the release of all prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and an end to attacks by the United States and its allies on al-Qaeda militants.

Internet

"The Avengers" box office debut boosted to new record

LOS ANGELES, 8 May — Superhero movie "The Avengers" flexed its muscle a bit more on Monday, pushing its total debut weekend box office revenues to a new record \$207.4 million in the United States and Canada from about \$200.3 million one day earlier.

The film featuring several Marvel comic book characters including Captain America, Black Widow and

Thor shattered the previous US and Canadian opening weekend record of \$169.2 million by "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2" set last year.

The Walt Disney C said the movie, which opened in US and Canadian theaters on Friday, has now amassed global total ticket sales of \$654.8 million in just 12 days when adding in international receipts.— Reuters

Dog food salmonella recall expanded in US, Canada

NEW YORK, 8 May — Diamond Pet Foods has expanded a recall of its dry dog food, taking precautionary steps after several of its brands were linked to an outbreak of a rare strain of salmonella poisoning that infected at least 14 people in nine states. The company said it was now pulling a total of nine brands of its dry dog food from the shelves. In April, it began the recall by pulling three brands. The salmonella cases were found in humans who may have had contact with dogs or dog foods prior to their illness.

The additional brands

have been recalled as a precaution and none had tested positive for salmonella, according to a statement issued by the company on Saturday. The products were distributed in 16 states, mostly along the US East Coast, and Canada. Another dog food company, WellPet LLC, also said it was recalling one of its brands as a precaution. Diamond first started pulling some brands of dog food produced at a South Carolina plant after salmonella infections were reported from on 8 Oct, 2011, to 22 April, and five people were hospitalized.—Reuters

Man finds turtle with son's initials on it

A Pennsylvania man said he recently found a live turtle his son carved his initials into 47 years ago.

Holland Cokeley, 85, was walking in the woods behind his South Strabane home with his neighbour's dog when the dog found the turtle, KDKA-TV,

Pittsburgh, reported.

"I picked it up, and I thought, 'Oh geez, this is Jeff's turtle!'" said Cokeley. "It's been here for 47 years, and it still has the same markings on it!"

In 1965, Jeff Cokeley, then 13, carved "JC" and "1965" on the turtle's bottom shell and then released it back

into the wild. He now lives in New York but laughed when his father sent him a picture of the turtle, Holland Cokeley said.

Experts say some eastern box turtles can live for 100 years.

Holland Cokeley said he kept the turtle for a few days, then released it.



Local tourism director Mark Bellinger resigned after buying a yacht for Okaloosa County.

Bear and cubs spend day in neighbourhood

Authorities in California said a mother black bear and her two cubs headed back into the wilderness after spending the day in a residential neighbourhood.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said the California black bears, which actually have brown fur, were first spotted eating leftover birthday cake from a garbage can in an Altadena man's driveway Thursday morning and they spent most of the morning and afternoon nursing and napping in a pair of nearby trees, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

The sheriff's department said the bears wandered the area a bit before heading back into the wilderness around sunset.

News Album



Chilean police put on a motorcycle stunt show, in Constitution Square, to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the institution. In this stunt, a police officer wearing a Ninja Turtle costume jumps over a chain of humans and through a ring of fire.

Tightrope walker sets sights on Niagara

Famed tightrope walker Nik Wallenda said he will become the first person in more than a century to walk a high wire over Niagara Falls.

Wallenda, a seventh-generation member of circus performing family The Flying Wallendas, said he will cross from the United States to Canada on a 1,800-foot cable on 15 June, CNN reported.

"This has been a dream for so long, since I was 6 years old," Wallenda said in announcing the stunt.

Wallenda said the crossing is expected to take 30 to 40 minutes. The last tightrope walker to cross the falls was James Hardy in 1896. Wallenda said he will be the first performer to cross directly over the falls.

"The other people all crossed farther down," he said.

Buying county a yacht was wrong

A former tourism director in Okaloosa County, Fla., acknowledged using public money for a \$710,000 yacht was a mistake.

Mark Bellinger resigned Tuesday as head of the Tourism Development Council in Okaloosa County, the *Northwest Florida Daily News* reported.

He said the luxury yacht was intended to be a vehicle for promotional campaigns for the county, which is in the Florida panhandle.

Bellinger met with angry county commissioners and argued he was trying to do his best for the county when he made the purchase, which was paid for by a tax on hotel stays.

