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Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union | * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity | * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Private entrepreneurs are to try to make sure that public consumers have no burden, buy products easily at a reasonable price, to work together with a view to improving living conditions of rural people as well as the grassroots

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses 21st Anniversary Plenary Meeting of UMFCCI

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham addressed the 21st Anniversary Plenary Meeting of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at Myanmar International Convention Centre here this noon.

Union Ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, ambassadors from foreign embassies, personalities from international organizations, Patron of the UMFCCI U Aung Ko Win, President U Win Aung, vice-presidents, chairmen of sister organizations, CEC members and members of the federation and guests were present on the occasion.

The Vice-President in his speech said today strenuous efforts were being exerted with added momentum for economic development that was a sine qua non for building the country as a modern, developed nation and again private sector played the major role in national economic development. Thus, the UMFCCI was founded as the highest-level organization in private economic sector in order to lead, organize and monitor traders, industrialists and other entrepreneurs in Myanmar to move forward to international standard in manufacturing, trading and service industries with a view to ensuring sector-wise development of each economic sector of the country including the private sector.

The Vice-President said that he believed the UMFCCI as a NGO would be able to drive the national economy leading the private economic sector. The federation had seen over 90 calendars since its birth and in 1999, it was promoted to current status from UMFCCI association.

In 2011-2012, the federation could attract over new 2500 members and was standing as firm as rock with 23665 members.

The Vice-President then urged the federation to unite



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greets those present at the 21st Anniversary Plenary Meeting of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at Myanmar International Convention Centre.—MNA

its members and sister associations and make efforts to enhance economic management skills, to be able to harness modern technologies in production and go well together with changing international economic systems.

(See page 8)

Union Education Minister addresses School Enrollment Day Ceremony



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Facebook underwriters blamed for price drop



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Campbell wants to earn Arsenal place

PAGE 14



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham views documentary photos of the federation.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 26 May, 2012

The country of smiles

Hospitality and generosity are dominant traits of Myanmar character. The generous nature of Myanmar is nurtured by the Buddha teachings. The streak of gentleness plus smiles in Myanmar character is an outcome of Buddhist influence.

As reforms have gone some distance, foreign investment in the country is in the offing. Even the countries which ostracized the nation previously have now become friendly with her. Therefore, the number of tourists who arrived in the country for various purposes is steadily increasing. It has become a substantial didactic test reflecting the country's resolve to ensure more tourist arrivals.

It is learnt that about 1,500 tourists arrived in Myanmar by air per day this year, up from 600 to 700 during last year. In 2001, there were 364,743 tourists arrived at Yangon International Airport while 26,433 at Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and NyaungU international airports.

Meanwhile, tourist arrivals in Myanmar are expected to reach 1.5 million in 2012. According to statistics of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the number of tourist arrivals amounted to over 800,000 in 2011, up more than 24,000 or three per cent from over 790,000 in the same period of 2010.

The figures for the first two months of 2012 represented 98,486 who came mainly from North America, West Europe, East Europe, Africa, Middle East, Asia, Australia and New Zealand, according to the Myanmar Tourism Promotion Board. The figures also show that up to February 2012, there was a total of 739 hotels in Myanmar including 22 foreign invested hotels, four joint-venture hotels, six government hotels and 707 private-owned ones.

Being easy-going and friendly people, Myanmarers are kind and their facial expressions, particularly their sweet smiles, always captivate the visitors. With this, it should come as no surprise that most of hotels are awash with tourists and the Myanmar tourism is likely to get off the ground.

Chief Justice of Mandalay Region High Court U Soe Thein meets Chinese delegation led by Vice-President of Yunnan Provincial Supreme People's Court Mr Wang Shuliang.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee, Region Hluttaw representatives, national race representatives meet

YANGON, 25 May—A meeting between Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee and Hluttaw representatives of Taninthayi Region and national race representatives took place at the region government office on 23 May afternoon.

Region Hluttaw Speaker U Htin Aung Kyaw

made an opening speech and Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee Chairman U Hsai Paung Nat delivered a speech.

Next, the Hluttaw representatives, national race representatives, members of national race literature and culture committees, political parties and social organizations and

townselders made discussions. In response, members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee made clarifications. Then, U Hsai Paung Nat made a concluding remark.

Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs

Committee Chairman U Hsai Paung Nat and members met members of national race organizations and religious organizations, teachers from training schools and Dawei University and Kayin nationals at Dawei Town Hall this morning.

Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee Chairman U Hsai Paung Nat made an opening speech and Region Hluttaw Speaker U Htin Aung Kyaw made a speech. Those present made discussions and

members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and Amyotha Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee made clarifications. U Hsai Paung Nat made a concluding remark.

At 11 am, the speaker, the chairman and Hluttaw representatives visited Dawei Special Economic Zone project being undertaken by Italian-Thai Development Public Company Ltd and cordially met with the local people.—MNA

Union Transport Minister receives President of ZETA Group and party

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received a delegation led by President Mrs Donatella Zingone Dini of ZETA Group based in Italy at his office on 23 May.

At the meeting, they had a discussion on matters related to fuel prices, environmental degradation due to the use of fuel, steps being taken for replacing oil with LPG/CNG that is cheap and causing least damage to environment, cooperation of ZETA technicians and Myanmar engineers in introducing LPG dual fuel to a vessel of Inland Water Transport, arrangement made for organizing a workshop in



collaboration with Myanmar Engineering Society assessing the advantages of LPG/CNG by technicians of both sides.

MNA

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung receives President Mrs Donatella Zingone Dini of ZETA Group based in Italy.—MNA

Chief Justice of Mandalay Region High Court meets Vice-President of Yunnan Provincial Supreme People's Court

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—The Chinese delegation led by Vice-President of Yunnan Provincial Supreme People's Court Mr Wang Shuliang, which is currently here on a visit at the invitation of Chief Justice of Mandalay Region High Court U Soe Thein, called on Chief Justice U Soe Thein at his office on 23 May. The delegation

members next studied the hearing of cases at the high court. They then met Chief Justice and judges and discussed judicial matters. The vice-president and the chief justice exchanged gifts.

In the afternoon, the Chinese delegation visited Mandalay Maha Myatmuni Buddha Image and Mandalay Hill Sutaungpyae

Myanmar, France to cooperate in parliamentary affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—A delegation led by Chief Administrator Mr Alexandre Michel of International Affairs Department of France Parliament paid a call on Pyithu Hluttaw Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee Chairman U Win Sein, at the committee meeting hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, yesterday morning.

At the call, they had a discussion on duty and undertakings of Hluttaw Committee, cooperation between Hluttaws of both countries and mutual assistance by both sides. Also present at the call were secretaries of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee.—MNA

Pagoda. In the evening, Chief Justice U Soe Thein hosted a dinner to the delegation at Ruper Mandalay Hotel.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairman meets IMS Asia Programme Head

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Development Committee Thura U Aye Myint and member (office in-charge) U Khaing Maung Yi held talks with Head of Asia Programme Mr Lars Bestle of Denmark-based International Media Support (IMS) and party at the anteroom of Pyithu Hluttaw here yesterday morning.

During the meeting, the committee chairman explained responsibilities of the Hluttaw and such obligations of the committee as dealing with the press media and its engagement in promotion of cultural and sports standards. He also answered the questions of the IMS delegation and expressed his wish to exchange pearls of wisdom with international media teams.—MNA



Obama campaign targeting Romney's record as governor

CHICAGO, 25 May—After weeks of painting Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney as a job-slashing corporate raider, President Barack Obama and his re-election campaign are broadening their attack to include Romney's record as Massachusetts governor, arguing his policies hurt the state. Obama, in an impassioned campaign speech in the battleground state of Iowa on Thursday night, foreshadowed that shift in strategy when he said Romney had made his business experience the centerpiece of his candidacy but "doesn't really talk about what he did in Massachusetts."

The move, described by campaign officials, marks a change from the campaign's recent main focus on Romney's time as a private equity executive at Bain Capital aimed at casting him as more concerned with the wealthy than the middle class. The Obama team's approach on Romney's work at Bain has faced some criticism. Some saw it as hypocritical at a time when the campaign was seeking donations from private equity executives. And while the attacks have been part of



US President Barack Obama takes the stage to speak about energy during a visit to TPI Composites, a wind energy manufacturer, in Newton, Iowa on 24 May, 2012.—REUTERS

a strategy to define Romney as out of touch with most Americans, the presumptive Republican nominee has been rising in recent polls, most of which show the race in a dead heat.

Despite that, Obama pressed his assault on Romney's private equity background in his toughest terms so far and mocked him for saying "corporations are people," a comment he made last August while campaigning in Iowa. Obama also rebutted Romney's recent claim that the Democratic president had created a "prairie fire of debt" since taking office, dismissing that as a "cow pie of distortion." "Governor Romney has

made his experience as a financial CEO the entire rationale for his candidacy," Obama told a boisterous rally of about 2,500 people inside a barn like building at the state fairgrounds in Des Moines.

He suggested Romney did not want to remind voters of his credentials outside the corporate world "but he does talk about being a business guy." "He says this gives him a special understanding of what it takes to create jobs and grow the economy - even if he's unable to offer a single new idea about how to do that," Obama told the Iowa crowd, who boomed loudly when Romney's name was mentioned. "So I think it's a

good idea to look at the way he sees the economy," the president continued. "He sincerely believes that if CEOs and wealthy investors are getting rich, then the wealth is going to trickle down and the rest of us are going to do well, too. And he is wrong." Though Obama did not explicitly assail Romney's record as governor of Massachusetts from 2003 to 2007, campaign officials made clear this would be their new focus in the weeks ahead.

Reuters

Nuclear waste expert tapped as top nuclear regulator

WASHINGTON, 25 May—President Barack Obama said on Thursday he will nominate Allison Macfarlane, an expert in nuclear waste, as the nation's top nuclear safety cop, seeking to turn the page on a period of bitter acrimony at the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Macfarlane, a geologist, will face the challenge of making the five-member commission work more collegially as it implements the biggest changes the nuclear power industry has faced in years, reforms sparked by the damage done to Japan's Fukushima complex by an earthquake and tsunami last year.

She will replace Gregory Jaczko, whose term was marked by accusations from his four fellow commissioners that his bad temper had created a hostile work environment. But first, Macfarlane, 48, will face tough questions from Republicans who want to revive the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste dump in Nevada. Macfarlane has been a critic, writing a book in 2006 about the technical issues at the site called "Uncertainty Underground."

"She's not anti-nuclear, but she's certainly not going to take her instructions from the industry," said Frank von Hippel, a nuclear non-proliferation expert at Princeton who has written academic papers with Macfarlane. "I've argued that the NRC has been subject to regulatory capture. Allison is certainly not captured by the industry," he said.

Reuters

France's Hollande makes unannounced Afghanistan trip



France's President Francois Hollande.

INTERNET

PARIS, 25 May—French President Francois Hollande made an unannounced trip to Afghanistan on Friday to visit some of the French troops he wants to pull out later this year and meet Afghan President Hamid Karzai, whom he saw briefly last week in Chicago. Hollande, making a whirl of foreign trips since his 15 May inauguration, is accelerating the withdrawal of the roughly 3,400 French troops still

stationed in Afghanistan to the end of this year, two years ahead of the NATO timetable.

His office said he would pledge to keep to a long-term cooperation treaty signed with Kabul earlier this year. Hollande's new withdrawal timetable is at odds with NATO partners adhering to a plan to hand over command of all combat missions to Afghan forces by the middle of 2013 and withdraw most of the 130,000 foreign troops there by the end of 2014. Some 2,000 troops are due to leave this year but some will remain to provide support and training, and to look after equipment. France has 14 helicopters, 900 vehicles and 1,400 containers that need to be taken out via road and plane.—Reuters

Venezuela tightens border security to bar entry of Colombian rebels

CARACAS, 25 May—Venezuela posted some 3,000 troops along its border with Colombia on Thursday to prevent Colombian rebels from entering its territory. The Venezuelan government reinforced security along its northwest border with two army brigades and aerial support, official sources said, citing Defence Minister Henry Rangel Silva. The move came after Colombia said earlier this week it was concerned that insurgents had entered Venezuela to evade capture.

