

President U Thein Sein felicitates Pakistani President, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—On the occasion of the Anniversary of the Pakistan Day which falls on 23rd March 2013, His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Asif Ali Zardari, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and His Excellency Mr Raja Pervez Ashraf, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives French, Japanese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received a French delegation led by Minister for Development Mr. Pascal Canfin at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 11:15 am today.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral economic cooperation between Myanmar and France, effective cooperation in various sectors, exchange of technical know-how to produce Myanmar natural resources as value-added products with set standard, conducting courses on sharing knowledge on political, economic, social and other experience of France and granting scholarships.

Also present at the call together with the Vice-President were Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Daw Khin San Yi and departmental heads. The delegation was accompanied by French Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Thierry Mathou and high ranking officers.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham also received a Japanese delegation led by Vice-Chairman Mr. Norio Yamaguchi of the International Friendship Exchange Council-FEC based in Tokyo, Japan, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 2:00 pm today.

The meeting focused on the long-lasting bilateral cooperation social, economic, education and health sectors between Myanmar and Japan, plans for enhancement

of aviation industry, industries and foodstuff production for more economic development in the country, long-term and short-term plans for tapping natural power resources; water, wind and sun, and creating job prospects.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Deputy Ministers U Han Sein, U Myint Zaw, U Myo Aung, Dr Daw Khin San Yi and Dr Tin Shwe and officials concerned.—MNA

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham shakes hands with Minister for Development Mr. Pascal Canfin of France.—MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and party pose for documentary photo together with Vice-Chairman Mr. Norio Yamaguchi of International Friendship Exchange Council-FEC based in Tokyo, Japan, at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

President Office

Ordinance No. (1/2013)

11th Waxing of Tabaung 1374 ME

(22 March, 2013)

Declaration of State of Emergency

1. Due to communal violence, Meiktila has been placed under curfew as of 20 March, 2013 for the sake of public security and stability.
2. However, the violence has become widespread, crippling the administrative mechanism in Meiktila, Wundwin, Mahlaing and Thazi townships in Meiktila District. Thus, state of emergency was declared as of today in Meiktila, Wundwin, Mahlaing and Thazi townships in Meiktila District, Mandalay Region under Section 412, Sub-section (A) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for earliest restoration of public security and stability.
3. The military assistance must be taken to help bring the situation under control under the Section 413, Sub-section (A) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
4. The ordinance shall take effect until another order is issued.
5. This ordinance shall take effect as a law.

Sd/Thein Sein
President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Weather Forecast on 22-3-2013

Bay Inference

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

State of the Sea

Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days

Likelihood of slight increase of day temperatures in the Lower Myanmar areas.—NLM

Elephant slain for ivory in Bago Region



OTTWIN, 22 March — A male elephant of Myanmar Timber Enterprise was killed and its tusks were chopped off at Pyukun reserved forest in Toungoo District of Bago Region.

According to the phone contact of elephant keeper U Soe Win who informed

assistant manager U Kyaw Myo Lin of Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Toungoo that an elephant (5142/male) owned by MTE was found dead with blood pumping from its anus and its tusks were hacked off, officials concerned went there and made necessary investigation. The elephant

was killed and a set of nearly one foot and nine inches long and about one foot in diameter ivories worth K 5 million was cut off. Ottwin Police Station filed a lawsuit over the killing of the elephant and investigation is ongoing.

Kyemon

Oil fields, petrochemical plants inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March — Deputy Minister for Energy U Aung Htoo made an inspection tour of oil fields—Yenangyoung, Htaukshabin-Kann Ni, Htan Kaing and Mann—and Petrochemical Plants in Magway Region on 16 and 17 March. In meeting with service personnel at the respective oil fields and plants, the deputy minister stressed the need to make all-out efforts for emergence of new oil wells and production of

liquefied natural gas from the plants. He called for fire preventive and worksite safety measures.

On his inspection tour, the deputy minister oversaw drilling of new oil wells, storage and production of crude oil at oil fields.

Moreover, he inspected refinement of oil and installation of new machines and compressors, storage of fuel and maintenance work at Petrochemical Plant (Mann-Thanyayakan) and Liquefied Gas Plant (Minbu).—MNA

Overtaken sand truck leaves no injuries in North Okkalapa Township

YANGON, 22 March — A truck carrying sand veered off the road and overturned while trying to avoid a vehicle on the opposite lane at the top of Bomma street in Ward (Nya) of North Okkalapa Township on 16 March. The sand truck driven by Wai Pyo Aung on Thu Nanda ring road skidded

sideways on its path and turned over as it swerved suddenly to avoid hitting the vehicle driven by Soe Kyaw on the opposite lane. There are no injuries in the road accident, but the crash caused damages to windscreen and side-view mirror of the truck.

Kyemon

Mon State Day observed in Mawlamyine

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March — Mon State Day was observed at the hall in Mawlamyine on 19 March.

It was attended by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint and ministers, Mon State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyin Pe and State ministers for national race affairs,

Hluttaw representatives, officials concerned and Mon nationals. Chief Minister U Ohn Myint spoke on the occasion.

Next, commemorative talks were given and Mon traditional dances performed at the ceremony.

MNA

Mobile Team-2 seizes haul of smuggled goods in Waw Township



BAGO, 22 March — The Mobile Team-2 confiscated a haul of illegal goods while conducting a search of vehicles carrying goods that failed to pay custom duties at the crossroads of new and old Sittoung bridges in Waw Township of Bago Region on 18 March.

The team seized 101 cartoons of beer on a vehicle driven by Aung Hlaing Win, large quantities of men's, ladies' and children's wear on a vehicle driven by Myo Htoo, 18 cartoons of mosquito killer and 20 bags of rice powder on a vehicle driven by Thiha Kyaw and large quantities of clothing on a vehicle driven by Saw Karein.

From 21 February to

Three riders killed by tar barrels fallen down from truck

KYAUKTADA, 22 March — Three riders were killed by some tar barrels fallen down from a 22-wheeled truck carrying barrels of tar driven by Min Oo, 35, of Toungoo at a place between mile post Nos (113/0) and (113/1) on Yangon-Mandalay Highway near Ganat Village in Kyauktada Township on 16 March.

The fatal accident happened to Maung Rajav Kumar, 25, who drove the motorbike together with his sister Ma Surathi, 27, and her companion Ma Su Nine Nine, 20, on pillion seat. Maung Rajiv Kuma and Ma Su Nine Nine died on the spot and Ma Surathi got severe injuries to her body when they

were struck by some tar barrels fallen down from the truck loaded with 185 barrels of tar driving a short distant away from their motorbike. The injured died while she was taken to Kyauktada Township People's Hospital. The driver left his car and ran away from the scene of incident.—*Kyemon*

Medical equipment donation for Yangon Eye Hospital

YANGON, 22 March — A ceremony to donate medical equipment to Yangon Eye Hospital took place at the hospital on 17 March.

First, Kaya n Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Thein spoke on the occasion.

Next, wellwishers U Win Lwin and Daw Myat Myat Maw and family and U Soe Soe Than (Ahman Thit auto assembling) and Daw Nwe Nwe and family handed over documents related to Auto Keratorefractometer and Slit Lamp Microscope worth 6000 USD to Medical

Superintendent Dr Ngwe Hsan. The ceremony was attended by Head of Yangon Region Health Department Dr U Aye Ko Ko, Professor Dr U Tin Win of Yangon Eye Hospital and Yangon Region Hluttaw representatives U Myint Oo and U Kyaw Myint Aung.—*Kyemon*

Cyclist knocked down by bus in Bago

BAGO, 22 March — A cyclist crossing over the road was knocked down by a passenger bus and he was killed in the road accident in Oktha Myothit ward-7 at about 11.30 pm on 15 March.

A Yangon-Kyaikkhami Fuso passenger bus driving from Yangon to downtown

Bago hit Aung Win, 42, of Kyunthaya ward on a bicycle. The victim got severe injury to his head and he was pronounced dead on the spot. No (3) police station in Bago field a lawsuit against the driver and investigation is ongoing to identify the driver.

Kyemon

Overheated voltage regulator causes fire in Yedashe Township

YEDASHE, 22 March — An overheated voltage regulator caused a fire at a house in Yedashe Township of Bago Region at about 2.45 am on 18 March. Two houses were burnt to ground in the fire.

The fire was due to the voltage regulator which was overheating at the house of U Ye Min, 46,

on Hsinbyushin street in ward-4 of the township. The fire swept through the whole house and spread the next house.

Fire crews, police members and local people accompanied by six fire trucks put out the fire at about 3.50 am. The two houses were reduced to ashes in the fire.—*Kyemon*



WORLD

Obama to shore up ally Jordan on last stop in Mideast

JERUSALEM, 22 March — President Barack Obama flies to Jordan on Friday for talks with King Abdullah, a key US Middle East ally, that are expected to focus on the civil war in neighbouring Syria and the prospects for Israeli-Palestinian peace diplomacy.

Obama will head to



US President Barack Obama waves after addressing Israeli students at the International Convention Centre in Jerusalem on 21 March, 2013.—REUTERS

Amman after the final day of his first official visit to Israel and the Palestinian territories, which will be heavy on symbolism as he tours sites of historic and religious importance to both peoples.

The president's visit to the desert kingdom is aimed at reassuring Abdullah of Washington's support at a

time when it is flooded with refugees from the violence in Syria, and battling economic difficulties and tensions from the "Arab Spring" upheaval in the region, aides say.

Obama and Abdullah will consult extensively on the spillover of the Syrian conflict to Jordan, where an influx of more than 350,000 refugees has further strained the resources of a country that has almost no oil. Washington has provided some aid to alleviate the humanitarian situation.