But he agreed he should not have

spent that kind of money without consulting anyone else. "I did put the cart before the horse," he said. "It was a mistake in judgment on my part."

Commissioners now want to sell the boat, which has been sitting at a Destin yacht club since it was purchased in December.

"I want to get rid of it as fast as possible with a good deal for the county," Commissioner Bill Roberts said.

"It's an embarrassment to the county to have that titled in the county's name."

While officials say there is no evidence of criminal wrongdoing, they are checking the accounts to see what other purchases Bellinger might have made.

Nicole Richie feels great about body

WASHINGTON, 8 May — Nicole Richie has revealed that she now feels great about her body after going through a thinner phase.

The daughter of singer Lionel Richie, who found fame starring on 'The Simple Life' alongside Paris Hilton, opened up about revealing her dramatic weight loss in 2006. She confessed that although she can be critical of her fuller figure, she tries to ignore her own negative views and is proud of the positive steps she's taken.

"I feel great about my body," Contactmusic.com quoted her as telling *Glamour* magazine.

"You know, aesthetically I can be picky, but I choose not to. I've taken huge leaps. I'm proud of that," she said.

Nicole is mother to Good Charlotte singer Joel Madden's two children four-year-old Harlow and two-year-old Sparrow.

The 30-year-old, who appears as a 'Fashion Star' mentor alongside Jessica Simpson, designer John Varvatos and host Elle MacPherson, revealed more about her new healthy outlook on life.

"I work out and I get lots of sleep, so I feel great. And that is most important," she added. —*Internet*

Rita Wilson jumps into music world



Actress Rita Wilson

LOS ANGELES, 8 May — Actress Rita Wilson says she doesn't believe her marriage to Hollywood mega-star Tom Hanks will give her fledgling singing career much of a boost.

Wilson, 55, has been reinventing herself as a songstress and took a major step in the

right direction with a weekend appearance at the famed Troubadour nightclub in Los Angeles, CBS News said.

Wilson told CBS she always wanted to be singer and will be carving out her own path in an industry where hubby Hanks doesn't have a lot of clout. "How is a record label going to say 'I'm going to do her a favour'?" Wilson said.

Wilson's Troubadour gig was in support of her first album, which covers tunes from the 1960s and 1970s, and has some star power from the music world behind it. Venerable talents like Jackson Browne, Faith Hill and Cheryl Crow provide vocal support.

Wilson's resume included 28 movie roles as well as stints on television and Broadway. "I always wanted to sing," she said. "I didn't know how to do it." —*Internet*

Stewart injured in 'Twilight' sequel shoot

LOS ANGELES, 8 May — Actress Kristen Stewart injured her foot while shooting for "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2". They were filming a scene where her vampire character Bella Swan goes on her first hunt, when the accident happened. "The first hunt is always so important.

I just wanted more of it. We all wanted more of it," dailystar.co.uk quoted her as saying. The film is slated to release in November this year. —*Internet*



Actress Kristen Stewart

Gaga loves being alone

LOS ANGELES, 8 May — Singer Lady Gaga says she began to cherish her loneliness when she was 20, but admits it eventually led her to cocaine addiction.

"I began to cherish my loneliness. I have, sort of, since I was around 20 years old," contactmusic.com quoted Gaga as saying.

The singer, who recently split with "Vampire Diaries" actor Taylor Kinney, said she was depressed in her youth but that pushed her into the music industry.

"I was very depressed when I was 19. I decided to pursue music, so I dropped out of school and I told my parents I didn't want any money from them. I got three jobs and I just hit the ground running," she said.

"I would go back to my apartment every day and I would just sit there. It was quiet and it was lonely. It was still. It was just my piano and myself.

I had at television and I would leave it on all the time just to feel like somebody was



In this file image released by Lionsgate, Jennifer Lawrence portrays Katniss Everdeen, left, and Liam Hemsworth portrays Gale Hawthorne in a scene from "The Hunger Games." —*Internet*

'Hunger Games' to hit China in June

HOLLYWOOD, 8 May — China has given the green light for the premiere of the US blockbuster "The Hunger Games" this summer, the film's distributor said this weekend.

Lionsgate said the pending June release in China will be the first under a new revenue-sharing agreement that will enable Western distributors to pocket up to 25 percent of a film's Chinese box office receipts.