On Monday, Colombian troops and members of the rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) engaged in a violent clash in the northern Colombian department of La Guajira near the border with Venezuela. Twelve soldiers were killed by the rebels. Immediately following the fight, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez reassured Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos that he would crack down on any illegal activity on the Venezuelan



Image provided by the Chancery of Venezuela shows Venezuelan Chancellor Nicolas Maduro (L) and his Colombian counterpart Maria Angela Holguin meets in Caracas, Capital of Venezuela, on 24 May, 2012. The chancellors discussed border security measures. — XINHUA

side of the border. Silva said "elements of armed groups that may have penetrated into Venezuelan territory are being searched for in many sectors" along the shared 2,000-km border. He added it was the job of the Venezuelan authorities to consolidate the security posts along the common border for safeguarding sovereignty. Any illegal armed groups that may have crossed the border will have to face "the iron fist" of the Venezuelan military units, said Silva.

Also on Thursday, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Nicolas Maduro held talks in Caracas with visiting Colombian counterpart Maria Angela Holguin on the border issues. A joint statement following the meeting said the two sides would boost cooperation and communication to beef up border security. Alleged rebel incursions had strained ties of the two neighbouring countries. In mid-2009, when hardline President Alvaro Uribe was in power, Colombia broke off diplomatic and trade relations with Venezuela, but ties resumed in August 2010 after Santos came to power.

Xinhua

Iran, big powers agree to hold more nuclear talks in June



European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton (L) chats with Iran's chief negotiator Saeed Jalili as they pose for the media before their meeting in Baghdad on 23 May, 2012.—REUTERS

BAGHDAD, 25 May—Iran and world powers agreed to meet again in Moscow next month for more talks to try to end the long-running dispute over Teheran's nuclear programme, but there was scant progress to resolve the main sticking points between the two sides.

At the heart of the dispute is Iran's insistence that it has the right to enrich uranium and that economic sanctions should be lifted before it stops activities that could lead to its achieving the capability to make nuclear weapons.

Western powers insist

Teheran must first shut down enrichment activities before sanctions can be eased.

But both sides have powerful reasons not to abandon diplomacy. The powers want to avert the danger of a new Middle East war raised by Israeli threats to bomb Iran, while Teheran also wants to avoid a looming Western ban on its oil exports.

After discussions in Baghdad extended late into an unscheduled second day on Thursday between envoys from Iran and the six powers, European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said it was clear both

sides wanted progress and had some common ground, but significant differences remained.

"We will maintain intensive contacts with our Iranian counterparts to prepare a further meeting in Moscow," she told a news conference in Baghdad.

The next meeting, the third in the latest round of talks that began in Istanbul last month, will be held in Moscow on 18 to 19 June.

Ashton leads the negotiations for the six-country group made up of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States - which together with Germany is known as the P5+1.

"Talks were intensive and long," said Iranian chief negotiator Saeed Jalili. "They were detailed, but are left unfinished."

"The atmosphere of these talks was positive for the two sides to talk about their issues in a clear way. We believe the result of these talks was that we were able to get to know each other's views better and more."

Reuters

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

UK parents can control kids' phones



Cellphone SIM card.—INTERNET

LONDON, 25 May—A cellphone SIM card remotely managed by a computer will allow parents to control a child's phone and protect the child from bullying, a British company says.

Bemilo says its system, to run on the British Vodafone network, will allow parents to stop their children from going online, texting or making or receiving calls during certain hours.

"It's a SIM that is just like any other SIM you would

buy for any other network, but it enables parents to have full control in the context of safety," Simon Goff, founder and chairman of Bemilo, told the BBC.

"They can allow or disallow certain contacts to call them, and they can set the times of day the phone can operate."

The SIM would help protect children from mobile phone bullying or "sexting" through unwanted phone calls or texts, Britain's Family and Parenting Institute said.

The system will enable parents to help ensure their children's safety, Goff said.

For example, he said, if parents wanted to deactivate the phone during school hours, they could do so remotely from a Web site on their computer.

However, even if the child's phone is disabled, parents can manage the handset in such a way that they are able to reach the child and the child is able to contact them, he said.

Bemilo said in a survey of 2,000 parents, 25 percent reported their children have been subjected to cellphone bullying.

Internet

Experimental crop vandalism brings charges

HARPENDEN, 25 May—A British man is facing charges following a break-in at a research centre where a trial of genetically modified wheat is being held, authorities said.

Officials at the Rothamsted Research centre said test crops of the GM wheat had been vandalized on Sunday with "significant" damage, the BBC reported.

The centre, located in Hertfordshire, is testing to see if modified crops can deter aphids, a major wheat pest.

Opponents of GM crops have denounced the tests, claiming the planting in open air could allow modified pollen to escape the confines of the test centre into the

surrounding environment.

"The intruder caused significant, random property damage, but failed to disrupt the experiment in this attack," the research centre said in a statement.

Anti-GM group Take the Flour Back has vowed to



Hulled wheat.—INTERNET

"decontaminate" the site unless the research is halted, but there has been no suggestion the man who has been charged is linked to the group.

"We have no information about this incident, but are relieved if the quantity of GM pollen released from the trial has been reduced," group spokeswoman Eleanor Baylis said. "The British people are clear that they're not swallowing this technology."

The alleged intruder, a 50-year-old man from Devon whose identity has not been released, will appear in court on 13 July, authorities said.

Internet

Scientists turn skin cells into beating heart muscle

LONDON, 25 May—Scientists have for the first time succeeded in taking skin cells from patients with heart failure and transforming them into healthy, beating heart tissue that could one day be used to treat the condition. The researchers, based in Haifa, Israel, said there were still many years of testing and refining ahead. But the results meant they might eventually be able to reprogram patients' cells to repair their own damaged hearts.

"We have shown that it's possible to take skin cells from an elderly patient with advanced heart failure and end up with his own beating cells in a laboratory dish that are healthy and young — the equivalent to the stage of his heart cells when he was just born," said Lior Gepstein from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, who led the work.

The researchers, whose study was published in the *European Heart Journal* on Wednesday, said clinical trials of the technique could begin within 10 years. Heart failure is a debilitating condition in which the heart is unable to pump enough blood around the body. It has become more prevalent in recent decades as advances in medical science mean many more people survive heart attacks.

At the moment, people with severe heart failure have to rely on mechanical devices or hope for a transplant. Researchers have been studying stem cells from various sources for more than a decade, hoping to capitalize on their ability to transform into a wide variety of other kinds of cell to treat a range of health conditions.

There are two main forms of stem cells — embryonic stem cells, which are harvested from embryos, and reprogrammed "human induced pluripotent stem cells" (hiPSCs), often originally from skin or blood.

TISSUES BEATING TOGETHER

Gepstein's team took skin cells from two men with heart failure — aged 51 and 61 — and transformed them by adding three genes and then a small molecule called valproic acid to the cell nucleus.

They found that the resulting hiPSCs were able to differentiate to become heart muscle cells, or cardiomyocytes, just as effectively as hiPSCs that had been developed from healthy, young volunteers who acted as controls for the study.

The team was then able to make the cardiomyocytes develop into heart muscle tissue, which they grew in a laboratory dish together with existing cardiac tissue.

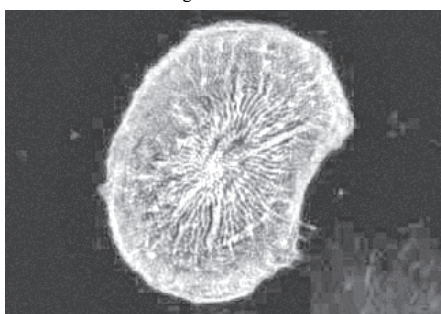
Within 24 to 48 hours the two types of tissue were beating together, they said.

In a final step of the study, the new tissue was transplanted into healthy rat hearts and the researchers found it began to establish connections with cells in the host tissue. "We hope that hiPSCs derived cardiomyocytes will not be rejected following transplantation into the same patients from which they were derived," Gepstein said. "Whether this will be the case or not is the focus of active investigation."

Experts in stem cell and cardiac medicine who were not involved in Gepstein's work praised it but also said there was a lot to do before it had a chance of becoming an

effective treatment. "This is an interesting paper, but very early and it's really important for patients that the promise of such a technique is not over-sold," said John Martin a professor of cardiovascular medicine at University College London.

"The chances of translation are slim and if it does work it would take around 15 years to come to clinic," Nicholas Mills, a consultant cardiologist at Edinburgh University said the technology needs to be refined before it could be used for patients with heart failure, but added: "These findings are encouraging and take us a step closer to... identifying an effective means of repairing the heart." —Reuters



To match skin to stem cells for heart failure patients. Fluorescent images of human heart cells generated from induced pluripotent stem cells of heart failure patients in an undated image.—REUTERS

Ancient 'cursing stone' found in Scotland

GLASGOW, 25 May—Scotland's first known example of a "cursing stone" associated with early Christianity, around 800 AD, has been found in a graveyard, researchers say.

The stone, also known as a bullaun, around 10 inches in diameter and engraved with an early Christian cross, was found to fit perfectly into a large rectangular stone with a worn hole located at the base of a standing Christian cross on the Isle of Canna in Scotland's Inner Hebrides, the BBC reported.

"Stones like this are found in Ireland, where they are known as 'cursing stones', but this is the first to be discovered in Scotland," Katherine Forsyth, based at the University of Glasgow, said.

"They date from the early

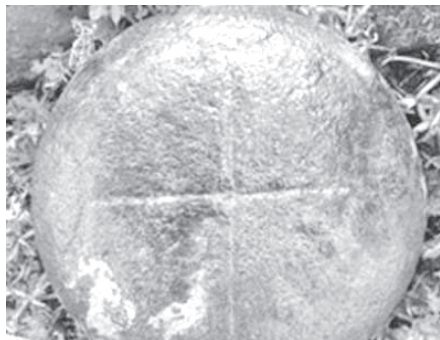
Christian period but have continued to be used by pilgrims up to modern times," Forsyth, an expert in the history and culture of early Celtic-speaking peoples, said.

"Traditionally, the pilgrim would recite a prayer while turning the stone clockwise, wearing a depression or hole in the stone underneath."

While a number of the bowl-shaped lower stones had been found elsewhere in Scotland, this was the first discovery of a top stone, she said.

"This exciting find provides important new insight into religious art and practice in early Scotland and demonstrates just how much there is still to be discovered out there."

Internet



The bullaun stone was found in an old graveyard. INTERNET

Climate change hits globe's water cycle

LIVERMORE, 25 May—The Earth's dry lands are getting drier and wet ones wetter as climate change shifts and accelerates the globe's water cycle, US researchers say. Changing patterns of salinity in the global ocean during the past 50 years show a clear fingerprint of climate change on the shift in worldwide rainfall and evaporation, they

said. Scientists with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California along with colleagues at Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization say the Earth's water cycle has strengthened by 4 percent 1950-2000. The cycle represents the ratio of rainfall rates with rates

of evaporation. "These changes suggest that arid regions have become drier and high rainfall regions have become wetter in response to observed global warming," LLNL researcher Paul Durack said. Changes in ocean salinity can be directly linked to climate change, researchers said. While land-based data of rainfall and evaporation

are sparse, they said, global oceans provide a much clearer picture. "The ocean matters to climate — it stores 97 percent of the world's water; receives 80 percent of the all surface rainfall and it has absorbed 90 percent of the Earth's energy increase associated with past atmospheric warming," co-author Richard Matear of CSIRO said in a release on Monday.

Internet

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Fake drugs threaten gains made in war on malaria

LONDON, 25 May—Low-quality and fake anti-malarial drugs flooding into markets in Asia and Africa are driving drug resistance and threatening gains made in the fight against the disease in the past decade, according to a study by global health experts.

The study found around 36 percent of anti-malarial drugs analyzed in southeast Asia were fake, while a third of samples in sub-Saharan Africa failed chemical testing because they contained either too much or not enough active ingredient. The researchers said the problem might be even bigger.

The emergence of resistance to artemisinin drugs — currently the most effective treatment for malaria — along the Thailand-Cambodia border — has already been documented.

“Despite a dramatic rise in reports of poor-quality anti-malarial drugs over the past decade, the issue is much greater than it seems,” Gaurvika Nayyar, of the Fogarty International Centre

at the US National Institutes of Health, wrote in a study in the *Lancet Infectious Diseases* journal.

“Most cases are probably unreported, reported to the wrong agencies, or kept confidential by pharmaceutical companies.”

More than 3 billion people worldwide are at risk of malaria, a mosquito-borne parasitic disease which kills around 650,000 people a year, most of them babies and children in Africa.

Nayyar said many of the deaths caused by the disease could be avoided “if drugs available to patients were efficacious, high quality, and used correctly.”