Obama backs the Syrian opposition's effort to oust Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, but has limited its support to non-lethal aid to anti-government rebels despite a growing calls from European and Arab allies to take a stronger tack.—Reuters

Russian President Putin wants BRICS to tackle geopolitics



Russia's President Vladimir Putin attends a meeting with the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) Chief Executive Kirill Dmitriev at the Novo-Ogaryovo state residence outside Moscow on 18 March, 2013.

REUTERS

Moscow, 22 March — Russia wants the BRICS group of major emerging economies to broaden its role and get more involved in geopolitics, President Vladimir Putin said in an interview published on Friday.

Putin, who has frequently criticized European and US activities and has teamed up with fellow BRICS nation China to counter Western clout, spoke before a summit next week of the group, which

also includes Brazil, India and South Africa.

He told news agency *Itar-Tass* that the BRICS members were working on joint declarations on the conflicts in Syria and Afghanistan, Iran's nuclear programme, the situation in the Middle East and other issues.

"We invite our partners to gradually transform BRICS from a dialogue forum that coordinates approaches to a limited number of issues into a full-

scale strategic cooperation mechanism that will allow us to look for solutions to key issues of global politics together," Putin said according to a Kremlin transcript of the interview.

BRICS leaders are expected to use the 26-27 March meeting in Durban, South Africa to endorse plans to create a joint foreign exchange reserves pool and an infrastructure bank, senior emerging market officials said on Thursday.

Putin, who wants more for foreign investment to bolster Russia's economy, said Russia plans to announce the creation of a BRICS Business Council to promote trade and investment within the group and help launch multilateral business projects.

Reuters

Iran will destroy Israeli cities if attacked

DUBAI, 22 March — Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned on Thursday that the Islamic Republic would destroy the Israeli cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa if its nuclear infrastructure came under attack from the Jewish state.

Israel puts little stock in big power negotiations aimed at curbing Iran's uranium enrichment — which Western nations suspect is a conduit to nuclear weapons capability — and has repeatedly hinted at pre-emptive war against its arch-enemy. During a visit to Israel on Thursday, US President Barack Obama acknowledged its security concerns, saying, "America will do what we must to prevent a nuclear

Iran." But he also said big powers believed there was still time for a diplomatic solution.

Russia said Iran and six global powers made headway in expert-level talks this week to ease

the 10-year-long standoff over Teheran's nuclear ambitions, but the risk of backsliding towards confrontation remained. Higher-level political talks between the powers and Iran are to resume in the

Kazakh city of Almaty early next month, part of a concerted effort to avert another Middle East war that could balloon oil prices and wreak havoc on the global economy.

Khamenei, in a televised speech marking the Iranian new year, said: "At times the officials of the Zionist regime (Israel) threaten to launch a military invasion but they themselves know that if they make the slightest mistake the Islamic Republic will raze Tel Aviv and Haifa to the ground." But the top Shi'ite Muslim cleric, Iran's most powerful figure, dismissed any threat from Israel, describing it as "not big enough to stand out among the Iranian nation's enemies".—Reuters



Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei speaks during the 16th summit of the Non-Aligned Movement in Teheran, on 30 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

Evidence suggests chemical weapon not used in Syria

WASHINGTON, 22 March — It increasingly appears that a chemical weapon was not used in Syria this week, a US official said on Thursday, although officials cautioned that US intelligence agencies have not yet reached a final conclusion.

"Our growing sense is that weaponized CW was not used," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Still, the official left open the possibility that information could arise that changed the analysis.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government and rebels accused each other of

using chemical weapons in a rocket attack near Aleppo on Tuesday that killed 26 people.

A European security official said that if chemical weapons or other "weapons of mass destruction" had been fired off, the casualty toll would be much higher than 26.

The official said he did not believe that the evidence showed chemical weapons had been used.

After the attack on Tuesday, some of those hospitalized told a *Reuters* photographer they detected a strong smell of chlorine in the air and that many

victims had fallen down dead after the blast.

President Barack Obama said in Israel on Wednesday that Assad would be held accountable if it were determined that chemical weapons had been used in Syria.

On Thursday a US intelligence official said, "The

intelligence community has not made an assessment as to whether or not chemical weapons were used or not."

US Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice issued a statement on Thursday welcoming the announcement of a UN investigation.

Reuters

Syrian government officials and military personnel visit a victim of chemical weapons at a hospital in Aleppo, on 21 March, 2013.

REUTERS



Italy's Bersani manoeuvres for new government



Italian centre-left leader Pier Luigi Bersani speaks after meeting with Italian President Giorgio Napolitano at Quirinale Palace in Rome on 21 March, 2013.

REUTERS

ROME, 22 March — Italian centre-left leader Pier Luigi Bersani on Thursday appealed to all parties in parliament to back a new government, a move that may brighten prospects of resolving the political deadlock following last month's inconclusive election.

After meeting with President Giorgio Napolitano, Bersani said "all the forces in parliament" should support a government with a programme of reforms presented by the centre-left.

Asked if this meant he would also welcome the backing of Silvio Berlusconi's centre-right, an option he has so far rejected, he said: "Yes, we are appealing to the whole of parliament to support the changes needed."

Bersani added, however, the centre-right had

so far rejected proposals by his Democratic Party (PD) on issues such as fighting corruption and legislation on conflicts of interest.

The election gave the alliance of Bersani's PD and the leftist SEL a majority in the lower house but not in the Senate, leaving it unable to govern without the support of other parties.

The stalemate has revived fears of a prolonged bout of instability in the euro zone's third-largest economy just as the crisis over bank deposits in Cyprus has raised concern of a fresh bout of financial market turmoil.

Napolitano completed two days of consultations on Thursday with political party chiefs and said he would announce his decision on the next step on Friday.

Reuters

Voyager 1 space probe reaches outer fringe of solar system

CAPE CANAVERAL, 22 March—*Voyager 1*, launched in 1977 to explore the outer planets, has passed into a new region on its way out of the solar system, scientists said on Wednesday.

The spacecraft, now

more than 11 billion miles (18 billion km) away, detected two distinct and related changes in its environment on 25 Aug, 2012, scientists write in paper to be published in *Geophysical Research Letters* and emailed to

Reuters on Wednesday.

The probe detected dramatic changes in the levels of two types of radiation, one that stays inside the solar system, the other which comes from interstellar space. The number of particles inside the solar system's bubble in space, a region called the heliosphere, dropped to less than 1 percent of previously detected levels, while radiation from interstellar sources nearly doubled, said astronomer and lead author Bill Webber, professor emeritus at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

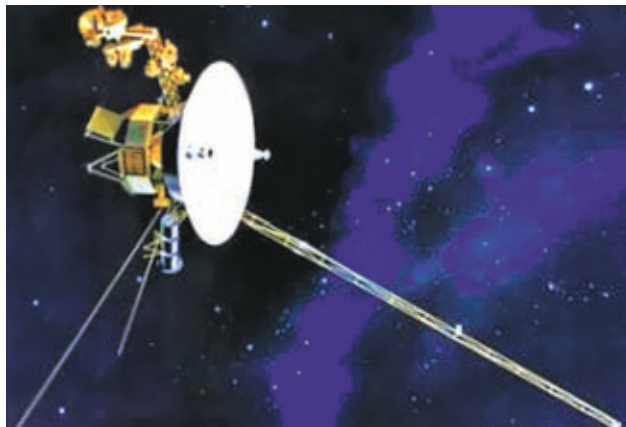
Scientists are not yet ready to say *Voyager* is in interstellar space, however.

The probe, which

blasted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 5 Sept, 1977, may be in a new and previously unknown boundary region between the heliosphere and interstellar space. In December, scientists said *Voyager* had reached what they called a "magnetic highway," where magnetic field lines from the sun connect with magnetic field lines from interstellar space. *Voyager 1* and a sister spacecraft, *Voyager 2*, were launched 16 days apart in 1977 to fly past *Jupiter*, *Saturn*, *Uranus* and *Neptune*.

Voyager 2 is travelling on a different path out of the solar system and is not believed to have reached the magnetic highway toward interstellar space yet.

Reuters



Voyager 1 in an undated illustration courtesy of NASA.—REUTERS

Software co Intertrust accuses Apple of infringing patents



People walk past the Apple logo near an Apple Store at a shopping area in central Beijing on 19 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

BEIJING, 22 March—Intertrust Technologies Corp, a software firm owned by a group that includes Sony Corp and Royal Philips Electronics, said on Wednesday it has sued Apple Inc for infringing 15 patents relating to security.

The lawsuit covers devices such as the iPhone and iPad, Mac computers and laptops, Apple TV and services including iTunes, iCloud and the Apple App Store, Intertrust said in a statement that gave no dollar figure associated with the lawsuit. Silicon Valley-based Intertrust develops and licenses digital rights management (DRM) software, which is used to protect and manage content rights for companies that distribute music, movies and other digital content.

The company listed major tech companies, from Microsoft Corp and Samsung Electronics to Nokia and HTC among its licensees. On its website, it said it became a joint venture owned by Sony, Philips and Stephens Inc in 2003.

"Apple makes many great products that use Intertrust's inventions," Talal Shamoon, Intertrust's chief executive officer, said in the statement. "We find it regrettable that we are forced to seek Court assistance to resolve this matter."

Reuters

Bezos expedition retrieves Apollo rocket engines from ocean floor

CAPE CANAVERAL, 22 March—A recovery team funded by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos has plucked two rocket engines from the floor of the Atlantic Ocean that were used to send astronauts to the moon more than 40 years ago, he wrote on the project's website on Wednesday. Bezos, the chief executive of Amazon, last year announced plans to search the sea floor for rocket motors shed during *Saturn 5* launches to the moon during the 1969-1972 Apollo programme.

Bezos Expeditions found and retrieved two *Saturn 5* first-stage engines from three miles beneath the Atlantic Ocean. "We've seen an underwater wonderland — an incredible sculpture garden of twisted F-1 engines that tells the story of a fiery

and violent end, one that serves testament to the Apollo programme," Bezos wrote. "Each piece we bring on deck conjures for me the thousands of engineers who worked together back then to do what for all time had been thought surely impossible," he added.