Lionsgate executive said in a written statement that

"The Hunger Games" had the potential to repeat the huge business it did after its North American release, which has totaled \$380 million so far.

"China is already one of the leading territories at the international box office, and the launch of 'The Hunger Games' in this key market is another sign of the franchise's continuing emergence as a truly global phenomenon," said Patrick Wachsberger and Rob Friedman, co-chairmen of Lionsgate Motion Picture Group. —*Internet*



Singer Lady Gaga

Chelsea aim for fresh Reds misery after FA Cup win

LONDON, 8 May — Roberto di Matteo's Chelsea side will face Liverpool at Anfield on Tuesday with renewed hope of securing the top four finish that would guarantee their Champions League qualification. The two teams will meet just three days after the FA Cup final that ended with Chelsea celebrating a third success in the competition in four years following a 2-1 victory at Wembley. And while Liverpool have only pride to play for in the rematch, di

Matteo's men were given fresh incentive as Newcastle and Tottenham stumbled in their quest for maximum points.

Had either of those two teams won last weekend, Chelsea's hopes of finishing fourth in the Premier League would have all but disappeared. That would have left the Stamford Bridge club needing to win the Champions League final against Bayern Munich to ensure a return to Europe's premier club competition —

and consign the fourth-best team in England to the second-tier Europa League. But Chelsea could yet provide themselves with an insurance policy against losing the Champions League final by finishing fourth.

That would happen if they beat Liverpool and Blackburn in their final two league games and Tottenham and Newcastle failed to defeat Fulham and Everton respectively on Sunday. The odds are stacked heavily against them, but Chelsea's end-of-season revival has shown the danger of dismissing their chances. First, though, they must carry on where they left off at Wembley.

"It'll be a bit weird playing them (Liverpool) again so soon after this," Chelsea midfielder Frank Lampard said. — *Internet*



Chelsea's Florent Malouda (R) reacts after a goal scored by Newcastle Papiss Cisse during their last English Premier League match, at Stamford Bridge in London, on 2 May. — *INTERNET*

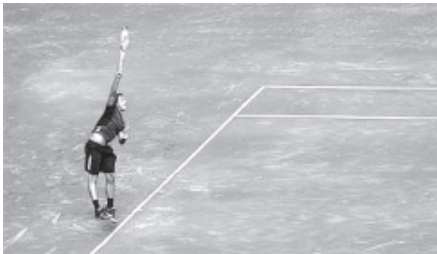
International Sports

Almagro adds to Djokovic concerns over Madrid's blue clay

MADRID, 8 May — Spanish clay-court specialist Nicolas Almagro did little on Monday to ease world number one Novak Djokovic's concerns about the controversial blue clay court at the Madrid Open after beating Santiago Giraldo 6-7, 6-3, 6-3. Djokovic gets his first opportunity to play on the surface when he starts his title defense against qualifier Daniel Gimeno-Traver on

"Being so close to Roland Garros, we would prefer to play on red clay. This surface isn't in the best of conditions," Almagro told reporters at Madrid's Magic Box Arena. "It is very slippery and I hope there aren't any injuries." Djokovic lost to his great rival Rafa Nadal in his last outing in the final of the Monte Carlo Open in April but returns to a venue where he beat the world number two

Harrison was celebrating his 20th birthday on his debut at the tournament and beat Sergiy Stakhovsky 7-6, 7-6 to set up a meeting with fourth-seeded Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga. Russian qualifier Igor Andreev overcame former world number one Juan Carlos Ferrero in straight sets and his compatriot Mikhail Youzhny progressed past Javier Marti. Cypriot Marcos Baghdatis fell to wild card Spaniard Guillermo Garcia-Lopez 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 while Colombia's Alejandro Falla and Serb Viktor Troicki also went through. — *Reuters*



Nicolas Almagro of Spain serves the ball to Santiago Giraldo of Colombia during their men's singles match at the Madrid Open tennis tournament on 7 May, 2012. — *INTERNET*

Tuesday after a two-week layoff. Eleventh seed Almagro came back to beat the Colombian qualifier for his 17th clay-court win of the season, more than any other player on the ATP world tour this year, but was far from happy with the new courts.

in last year's final. He will play another Spaniard in the second round in Gimeno-Traver, who needed two hours and 24 minutes to see off fellow qualifier Victor Hanesescu of Romania 7-6, 4-6, 6-3 on Monday.