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that while less than 1 percent of medicines available in developed countries are likely to be counterfeit, globally, the figure is around 10 percent.

The United Nations agency estimates that as much as a third of all medicines in some developing countries is fake. As well as putting patients



A child suffering from malaria receives a traditional treatment on 22 February, 2012.—INTERNET

at risk, counterfeit drugs are a constant bane for companies like GlaxoSmithkline, Sanofi and other international drugmakers.

Nayyar’s team analyzed data from both published and unpublished studies that looked at chemical analyses and the packaging of malaria medicines in sub-Saharan Africa and southeast Asia where the malaria risk is highest. Data from seven countries in southeast Asia — including from analysis

of 1,437 samples of seven different malaria drugs — showed that more than a third of them failed chemical testing, nearly half were wrongly packaged, and about a third were bogus.

Analysis of data from 21 countries in sub-Saharan Africa including more than 2,500 drug samples, showed similar results, with more than a third failing chemical testing and around one fifth turning out to be fake.

Reuters

Snoring may be linked to cancer death



Migrant construction workers sleep on a building site. INTERNET

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 May—Snoring, one of the main symptoms of sleep disordered breathing, may be linked to cancer death, US researchers say. Study leader Dr Javier Nieto

of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and colleagues found the study participants with severe sleep disordered breathing were almost five

times more likely to die of cancer than those not affected by the problem, the *Daily Telegraph* reported.

The researchers said the link may be due to breathing problems causing an inadequate supply of oxygen — intermittent hypoxia, or oxygen starvation — promoted tumour growth in mice with skin cancer. Lack of oxygen might stimulate the generation of blood vessels that nourish tumours — a process known as angiogenesis, the researchers said.

Scientists looked at 22 years of data from studies

involving sleep problems of 1,522 people sleep problems.

People with mild sleep disordered breathing were just 0.1 times more likely to die from cancer than those without the problem, but those with moderate sleep disordered breathing doubled the chances of cancer death, while severe sleep disordered breathing increased the risk 4.8 times, the study said.

The findings were presented at the American Thoracic Society conference in San Francisco and are scheduled to be published in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.—*Internet*

Lenovo Q4 net profit up 59 pct, meets forecasts

HONG KONG, 25 May—Strong sales in China helped Lenovo Group Ltd (0992.HK) post a 59 percent rise in fourth-quarter net profit on Wednesday, meeting analyst expectations, as the world’s No2 PC maker begins to diversify more aggressively into smartphones, tablet PCs and smart TVs.

Lenovo’s PC shipments in China grew 22.7 percent year-on-year during the quarter, more than double the industry growth rate. That, combined with its diversification plans, has analysts forecasting it could overtake market leader Hewlett-Packard Co (HPQ.N) as soon as next year.

“Even though China’s economy is slowing down, it’s still ahead of the US and Europe, so it will continue to be the driver for Lenovo to get to be the world’s No 1, a position it should be able to achieve,” said Arthur Liao, an analyst with Fubon Securities in Taipei.

Lenovo posted a net profit of \$472.99 million for the fiscal year ended March, it said, versus a consensus forecast of \$472.2 million from a poll of 29 analysts by Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

The PC maker recorded a net profit of \$273.236

million a year earlier, it said in a statement posted on the Hong Kong stock exchange.

That meant Lenovo earned \$66.8 million for the fourth quarter versus a consensus forecast of \$66 million, based on a Reuters’ calculation using unaudited nine-month financial data.

Reuters



Customers talk to a salesperson about a new laptop at a Lenovo shop in Shanghai on 17 Feb, 2011. REUTERS

Health Tip: Use proper form when running

Using proper running form can help prevent injuries and make running a little easier and more comfortable.

The American Council on Exercise mentions these suggestions:

- * Bend your elbows at a 90-degree angle and keep them close to your body, with your hands relaxed.
- * Relax your shoulders and keep them down; drive from your shoulders, not your elbows.
- * Avoid leaning forward at the waist, but keep a slight forward lean at the ankles.
- * Lift your knees higher as they move forward.
- * Hit the ground with your heel, rolling forward onto the ball of your foot. As you lift your foot off the ground, push off with the front of your foot.
- * Hold your head steady and level, and try not to bounce.

Internet

Facebook underwriters blamed for price drop

TOKYO, 25 May—The price of Facebook shares fell for the second straight day on Tuesday, adding to investor frustration with the internet firm’s faltering public

Stanley and other underwriters, saying they set the initial price for the stock too high.

They also point to a computer glitch at New York’s



Pedestrians walk near the NASDAQ Marketsite at the start of the listing for Facebook in New York on 18 May, 2012. REUTERS

offering.

Trading in Facebook shares finished the day 18 percent lower than the initial offer price of 38 dollars. The price had been slightly higher than 38 dollars on the first day of trading last Friday.

Investors are blaming US investment bank Morgan

Nasdaq stock exchange that hampered processing of orders, putting a cap on the stock price.

Meanwhile, Facebook has managed to raise more than 18 billion dollars, making it the largest IPO ever for a technology firm.

NHK

Mazda talking tie-up with Fiat

TOKYO, 25 May—Japan’s Mazda Motor is discussing a business tie-up with Italy’s Fiat, the world’s 7th-largest carmaker.

Mazda said on Wednesday that the makers began discussing a tie-up plan. Fiat is the majority shareholder in US automaker Chrysler.

According to the plan, Mazda would in 2015 start providing its 2-seat roadster to Fiat, which would market the vehicle under its Alfa Romeo sports car brand.

Fiat would put one of its own engines in the roadster, but the car would be manufactured at Mazda’s Hiroshima plant.

The 2 firms may also consider working together on

environmentally friendly technology, including a fuel-efficient Mazda engine.

Mazda apparently aims to expand its sales outside Japan. The firm posted its 4th consecutive annual loss in March.

Fiat would benefit by introducing lightweight vehicles using Mazda technology.

In March, the world’s number one automaker, General Motors, and the 8th-largest, Peugeot Citroen, announced a capital and business tie-up, creating the world’s largest auto alliance.

Observers say Mazda is seeking business tie-ups to stay afloat amid weakening of its links with its former top shareholder, Ford.

NHK

Yemen: 35 al-Qaeda militants killed in clashes

SANAA, 25 May — Yemen's military launched an attack on Thursday on an al-Qaeda hideout in the country's south as part of a wider offensive, killing 35 militants, the Defence Ministry said. The attack came four days after al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing on a military parade rehearsal in the capital, Sanaa. The bombing killed 96 Yemeni soldiers. Funerals for 67 of the soldiers were held on Thursday. The Defence Ministry said that in its attack, the Yemeni military took control of Wadi Banaa Arab, near the town of Jaar, another al-Qaeda stronghold.

Since 12 May, Yemen's military has been pushing an offensive against al-Qaeda, aiming to uproot the militants from territory they overran during more than a year of internal political turmoil in Yemen. Casualties have been high on both sides. Troops backed by warplanes and artillery, as well as armed tribesmen, battled al-Qaeda militants, mainly in Abyan Province in the south, aiming at regaining control over the provincial capital, Zinjibar. Yemen's al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula is considered one of the group's most dangerous branches. The impoverished country was the launching pad for three foiled al-Qaeda attacks on US targets.—Internet



An Iraqi boy stands by the door of a building's roof which was damaged in a mortar attack in the Bataween area of central Baghdad.—INTERNET

Baghdad mortar attack kills one, wounds six

BAGHDAD, 25 May — A mortar attack in Baghdad killed one person and wounded six others on Thursday, in the second attack in Iraq's capital during key talks on Iran's nuclear programme, security and medical officials said. An interior ministry official said a mortar round struck a street in the Bataween area of central Baghdad, across the Tigris River from the heavily-fortified Green Zone where the talks between Iran and world powers pressing it to scale back its nuclear programme were taking place. The official put the toll at one dead and six wounded, which was confirmed by a medical source at Ibn al-Nafis hospital.

On Wednesday, the first day of the talks, four people were wounded by a roadside bomb near a Sunni mosque in Al-Yarmuk, west Baghdad. The attacks come despite heightened security measures in and around the Iraqi Capital for the two-day meeting. Thousands of additional Iraqi security personnel were deployed in areas north, west and south of Baghdad to try to prevent the firing of mortars and rockets into the capital, a security official said. The official also said without providing figures that additional forces were deployed at checkpoints in the Iraqi Capital, and searches increased.

Also on Thursday, a roadside bomb against an army patrol near Dujail, north of Baghdad, killed one soldier and wounded another soldier and three civilians, an army officer said. And in Mosul in northern Iraq, police on Thursday found the bodies of two girls who had apparently been bludgeoned to death, police First Lieutenant Mohammed Khalafal-Juburi said. The two had been kidnapped a day earlier, Juburi said. Violence in Iraq is down from its peak in 2006 and 2007, but attacks remain common, with 126 people killed in April.

Internet

Japan unlikely to achieve 25% greenhouse gas cut

TOKYO, 25 May—A government panel says Japan is unlikely to achieve its goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent by 2020, even if it relies on the maximum possible amount of nuclear power generation.

In response to the Fukushima nuclear crisis last year, the government tasked a panel of experts with examining various steps to combat global warming, including a review of its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent

compared to 1990 levels.

The panel made an estimate of potential reductions by examining scenarios that take into account 5 different levels of nuclear power generation and 3 levels of renewable energy and other anti-global warming steps.

The experts found that even if Japan derived 35 percent of its energy from nuclear power and adopted the most extreme anti-global warming steps, emissions would be cut by only 19

percent by 2020.

Without any nuclear power, emissions would be cut by only 11 percent.

The panel plans to examine the issue further and submit a report to the government detailing potential emissions targets and the options available for reaching them.

Observers say the findings are likely to put Japan under greater pressure to revise its mid-term emissions-reduction goals.

NHK

Colour footage of A-bombed Nagasaki found in US

TOKYO, 25 May—Colour footage showing the victims of the atomic bombing in Nagasaki City has been found in the United States.

An organization in Hiroshima City, which also experienced an atomic bombing, found the 16-mm film, which had been taken

by a US military doctor between October and November in 1945.

The US dropped the bomb on the city in August that year.

The footage lasts some 21 minutes, capturing the landscapes of Nagasaki and Hiroshima after they were

bombed.

It also included nearly 20 victims who had been receiving treatment at a navy hospital in Omura City in Nagasaki Prefecture.

A Hiroshima City University lecturer, Hiroko Takahashi, says the US doctor was an expert of pathology and came to Japan as a member of a US team to examine the victims.

Masao Tomonaga, the head of the Japanese Red Cross Nagasaki Genbaku Hospital, says the research in Japan was very important for the US to know the danger of atomic bombs.

He says he has never seen the colour footage taken at the navy hospital before, adding that the images are very important material on the cities.

NHK



Colour footage showing the victims of the atomic bombing in Nagasaki City has been found in the United States.

INTERNET

SpaceX capsule zips through practice drive by space station

CAPE CANAVERAL, 25 May—Space Exploration Technologies' unmanned Dragon spaceship flew smoothly in a practice drive by the International Space Station on Thursday, clearing the way for it to become the first private vessel to reach the orbital outpost.

If Dragon continues to operate as planned, it will fly to within about 30 feet (9 metres) of the \$100 billion station on Friday and shut down its maneuvering

thrusters so the station crew can snare it with a robotic crane and hook it onto a docking port.

Dragon took a test drive past the station early on Thursday, coming as close as about 1.5 miles (2.4 km) as the two vessels soared around the planet at 17,500 miles per hour (28,164 kph).

Astronauts aboard the station showed they could command Dragon by ordering the capsule to turn on and off its strobe light.



The SpaceX Falcon 9 test rocket lifts off from Space Launch Complex 40 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 22 May, 2012.—REUTERS

"It went very, very smoothly," NASA flight director Holly Ridings told reporters after the test.

"We've been training and practicing for many years, but doing it for the first time with two dynamic spacecraft flying very close together you always want to

make sure that you're going to be able to work as you trained," she said.

"It's a big confidence boost," added mission director John Couluris, with California-based Space Exploration Technologies, or SpaceX.

"It's exciting to be an American and part of putting an American spacecraft into orbit. We're very proud right now," he said.—Reuters

20 years for Texas al-Qaeda supporter

HOUSTON, 25 May—A judge on Thursday sentenced a Texas man to a maximum of 20 years in federal prison without parole for trying to aid al-Qaeda terrorists.