NASA sent seven missions to the moon, six of which successfully carried astronauts to the lunar surface. Bezos said because the serial numbers on the retrieved engines are missing or partially missing, identifying which mission they were used for will be difficult. "We might see more during restoration. The objects themselves are gorgeous," he added. "This is a historic find and I congratulate the team for its determination and perseverance in the recovery of these important artifacts

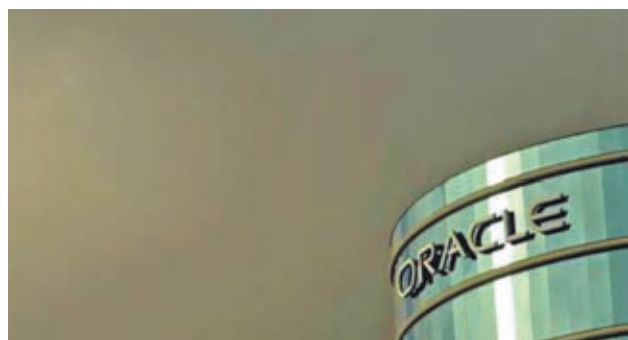


of our first efforts to send humans beyond Earth orbit," NASA administrator Charles Bolden said in a statement.

Reuters

A heat exchanger from an Apollo F-1 engine is seen in this handout photo from Bezos Expeditions taken onboard a recovery ship off the coast of Florida on 19 March, 2013.—REUTERS

Oracle blames sales force for Q3 miss, stock drops



The company logo is shown at the headquarters of Oracle Corporation in Redwood City, California in this 2 Feb, 2010 file photograph.—REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 22 March—Oracle Corp blamed its rapidly expanding sales force for a severe miss in third-quarter software sales and warned that its ailing hardware business will lose more ground this quarter, driving its shares 8 percent lower on Wednesday.

The world's No 3 software maker projected a 1 to 11 percent rise in new software licenses and Internet-based subscriptions in the May quarter—an indicator of future performance. But investors focused on a 2 percent slip in the February quarter that badly missed

Wall Street's targets. Oracle's February quarter revenue miss was its worst since the November quarter of 2011.

"What we really saw was the lack of urgency we sometimes see in the sales force, as Q3 deals fall into Q4," Chief Financial Officer Safra Catz told analysts on a conference call.

"Since we've been adding literally thousands of new sales reps around the world, the problem was largely sales execution, especially with the new reps as they ran out of runway in Q3." Wall Street remains concerned about tepid spending by governments and corporations in an uncertain global environment, but Catz dismissed those fears.

Reuters

Google's Chrome, Android systems to stay separate

NEW DELHI, 22 March—Google Inc's Chrome and Android operating systems will remain separate products but could have more overlap, Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt said, a week after the two came under a single boss.

Google last week said Andy Rubin, the architect of Android—the world's top-selling mobile operating system—was moving to a still-undefined role while Sundar Pichai, in charge of its Chrome web browser and applications like Google Drive and Gmail, was taking on Rubin's responsibilities.

Schmidt, Google's chief executive from 2001 to 2011, is becoming more outspoken on issues involving technology and world affairs, and was in

India as part of a multi-country Asian tour to promote Internet access.

After the Indian capital, he is visiting Myanmar, which is seen as the last virgin territory for businesses in Asia.



Google Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt

In January he went to North Korea, saying it was a personal trip to talk about a free and open Internet.

Only about a tenth of India's more than 1.2 billion people have access to the Internet, although that is changing fast with growth in

low-cost tablet computers and cheaper smartphones.

Schmidt called on India to clarify a law that holds so-called intermediaries like Google and Facebook liable for content users post on the web.

In 2011, India passed a law that obliges social media companies to remove a range of objectionable content when requested to do so, a move criticized at the time by human rights groups and companies.

Schmidt also said rumours he may be leaving Google were "completely false." He was responding to a question on whether his plan to sell about 42 percent of his Google stake was a signal that he was leaving the world's No 1 search engine.—*Reuters*

BUSINESS & HEALTH

World Bank loans 620 mln USD to China

BEIJING, 22 March—The World Bank announced on Thursday that its board of directors has approved five loans totalling 620 million US dollars to China.

The money will be used to install rooftop solar panels for public schools in Beijing, fund low-carbon projects in Shanghai, improve a flood control system in Jingdezhen and enhance public services in selected cities and towns in the provinces of Jiangxi and Liaoning, according to a World Bank Press release.

“We are pleased to support China’s efforts to reduce energy intensity, carbon emissions and urban vulnerability to floods, as well as improve urban public services for the people,” the release cited Mark Lundell, World Bank sector manager of the sustainable development department for China and Mongolia, as

saying. In 2011, the World Bank said it would extend 1.5 billion US dollars in loans to China every year over the following five years.

Xinhua



Eight eating habits lead to higher rate of cancer

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Boiling hot foods | 6. Insufficient vegetables and fruits |
| 2. Gobbling | 7. Disordered eating |
| 3. Overeating | 8. Unpleasant dining environment—Xinhua |
| 4. Dining out | |
| 5. Overdrinking | |

AstraZeneca cuts another 2,300 jobs in sales, admin

LONDON, 22 March—AstraZeneca’s (AZN.L) new chief executive announced another 2,300 job cuts in sales and administration on Thursday as he set out his stall for turning round the struggling drugmaker and returning it to growth.

Pascal Soriot said he planned to focus research on three main disease areas and strike more external deals—such as a new \$240 million tie-up with Moderna Therapeutics—in an effort to replenish a sparse new drug pipeline. But it promises to be a long haul and AstraZeneca is not giving any near-term forecasts. By 2018, however, it expects revenue to “significantly exceed” the current market consensus forecast of \$21.5 billion.

Up to 50 percent of the post-tax, pre-R&D cashflow from existing products will be reinvested in research, external deals and capital investment. At the same time, Soriot expects to keep underlying margins, before research and development (R&D) costs, in the range of 48 to 52 percent — and he sought to reassure investors by pledging to maintain a progressive dividend policy.

“We are making an



Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of AstraZeneca, Pascal Soriot, poses for a photograph in this undated picture provided by AstraZeneca in London on 12 March, 2013.—REUTERS

unambiguous commitment to concentrate our efforts and resources on our priority growth platforms and our priority pipeline projects,” Soriot said.

The former Roche (ROG.VX) executive gave an overview of his strategic thinking in a statement issued ahead of a briefing for analysts and investors starting later in the day in New York.

He had already presented a blueprint for overhauling R&D operations on Monday, involving the loss of 1,600 jobs and the consolidation of work in three big centres in Britain, the United States and Sweden. The combined programme of changes will result in a one-time costs of \$2.3 billion and yield benefits of around \$800 million a year by 2016.—Reuters

Should science on brain injury inspire a ban on boxing?

LONDON, 22 March—When Ireland’s Katie Taylor was taking hits and striking blows for boxing’s Olympic debut in an east London ring last year, John Hardy did not want to look.

To this leading neuroscientist and molecular biologist, a boxing bout is

little more than a session of mutual brain injury. He was horrified to see women boxing at Olympic level for the first time at the London 2012 Games.

“We shouldn’t get our fun out of watching people inflict brain damage on each other,” said Hardy, who is

chair of Molecular Biology of Neurological Disease at University College London’s Institute of Neurology. “To me as a neuroscientist it’s almost surreal.”

Hardy, whose research work focuses on Alzheimer’s and other types of dementia, said having women in an Olympic boxing ring was “a terrible thing”—not because he thinks women should not compete alongside men in sport, but because women boxing simply meant more people inflicting more damage on more brains.

That, in turn, was highly likely to mean more people suffering the devastating, incurable symptoms of brain diseases such as Alzheimer’s.

Advances in modern neuroscience mean scientists know more than ever about chronic brain damage and the long-term trauma that can result from frequent

knocks to the head.

“You get tiny lesions along the blood vessels where they have torn the nerve cells around them. This damages those nerve cells, and those cells start to develop the tangles that you see in Alzheimer’s disease,” Hardy said.

“And what we now understand is that this process spreads.”

Partly due to this new understanding, now is a time of intense sensitivity about and scrutiny of brain damage in sport — particularly among North America’s National Football League (NFL) players.

Former San Diego Chargers player Junior Seau committed suicide last year after what some believe were years of depression stemming from multiple concussions he suffered as a player.

Reuters



GM recalls 28,000 Buick LaCrosse, Cadillac SRXs for software problem

CHICAGO, 22 March—General Motors is recalling about 28,000 model year 2013 Cadillac SRX crossovers and Buick LaCrosse sedans in North America to fix a software programme that could allow the vehicles to slip from manual to automatic mode unexpectedly. *Detroit News* on Wednesday quoted information posted on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) website as saying

that the problem may cause the transmission to shift to sport mode suddenly, removing any transmission-related engine braking effect.

The company has not received any complaints about the problem, nor reports of crashes or injuries related to the condition.

GM discovered the problem in January as it was working on the 2014 Cadillac SRX engineering development vehicle.

Separately, GM is also recalling 48 2011 model compressed natural gas versions of the Chevrolet Express full-sized vans as an improperly built pressure release vent pipe could allow natural gas to vent into the passenger compartment, increasing the risks of an explosion or fire.

GM learned of the problem in December after an incident involving a pressure relief device. There are no reports of crashes, injuries or fires associated with the problem thus far.

Xinhua



Two eleven-year-old Cuban boys face each other in the ring during a boxing training session at an Old Havana neighbourhood boxing gym, in this 12 Aug, 2003 file photograph.—REUTERS

Protection offered by GSK malaria vaccine fades over time

LONDON, 22 March—The effectiveness of an experimental malaria vaccine developed by GlaxoSmithKline wanes over time, with the shot protecting only 16.8 percent of children over four years, according to trial data.