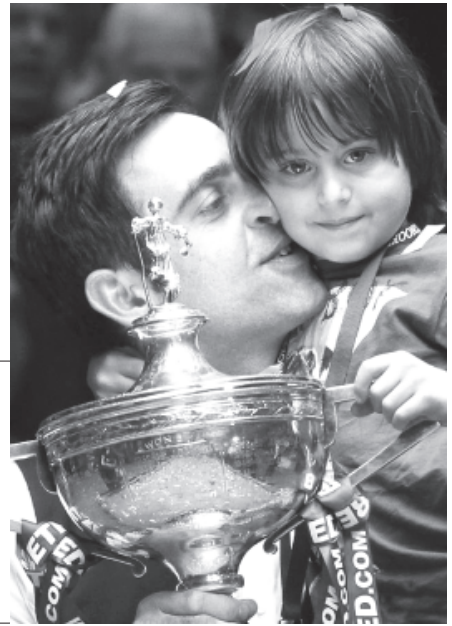
American wild card Ryan

O'Sullivan claims fourth world title

SHEFFIELD, 8 May — Ronnie O'Sullivan defeated Allister Carter 18-11 in the snooker world championships here on Monday. O'Sullivan, who has slipped to 13th in the world rankings, led the first day's competition 10-7 and gave little chance to 18th-ranked Carter on Monday, winning his fourth world title at the Crucible Theatre. It was almost a rematch of 2008 world champion final, when O'Sullivan beat Carter 11-8.

Xinhua

Ronnie O'Sullivan of England celebrates with his son Ronnie Jr during the awarding ceremony after the final of the Betfred.com World Snooker Championship against Allister Carter of England at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, UK, on 7 May, 2012. — *XINHUA*



IndyCar tests new car at high-banked Texas

FORT WORTH, 8 May — Will Power has certainly been good in the IndyCar Series' new car, winning three of the four races this season. All of those were on road and street courses. IndyCar drivers are now preparing for the

Indianapolis 500, their first race on an oval since Dan Wheldon's fatal accident at Las Vegas in last October's season finale.

An open test Monday at Texas provided an indication of how the new cars with less new downforce will perform on oval tracks, especially when teams have more flexibility in setups. "What we're trying to do is try to ensure that it's not a pack race like it has been in the past, and like it was in Vegas," Power said. Wheldon was killed when his car sailed into the fence in a 15-car accident, and his head hit a

post in the fence.

A report later determined that pack racing on a high-banked oval contributed to the accident. Texas was the IndyCar's first open test on a 1½-mile track since Wheldon's accident. The Indianapolis 500 will be the first of four oval races in a five-week span. Texas, which hosts the series on 9 June, is a high-banked oval like the Las Vegas track also owned by Bruton Smith. "There's always concern, especially after what happened in Vegas," Scott Dixon said. — *Internet*



IndyCar driver Rubens Barrichello takes the track from pit row during IndyCar testing at Texas Motor Speedway on 7 May, 2012, in Fort Worth, Texas. — *INTERNET*

Mauricio Pellegrino named as new Valencia coach

MADRID, 8 May — Spanish La Liga club Valencia announced Monday that former defender Mauricio Pellegrino will be their new coach for the next two seasons. The decision which was announced by Valencia President, Manuel Llorente puts an end to rumours over the future of current coach Unai Emery, who will leave Valencia at the end of the season after four successful seasons in charge.

Valencia have finished third behind FC Barcelona and Real Madrid for the past two

seasons and Saturday's 1-0 win over Villarreal assured they will again finish third in this season which also saw Valencia reach the semifinals of the Europa League and Copa del Rey. 40-year-old Pellegrino spent six successful seasons as a player at Valencia after moving to Spain to join Barcelona. When he retired he joined the backroom staff at the club, before joining Liverpool where he worked as assistant to Rafael Benitez, with whom he won two league titles and the UEFA Cup.

He moved with Benitez to Inter Milan in the summer of 2010 and left the club with the Spaniard when Benitez was sacked in December of the same year.

The former Argentinean international faces a difficult job in following Emery, given that Valencia has had to sell key players, such as David Villa, David Silva and Juan Mata in recent years to help clear its large debt, while the club is known for having some of the most demanding fans in Spain.