Police arrested Barry Bujol, 30, in May 2010 after he sneaked aboard a ship in the Port of Houston, apparently believing it would take him to the Middle East and a rendezvous with members of al-Qaeda. Federal agents had been secretly watching Bujol while he attended Prairie View A&M

University in Hempstead, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Bujol, who represented himself during his November trial, argued he was only traveling to the Middle East to learn Arabic and teach English. "I am a person, not a terrorist," Bujol told US District Judge David Hittner moments before his sentencing in Houston. "I only sought to exercise rights that any American, any person of moral integrity, would seek to exercise."

Prosecutors said it was clear Bujol intended to

Picasso's largest painting back on show

TOKYO, 25 May—Pablo Picasso's largest painting—a 16-metre-wide stage curtain—will go on show in France for the first time in 21 years.

The curtain was painted as a backdrop for the 1917 ballet "Parade," for which Picasso designed the

costumes and sets.

At over 16 metres wide and 10 metres high, it is Picasso's largest known work. The painting has been stored in the Pompidou Centre in Paris for lack of space to hang the work. It will now be displayed in the centre's sister museum in Metz, France.

The painting features a monkey on a ladder said to be Picasso. A woman in a white dress is said to be Olga Khokhlova, who danced in "Parade" and later married Picasso.—NHK



Photo shows Pablo Picasso's largest painting, a 16-metre-wide stage curtain, will go on show in France for the first time in 21 years.—INTERNET

Memorandum of Discussion on opening of Myanmar-Japan centre inked



YANGON, 25 May—A ceremony to sign Memorandum of Discussion on opening of Myanmar-Japan centre at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), was held at UMFCCI on 22 May.

UMFCCI General Secretary Dr Myo Thet and Deputy Director-General Mr Hiromichi Marakami of Japan International Cooperation (JICA) signed and exchanged the Memorandum of Discussion in the presence of UMFCCI President U Win Aung. UMFCCI opens the center in cooperation with JICA.—*Myanma Alin*

Bohmu Bahtoo road upgraded to four-lane road



YANGON, 25 May—Upgrading of 22-ft-wide Bohmu Bahtoo road to 48-ft-wide four-lane one is in process. The road is in Dagon Myothit (North). Construction started in

October 2011 and it has been completed by 60 percent. Yangon City Development Committee has allowed a budget of K 1.8 billion for it. After completion, it will link Kyanthittha road, U-wisara

road, Bayintnaung road and Bo Min Yaung road in Dagon Myothit (North) and Khaymathi road, Thudhamma road and other roads in North Okkalapa township.—*Kyaw Soe*

Rural development tasks undertaken in Monghsat

MONGHSAT, 25 May—As part of rural development and poverty alleviation programme, Monghsat District Administrator U Thaug Tin Htway, Township Administrator U Naing Aye and staff officer of District Information and Public Relations Department U Hla Htay inspected upgrading of village-tract-to-village-tract road, digging of canals and construction of Wanpon bridge, on 16 May.

After that, they also inspected progress in construction of basic education primary school in Punako Village. They also looked into upgrading of village-to-village road in Yaungkha-Maekyoke village and thriving summer paddy near Yaungkha Village.—*Myanma Alin*

Kyaunggon township gets new station hospital

KYAUNGON, 25 May—A ceremony to donate cash and handover Wetchaung Station hospital, was held at the hospital in Kyaunggon Township, Ayeyawady Region on 20 May. At the ceremony, Retd Attorney-General Thayay Sithu U Aye Maung, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Ayeyawady Region Minister for Social Affairs U San Maung and donor U Zaw Zaw pressed the buttons to open it.

After that, Chairman of Max Myanmar Co U Zaw Zaw donated K 43 million and Thayay Sithu U Aye Maung and Daw Khin Mya Mya family; K 12.8 for the station hospital; and wellwishers, more than K 36.8 million for hospital's medial fund.

Afterwards, donor U Zaw Zaw handed over documents related to the station hospital to the Region Minister for Social Affairs.—*Myanma Alin*

Hinthada Township gets new concrete road

HINTHADA, 25 May—A ceremony to open a concrete road in Paukdanlay Village on Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Region, was held on 13 May. Ayeyawady Region Minister for Development Affairs U Kyaw Win Naing, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Yi delivered speeches on the occasion. Afterwards, Region Minister U Kyaw Win Naing, U Soe Myint, U Hla Khaing and donor U Nyan Lwin opened and strolled along the road.—*Myanma Alin*



DISTRICT NEWS



FIRE DRILL DEMONSTRATED: An educative talks on fire preventive measures was held at Thirimingalar market on 24 May. Fire brigade members demonstrated fire drill in cooperation with shopkeepers.—*MYANMA ALIN*

156 shops up for auction by MCDC

MANDALAY, 25 May—Mandalay City Development Committee auctions 156 shops at Thirimingalar hall on 25 May. These shops are five at Zaycho market, 20 at Thirimingalar market, seven in 86th, 28th and 29th and 29th and 30th streets, 22 at Naungbin market, 11 at Mingalar market, 78 in Manyadanar market, 10 at Myanandar market and three at Seinpan market.

Kyemon

Books, cash donated to Sittway Township writers association

SITTWAY, 25 May—A ceremony to erect signboard of Sittway Township writers

association and to donate cash for fund, was held in Sinku road ward, Sittway, Rakhine State on 20 May. It was attended by Sittway District Information and Public Relations Department staff officer U Aung Kyaw Sein, ward administrator U Tun Sein Aung, executive members of Sittway Township writers association and donors.

Wellwishers donated books and cash through the chairman of Township writers association, the secretary and the treasurer. *Township IPRD*

Fires brake out in Mandalay Region

MANDALAY, 25 May—Fires occurred in Pyigyidagun and Mahaangmye townships, Mandalay Region on 23 May.

The fire started at the house of U Thein Gywe of Thinpangon ward in Pyigyidagun Township of Mandalay and was under control at 8.45 pm. Likewise, a fire occurred at Shwelatha clinic of Yadanabumi east ward in Mahaangmye Township at 11.45 pm. It could be put out at 12 am.—*Myanma Alin*



Thegon township gets new library

BAGO, 25 May—A ceremony to open library and donate books and cash in Inpawng Village, Thegon Township, Pyay District, Bago Region, was held at the library on 14 May. At the ceremony, Sayadaw U Wilatha, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Soe Aung, Township Information and Public Relations staff officer U Naing Lin and village-tract administrator U Htay Lwin formally opened it. After that, the Township IPRD staff officer explained the purpose of opening. Wellwishers donated books and cash through officials.—*Township IPRD*





Council (ACMECS-BC) and could ink MoUs with 29 foreign countries.

The Union government in its drive for introduction of real market economy to the country had laid down initiatives that gave somewhat flexibility to private businessmen.

In particular, it was relaxing restrictions over trading and import license application procedures to make the process clear, easy and speedy while making reforms to taxation, banking system and monetary system. Besides, it had updated special economic zone laws, labour law, farmland law and other laws necessary, contributing to the efficiency of the private sector.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses 21st Anniversary Plenary Meeting of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

MNA

Private entrepreneurs are to try to make...

(from page 1)

Last year, a large number of ambassadors from international organizations, embassy in-charges, economic organizations and businessmen paid calls on the federation to discuss economic matters. In addition, the federation could dispatch over 400 delegates to 15 foreign countries to attend seminars, trainings and meetings and participate in 31 international trade fairs.

With respect to international relations, the federation was actively cooperating with such international and regional organizations as International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), ASEAN Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASEAN-CCI), Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic cooperation (BIMSTEC), Greater Mekong Sub-region Business Forum (GMS-BF), Ayeyawaddy-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Business



For private entrepreneurs in doing business, they are to try to make sure that public consumers have no burden and buy their products easily and at a reasonable price, and to work together with a view to improving the living conditions of the rural people as well as the grassroots.

Now, crop wholesaler brokerages have been established nationwide to be able to systematically trade such crops as rice, beans and pulses and sesame, and measures are being taken for ensuring quality of products, systematic making of contracts and dissemination of information about market and prices under the leadership of UMFCCI. It can also be found that rice companies and beans and pulses companies are carrying out the whole supply change ranging from production to supply of their products to consumers.

The Vice-President went on to say that as fruits and vegetables have become important for exports, it is necessary to establish companies specialized in trading those crops. Myanmar will have to take its role in ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) and ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015. So to seize upcoming opportunities and overcome pending difficulties and challenges, the country must now be prepared for that.

Entrepreneurs in collaboration with experts are to make efforts for manufacturing quality products at a reduced

cost, ensuing Myanmar products have a more highly-competitive market in both quality and price than other foreign markets, maintaining firm international market and seeking new markets.

For the improvement of national economy at a time when the country is having rapid changes in its political and economic fields, the UMFCCI needs to find out weaknesses in respective economic sectors and to work together with its congenial associations.

In conclusion, the Vice-President urged the UMFCCI to try to be a federation on which the State can rely by taking a leadership role in endeavouring for development of private economic sector. Moreover, its congenial associations are urged to work in the public interest following economic ethics.

Then, the Vice-President had a documentary photo together with the Union ministers, deputy ministers, the patron, president and executives of the federation. He then cordially greeted those present.

The Vice-President viewed documentary photos on the federation's local and international achievements displayed in the meeting hall.

At the second session of the meeting, UMFCCI Patron Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint made a speech. Then, UMFCCI President U Win Aung made a speech. The annual report for 2011-2012 of the executive committee and the financial statement were read out and approval sought. After questions were replied and suggestions accepted, the presiding chairman gave a concluding remark.—MNA

Union Education Minister addresses School Enrollment Day Ceremony



Union Education Minister Dr Mya Aye speaks at observation of School Enrollment Day 2012-2013.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Chairman of Central Committee for Schooling All School Age Children Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye called on teachers for not collecting extra fees apart from fixed fees as it could burden parents in his address to School Enrollment Day Commemorative Ceremony for 2012-2013 academic year at No (6) Basic Education High School in Zabuthiri Township here this morning.

He requested social organizations and contributors to help children pursue education for whole academic year. The Union minister made it clear that any content in textbooks can not be left out.

Seven days between 25 and 31 May is designated as School Enrollment Week during which commemorative ceremonies are being held in each township.

The government is striving for increasing schooling rates under 30-year long-term national education promotion plan, the Union minister said.

He accredited the increasing contributions of local authorities, departmental personnel, social organizations, people and donors.

Six exercise books were distributed to each primary school student in previous academic year to make possible the compulsory primary education under guidance of the President, the Union minister said. For this year, the government provides all primary school students with all textbooks and six note books. Scholarships will be awarded to outstanding and needy students in middle and high schools since this academic year.

The Union minister and Deputy Ministers U Aye Kyu and U Ba Shwe presented scholarships to students in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The Union minister and party then viewed school enrollment activities in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area and distributed free textbooks and exercise books, so did the team led by Deputy Minister U Aye Kyu.—MNA

Union Construction Minister meets region and state level officials

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint highlighted the need to constantly monitor conditions of bridge, small or big, in each Region and State and to prioritize civil and regional development projects and housing development tasks in meeting with region and state level officials of the ministry at the ministry yesterday morning.

Deputy Ministers U Soe Tint and U Kyaw Lwin reiterated the minister's call for applying allotted budgets for construction of roads and bridges in accord with the rules and regulations.

Managing Director U Kyaw Lin of Public Works and Head of Office U Kyaw Win explained future plans.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman receives German guests

YANGON, 25 May—Mrs Brunhilde Vest, Head of South East Department of the Ministry of German Economic Cooperation and Development and Director-

General Mr Thomas Waldratt of German Development Aids Agency, paid a call on Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo,

at Savole Hotel here this afternoon. At the call, they discussed implementations of matters discussed during the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker's visits to Europe.—MNA

CBM Governor receives foreign banks delegations

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue received Consultant Mr Francois Renard of EU Asian at his office this afternoon.

They held discussion on conducting course for provision of technical assistance to develop banking services and

holding conference.

Likewise, the Central Bank of Myanmar Governor met Senior Executive Vice President Mr Khun Chong Toh of Bangkok Bank and party at the same office in the evening. Both sides had a cordial discussion on strengthening bilateral cooperation in banking services.

The departmental heads

also attended the calls.