The disappointing results for RTS,S — the world’s first potential malaria vaccine—raise further questions about whether it can make a difference in the

fight against the disease, a major cause of illness and death among children in sub-Saharan Africa.

Results from a separate trial last year showed the vaccine was only 30 percent effective in babies.

“The results are kind of disappointing because we’d all like to see a malaria vaccine that has closer to 80 percent or 100 percent efficacy,” said Christopher Plowe, a malaria researcher

at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in the United States, who was not involved in the RTS,S trial.

Published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on Wednesday, the new data found that although RTS,S initially had a protection rate as high as 53 percent, after an average of eight months that effectiveness faded swiftly.

Reuters

21 March marks World Sleep Day



Photo taken on 2 July, 2011 shows a passenger sleeping at the Nanjing Railway Station in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province. 21 March marks the World Sleep Day, which is an annual event intended to be a celebration of sleep and a call to action on important issues related to sleep.—XINHUA

WORLD

Russia tones down criticism of new US missile plans

Moscow, 22 March—Russia signaled on Thursday that a change in US plans for a European anti-missile shield could help the two sides make progress towards resolving a dispute that has frayed their relations.

On Friday, the United States announced it would station 14 new anti-missile interceptors in Alaska and forgo a new interceptor that would have been deployed in central Europe.

Cold War-era foes Moscow and Washington have long been at loggerheads over the shield in Europe.

President Barack Obama's move in 2009 to scale down earlier, Bush-administration plans only offered a short-lived respite. Russia's main concern is that the European shield would

Five killed in Yemen clash between al-Qaeda fighters, militia

ADEN, 22 March—At least five people were killed in Yemen when a pro-government militia attacked al-Qaeda-linked militants on Thursday, residents and militia sources said.

US-allied Yemen has been grappling with an Islamist insurgency since popular protests forced President Ali Abdullah Saleh to step down in November 2011. The United States considers Yemen an important ally against al-Qaeda which it fears could use the country to plot attacks against its interests, and has regularly used drones to hit suspected militants there.

The sources said several people were wounded on Thursday in the fighting which broke out in the village of al-Qafr in the southern Province of Abyan.

The two groups have regularly attacked each other since the pro-government Popular Committees were set up as a volunteer force against militants who exploited the 2011 political turmoil to seize territory and impose Islamic Sharia.

Reuters



Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov speaks during a news briefing in the main building of Foreign Ministry in Moscow, on 15 Dec, 2008.

REUTERS

weaken its nuclear deterrent.

Russia's point man for US relations, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov, said on Thursday the planned changes brought a new element to the issue.

He called for further dialogue, noting Moscow still had concern that US missile defences could threaten its security.

Ryabkov's remarks were more upbeat than Russia's initial, critical re-

action to US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel's announcement of changes in US global missile defence plans on Friday.

"There is no unequivocal answer yet to the question of what consequences all this can have for our security," Ryabkov said.

"The causes for concern have not been removed, but dialogue is needed — it is in our interest and we welcome the fact that the American side also, it appears, wants to continue this dialogue," he told reporters.

In Brussels, a senior US defence official said Russia was "not a factor" in the US decision to change missile defence plans but there was hope it would allay Russian misgivings.

Reuters

Death toll from heavy rains climbs to 30 in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 22 March — The death toll from torrential downpours lashing the mountain areas of southeast Brazil has reached 30, Civil Defence authorities said on Thursday. Rescue workers found two more bodies that had been buried by a landslide in Petropolis of Rio de Janeiro

state, and two people were still missing, the authorities said. Rescuers were searching for the missing in another area where a landslide buried several homes.

Latest report from the Civil Defence said 44 people were injured because of the heavy rains, and three of them in critical condition.

As many as 1,234 local residents were displaced, either because of the risk of more landslides or their badly damaged houses. Petropolis, a mountain resort with a distance of 70 km from Rio and home to 300,000 inhabitants, was hit hard by torrential rains on Sunday and Monday.—Xinhua

Blast kills 17 at Pakistani camp for displaced people

PESHAWAR, 22 March—At least seventeen people were killed by a car bomb as they waited for food at a camp in northwest Pakistan for those displaced by fighting between government forces and Islamist militants, police said.

The bomb exploded on Thursday in the Jalozai camp in Nowshera in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, an area bordering Afghanistan and a stronghold for insurgents bent on toppling Pakistan's US-backed government.

"Food was being distributed among the internally displaced persons when the blast took place," Nowshera police chief Mohammad Hussain told Reuters, adding that 33 people were wounded.

The camp is home to people who have fled violence in ethnic Pashtun areas along the border with Afghanistan where al-Qaeda and Taliban militants operate.

Local officials belong-

ing to provincial disaster management authorities and a female worker from a non-governmental organisation (NGO) were among the dead, officials said.

Hundreds of thousands of people have fled from conflict over the past five years or so, from the tribal areas along the border and from elsewhere, such as the Swat valley, northwest of Islamabad.

Many people have

been able to go home, especially those from Swat, but thousands remain in camps.

The Pakistani Taliban denied responsibility for the blast. Spokesman Ihsanullah Ihsan told Reuters it was "inhuman and un-Islamic to target innocents".

The blast comes days after the elected government completed its full five-year term, the first in the country's volatile history to do so.—Reuters



A security official inspects a damaged vehicle at the site of a bomb attack near Jalozai camp in Nowshera District, northwestern Pakistan on 21 March, 2013.—REUTERS

UK top court holds first secret session over Iran case

LONDON, 22 March—Britain's Supreme Court held the first secret session in its history on Thursday to consider evidence about an Iranian bank's alleged links to Teheran's nuclear programme that the British government does not want to make public.

The court's decision to go into a so-called "closed hearing" to hear part of the government's case for imposing sanctions on Bank Mellat is contentious because it means the bank itself will not be shown all the evidence against it.

"This is a decision which is reached with great reluctance," the President of the Supreme Court, David Neuberger, said in a statement in open court just before Bank Mellat's lawyers, the media and the public were asked to leave for about 45 minutes.

"No judge can face with equanimity the prospect of a hearing, or any

part of a hearing, which is not only in private, but involves one of the parties not being present or represented at the hearing," Neuberger said.

Civil rights campaign group Liberty, which had intervened in the case to try and stop the court holding a secret hearing, said the decision of the judges was "a sad landmark in British legal history".

"The creep of secrecy has now reached our highest court, a body with a noble tradition for upholding justice and the rule of law," Liberty's legal officer Corinna Ferguson said in a statement.

The British government decided to impose sanctions on Bank Mellat in 2009, under the terms of the Counter-Terrorism Act, on the grounds that the bank had indirectly aided the Iranian government's nuclear programme.

Reuters



People walk past a branch of Iran's Bank Mellat in Istanbul on 18 Aug, 2010.—REUTERS

Los Angeles girl, 13, dies after inhaling computer cleaner

LOS ANGELES, 22 March — A popular 13-year-old honour student found dead in her bedroom earlier this week was apparently killed after inhaling a can of computer cleaner to get high, school officials said on Thursday, in a rare "huffing" death that stunned her affluent Los Angeles neighbourhood.

Aria Doherty, a popular student at Alfred B Nobel Middle School in the upscale Porter Ranch section of Los Angeles, was pronounced dead in her home on Monday evening after she was found unresponsive by her older sister.

"Unfortunately, it was due to inhaling this vapour from this can, which was found close to her body," Los Angeles Unified School District spokeswoman Monica Carazo said. "I

don't know the brand name, but it's the kind you use to clean your keyboard, your computers." Young people sometimes inhale such vapours in an effort to become intoxicated, a form of abuse known as "huffing."

Doherty's parents told local media their daughter, who likely died from cardiac arrest, had no history of drug or inhalant use. They said they wanted to use their daughter's death as a warning to other parents.

"This was not that she had done it so many times that the chemicals had finally caused her brain damage or she'd gotten too much into her system. This is about her having a heart attack from just the very moment that she did the inhaling," mother Carolyn Doherty told KCBS-TV.

Reuters

WORLD

New York man freed 23 years after wrongful murder conviction

NEW YORK, 22 March—A New York man convicted of killing a Hasidic rabbi more than two decades ago was freed on Thursday after his conviction was vacated as a miscarriage of justice.

David Ranta, 58, spent 23 years in prison until the conviction integrity unit of the Brooklyn District attorney's office concluded after a year-long investigation that the case against him was fatally flawed.

"Sir, you are free to

go," acting state Supreme Court Justice Miriam Cyruunik told Ranta at a Brooklyn courthouse as relatives, including his daughter who was an infant when he was jailed, erupted in tears and shouts of joy.

Prosecutors had joined Ranta's defence attorney, Pierre Sussman, in asking Cyruunik to vacate Ranta's conviction "in the interest of justice." "The evidence no longer establishes the defendant's guilt beyond

a reasonable doubt," said Assistant District Attorney John O'Mara, the chief of the conviction integrity unit.

Ranta was found guilty of killing Rabbi Chaskel Werzberger on 8 February, 1990, and stealing his car in an effort to flee following an unsuccessful attempt to rob a diamond courier. The crime rattled the Hasidic Jewish community in Brooklyn and prompted calls for swift justice.

"As I said from the beginning, I had nothing to do with this case," Ranta told reporters following the hearing.

The case is the latest in a string of wrongful convictions that have gained media attention in recent months, creating a headache for Brooklyn District Attorney Charles Hynes, who faces a rare primary challenge in September as he seeks a seventh four-year term.—Reuters



Zhao Hongzhu (R), deputy secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, meets with Vietnam's Inspector-General Huynh Phong Tranh (L) in Beijing, capital of China, on 21 March, 2013.—XINHUA

Colombia, FARC say peace talks make progress, but still disagreements

HAVANA, 22 March—Colombia and the Marxist FARC rebels have made strides toward striking an accord on land reform, but disagreements remain, the two sides said on Thursday at the end of their latest round of peace talks.