Xinhua

Serena Williams wins, Venus bows out at Madrid

MADRID, 8 May — Serena Williams beat Elena Vesnina 6-3, 6-1 to reach the Madrid Open's second round, while sister Venus lost 6-4, 6-1 to Angelique Kerber on Monday.

The ninth-seeded Williams had 13 aces and 40 winners against Vesnina, who was struggling with her game on the slippery blue clay court. The Russian lost her balance in the sixth game and set up a break point for Williams, who pulled ahead to lead 4-2.

Williams' ninth ace of the match provided a setpoint for the ninth-ranked American to take the first set and wrap up the match against the 68th-ranked Russian in just over an hour. "I'm feeling good but I wasn't thrilled," said Williams, who will face Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia. "This is my first tournament in Europe so hopefully I will just keep my good form and just keep going," she added. — *Internet*



Serena Williams from US returns the ball to Elena Vesnina from Russia during the Madrid Open tennis tournament, in Madrid, on 7 May, 2012. — *INTERNET*

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
(9-5-12 09:30 am ~ 10-5-12 09:30 am) MST

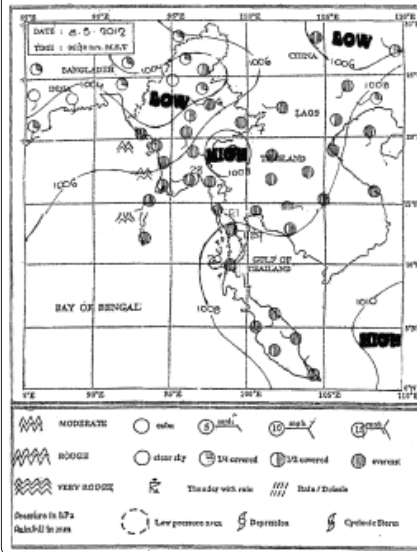
- * News
- * 3rd Annual Traditional Costume and Food Fair
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Secret Place For Yummy Food (Episode-11)
- * Let's enjoy together the Kason Water Pouring Festival
- * News
- * Endless Wonders.....(Htukkant Their Temple)
- * The Prize Giving Ceremony of Holika Holika's Diamond Lucky Draw
- * News
- * Success of Kind-hearted Persons
- * News
- * Workshop on Broadcast Media Regulation
- * News
- * A Trip to the City of Rakhkhita, Rakhine
- * News
- * Myanmar Movie "Myself, Other Men & Women"

MYANMAR TV

(9-5-2012) (Wednesday)

- 7:00 am
 - Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
 - Uppatasanti Paritta
- 7:25 am
- 7:50 am
 - Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:20 am
- 8:40 am
 - Documentary
- 9:00 am
- 9:20 pm
 - Martial Song
- 4:10 pm
- 4:45 pm
 - Musical Programme
- 4:55 pm
 - Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:20 pm
 - Classical Song
- 5:40 pm
 - Teleplay (Industry)
- 6:20 pm
 - "ASEAN" Programme
- 6:35 pm
 - Traditional Boxing
- 8:00 pm
 - Shwe Yin Chone Than
 - News
 - Korea NG Award
 - TV Drama Series
 - Performance of Chinese Acrobatic Troupe

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 9th May, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	28/100	21/70	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
2	Kayah	28/82	18/64	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
3	Kayah	28/84	21/70	Early widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
4	Chin	22/72	11/52	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
5	Upper Sgawing	39/102	23/73	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
6	Lower Sgawing	38/100	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
7	Tannharyi	28/82	22/72	Early widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
8	Bago	32/90	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
9	Magway	40/104	25/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
10	Mandalay	39/102	27/81	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
11	Mon	32/90	24/75	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
12	Yangon	34/93	23/73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
13	Rakhine	33/91	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
14	Southern Shan	27/81	18/66	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
15	Northern Shan	33/91	19/66	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
16	Eastern Shan	24/75	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
17	Ayeyawady	35/95	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	38/100	23/73	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	34/93	23/73	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	39/102	27/81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Sgawing Region and Kachin State, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Tannharyi Region and Kayah State, scattered in Yangon Region, Shan and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Mon State. Day temperatures were (5°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin State, (5°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Sgawing Region, Northern Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, (7°C) below May average temperatures in Eastern Shan State, (2°C) below May average temperatures in Tannharyi Region and Kayah State and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chank (45°C), Moneya and Nyauye (42°C) each, Myingyan and Minbu (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thaton (3.31) inches, Longton (1.61) inches, Yangon (Central) and Hinthada (1.42) inches each.