MNA

Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein meeting with Senior Executive Vice President Mr Khun Chong Toh of Bangkok Bank and party.—MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister receives guests



Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung receives delegation led by Mr Zhang Bin of China-Myanmar Friendship Association.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung received a delegation led by

Mr Adam Leddy of Morek Water Solutions, Asia Pacific Pty., Ltd, at Region Government Office yesterday morning. At the call, they discussed undertakings of social affairs in the region.

Minister also met a delegation led by Mr Zhang Bin and party of China-Myanmar Friendship Association at the same venue at 2:45 pm. They had a discussion on investment in the region.

Likewise, the Chief

MNA



Vice-President of Yunnan Provincial Supreme People's Court concludes visit

YANGON, 25 May—Vice-President of Yunnan Provincial Supreme People's Court Mr Wang Shuliang of the People's Republic of China paid a visit to Yangon at the invitation of Chief Justice U Win Swe of Yangon Region High Court and concluded the visit this evening.

Chief Justice U Win Swe saw off the Chinese delegation at the Yangon International Airport.—MNA

Towers of Shweli-Mansan national grid being repaired

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Myanma Electric Power Enterprise has been repairing the tower Nos. 73, 206, 207 and 208 of Shweli-Mansan national grid damaged in the mine blast of KIA Group on 18 and 19 May with 166 staff for resumption of normal power supply by the end of May. All the required equipment have arrived the sites, the repair of tower No. 73 has been completed by 80 per cent, and the other towers by 50 per cent.

Five 500 KVA generators

and six 300 KVA generators ordered from abroad for supply of more electric power arrived Yangon Port on 23 May, of which two 500 KVA generators were transported to Yangon, two 500 KVA and six 300 KVA generators to Mandalay and one 500 KVA generator to Pyay the same night with vehicles. The generators were installed in respective places by 24 May afternoon and further measures are the ways to supply more electricity earliest.—MNA

H-Pole No. 249 of Namhkam-Muse 66-KV power grid destroyed by KIA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Action on the information from duty-conscious locals that H-Pole concrete lamp post No. 249 of Namhkam-Muse 66-KV power grid of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 had a bit tilted this morning, authorities concerned went there and checked it. And they found that the bottom of the concrete pole was damaged by the attack of KIA

armed group and the iron rods inside were twisted. Moreover, what seemed to be a mine was found at another concrete pole.

Plans are under way to repair the damaged H-Pole. Such an incident in which KIA armed group is blowing up towers can cause reduced electricity supply and the people are having more problems, says the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2.

MNA

Work coordination meeting of Central Census Committee held

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Work coordination meeting (2/2012) of Central Census Committee took place at the Ministry of Immigration and Population this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Central Census Committee Deputy Minister U Kyaw Kyaw Win and members and officials.

The Deputy Minister explained signing of MoU on rendering assistance for taking population census for 2014, implementation of the work by the ministry in cooperation with UNFPA, the tasks being implemented by the State as a project and plans for formation of

region/state, district, township, ward and village-tract census committees and assistance to be given by departments.

Next, CCC Secretary Population Department Director General U Myint Kyaing explained suggestions and remarks from the ministries included in Central Census Commission and assistance for the success of the work. Then, the committee members made their discussions.

Later, the deputy minister called for concerted efforts for achieving success in taking census and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Vietnamese delegation visits MRTV in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—A Vietnamese delegation led by Director Mr Nguyen Chu Nhac of Voice of Vietnam and party visited Myanmar Radio and Television in Tatkon Township, here, this morning. There, they met deputy director-general U Tin Wan and visited assembly hall, radio national races programme room, recording studio, shooting studio, radio main control room, broadcasting room, radio editing room and news room.—MNA

A Vietnamese delegation led by Director Mr Nguyen Chu Nhac of Voice of Vietnam and party visit Myanmar Radio and Television in Tatkon Township.—MNA





ORDINATION CEREMONY: The 21st ordination ceremony was held at Parahita Shwe monastery in Myanaung, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Region on 19 May.—MYANMA ALIN



SHELTERS DONATED: Shelter at new Myenigon bus stop in Yangon, donated by private companies, under construction on 23 April.—KYEMON

Khitsan library opens in Myaungmya Township



NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—An opening ceremony of Khitsan library in Kanywar Village in Tuchungkaungsu village-tract, Myaungmya, was held on 20 May. At the ceremony, Myaungmya Township administrator U Ko Ko Lat, District Information and Public Relations Department staff officer Daw Hla Kyi, donor village administrator Man Than Gywe Soe opened it. After that, the Township administrator delivered a speech on the occasion, and the staff officer gave talks on opening of library and emergence of perpetual libraries. Then, donor Man Than Gywe Soe explained the purpose of donation. Wellwishers donated books and publication through officials. The library has 470 books and journals donated by District IPRD and was built at a cost of K 1.4 million contributed by donor Man Than Gywe Soe and local people.—District IPRD



BUS LINES INSPECTED: Officials from bus lines inspected traffic rules enforcement of public bus lines near Myenigon in Yangon Region.—MYANMA ALIN

MWEA members leave for Malaysia

YANGON, 25 May—Members of Myanmar Women's Entrepreneurs Association Dr The Myat Soe, Daw Khin Myo Thaw and Daw Phyu Than Lwin, left here for Malaysia on 24 May, to attend Young Awareness on Climate Change which will be held from 24 to 28 May in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia as a fourth youth programme. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by executive members Daw Myat Thanda, Daw San Myint, Dr Yu Nwe Win and Daw Khin Kyu Kyu Than. *Myanma Alin*



Inter-township Sittway District administrator's Cup Men/Women volleyball tournament concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Opening ceremony of Inter-township Sittway District Administrator's Cup Men/Women volleyball tournament (2012), was held at gymnasium in Sittway, Rakhine State on 10 May.

Sittway District administrator U Lin Ko Ko opened the tournament.

At prize-awarding ceremony held on 14 May, the Kyauktaw District Administrator, the Myebon Township administrator, the Sittway township administrator and member of Sittway township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Than Than Yi presented awards to winning teams. After that, Sittway District administrator awarded the first prize winner, Sittway Township Men's team. *MNA*

Land reclamation made in Wakema Township

WAKEMA, 25 May—Land reclamation for 100 acres of model farm was made at U-gyun Village in Wakema Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 22 May.

It was attended by Township administrator U Soe Tun, staff officer U Phyo Wai Tun of Agriculture Mechanization Department, deputy staff officer U Nay Aung, deputy staff officer U Thant Zin of Myanmar Agriculture Services, officials and farmers. The 100 acres of Pawsanhmway paddy will be grown there. *Kyemon*



Collective sanitation carried out in Inlay Lake

NYAUNGSHWE, 25 May—A team led by administrator office of Inlay Lake Sanctuary carried out collective sanitation soon. "More than 100 people from Township Development Affairs Organization, hoteliers and environmental activists collected plastic and litters along Namlat creek that flows into the Inlay Lake", said Inlay Lake Sanctuary administrator U Sein Tun. It is known that plans are under way to undertake environmental conservations in Inlay Lake sanctuary and its related areas in cooperation with related organizations. *Kyemon*

DISTRICT NEWS

Some billboards in Yangon get five-month free of charge

YANGON, 25 May—Some billboards in Yangon get the green light for erecting free of charges till August, according to Engineering Department (road and bridge) of Yangon City Development Committee. Temporary signboards (20 ft X 9 ft) and advertising billboards (smaller than 20 ft X 9 ft) will be allowed to erect from 1 April to 31 August. These billboards are to be removed on 1 September. YCDC will take action against those who fail to remove it in line with YCDC laws, rules and regulations.

Current billboards (bigger than 20 ft X 9 ft) in Yangon city area will be charged K 20,000 per one square feet and allowed till 31 March 2013. YCDC would take necessary actions against advertisers who fail to sign contract for bill boards later than 31 May, in accord with laws, rules and regulation.—Kyemon



SALE OF CHICKEN EGGS INSPECTED: Myitkyina of Kachin State sees sale of faked chicken eggs imported from border area. A team comprising Mawlu model village administrator U Mya Than, staff officer U Hsan Win of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Myanmar Police Force Police inspector Zaw Win, Sub-inspector Kee Thein and staff officer U Aung Kyu of Mawlu Development Affairs Department, inspects the sale of eggs in Mawlu Sibinhthaya market in Mawlu model village, Indaw Township, Sagaing on 24 May. *KYEMON*

New Mexico wildfires merge; blazes rage in five states

SANTA FE, 25 May—Two raging wildfires in southwest New Mexico merged on Thursday to become the biggest blaze among fires that have torched forest and brush in parts of five Southwestern states. Blazes in rugged, mountainous areas of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah have forced the evacuation of a few small towns and torched at least 170 square miles (440 square km) of forest, brush and grass since mid-month.

The Arizona fires were the first major blazes in the Grand Canyon state this year after a record 2011 fire season in which nearly 2,000 fires charred more than 1,500 square miles (3,900 square km), according to the National Interagency Fire Centre. Winds bringing a blast of damp Pacific Ocean air cut firefighters a break on Thursday in several regions. But authorities seeking to control the

combined 110-square-mile (285-square-km) New Mexico wildfire, which is called the Whitewater-Baldy Complex, said they have not managed to cut a containment line ahead of it.

And high winds are expected on Friday and Saturday, said fire information officer Iris Estes. Twelve homes burned down on Wednesday night in the Willow Creek subdivision, which is near Gila National Forest in southwest New Mexico, Estes said.—Reuters



Children play in front of the Peshawar central jail where Pakistani doctor Shakil Afridi, who worked for US intelligence, was moved after the verdict, in northwest Pakistan's Peshawar on 23 May, 2012.—XINHUA

S Korea, Australia to hold 1st joint naval drill

SEOUL, 25 May—South Korea and Australia will stage their first joint naval exercise next week in waters off South Korea's southern island of Jeju, the South Korean Navy said here Thursday.

The two-day drill beginning next Monday will mobilize some 10 surface warships and submarines, including South Korea's Aegis destroyer "Sejong the Great" and Australia's guided missile frigate "Ballarat."

Dubbed "Haedori-Wallaby," the naval exercise

will also involve Lynx anti-submarine helicopters and P-3C patrol aircraft, according to the Navy.

The upcoming drill is the first joint naval maneuver between the two countries since their defence ministers agreed late last year to jointly stage drills on a regular basis.

The exercise will help enhance anti-submarine warfare capabilities and joint interoperability of the naval forces, Navy officials said.

Xinhua

US soldier found guilty of plotting bomb attack on army troops

HOUSTON, 25 May — A US soldier accused of plotting a bomb attack on Fort Hood army base troops was found guilty on all charges on Thursday.

Naser Jason Abdo was found guilty of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction, attempted

murder and four other charges, local newspaper the *Austin American-Statesman* reported.

Abdo, a Muslim soldier, faces up to life in prison for his conviction of attempted use of weapon of mass destruction, the paper said. Sentencing is set for this

summer. Abdo was accused of planning to bomb a Chinese buffet frequented by soldiers at the nearby army base Fort Hood.

Prosecutors said he was planning to launch his attack around lunchtime to cause maximum number of casualties. Prosecutors said

Abdo was just hours away from assembling a bomb when he was arrested on 27 July, 2011. Fort Hood was the scene of a shooting rampage in 2009 that claimed 13 lives.

US military psychiatrist Nidal Hasan opened fire on unarmed soldiers who were preparing for deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan on 5 November. More than 30 others were injured.

Xinhua



The Olympic Rings, the symbol of the Olympic Games, are illuminated at St Pancras international station in London.

REUTERS

16-year-old boy in court for shootings after NBA game

OKLAHOMA CITY, 25 May — A 16-year-old boy who police said confessed to shooting into a crowd and wounding eight people outside an NBA basketball game made his first appearance on Thursday before a judge, who set his bail at \$160,000. The boy was arrested on Tuesday and was charged with eight counts of shooting with intent to kill. He remained in jail on Thursday night.

"The defendant was arrested and interviewed where he confessed to shooting into the crowd," an Oklahoma City homicide detective said in an affidavit filed with the court. One of the eight people wounded on Monday night, after the Oklahoma City Thunder game with the Los Angeles Lakers, remains in critical condition, police said.