Former Vice President Humberto de la Calle said he hoped they could settle the issue quickly when they meet again on 2 April, but the rebels said in a news conference they were still adding proposals, which now number 90, for the government to consider.

"There's no step backwards. We're always going forward, advancing slowly if you want to think that way, but also persistently," FARC lead negotiator Ivan Marquez said after reading nine new proposals denouncing such things as free-trade pacts with other countries and the foreign buying of Colombian land.

Tens of thousands of people have died and millions have been displaced during Latin America's longest-running insurgency, a vestige of the Cold War that dates to the FARC's founding in 1964 as a communist agrar-



Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) negotiator Jesus Santrich speaks to the media before the start of talks in Havana on 11 March, 2013.—REUTERS

ian reform movement. In a joint communique, the government and the FARC said they had made enough progress that they asked the UN office in Colombia to start preparation for a public forum on their next agenda item, the FARC's future political participation. The talks, begun four months ago in Havana, have so far produced no known major advances, which has prompted complaints in Colombia they are moving too slowly. De la Calle said that considering the complexity of the issues, "the process of construction of an agreement moves ahead normally, although we would like

to advance faster."

The two sides are discussing rural development and land reform, the first issues on a five-point agenda, with the aim of addressing the primary cause of the conflict—the South American country's long history of social inequality and land ownership concentrated in the hands of a few.

The FARC, or Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, has proposed giving 20 million hectares (49.4 million acres) of Colombia's land to the poor and establishing a limit on how much property big landowners can have.

Reuters

BRICS has potential to make it big on international arena

JOHANNESBURG, 22 March—By joining hands together, BRICS countries can bring about economic equity, good governance, multi-polarism and joint force to stop terrorism and a better world, experts told Xinhua.

Memory Dube, the senior researcher economic diplomacy in the South African Institute for International Affairs, says BRICS have a multi-pronged approach to solve challenges bedeviling them. The researcher states BRICS members interact at different levels to address various

challenges. Memory said, "There are parallel track engagements that are particularly important in that they facilitate both a bottom-up and top-down approach to BRICS engagement."

"This includes meetings of foreign ministers, finance ministers, agriculture ministers, health ministers, and High Representatives on Security, as well as various other sectoral meetings covering such issues as technology and innovation, health, environmental issues, tax issues, corruption and others. "Such engagement work to facilitate the

institutionalization of the BRICS which would facilitate closer cooperation and coordination of positions on various international issues such as the ones outlined above."

BRICS members have been meeting from people to people level, business to business and even at labour union level to strengthen relations and follow a common cause. The researcher states that BRICS countries were affected by the eurozone financial crisis because of their trade links to the developed world.

Xinhua

EU wants to send observers for Pakistan's elections

ISLAMABAD, 22 March—Pakistan said on Thursday that the European Union has approached the country for sending observers for the coming parliamentary elections scheduled to be held on 11 May.

"We have received the EU request and the request is under process," the Foreign Ministry said.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhary said that no concern was raised by

Islamabad-based foreign diplomats at a special briefing about the elections this week.

He said at the weekly press briefing the diplomats were mainly interested in election procedures and they were given comprehensive briefing by representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Information and Broadcasting and the Election Commission.

He said they were conveyed that the government

is committed to holding free, fair and transparent elections, adding that Pakistan will allow foreign observers to monitor the elections. The spokesman, while replying to a question about the US drone strikes in the country's tribal regions, said Pakistan has conveyed its serious concerns over the American spy aircraft attacks to a UN representative during his recent visit to Islamabad.

Xinhua

BP to seek sanctions against Halliburton over gulf spill case

HOUSTON, 22 March—British oil giant BP said on Thursday it will be filing a motion seeking sanctions against oilfield services company Halliburton in the civil trial over the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill for not turning over cement samples that may have been used with the well that blew out.

Attorneys for BP and the US state of Alabama told US District Judge Carl Barbier in New Orleans, who oversees the civil trial

to determine liability for the spill, that they would be filing motion sanctions by Friday seeking sanctions after Halliburton disclosed last week that it had discovered samples of a cement slurry at its lab that may be from the same mixture used to seal the Macondo well, according to news website NOLA.com.

Possible sanctions could include preventing Halliburton from using certain defences at the trial, which could make it

harder for the company to challenge a finding of gross negligence, according to media reports.

The 20 April, 2010 blowout of the Macondo well, leased by BP, triggered an explosion that killed 11 rig workers and unleashed the worst oil spill in US History. The accident sparked hundreds of lawsuits against BP and its partners, Transocean and Halliburton.

The nonjury trial over liability for the disaster be-

gan 25 February and may last for three months.

During the first phase of the trial, Barbier is hearing evidence on the causes of the well blowout and will determine how to allocate fault.

The second phase will address the amount of oil that spilled. At some point during the trial or after, Barbier also is expected to determine if the disaster resulted from gross negligence.

Xinhua



The worker trapped in mud up to his waist is rescued from the Second Avenue subway project in New York, the United States, on 19 March, 2013. Three rescuers were injured during the five-hour rescue on Tuesday night.—XINHUA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 23 March, 2013

World without wars

Can you imagine a world without wars? Will there be a day when each nation sees increased peace dividend from slashed defence budget and there is no sound of gunfire?

Unless it is first-hand experiences, it would be impossible for one to get the real sense of how frightening a war is. War indeed is not as complicated as it seems to be; it is none other than the source of death and destruction to its victims.

A war may only last for an hour or less, but it is quite enough to change the entire life of a man. There are no spare parts for such things as limbs and legs though prostheses can be bought. The evil consequences of a single gunshot can drag on for years and haunt you forever.

Great peace architects have given their lives one after another, but the wars have never really ended. Instead, there have emerged more cruel and destructive warfare—biological, chemical warfare and so on—though they are banned and considered immoral.

It is highly unlikely that the Third World War or a nuclear war will break out, but violence and unrest still persist in many parts of the world. Though the last decade saw less aggression or invasion, the growing threat of terrorism, extremism, sectarian violence and civil war sounds alarming bells with tensions running high in certain regions. Following this, arms race seems to be rising again while some regions are dissolving into chaos.

Some of the strife and conflicts are comparable to war atrocities. For religious reasons, for racial reasons, and for some other reasons, men kill each other. Does it really need a kill just to encroach, just because they belong to different religion or have different skin color from yours?

We are looking forward to a day when arms manufacturers and dealers become jobless and diplomacy, dialogue and negotiations replace the arms race to find a solution together.

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Mark McDowell as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Canada to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Mark McDowell was born in Toronto, Canada on 8 October, 1962. He obtained a Bachelor Degree in Arts in 1988 and a Master Degree in Arts in 1990 from the University of Toronto. He also earned a Master Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University in 2008. He joined the Department of Foreign

Affairs and International Trade of Canada in 1994 and served in various capacities at the Department. He also served in various capacities at Embassies in New York, Taipei, and Bangkok. Currently, he is serving as Counsellor at the Embassy of Canada in Beijing, China.

Ambassador Mr Mark McDowell can speak Chinese, English, French, German, Indonesia and Thai fluently. He will reside in Myanmar and will be accredited as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Canada to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker receives French Minister of Development and party

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint received Minister of Development Mr. Pascal CANFIN and party of France at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw complex, here, at 2pm today.

At the meeting, both sides cordially discussed matters related to strengthening of amity and relations between the two countries, cooperation in development of economic,

education and health sectors between Myanmar and France, France's assistance for economic and political reforms and democracy materialization in Myanmar, sending of the staff of Hluttaw offices for reciprocal excursions and cooperation in Parliament affairs.

Also present together with Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint were Amyotha Hluttaw Committee Chairpersons U Aung Tun, U Zaw Myint



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint shakes hands with French Minister of Development Mr. Pascal CANFIN.—MNA

Pe, U Thein Win, U San Tun, U Aung Nyein, U Hsaing Paung Nup, Dr Khin Shwe, Col Maung Maung Htoo, Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye, Daw Khin Waing Kyi and officials of the Hluttaw Office. The French minister was accompanied by French Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Thierry MATHOU and embassy staff.—MNA



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Google's Executive Chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann held talks with Executive Chairman of Google Dr Eric Schmidt at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

Present at the call together with the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw were Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Committee Chairmen U Maung Maung Thein, U

Thein Zaw, U Thein Swe, Committee Secretary U Ko Ko Tun, members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission U Khin Maung Soe, U Tin Htwe and Dr Taik San and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

They had a cordial discussion on investment sector and providing technological assistance for capacity building.—MNA

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann shaking hands with Executive Chairman of Google Dr Eric Schmidt.—MNA

Selected Myanmar golfer Myo Win Aung emerges champion in Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2013

YANGON, 22 March—The prize presentation ceremony of Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship-2013, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and mainly sponsored by Tiger Golf, took place at Danyingon Golf Club in Insein Township, here, this morning, attended by President of MGF Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), Vice-Presidents U Zaw Min, U Aung Kyi and U Min Thein and guests.

MGF officials gave awards to Yangon Golf Club and Myanmar Brewery Ltd. The officials also presented awards to participants from

Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines.

The vice-president of MGF and club captain U Zaw Min of Yangon Golf Club presented awards to third and second prize winners from Thailand. Then, Managing Director Mr. Lim Yew Hoe of Myanmar Brewery Ltd presented championship trophy to selected Myanmar golfer Myo Win Aung.

The event was co-sponsored by Srixon, Imperial Jade Purified Drinking Water, 100 Plus (Isotonic drink), Yangon Golf Club and Elite Express.

NLM

Union Foreign Affairs Minister receives French Development Minister, guests of United World

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received Mr Pascal CANFIN, Minister of Development of France at the meeting hall of the Ministry, here, this noon.

They exchanged views on potentials of development cooperation between the two

countries.