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and partly cloudy in the Bay of Bengal.

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

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



Maria Sharapova of Russia hits a return to Klara Zakopalova of Czech during the women's singles second round match of the Madrid Open tennis tournament, in Madrid, Spain, on 8 May, 2012. Sharapova won 2-0.
XINHUA

Fire Brigade Day observed in Pakokku

PAKOKKU, 8 May—In commemoration of the 66th Anniversary Fire Services Day 2012, the Deputy Commissioner, the township administrator and district and township commanders of Police Force awarded the winners in the contests on 5 May.

Members of the fire brigade demonstrated their skills in rescue works and fire fighting works.—Myanma Alin



UNIFORMS PROVIDED: Township Administrator U Kyaw Ye Htwe of Kyimyindine Township presented uniforms worth K 674,500 to staff members of Township General Administration Department on 3 May. Deputy Head of Department Daw Khin Htar Nwe accepts the uniforms.—MYANMA ALIN

Marine forces of China, Thailand to hold joint training

BEIJING, 8 May— Marine forces of China and Thailand will hold a joint military training in south China's Guangdong province from 9 to 29 May, sources with Ministry of National Defence said Tuesday.

The training, codenamed Blue Commando-2012, will be conducted in Zhanjiang and Shanwei of the province in line with an agreement reached by the two countries' navies, according to the ministry's information office.

The training will be the second of its kind by the two navies' marine forces since 2010, and it will feature anti-terrorism and increase mutual understanding of the two forces.—Internet

Gunmen shoot dead, abduct Lebanese in Nigeria

KADUNA, 8 May— Gunmen in northern Nigeria's Kaduna state on Monday shot dead a Lebanese man and his Nigerian driver and abducted another Lebanese national, the state police spokesman said.

"The gunmen attacked the construction bus in which they were travelling, shot dead a Lebanese and the Nigerian driver and kidnapped another Lebanese," Aminu Lawan told AFP on telephone from Kaduna city.

He said that the attack took place at a location near Zaria, a large university town. "We are on the lookout for the criminals and we are

searching also for the kidnapped Lebanese," Lawan stated.

The attack has added to the feeling of insecurity in Africa's most populous nation battling to curb a deadly Islamist insurgency, especially in northern part of the country.

Islamist group Boko Haram has carried out scores of attacks in the region but criminal groups have also committed violence under the guise of the group.

The sect has regularly widened its targets in its insurgency which has killed more than 1,000 people since mid-2009.

Internet

Maids die in Singapore; Indonesia calls for safety

SINGAPORE, 8 May— Eight Indonesian maids have fallen to their deaths from high-rise apartments in Singapore this year, and the Indonesia Embassy said Tuesday it is pushing for a ban on cleaning outside windows.

Indonesia, which supplies about half of Singapore's 200,000 maids, has asked employment agencies to include a clause in work contracts that prohibits maids from cleaning the outside of windows or hanging laundry from high-rise apartments, Indonesian Embassy Counsellor Sukmo Yuwono told the Associated Press.

"It's upsetting. These are human beings dying for nothing," Yuwono said.

Singapore is under pressure to improve the

working conditions of foreign maids, who live full-time in the city-state of 5.2 million people. In March, the government pledged to mandate at least one day off a week for maids starting next year.

Last week, a court fined an employer 5,000 Singapore dollars (\$4,000) and barred her from hiring domestic workers in the future after a maid fell and died from her fifth-floor apartment last year while cleaning windows standing on a stool.

Eight maids, all Indonesian, have died after falling out of windows while working this year, five of whom were cleaning windows, Singapore's Manpower Ministry said. Four maids fell to their deaths in 2011.—Internet

IAEA expert dies in Iran's car accident: media

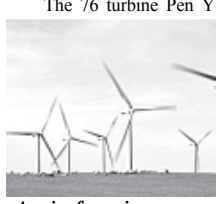
TEHRAN, 8 May—An International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) expert died in a car accident in central Iran, local media reported on Tuesday.

Two experts of IAEA were injured Tuesday in a car accident while they were on a mission near Khondab heavy water production facilities in a central province of Iran, the semi-official Mehr news agency reported.