The shooting occurred after two groups of young people repeatedly clashed outside the arena while thousands of fans in the street watched a live telecast of the game on a videoboard. Oklahoma City Thunder, which starts the NBA Western Conference Championship series against San Antonio Spurs in Texas on Sunday, has announced it will no longer stream games for fans to watch outside the arena.—Reuters



An amphibious vehicle of Chinese marine forces takes part in a joint military training of marine forces of China and Thailand in Shanwei, south China's Guangdong Province, on 24 May, 2012. China and Thailand respectively sent teams of 372 members and 126 members to participate in the training, codenamed Blue Commando-2012, from 11 May to 25 May. The training, focusing on anti-terrorism, consisted of field survival training and other drills, as well as seminars. The training was the second of its kind by the two navies' marine forces since 2010.—XINHUA

China retrieves 100,000 antiques through auctions

WUHAN, 25 May — Over the past 20 years, more than 100,000 antique items originally held in China have returned to the country after being bought at auction, Zhang Yanhua, chief of China Association of Auctioneers, said on Thursday.

Among these items, more than 30 were obtained by China's top museums, said Zhang at a national publicity event on art market legal issues in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province. During past centuries, tens of millions of antique items have been taken out of China. Many Chinese, stimulated by their patriotism, have bought them back through auction.—Xinhua

Missing Pakistani army helicopter found crashed into river

ISLAMABAD, 25 May—A Pakistani army helicopter which reportedly went missing earlier on Wednesday was found crashed into a river in eastern Pakistan, sources told Xinhua.

The wreckage of the crashed helicopter has been lifted by an army MI-17 helicopter from the Chenab River near the Wazirabad area in Pakistan's eastern province of Punjab late on Wednesday evening, said the sources.

Chenab River is the third largest river in Pakistan, which runs up from northeast Punjab and merges with the

country's second largest Jhelum River in central Punjab.

But the bodies of the two people on board, a pilot and a training officer, have not been recovered yet, they said, adding that the search operation for the two missing persons is still underway.

The ill-fated helicopter reportedly went missing at about 11:30am on Wednesday morning while on a training flight over the Wazirabad area, a district lying some 100 kilometres north of Lahore, capital of Punjab Province.

The reason of the crash is

not known.

Details about the crashed helicopter are also not known. The army did not issue any statement following the incident.

This is the second crash of Pakistani army aircraft over the last week. On 17 May, two Pakistan Air Force trainer planes crashed near a residential area after bumping into each other while on a routine training mission in the country's northern Nowshera area, leaving all the four pilots on the planes killed and five people on the ground wounded.—Xinhua

US Marines return to New Zealand to mark 70th anniversary of WWII deployment

WELLINGTON, 25 May—A contingent of United States Marines will arrive in New Zealand next month to mark the 70th anniversary of the arrival of US forces in the country during World War II, the New Zealand government announced on Wednesday.

Prime Minister John Key said a series of events were planned to help mark the anniversary, including an evening reception at parliament, following a wreath-laying ceremony at the National War Memorial. "Fifty US marines and a 50-person marine band will be spending three weeks in New Zealand participating in commemorative events", Key said in a statement.

"These commemorations are a reminder that New Zealand and the US have a long-standing and strong history of mutual aid and support, built on shared values."

Key said the relationship had always been underpinned by cooperation on region-wide issues, and was articulated in the Wellington Declaration signed between the two countries in 2010. He said New Zealand appreciated the commitment and courage of the US Marines who arrived 70 years ago.

"Together we will be remembering and honoring the sacrifices made during the Second World War," said Key.

Xinhua



Heavy smoke is seen at the accident site after a blast ripped through a factory workshop and triggered a fire in the Xiannu Township of Zhijiang City, central China's Hubei Province, on 23 May, 2012. The casualties are not immediately known in the accident, which took place at about 10 am on Wednesday.—XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SAIGON PRINCESS VOY NO (5)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SAIGON PRINCESS VOY NO (5) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PATTANA MI VOYNO(10)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PATTANA MI VOYNO (10) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN-CAR LINER S'PORE
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Tunnel explosion in Niigata

Tokyo, 25 May—Up to 4 workers are feared trapped after an explosion ripped through a tunnel being built in Niigata Prefecture, central Japan.

Police say the blast occurred on Thursday morning in Minamiuonuma City. Three workers were taken to hospital after being found lying injured near the tunnel entrance. All 3 are reportedly conscious.

Police and firefighters are trying to confirm accounts that 4 workers are still inside the tunnel.

Police say the explosion seems to have occurred about 1,200 metres into the tunnel. The 3 rescued men were working at the mouth of

the tunnel when they were struck by the force of the blast.

Work to build the 2,840 metre tunnel began in July 2008. Minamiuonuma officials say it is being built on a national highway linking the city and Joetsu City facing the Sea of Japan.

The explosion occurred as workers were preparing to resume construction after a suspension of work due to snow in the winter months.

Niigata prefectural officials say the tunnel route was slightly altered from the initial plan after surveys found the ground to be soft, with the possibility of gas and spring water leaks.

NHK



Photo from helicopter shows the site of an explosion that occurred at a tunnel construction site in Minamiuonuma, Niigata Prefecture, on 24 May, 2012. NHK

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Kabushiki Kaisha Yakult Honsha, a Company incorporated in Japan, of 1-19, Higashi Shimbashi 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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for Kabushiki Kaisha Yakult Honsha
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 26 May 2012

**INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER
TENDER NO(2) (ES) A.M.D (2012-2013)**

1. Open Tender are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, for the supply of the following stores (in Myanmar Kyats.)

LOT: No	Description	Quantity
1.	90 HP (4-WD) Tractor, (SONALIKA,INDIA)	1 Item
2.	Tender Closing date: 31-5-2012,	16:00 hrs
3.	Tender documents are available at Equipment & Stores Branch of Agricultural Mechanization Department (Head Office), AMD office No. 50, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours from (25-5-2012). Only Tenders Purchased from AMD will be accepted.	
4.	For more details, Contact; 067-431242,431243	

**Director General
Agricultural Mechanization Department**



Graffiti artists decorate the orange tarpaulin on a house in the Irenestraat in Gairle on 23 May, 2012. In several cities, fans of the Netherlands' national soccer team have already started their preparations for the Euro 2012 soccer championship. Streets are rapidly changing into an orange landscape as fans show their appreciation. In Helmond, south of the Netherlands, the inhabitants of Jan Tooropstrat have decorated their streets with over 4 km (2.49 miles) of red, white and orange flags. Fans predicted the streets will remain orange until after the final of the Euro 2012. REUTERS

New Zealand's Christchurch shaken by 5.2 quake

WELLINGTON, 25 May—New Zealand's second largest city Christchurch was shaken by a magnitude 5.2 earthquake on Friday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

The government seismology agency said the quake was centred 10 kilometres east of the city at a depth of 11 kilometres.

The city was devastated by a force 6.3 quake in February last year, killing nearly 200 people, and destroying the central business district and making large areas of surrounding suburbs uninhabitable.

Media reported residents in some areas rushed into the streets, but there no reports of damage or any injuries.

The city has been hit by thousands of aftershocks since last year's quake.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO (042)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO (042) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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US mom with flesh-eating disease remains critical

WASHINGTON, 25 May—The new mother of twins fighting a flesh-eating infection in South Carolina remained in critical condition on Thursday, but a hospital spokeswoman said she showed slight improvement.

Lana Kuykendall, 36, has now undergone 11 surgeries to remove dead tissue since she was admitted to the hospital on 11 May with a painful spot on her leg, Greenville Memorial Hospital spokeswoman Sandy Dees said.

She remains sedated and intubated although she is able to breathe on her own, her brother, Brian Swaffer, said.

"We are very thankful to the Lord that she has not had to have any amputations and that the necrotizing fasciitis has not spread outside of her legs," Swaffer said in a statement.

Kuykendall's infection has so far been far less traumatic than one being suffered by a Georgia graduate student.

In that case, 24-year-old Aimee Copeland has lost her left leg and both hands to the disease and remains in critical condition.

The two women's infections were caused by different bacteria, doctors have said.

Kuykendall's infection was caused by Group A streptococcus, Dr Bill Kelly, epidemiologist for the Greenville Hospital System, said earlier this week. Copeland's doctors, meanwhile, have blamed hers on Aeromonas hydrophila bacteria.

A 1996 report from the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention estimated there were 500 to 1,500 cases of necrotizing fasciitis annually in the United States, with about 20 percent of them fatal.

The National Necrotizing Fasciitis Foundation has said that estimate is probably low.

Kuykendall has worked as a paramedic while her husband, Darren, is a firefighter. Twins Abigail and Ian were born on 7 May, at a Georgia hospital.

Kuykendall's family members have created a website, www.

FaithHopeLana.com, to keep family and friends updated on her progress.

Reuters



The Thunderbirds perform a fly past as graduates celebrate at the Air Force Academy commencement ceremony in Colorado Springs, Colorado on 23 May, 2012.—REUTERS

Man's huge fish may not be certified

A Virginia angler said his catch of an 18 pound, 4 ounce snakehead in the Occoquan River may have been a world record, but it will likely not be certified.

Juan Duran, 25, said he caught the fish near Woodbridge and only later discovered it beat out the world record of 17 pounds and 4 ounces, set in Japan 8 years ago, *The Washington*

Post reported.

Duran said the International Game Fish Association asks for length and girth measurements for record-breaking catches and by the time he found that out, he had already given his catch to a friend who turned it into a meal.

Duran said he is supplying the IGFA with photos, the scale he used to

weigh the fish and a section of his fishing line in the hopes of convincing the organization to accept his record without the measurements.

"If it doesn't work out, I know it's the biggest snakehead ever caught and recorded," Duran said. "So I'll still be proud of myself."

Juan Duran of Annandale, Virginia.



Restaurant brings in travelling zoo

A Miami restaurant slowed traffic and raised the ire of some neighbours by bringing a giraffe, a zebra, a camel and a Bengal tiger to the neighbourhood.

Herve Huncetler, co-owner of George's restaurant, said the eatery spent \$10,000 to bring the animals to the

county-owned lot across the street from the business and provide balloons and face painting for children, *The Miami Herald* reported.

"The strategy worked. We were busy the whole night," Huncetler said.

However, some neighbours were displeased with the event.

Workers at the Boca Tanning Club said customers were late for appointments due to the traffic delays and difficulty finding parking.

Jill Rapperport, who teaches yoga at the Tropical Audubon Society Botanical Gardens, said she and some others were upset by the small size of the animals' cages.

"We love nature and peace around here," she said.

Marijuana found in 6-year-old's backpack

Police in Florida said they arrested the father of a 6-year-old whose backpack was found to contain more than 3 ounces of marijuana and a scale.

St Petersburg police spokesman said the kindergartener showed the drugs and the scale to a teacher at Campbell Park Elementary Marine Science

Centre, the *Tampa Bay (Fla.) Times* reported.

Police said the child's father, Larry Cornelius Stephens, 25, claimed ownership of the drugs and was arrested on charges of child abuse and possession of marijuana with intent to sell.

"We think he claimed responsibility so that we knew

it did not belong to his child," police spokesman Bill Proffitt said.

Proffitt said police have not determined whether the father intended for the child to take the drugs to school.

News Album

Grad programme leaves 'I' out of 'public'

The University of Texas Lyndon B Johnson School of Public Affairs apologized for leaving the "I" out of "Public" in its commencement programmes.

The school issued an apology for the unfortunate typo on the cover of the programmes, which were distributed at the

graduation ceremony during the weekend, KXAN-TV, Austin, Texas, reported.

"Our deepest apologies to our 2012 graduates for the egregious typo in our commencement programme," the school said on its Twitter page. "We are working to distribute new programmes."



Kristin Davis, a cast member in the motion picture sci-fi fantasy "Journey 2: The Mysterious Island", attends the premiere of the film at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 2 February, 2012.

INTERNET

Davis and Sorkin dating

LOS ANGELES, 25 May—US actress Kristin Davis recently began dating Oscar-winning screenwriter-producer Aaron Sorkin, multiple sources told E! News.

"It's been going on for around six weeks," an insider said. "They are really happy. They have actually known each other a while through mutual friends and would sometimes bump into one another at industry events, but it has only just turned into something more."

Davis, 47, is best known for her work in the "Sex and the City" TV and film franchise.

Sorkin, 50, is co-creator of "The West Wing" and writer of the film "The Social Network."—*Internet*

Britney Spears to release two-in-one fragrance

LONDON, 25 May—Singer Britney Spears will release a new fragrance called Britney Spears Fantasy Twist, a two-in-one scent that will combine two of the singer's favourite smells in a "sophisticated bottle".

"With Fantasy Twist, I wanted to combine two of my favourite fragrances into a sophisticated bottle, giving my fans the power to choose the scent they desire at any given moment," people.com quoted the 30-year-old as saying.