A team from United World Communications and News Agency made an interview with the Union Minister at the Ministry, here, at 5:30 pm today.

The current situation of Myanmar and its prospects were discussed during the interview.—MNA

New transformer facilitated in Hsipaw

HSIPAW, 22 March—Under the supervision of Township Electrical Engineer U Kyaw Htay Aung of Hsipaw Township in Shan State (North), electricians built a 11/0.4 KVA transformer in Panteintaung

Ward of the township on 14 March. Thanks to the new transformer, the local people in Panteintaung Ward, East and Southeast parts of Hsipaw enjoy supply of electricity at full capacity.

Myanma Alinn

LOCAL NEWS

Workshop on Myanmar and ASEAN Economic Community held



Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Daw Khin San Yi speaking at opening of Workshop on Myanmar and the ASEAN Economic Community.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—Under the ASEAN-US Technology and Training Assistance Programme, the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and USAID jointly opened the Workshop on Myanmar and the ASEAN Economic Community at Zabuthiri Hotel, here, yesterday morning, with addresses by US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek J Mitchell and Deputy

Minister for NPED Dr Daw Khin San Yi. Ms Anna M Robenlal of ASEAN Secretariat, Mr Michael Plummer of SAIS-Bologna of John Hopkins University, Deputy Director-General Dr Wah Wah Maung of Foreign Economic Relations Department and Pro-Rector Dr Sanda Oo of Yangon Institute of Economics participated in the discussions.

It was attended by

Hluttaw representatives, senior ASEAN officers of Cambodia, Singapore, Vietnam and Lao PDR, intellectuals and intelligentsia at home and abroad, entrepreneurs and guests.

The workshop will contribute much to ASEAN chairmanship of Myanmar in 2014 and appreciate over the benefits obtained from implementation of ASEAN Economic Community and difficulties.—MNA

Objectives of the 68th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2013

1. To uphold the national policy namely non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty
2. To play the leading role in the national politics by the Tatmadaw joining hands with all national races with Union Spirit and the true patriotism in line with the Constitution
3. To crush all destructive elements at home and abroad through the strength of State, People and Tatmadaw
4. To build up a strong, competent, modern, patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard the security and sovereignty of the nation

Reading habit raised, essay contest held

BUTHIDAUNG, 22 March—In a measure of raising reading habit, the Buthidaung Township Information and Public Relations Department held the reading skill contest and essay contest at Panhaywun

Library in Ywama Village on 9 March afternoon.

On the summer holidays, the students were trained to participate in raising reading habit in the poem recitation contest.

Head of Township

Information and Public Relations Department Daw Khin Yu Yu Nwe and party presented prizes to six outstanding students and gave snacks to the participants.

Myanma Alinn

Cooperative executives elected at Cooperative College

MANDALAY, 22 March—A ceremony to set up the Yankin Yadana Agriculture and General Cooperative Ltd was held at Yankin Hall of Cooperative College (Mandalay) of Patheingyi Township in Mandalay Region on 15 March.

Organizing Com-



mission Chairman U Aung Win and Principal U Hla Myo made speeches.

U Than Hla explained the rules and regulations of the society.

Those present at the ceremony then elected Dr Moh Moh Kyi as Chairperson together with seven executives and auditor leader U Soe Naing Oo and four members.

They then took oaths in the presence of the meeting chairman.

Next, newly-elected Chairperson of the society Dr Moh Moh Kyi made an introductory speech.

A total of 700 members funded K 5000 each for establishment of the cooperative society.

Myanma Alinn

Traffic clearance performed in Thingangyun Township

YANGON, 22 March—Vendors sold their goods along the pavements of Laydaunkan and Thanthuma roads near Ngamoeyek Sanpya Market in Thingangyun Township which is one of the most traffic congestion places in

Yangon. To avoid traffic jams, Township Development Affairs Committee Head U Ye Tun and staff, IP Daw Marlar San and party of Yangon City Development Committee's Security and Discipline Enforcement

Police Force systematically cleared the vendors from pavements for ensuring traffic clearance and safety for road users in line with the prescribed traffic rules on 13 March morning.

Myanma Alinn

Upgraded Zizawah, Myitnge streets inaugurated in Zabuthiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—A ceremony to commission Zizawah and Myitnge asphalt roads into service was held at the roads in Shwekyarbin Ward of Zabuthiri Township on 16 March morning.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myo Nyunt, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Htay, members of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, Dekkhina District Deputy Commissioner U Than Swe Win, Zabuthiri Township Administrator U Win Shwe and departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people totalling about 400 were present on the occasion.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myo Nyunt, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Htay and member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myo Aung formally opened the roads



and strolled along Nguwah Street.

Director (Engineering) of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Aung Moe reported on construction of the roads.

Town selder U Aung Myint spoke words of thanks. Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Myo Nyunt reported on development tasks in Zabuthiri Township.

The newly-opened

Zizawah Street is 1620 feet long and 18 feet wide and Myitnge Street, 3000 feet long and 12 feet wide.

The two streets were upgraded to the asphalt streets funded with K 88.7 million.

Mayyu, Chindwin, Shweli, Kissapanadi, Panlaung and Cherry roads are being upgraded for smooth transport of the local people. In addition, drains

are being dug and culverts built.—Myanma Alinn

Cambodian tourists visit Magway Myathalun Pagoda

MINBU, 22 March—Cambodian tourists paid homage to ancient Myathalun Pagoda in Magway after visiting Shwesettaw Pagoda Pujaniya in Minbu

Township of Magway Region on 13 March.

The pilgrimage tour comprised 138 Cambodian tourists including two Myanmar monks and one Cambodian tour agent.

The tourists offered candles, joss sticks, fruits, alms, flowers and water to the Buddha image and recited Parittas at the pagoda.

Myanma Alinn

One dead, four injured in police helicopters collision in Berlin

BERLIN, 22 March—A helicopter pilot was killed and four police officers injured after two patrol helicopters collided in the mid air and crashed in a snowstorm on Thursday in Berlin.

The accident took place during a federal police training manoeuvre around the Olympic Stadium in western Berlin, local radio station RBB reported. Pieces of wreckage could be seen lying around the site of the accident.

Some 400 police officers were reportedly taking part in the training mission against football hooligans.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 20 March, 2013 shows the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna, one of the Libya's UNESCO World Heritage sites. Leptis Magna is a unique artistic realization in the domain of urban planning. It played a major role, along with Cyrene, in the movement back to antiquity and in the elaboration of the neoclassical aesthetic. The Phoenician port of Lpgy was founded at the beginning of the 1st millennium BC and first populated by the Garamantes. The city, which was part of the domain of Carthage, passed under the ephemeral control of Massinissa, King of Numidia. The Romans, who had quartered a garrison there during the war against Jugurtha, integrated it, in 46 BC, into the province of Africa while at the same time allowing it a certain measure of autonomy.

XINHUA

Chicago announces mass closing of elementary schools

CHICAGO, 22 March—Chicago will close 54 schools and 61 school buildings by the beginning of the next academic year in the country's third-largest public school district, a move that education experts called the largest mass closing in the nation.

The district will shutter 53 elementary schools and one high school, primarily in Hispanic and African-American neighbourhoods. The district, which has a \$1 billion annual deficit, has said it needs to close underutilized schools to save money.

Enrollment in Chicago Public Schools has fallen 20 percent in the last decade, mainly because of population declines in poor neighbourhoods. The district said it can accommodate 511,000 students, but only about 403,000 are

enrolled. It said that nearly 140 of its schools are more than half empty.

The controversial decision to close dozens of schools follows a bitter strike by Chicago teachers last September, fought partly over the Chicago Teachers Union's accusation that Mayor Rahm Emanuel was undermining community schools in poor areas of the city.

The 61 closings account for about 10 percent of elementary school facilities, according to the school district.

"Consolidating schools is the best way to make sure all of our city's students get the resources they need to succeed in the classroom," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel in a statement.

The union objects to school closings, saying they destabilize minority neigh-

bourhoods and would not save money.

"They keep saying that closing schools is going to save money," said Chicago Teachers Union President Karen Lewis. "This will not save money. It's going to cost money and it's going to leave abandoned buildings, which is another recipe for disaster."

During a news confer-

ence at Mahalia Jackson Elementary School, which is marked for closing, Lewis accused Emanuel of being on a ski trip when the announcement was made.

"Mayor Rahm Emanuel should be ashamed of himself. Shanda!" Lewis said, using the Yiddish word for shame or scandal. Both Lewis and Emanuel are Jewish.—Reuters



Teacher Jenna Rosenberg speaks to her first grade class at Walsh Elementary School in Chicago, Illinois, on 1 March, 2013.—REUTERS

Gaza rockets hit Israeli town during Obama visit

JERUSALEM, 22 March—Two rockets fired from the Gaza Strip hit a southern Israeli border town on Thursday, drawing condemnation from visiting US President Barack Obama. A group with links to al-Qaeda, called Magles Shoura al-Muhaddin, claimed responsibility for the strike on Sderot near the Gaza frontier which wounded no one but damaged the side of a building.

In an online statement, the movement said it had launched the rockets during Obama's visit to show their attacks could not be stopped by Israeli air defences—a possible reference to Israel's partially US-funded Iron

Dome anti-missile battery.

Obama, who was in Jerusalem about 80 km (50 miles) from Sderot when the rockets hit, later told journalists it was up to Hamas, which controls Gaza and rejects peacemaking with the Jewish state, to stop such strikes. "We condemn this violation of the important ceasefire that protects both Israelis and Palestinians, a violation Hamas has a responsibility to prevent," Obama said on the next stop on his visit to the region, in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

The attack was the second time rockets launched from Gaza have hit Israel since a truce ended an eight-

Ten years on, Iraqi children still suffering from war trauma

BAGHDAD, 22 March—Mahmoud Anwar, 16 years old, may not remember the day American soldiers entered Baghdad 10 years ago, but would not forget how those soldiers "stormed into my home late at night searching for suspects."