One of the experts, named Ok-Seok Seo from South Korea, died due to the bad injury, said the report.—Internet

Vattenfall cleared to build 299 MW wind farm in Wales

LONDON, 8 May— Swedish utility Vattenfall has been cleared to build a 299 megawatt wind farm at an active coal mine in south Wales, the government said on Tuesday.



A winsfarm is 674 on Anglesey, north Wales 2 May, 2011.

REUTERS

Cyomedd development, which will have the highest generating capacity of any onshore wind farm in England or Wales, will power up to 206,000 homes.

"Onshore wind plays an important role in enhancing our energy security. It is the cheapest form of renewable energy and reduces our reliance on foreign fuel," energy minister Charles Hendry said in a statement.

The government gave consent in return for assurances future extraction of coal from under the site of the wind farm would be safeguarded, it said.

Internet

Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, receives Global Women's Affairs Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, received Global Women's Affairs Ambassador Melanne Verveer and party at the Presidential Palace here at 11 am today.

Also present at the call together with Daw Khin Khin Win were wife of Union Foreign Affairs Minister Daw Lin Lin Tin, President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin, President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Mon Mon Aung, Chairperson of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Daw Wah Wah Tun and officials.

The meeting focused on boosting maternal and child welfare cooperation between the two countries, health development of women, women empowerment, cooperation in tasks of Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association, combat against human trafficking and cooperation with international community in eliminating violence against women in Myanmar.—MNA

Patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the President of Myanmar, receives Global Women's Affairs Ambassador Melanne Verveer at Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA



World Red Cross Day marked in Nay Pyi Taw



NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—A ceremony to mark 2012 World Red Cross Day and to award winners in first aid contests was held at auditorium of Myanmar Red Cross Society in Dekkhinathiri Township here this morning, attended by Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, Deputy Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Than Aung, Chairman of Myanmar Red Cross Society Dr Tha Hla Shwe, officials of International Red Cross Society, Australian Red Cross, French Red Cross, and Danish Red Cross, departmental officials, and members of social organizations.

The Union Minister said in his address more young people in Myanmar must be trained to provide social services.

Under the policy framework and directives of the State, members of Myanmar Red Cross Society are to abide by Red Cross principles in cooperating with international Federation of Red Cross organizations, local Red Cross societies and NGOs.

Resident Representative of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to Myanmar Mr Bernd Schell read out the message of the federation chairman.

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin awarded the winners, formally opened the family reunion service and viewed its booth.

(See page 8)

Prize presenting ceremony for red cross members of 2012 World Red Cross Day and first aid contests in progress.—MNA

Say it Now!

PAGE 7

Paper smuggles fake bomb into London Games park



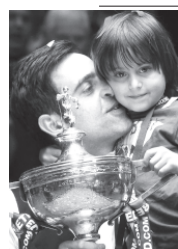
Competitors take part in the finals of the men's 3000m Steeplechase during the BUCS Outdoor Athletics Championships at the Olympic Stadium in London on 7 May, 2012.

PAGE 6

Chilean police put on a motorcycle stunt show, in Constitution Square, to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the institution, jumping over a chain of humans and through a ring of fire.



PAGE 13



O'Sullivan claims fourth world title

PAGE 14

Blow for Spain as Puyol 'is ruled out' for Euro 2012

MADRID, 8 May—Barcelona's Carles Puyol will have knee surgery and be sidelined for about six weeks, the club said Tuesday, ruling him out of the King's Cup final and almost certainly Spain's Euro 2012 campaign.

The 34-year-old Barca captain will have knee arthroscopy, it said. In the surgery, a tiny camera is inserted into the knee through small incisions and damaged tissue can be repaired or removed.

As a result, Puyol will miss the final of the domestic King's Cup competition on

25 May, when Barcelona face Athletic Bilbao in the Spanish capital's Vicente Calderon stadium.

"According to a report from the medical service, the player ended last Saturday's game against RCD Espanyol with problems in the right knee," the statement said.

"After conducting complementary tests, it was decided that the player should undergo an arthroscopy May 12," it said, adding that he would need about six weeks to recover.

Spain coach Vicente del Bosque will release a



Carlos Puyol, who will have to undergo knee surgery that almost certainly rules him out of the Euro 2012 tournament.

INTERNET

provision line-up May 15 and a definitive list May 27. World champions Spain, who are defending their European title, play their first game June 10 against Italy.

Internet