The fragrance comes in a sphere-shaped bottle that twists in half and turns into two smaller containers in pink and blue colours. Princes begin at USD 39.50 for the fragrance collection, which is due to hit stores in October.—*Internet*



Singer Britney Spears

Jim Parsons confirms he is gay

NEW YORK, 25 May— Emmy Award-winning actor Jim Parsons confirmed to *The New York Times* he is gay and in a 10-year relationship.

The 39-year-old star of TV's "The Big Bang Theory" did not identify his long-term partner or go into detail about his private life.

The Times interview coincides with Parsons' upcoming return to Broadway in "Harvey" after a successful run playing a young gay activist in "The Normal Heart" last summer.

In the article, journalist Patrick Healy writes, "'The Normal Heart' resonated with him on a few levels:

Mr Parsons is gay and in a 10-year relationship, and working with an ensemble

again onstage was like nourishment, he said."

E! News said Parsons does not speak publicly about his personal life, but is often

seen with his boyfriend at awards shows and other entertainment industry events.

INTERNET



Jim Parsons holds his award for outstanding lead actor in a comedy series for "The Big Bang Theory" at the 63rd Primetime Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles on 18 September, 2011.

INTERNET

Jason Gedrick joins 'Dexter' cast

LOS ANGELES, 25 May— Actor Jason Gedrick has joined the Season 7 cast of the US crime drama "Dexter," Showtime announced.

Gedrick will play the manager of a Miami-area gentlemen's club linked to a high-profile murder case.

Production on the show begins this month in Los Angeles, the cable network said on Tuesday. The new season is to premiere 30 Sept.



Actor Jason Gedrick of the tv series Falcone attends the 5 April New York premiere of the film Keeping The Faith.

INTERNET

Bieber announces N American concert tour

NEW YORK, 25 May— Canadian pop star Justin Bieber has announced plans for a headlining North American concert tour to support his fourth studio album "Believe." Island Def Jam is to release the CD 19 June. Tickets are on sale now for the "Believe" Tour, which is being presented by AEG Live and will feature Carly Rae Jepsen as a special guest.

The tour is to begin 29 Sept in Glendale, Ariz. It will stop in more than 45 cities before wrapping up in Miami, Fla 26 Jan, AEG said on Wednesday.—*Internet*

James Doohan's ashes shot into space

LOS ANGELES, 25 May— The ashes of late Canadian actor James Doohan have been successfully sent into Earth orbit via SpaceX's unmanned Falcon 9 rocket, E! News reported. The "Star Trek" icon died in 2005 after a battle with pneumonia and Alzheimer's disease.

He was 85. A 2008 attempt to launch Doohan's ashes into space — in accordance with his wishes — was a failure, E! said. His dream came true, however, when his remains, along with those of more than 300 other deceased individuals, were released into the cosmos on Tuesday, the report said.—*Internet*

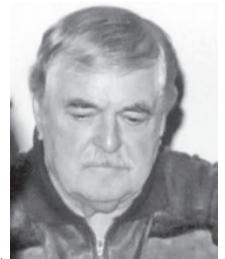


Photo of late Canadian actor James Doohan courtesy of Wikipedia.

INTERNET

Campbell wants to earn Arsenal place

Costa striker keen to break into Gunners side during 2012/13 campaign



Joel Campbell (far right) in action for Costa Rica during their friendly with Wales in February.—INTERNET

LONDON, 25 May—Costa Rica striker Joel Campbell says he is aiming to break into the Arsenal first team during the 2012/13 Barclays Premier League campaign.

The 19-year-old signed for the Gunners from Deportivo Saprissa in August 2011, but spent the season on loan with French side Lorient. He is expected to join up with Arsenal for pre-season training and the talented forward has set his sights on earning a place in Arsene Wenger's side.

"That's what I'm hoping

for—to play for Arsenal next year," Campbell told the official Arsenal website.

"I think I've got the ability to do it. I've got every confidence in my ability to go to Arsenal and play. I've learned how to live with other people in a different country to mine, to be here living life outside football, to learn about the training and the intensity of the game in Ligue 1.

"That's all helped me to learn things so I can continue my football career with Arsenal, and I hope that's going to happen." Campbell

scored four times in 25 matches for Lorient and he is confident he has the attributes to be able to succeed at the Emirates Stadium. "I think I can bring a lot of things to the Arsenal attack," added Campbell. "I can contribute goals and assists. I want people to see what I can do. I always think big, so I want to go to Arsenal and play as many games as possible.

"I have to give everything I've got, train hard and have faith in my abilities, to never doubt them and keep moving forward. "The philosophy at Lorient is the same as Arsenal's. The way they train, the way they play is all very similar.

That makes it easier for Arsenal to send players to Lorient because they're going to learn the same things that they learn there. "They helped me and got me settled down quickly in the team so I could help them and the side. Lorient play a very similar game to Arsenal and that's helped me for what lies ahead."

INTERNET

Hungary sweep gold medals at European Swimming Championships

DEBRECEN, 25 May—Hungarian swimmers picked up four from seven gold medals on offer and nine medals in total on day four of the 2012 European Swimming Championships in Debrecen on Thursday. In a Hungary one-two in the 200m butterfly final, Laszlo Cseh pipped his compatriot Bence Biczo to gold. Cseh finished in 1:54.95 minutes, 0.9 seconds ahead of his compatriot while Ioannis Drymonakos of Greece trailed in third (1:56.48).

Daniel Gyurta posted a new European Championship record time of 2:08.60 minutes in the 200m breaststroke final. Marc Koch of Germany won silver (2:09.26) and Panagiotis Samilidis of Greece bronze (2:09.72). Katinka Hosszu, who won gold in the women's 400m individual medley on day one, powered home in the 200m medley final in 2:10.84 minutes, ahead of Sophie Allen of Great Britain (2:11.49) and Evelyn Verraszto, also of Hungary (2:11.63).

Boglarka Kapas took gold in the women's 800m freestyle in 8:26.49 minutes followed by Coralie Balmy of France (8:27.79) and Eva Risztov, also of Hungary (8:27.87). Elsewhere on day four of the meet, Israel's Jonatan Kopelev won gold in the men's 50m backstroke final with a time of 24.73 seconds. Mirco Di Tora of Italy (24.95) and Richard Bohus of Hungary (25.14) also made the podium. Jenny Mensing of Germany won the women's 100m backstroke final in 1:00.08 minutes ahead of Arianna Barbieri of Italy (1:00.54) and Simona Baumrtova of the Czech Republic

(1:00.57).

In the final event of the day, Hungary narrowly missed out on their fifth gold in the 4x200m freestyle relay, Italy (Alice Mizzau, Alice Nesti, Diletta Carli, Federica Pellegrini) narrowly winning with a time of 7:52.90 minutes ahead of the Hungarians (Zsuzsanna Jakabos, Evelyn Verraszto, Agnes Mutina, Katinka Hosszu) who finished less than two seconds behind on 7:54.70. Slovenia (Sara Isakovic, Anja Klinar, Urša Bezan, Mojca Sagmeister) took the bronze medal in 7:59.73.

Xinhua



Boglarka Kapas of Hungary poses for photograph during the awarding ceremony of the women's 800m freestyle at the 31th European Swimming Championships in Debrecen, Hungary on 24 May, 2012. Boglarka Kapas won the gold medal with 8 minutes and 26.49 seconds.

XINHUA

Zach Johnson one shot in front of red-hot Dufner

FORT WORTH, 25 May—Jason Dufner continues to have the hot hand on the USPGA Tour, firing a five-under par 65 to lie one shot behind leader Zach Johnson after the first round of the



Zach Johnson reacts to a missed birdie putt on the eighth hole during the first round of the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial at the Colonial Country Club, on 24 May.

INTERNET

Colonial. "A fantastic way to start," Dufner said on Thursday. "You have some questions after a win last week, how are you going to respond to that? I came out really quick today and got some birdies." Former winner Johnson grabbed the first-round lead with a six-under 64. "Today was great," Johnson said of his 13th consecutive round in the 60s at this event. "I got off to a good start. I just hit quality shots. I didn't put myself ever in a position that was too worrisome.

"The times when I was

maybe just in the rough and I had to get myself up and down, I managed to do that. "I gave myself a lot of opportunities. I made some long putts, but I missed some shorter ones, so it probably evened out in the end."

Dufner won his first PGA title on 29 April at New Orleans, got married the next weekend and joined Hunter Mahan as 2012's only repeat winners by taking the title last week at the Byron Nelson Championship in nearby Irving. Dufner was in a group at five-under along with fellow Americans Harris English, Tom Gillis and Kyle Reifers.

INTERNET

International Sports

Schiavone reaches Strasbourg semifinal

STRASBOURG, 25 May—Second-seeded Francesca Schiavone of Italy easily defeated Johanna Larsson of Sweden 6-0, 6-3 to reach the Strasbourg International semifinals on Thursday, but three-time champion Anabel Medina Garrigues lost.

Schiavone dropped serve once in the second set but the former French Open champion recovered. She next plays Sloane Stephens of the United



Emile Heskey is one of only six players to make more than 500 Premier League appearances.

INTERNET

Heskey among trio leaving Villa

LONDON, 25 May—Striker Emile Heskey, goalkeeper Brad Guzan and defender Carlos Cuellar have all been released by Aston Villa. The experienced trio were all at the end of their Villa contracts. Veteran striker Heskey, 34, is one of only six players to have made 500 Premier League appearances during his career. He joined Villa from Wigan Athletic in January 2009, having previously played for Birmingham City, Liverpool and Leicester City—and has won 62 international caps with England.

Keeper Guzan, 27, joined the Midlands club in July 2008 but found first-team

opportunities limited behind the likes of USA compatriot Brad Friedel and more recently Shay Given.

Spaniard Cuellar, 30, made 99 Barclays Premier League appearances for the club after joining in August 2008, filling in at centre-half, right-back and left-back. In an article on the club's website, Villa said: "[We] would like to thank them for their unstinting loyalty to the club and wish them all the best for the future." Ebby Nelson Addy, Connor Taylor, Charlie Ward, Reece Caira, Richard Bryson, Matthew Coton, Darius Darkin and Seb Jenkins have also been released from Villa's academy.—INTERNET

Everton's Jelavic sets European target

LONDON, 25 May — Everton striker Nikica Jelavic says it is his aim to help the Toffees secure European qualification next season. David Moyes' side enjoyed an excellent second half to their 2011/12 Barclays Premier League season, losing just twice in their final 18 League matches to claim seventh place. Sixth place would have secured a Europa League spot and Jelavic, who already has nine Barclays Premier League goals to his name, told Everton's official website that he was ready to help the Toffees reach the next level. "I signed a four-year deal and I don't think about going anywhere else.

I want to become even better and I want to score even more goals next

season," he said. "Honestly, I think with this squad, we deserve a better place in the League than we managed this season. "If we can keep the squad and add a few quality players, I think we can fight for Europe next season. "Always my objective before a season is to score as many goals as possible and try to play in Europe.—INTERNET



Croatian striker Nikica Jelavic has scored nine Barclays Premier League goals for Everton.

INTERNET

Former Brazil keeper Dida signs with Portuguesa

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 May — Brazilian first division club Portuguesa have confirmed the signing of former Brazil international goalkeeper Dida on a one-year contract. The 38-year-old has not played since finishing his career with AC Milan in Italy's Serie A in 2010. "He still hasn't done any medical exams, but he will be officially presented to the club on Friday," a club official said on Thursday.