A decade after the US led invasion in Iraq, Anwar still suffers of nightmares and continuous fear of being killed or kidnapped, not rare among fellow teenagers across the country.

At the age of 10, Anwar was once kidnapped, along with his schoolmate Ahmed. They were on their way back home after school when a car stopped, some men violently dragged the boys into the car and then drove away.

Ahmed returned home several days later, after his

family sold their car and all their properties to pay the ransom. As for Anwar, "I was so afraid, and refused to go to school for several days, until one of my parents or relatives started to accompany me."

Many residents in Baghdad's western District of Khadraa would not forget that morning in 2004, when nine-year-old Omer was shot dead by a US patrol team, just because the kid came closer to the vehicles.

"I still remember the poor child whose father sent him to buy bread for breakfast. One of the soldiers' rounds blew up the child's head, and his blood stained the bread which fell around his small body," a witness said.

Baghdad's residents

blamed US troops for the tragedy, but their reply was as usual: the US soldiers were following their rules of engagement at a war zone.

The child probably thought he could play an adventure game by coming closer with his little bicycle to the vehicles. The presence of US troops was new at the time of the incident, but Omer's story became a warning example to children of the neighbourhood and their parents.

After 10 years of warfare, the fabric of Iraqi society has been deliberately changed. There have been ethnic cleansing, division, destruction of health and education facilities, and indiscriminate bombing of populated areas.

Xinhua

Italian marines facing murder charges to return to India

ROME, 22 March—The two Italian marines accused of killing two fishermen off the Indian southern coast last year will return to India on Thursday evening, a statement from the Italian government said.

The Italian government has decided to maintain the commitment that the two marines should return to India by 22 March after obtaining a "written assurance" by the Indian authorities about "the protection of their fundamental rights," the statement said.

A diplomatic row deepened last week between Italy and India after Rome decided not to send back Massimiliano Latorre and Salvatore Girone, charged with shooting dead two Indian fishermen mistaken as pirates from

a merchant vessel, after a four-week leave.

The decision sparked an Indian Supreme Court ruling that Italy's Ambassador to India Daniele Mancini had no "legal immunity" anymore and could not leave India without permission, which Italy said was a violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

India replied that the move to keep the marines in Italy was itself a violation of international law, with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh calling the situation "unacceptable."

While Italy says that the shooting took place in international waters, India insists the marines should be tried on its soil, where the accident happened.—Xinhua

Dutch authorities detect antibiotics in beef contaminated with horsemeat

THE HAGUE, 22 March—The Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) declared on Thursday that they found antibiotic residues in two samples of beef contaminated with horsemeat.

The NVWA has started a major research into the mixing of horsemeat in beef in the Netherlands since horsemeat scandal spread across Europe, the NVWA spokesman Tjitte Mastenbroek told Xinhua.

In the latest case, they

revealed antibiotics in one of two loads of contaminated meat and the meat was immediately seized, according to the NVWA.

"One of the two loads exceeded the maximum allowable limit for antibiotic residues and the other does not," said Mastenbroek. "Both loads of meat were from Poland."

The NVWA investigated over 160 companies, collecting a total of 500 samples of meat scraps, meat and foodstuffs so far.

Xinhua

day cross-border war in November. The Shoura group never signed the deal.

Israel responded by closing the Kerem Shalom crossing on its border with

Gaza and limiting Palestinian fishing to three miles from the enclave's shore, down from the six-mile zone its navy had previously enforced.—Reuters



Israeli police officers stand near the remains of a rocket fired by Palestinian militants in Gaza after it landed in the southern Israeli town of Sderot on 21 March, 2013.

REUTERS

REGIONAL

ASEAN eyes bigger role in global economy with RCEP

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 March—Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and its major trading partners may bring ASEAN a bigger role in global economy, Malaysian International Trade and Industry Minister Mustapa Mohamed said on Thursday. “It cannot be denied that ASEAN today has a presence in the world economy,” said Mustapa at the forum on the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA). “It has entered into Free Trade Agreements and engaged in dialogues with various countries and re-

gional entities,” he said.

Mustapa pointed out that ASEAN’s economy remained vibrant despite current global economic uncertainties by recording a 5.2 percent growth in 2012. “I have no doubt its clout in world affairs will increase further once the ASEAN Framework for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is concluded,” he said.

At the East Asia Summit in late November 2012, regional leaders formally launched negotiations on RCEP which comprises all 10 ASEAN members and six other countries with which the regional bloc has free trade agreements—

China, India, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. The roadmap for negotiating the RCEP was one of the major topics during the 19th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Retreat in Vietnam’s capital Hanoi earlier this month.

Mustapa said the RCEP which involves ASEAN and its six trading partner is “one of the most ambitious regional economic integration initiatives in Asia.” “It is the collective will of all countries in Asia to work towards strengthening economic integration among them and at the same time contributing towards global economic growth,” he added.—Xinhua

Australian miner reports encouraging drilling in Botswana copper project

GABORONE, 22 March—Australian miner Discovery Metals has recorded an encouraging result at its NE Mango 2 prospect within the company’s prospect in the Kalahari Copperbelt in north-western Botswana.

Discovery Metals on Thursday said in a statement that a new drill hole beneath the inferred mineral resources at the NE Mango 2 confirms continuity of copper-silver mineralization to at least 575 Metres vertical depth.

“This hole has successfully delivered the planned outcome and demonstrated the continuity of high grade copper mineralization at depth, creating increased potential for underground

mining at NE Mango2,” said Discovery Metals’ Managing Director, Brad Sampson. According to the company, the drill hole extends continuity of copper mineralization down dip by more than 300 metres. “The copper-silver mineralization at NE Mango 2 prospect remains open to the south-west and at depth below 575 metres,” said the company.

The drilling results reported are from a deep hole drilled to test the extension of the NE Mango 2 deposit down-dip of the current inferred mineral resources.

NE Mango 2 is within the company’s prospecting licences in the Kalahari Copperbelt in north-west

Botswana and is located approximately 30 km from the Boseto concentrator.

The Boseto Copper project is being commissioned with the first copper-silver concentrate produced in June 2012. Planned production is approximately 36,000 tonnes of copper and more than 1 million ounces of silver per annum over an initial evaluated mine life of 15 years. The Kalahari Copperbelt sediment-hosted mineralization of the Boseto Copper Project is reported to be similar in style to the well-known and large deposits of the Central African Copperbelt of Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Xinhua

Four killed in US drone strike in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 March—At least four people were killed and one other was injured on Thursday night in a US drone attack in Pakistan’s northwestern tribal region of North Waziristan, local media reported.

According to the reports, the US unmanned plane targeted a house in Datta Khel area of North Waziristan, Pakistan’s restive tribal region bordering Afghanistan. The drone fired two missiles at the house that killed four people present inside while leaving one other injured.

The strike destroyed the house completely besides making cracks in the nearby buildings.

Soon after the attack local people rushed to the site and started rescue work as there is no official rescue service available in the area.

Thursday’s strike is the second in the current month.

Earlier on 10 March, a US drone targeted a house in the Tehsil Boya area of the same region and killed two persons.

It is also the 10th strike of its kind in Pakistan’s northwestern tribal areas since the start of the current year, killing 64 people in total including two al-Qaeda linked commanders.

US-led NATO forces fighting in Afghanistan claim that Pakistan’s bordering areas especially North Waziristan and South Waziristan are the safe havens for the militants who allegedly attack NATO forces in Afghanistan.

Pakistan has been protesting and expressing its reservations over such attacks, terming them as the violation of its sovereignty but US authorities considered it a useful strategy to hit militants hiding in hilly areas.—Xinhua



Firefighters fight against a forest fire in Wuzhou City, south-west China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 21 March, 2013. The fire broke out at around 17:00 on Thursday. XINHUA

Bomb blast kills three, wounds two in N Afghan town

TALUQAN, (Afghanistan), 22 March—A bomb went off in Ashkamish District of Takhar Province 245 km north of Kabul on Thursday, killing three people including a district governor and injuring two others, police spokesman in the Province Abdul Khalil Asir confirmed.

“Abdul Manan Hakimi, governor of Ashkamish District along with two others were killed and two others sustained injuries as mine exploded near his house at 08:30 am local time today,” Asir told Xinhua.

The deadly incident happened minutes after the district governor came out of his home to go somewhere, he added.

It is the second blast in the conflict-ridden Afghanistan in a single day on Thursday. In the previous blast five people were killed and six others sustained injuries in Marja District of the southern Helmand Province.—Xinhua

Thai PM visits New Zealand, Papua New Guinea

BANGKOK, 22 March—Thai Premier on Thursday left Bangkok to visit New Zealand and Papua New Guinea during 21-25 March to strengthen bilateral relations, according to the Thai government’s website.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra is visiting New Zealand on Thursday through Sunday and Papua New Guinea on Sunday and Monday at the invitation of New Zealand Prime Minister John Key and Prime Minister Peter O’Neill of Papua New Guinea.

Ministers who accompanied Yingluck include Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Surapong Tovichakchaikul, Commerce Minister Boonsong Teriyapirom and representatives from the Thai private sector in the fields of energy, green business, medical tourism, construction, education, and food.

Yingluck’s official visit to New Zealand is aimed at strengthening bilateral relations on the occasion of the 57th anniversary of

the diplomatic relations between Thailand and New Zealand. The Thai Premier is set to have a meeting with the New Zealand Premier.

The discussion will cover cooperation expansion in the areas of sciences, agricultural and food management, education, labour promotion, tourism and film industry.

On this occasion, Auckland University of Technology (AUT) will confer on Yingluck honorary doctorate degree for her remarkable role as the first elected female Prime Minister of Thailand.