Dida reportedly asked for a 50,000 US dollar monthly salary before settling for 35,000. It is understood the bulk of his pay cheque will come from marketing deals. The signing ends Portuguesa's search to replace former goalkeeper Weverton, who left the club last week to sign with first division rivals Atletico-PR.—Xinhua



Francesca Schiavone of Italy.—INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(26-5-12 09:30 am ~ 27-5-12 09:30 am) MST

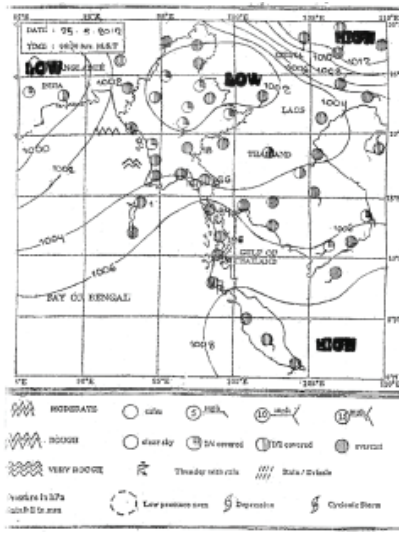
- * News
- * Understanding the Growth Paradigm care for Ecology & Future in Myanmar
- * News
- * The Eldest Woman On Earth
- * News
- * Kid's Talent "The Legends of Myanmar" (Part-3)
- * News
- * Journey to Unimaginable Spots (Episode - 1)
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Top International Fashion Galleria Yangon 2012
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Easily Cooked & Tasty Dishes "Soup Fish Soup with Drumstick"
- * Challenges to Media in a New Environment
- * News
- * Where Stars Blossom Excellent
- * Myanmar Movie "Unchangeable Love"

MYANMAR TV

(26-5-2012) (Saturday)

- 7:00 am
 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:10 am
 4. Poem Garden
- 8:45 am
 5. Musical Programme
- 11:25 am
 6. Game For Children
- 11:50 am
 7. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 2:10 pm
 8. Teleplay
- 4:10 pm
 9. Cultural Dances
- 4:35 pm
 10. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Second Years (Physics)
- 5:25 pm
 11. International Science News
- 5:10 pm
 12. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 8:00 pm
 13. News
 14. Cartoon Series
 15. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 26th May, 2012

Sr. No	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	37/99	27/81	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
2	Kayah	35/91	27/72	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
3	Kayah	31/88	23/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
4	Chin	27/81	17/63	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
5	Upper Sgawing	39/102	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
6	Lower Sgawing	42/108	29/84	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
7	Tamthayu	30/86	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
8	Bago	34/93	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
9	Magway	43/108	29/84	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
10	Mandalay	40/104	30/86	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
11	Man	32/90	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
12	Yangon	32/90	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
13	Rakhine	34/93	27/81	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
14	Southern Shan	29/84	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
15	Northern Shan	35/95	27/72	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
16	Eastern Shan	36/97	27/73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
17	Ayeyawady	36/97	27/81	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	40/104	30/86	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	32/90	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	40/104	30/86	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

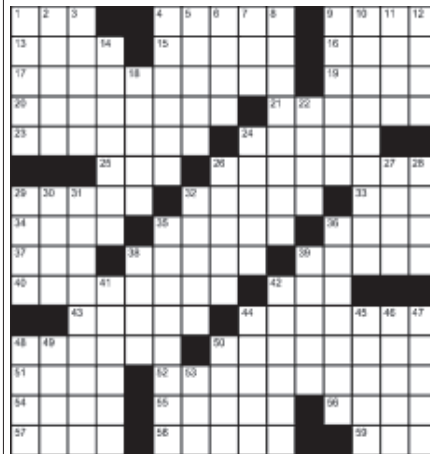
Summary of observations at 09:30 to MST on today
 During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Tamthayu Region, fairly widespread in Mon State, scattered in Yangon Region and Kayah State, isolated in Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions. Shan State weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (°C) above May average temperatures in Chin State, (°C) above May average temperatures in Upper Sgawing Region, (°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Lower Sgawing and Magway Regions and Kachin, Southern and Eastern Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (45°C), Kalay (44°C), Myingyan, Nyang-U and Gangaw (43°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were: Mandalay (2.406 inches), Kayah (2.360 inches), Patheingyi (2.200 inches), Langol (2.130 inches), Davao (2.091 inches), Kyeikkhane (1.818 inches), Kawthoong (1.254 inches), Chatteronee (1.424 inches) and Shwebo (1.100 inches).

Bay Inference
 Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay, weather is cloudy over the Southeast Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea
 Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Dacca, Gulf of Motama, off and along Mon-Tamthayu Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30) to (35) mph. Sea will moderate in elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days
 Likelihood of increase of rain in the Lower Myanmar Areas.

Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. "Them"
4. Money lent at interest (pl.)
9. Accomplished
13. Acad.
15. Breathing problem
16. April honoree
17. Something accepted as true without proof
19. Dearth
20. Rosa odorata (pl.)

Down

21. Long men's loincloth worn in India
23. Blocked
24. Depth charge target (hyphenated)
25. Aged
26. Baloney
29. Conclusion
32. 1,000kilogrammes
33. Afflict
34. Face-to-face exam
35. Landed peasant in czarist Russia

36. Carnival attraction a port
37. Cheat, slangily
38. Magical wish granter
39. Skin problem
40. Abstruse
42. Alliance that includes Ukr. (acronym)
43. Type of floor covering (pl.)
44. River that runs through Washington, D.C.
48. Chooses
50. Mixed tissue tumor
51. Search
52. Having I-strain?
54. "Green Gables" girl
55. Kind of stock (hyphenated)
56. "@#S%!" e.g.
57. Home, informally
58. Balances
59. Alkaline liquid
11. Centres of activity
12. The "E" of B.P.O.E.
14. Hurly-burly
18. Slaves
22. Word before and after "against"
24. Arm bones
26. Infant's illness
27. Adjutant
28. "Guilty," e.g.
29. "Watch out!" in golf
30. Western blue flag, e.g.
31. Rectangular pastry filled with custard cream (pl.)
32. One of the Barbary States
35. Camper's supply
36. Rice cooked with broth and sprinkled with cheese
38. Chap
39. Hyperion, for one
41. Traffic violation result
42. Kitchen gadgets
44. Ice cream flavor
45. Fable finale
46. Accord
47. Secret store
48. Brio
49. "The ___ Ranger"
50. Hit the bottle
53. Statehouse VIP (abbrev.)

Lower Mekong countries, US senior officials meet in Cambodia to bolster cooperation

PHNOM PENH, 25 May— Senior officials from the foreign ministries of the Lower Mekong countries and the United States met here on Friday to discuss a joint action plan to bolster the cooperation in education, environment, health and infrastructure development.

The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) meeting was co-chaired by Tuot Panha, undersecretary of state for Cambodia's foreign ministry, and Kurt Campbell, US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs.

It was attended by Nguyen Quoc Dung, director general of Vietnam's economic affairs department; Thongphane Savanphet, director general of Lao's economic affairs department; and Nopporn Adchariyavanich, deputy director general of Thailand's ASEAN affairs department.

Myanmar joined the meeting for the first time as

an observer, representing by San Lwin, deputy director general of political department.

Speaking in the meeting, Tuot Panha said that the Lower Mekong Initiative was launched in July 2009 by US secretary of state Hillary Clinton and the foreign ministers of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

It aimed at promoting the development of the Lower Mekong countries in education, environment, health and infrastructure.

"We thank the US for its continuous support to the Lower Mekong countries to address current and future development obstacles," she said.

The meeting was a preparatory one for the 5th LMI Ministerial Meeting in July, which is expected to be chaired by Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Hor Namhong and the US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Xinhua

Torrential rains halt trains in south China

NANNING, 25 May— Torrential rains have pounded parts of south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, disrupting railway traffic and drinking water supplies, local authorities said on Friday.

Six passenger trains on a major railway near the city of Baise were forced to stop halfway through their journey after rainstorms destroyed a 35-metre-long roadbed, a spokesman for

local railway authorities said. More than 300 workers have been dispatched to repair the road and conduct safety checks on the railway, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, rainstorms have destroyed houses, cut off road traffic, inundated crops, cut off drinking water supplies and damaged power, telecommunications and irrigation facilities in Baise's Lingyun County, a county government spokesman said.

More than 77,000 rural residents have been affected, he said.

More torrential rains will

hit the county over the next few days, which will complicate disaster relief operations, according to local meteorological authorities.

Xinhua



Mothers give babies massage during a training for mother by nurses, in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 25 May, 2012.—XINHUA

Chairman of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union arrives back from Seoul

YANGON, 25 May—Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe and member U Soe Thein having attended the conference of the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions held at Lotte Hotel in Seoul of the Republic of Korea from 20 to 24 May, arrived back here this evening.

The two were welcomed back by State Constitutional Tribunal members U Tun Kyi, U Khin Tun and personnel at Yangon International Airport.

Chairman U Thein Soe delivered an address at the opening session of the

conference on 20 May. He attended the dinner hosted by ROK President Mr Lee Myung-bak on 22 May and working luncheon hosted by President Lee Kang Kook of the ROK Constitutional Court together with member U Soe Thein on 24 May.—MNA

Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe being welcomed back by officials at Yangon International Airport.

MNA



Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) receives American military attachés to Myanmar



Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win receives military attachés Colonel Brey R-Sloan and Colonel William C-Dickey.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win received American military attaché to Myanmar Colonel Brey R-Sloan, who has completed her duty, and her successor Colonel William C-Dickey at Zeyarthiri Beikman here this afternoon.

Also present at the call with the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) were General Hla Htay Win from the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Office, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe from the

Commander-in-Chief (Army)'s Office, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye.—MNA

Sulegone Village self-reliant library to open villagers eyes

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—Making the strenuous efforts by 13 youths working abroad to broaden the horizons of villagers, Yaungchiao self-reliant library appeared on Sulegone Village in Myinkawa village-tract in Seikpyu Township in Magway Division. The opening of the library was held yesterday. The library was formally opened by Township Administrator U Win Myint, Staff Officer U Myo Myint Aung of Township Information and Public Relations Department, Village Administrator U Thein Tan and U Maun Maung Soe on behalf of the donors.

Next the Township Administrator made an opening speech and the Township IPRD Staff Officer explained purposes to open the library and durability. The donors donated various kinds of books, booklet and cash assistance.

The library with the length of 16 feet, width of 12 feet and height of 12 feet was equipped with sheets and bricks walls and was built at a total cost of K1.6 million.

MNA

Five Star runs Yangon-Kawthoung direct voyage

YANGON, 25 May—Myanma Five Star Shipping runs Yangon-Myeik-Kawthoung round voyage regularly with two vessels namely, Taunggyi and Myitkyna each of which can seat 315 passengers. From now on it will run the one vessel twice a month as regular voyage, and sail the other once a month on Yangon-Myeik route depending on number of passengers and load of commodities.

As to the foreign voyages, it runs Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, China, South East Asian nations, India, Sri Lanka and Yangon-Malaysia-Singapore-Yangon routes.

MNA

School Enrollment Day marked in Pyawbwe Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—School Enrollment Day for 2012-2013 academic year was marked at No. 1 Basic Education High School in Pyawbwe Township this morning.

On the occasion, Township Education Committee Chairman Township Administrator U Kyaw Aung Hsan made a speech, and Township Education Officer U Hla Soe explained progress of education sector to those present.

The township administrator presented primary level text books worth K 12 million through the township education officer, who handed over exercise books amounted K 10 million to Headmaster U San Nyein.

MNA

Torres excited by future after Chelsea talks

MADRID, 25 May — Chelsea striker Fernando Torres has put a difficult season behind him and is itching to be part of the European champions' future plans, the player said on Thursday following talks with the club's hierarchy.

Torres voiced his concerns after being left out of Chelsea's starting lineup for last weekend's Champions League final victory over Bayern Munich, saying he had been close to throwing in the towel.

"My goal was to talk to them at the end of the season, I needed to know what plans they had for me," Torres said in an interview published on his personal website. "We've talked and now I have no doubt what they expect of Fernando Torres. I just want to start next season as soon as possible." The 28-year-old moved to Chelsea from Liverpool in January 2011 for 50 million pounds but has struggled to rediscover the scoring touch that made him one of the hottest properties in the market.

"It was a mental block, I felt really bad," he said. "I felt great on the pitch this season because I have become a more complete player, but the ball did not go in. I felt I was never in the correct position." The news that talismanic striker Didier Drogba was leaving Stamford Bridge may have opened the door for a more regular place in Chelsea's starting line up, but Torres did not see it that way. "I can only wish him (Drogba) the best and I feel proud to have shared so much with him," Torres said. "I want to play with the best and he is one of the best. I do not understand why it has to be one or the other, and not both."

Torres was left out of the Spain squad for their last

friendly against Venezuela in February, when the man called up in his place, Valencia's Roberto Soldado, scored a hat-trick, and the pacy forward's place at Euro 2012 looked to be in doubt.

However, coach Vicente del Bosque brought him back into the fold on Monday, and he is likely to make the final cut when the world and European champions announce their 23-man squad for Poland and Ukraine on Sunday. "I saw myself out (of the squad)," Torres added. "I never received a call with such enthusiasm."

Reuters



Chelsea's Fernando Torres celebrates his 3rd goal against Queens Park Rangers during their English Premier League soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London on 29 April, 2012. —REUTERS