On Sunday and Monday (24-25 March), Yingluck and the delegation will visit Papua New Guinea which will be the first state visit of a Thai premier and a significant implementation of relations with the country in the south pacific islands.

The main objective of the visit is to launch a new market for Thai consumer products and to seek opportunities for infrastructure

development investment since Papua New Guinea, though a country rich in natural resources, still lacks investment in the area.

Yingluck will have a bilateral meeting with her counterpart, Prime Minister Peter O’Neill. The discussion will cover issues on strengthening bilateral relations, development of cooperation in trade and investment, energy, and academics, as well as multilateral cooperation.—Xinhua



Rescuers search for the missing people after a ferry sank on the Minjiang River in Xiadao Township, Nanping City, east China’s Fujian Province, on 21 March, 2013. Eleven people have been confirmed dead and four others are missing after the ferry sank on Wednesday. The ferry sank soon after it was turned over by sudden high wind and heavy rainstorm. XINHUA



Indonesian people gather outside the State Secretariat building as smoke rises in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 21 March, 2013. Indonesia’s State Secretariat building caught fire on Thursday afternoon. There was no further information about the cause and casualty. XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (152)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (152) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FU KANG SHAN VOY NO (109)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FU KANG SHAN VOY NO (109) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2013 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: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

**MV HHL HAMBURG VOY NO
(20139007)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HHL HAMBURG VOY NO (20139007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S HANSA HEAVY LIFT (ASIA)
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE**

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 26th MARCH 2013 (Fullmoon day of Tabaung) and 27th MARCH 2013 (Armed Forces Day), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on payment as Holiday Fees.

Shaodan, a Chinese teacher of Confucius Institute, teaches Chinese at a secondary school, 40 km east of Pretoria, South Africa, on 25 Feb, 2013. In recent years, Africa has witnessed a growing passion for the Chinese language and increasing requests to set up Chinese teaching institutions. To cater to this growing need, China opened the Confucius Institute at the University of Nairobi in 2005, the first of its kind in Africa. The latest figure shows that there are 31 Confucius Institutes and 5 Confucius Classrooms in Africa as of September 2012. —XINHUA

**For Mr. Sue Songkittikul (a) Ken Mok (a) Mo Jian Min
(Thai passport number: B829874) and public notice**

Under instruction of Chief Executive Officer Mr. Steve Yan by Email and U Sai Aik Aung (13 / La Ya Na (Naing) 086290), Director of Mian Xin Myanmar Mining Services Group Limited at No. 396, Between 13th and 14th Street, Quarter (3), South Okkalapa Township, Yangon, Myanmar, it is hereby notified the resolution of Hong Kong based H.Q to let know by Mr. Sue Songkittikul (a) Ken Mok (a) Mo Jian Min and public Notice.

Mian Xin Myanmar Mining Group Limited ("the Company"), is a company incorporated in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with Certificate of Incorporation (temporary) No.187FC/2012-2013.

The directors and shareholders of the Company suspected that several inappropriate actions, such as illegal behaviors and using of factitious documents, have been done by MR.SUE SONGKITTIKUL (a) KEN MOK (a) MO JIAN MIN (Thai passport number: B829874) the Director of the Company, during the incorporation and daily operation of the Company and these activities have seriously damaged the shareholder's interests. Now, the board of directors and shareholders of the Company resolved that:

(1) Mr. Sue Songkittikul be and was hereby removed as Managing Director, together with all other positions taken by him, of the Company with immediate effect;

(2) Mr. Sue Songkittikul be and was hereby requested to terminate immediately all his actions that may damage shareholders interests, such actions included but not limited to the moving Company's documents and assets out from the registered office of the Company without proper approval from the board of directors, damaging the Company's assets with suspected factitious documents.

(3) Mr. Sue Songkittikul be and was hereby requested to return the Common Seal and Director Seal as well as any other assets of the Company to the authorised representative appointed by the Company immediately. Mian Xin Myanmar Mining Group Limited declares that : The inappropriate actions, such as suspected illegal personal behavior and co-operation with third parties by the name of Company, done by Mr. Sue Songkittikul during his employment as Managing Director of Mian Xin Myanmar Mining Group Limited, were not authorised by the board of directors. The Company should take no responsibility arose from these illegal actions. Mr. Sue Songkittikul should take the responsibilities for all his personal behavior and the Mian Xin Myanmar Mining Group Limited and their shareholders reserve the right to take legal action against Mr. Sue Songkittikul for loss and damaged suffered.

Under Instruction

Aung Than
Advocate

No. 50, Bank Street, 1st Floor, A / 7,
Kyauktada Township, Yangon

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HOANG ANH VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HOANG ANH VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MIT CORPORATION
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1312)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1312) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-
SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



**HK Customs seizes 1 kg
ketamine at Sha Tau Kok**

HONG KONG, 22 March —Hong Kong Customs said Friday that 1 kilogram of ketamine with a market value of 120,000 HK dollars were seized at the Sha Tau Kok Control Point on 21 March.

Hong Kong Customs officers intercepted an incoming male passenger at Sha Tau Kok Control Point on Thursday morning and found the drugs wrapped at his waist and legs.

TRADE MARK CAUTION
SANOFI, a Company incorporated in France, of 54, rue La Boetie, 75008 Paris, France, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

JAGAZAR

Reg. No. 13078/2012

in respect of "Int'l Class 5: Pharmaceutical products for the treatment of auto-immune diseases, inflammatory diseases, rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylarthritis".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for SANOFI

P. O. Box 60, Yangon

makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm

Dated: 23 March 2013

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the best
out of
others
when you
give the
best
yourself**

ENTERTAINMENT & ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (010)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (010) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (025)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (025) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Tom Cruise and Olga Kurylenko will be seen together in the film Oblivion, which will hit the theatres on 19 April.

Tom Cruise eyeing Bond girl Olga Kurylenko?

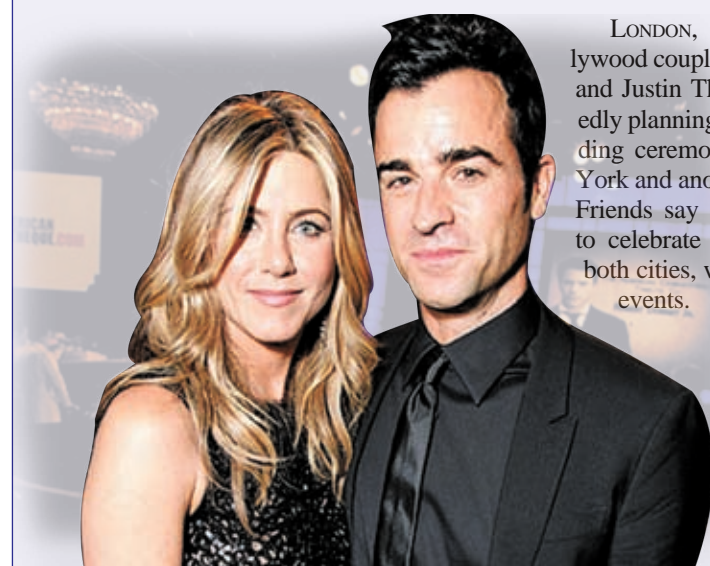
LONDON, 22 March—Former Bond Girl Olga Kurylenko has reportedly caught the eye of Tom Cruise after starring together in Oblivion.

Tom Cruise, who split from wife Katie Holmes last year, has been quietly laying the groundwork after meeting the 33-year-old Ukrainian beauty on the sets of their new film.

The pair are about to tour to promote the film, in which 50-year-old Tom Cruise is a veteran soldier who must destroy the remains of an alien race and Kurylenko is a mysterious woman he rescues from a spaceship crash, reported Sun online.

The junket means they're going to be spending a fair amount of time together. "Tom's smitten with Olga, she speaks several languages, is funny and gorgeous to boot."—PTI

Jennifer Aniston may have two 'his and hers' weddings



LONDON, 22 March—Hollywood couple Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux are reportedly planning to have two wedding ceremonies, one in New York and another in California. Friends say the couple intend to celebrate their marriage in both cities, with 'his and hers' events.

"Justin grew up in New York, most of his family are on the

East Coast, so rumour is that after 'Jen's wedding' in California, there will be something in New York," a source was quoted telling the UK issue of Grazia magazine. "There's certainly going to be a wedding party on the East Coast. It might not even be until the summer, but Justin has taken charge of his side of the organization and is really getting into it. He's arranging live music and the theme is going to be very rock 'n' roll," the source added.—PTI

Jennifer Aniston who is all set to wed Justin Theroux, plans to have two wedding ceremonies in two different cities.—PTI

Amitabh Bachchan: Make films on real subjects

MUMBAI, 22 March—Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan says filmmakers should be more driven to make projects based on real life subjects, which affect the society.

Big B shared the thought on his blog post after meeting a girl named



Amitabh Bachchan

Kankana, who is making a documentary on violence against women, and has sought the 70-year-old veteran's video byte for it. He is impressed with the effort.

"It is a brave effort on her part to construct a subject through film, her first, on a subject that is

so prevalent in society today, and one that needs to be addressed immediately. Good luck to her. Directors should come up with more films on real subjects," Mr Bachchan posted in his blog.—PTI

Robert Pattinson is "nervous" about reuniting with Kristen Stewart

NEW DELHI, 22 March—26-year-old actor Robert Pattinson, who has been filming his upcoming movie The Rover in Australia since the beginning of February, has just weeks left on location and the British heartthrob is reportedly anxious and nervous about returning to Los Angeles to face his on/off girlfriend Kristen Stewart.

A source revealed to RadarOnline.com: "The set really is in the middle of nowhere, a good drive from Adelaide, so it's been the ideal setting for him to forget all his troubles and bury himself in his work."

After filming, Robert's been keen to socialise with the cast and crew and loves being in the outback, away from city life. It's the peace and quiet he has needed since

his relationship woes

with Kristen, and the perfect way to re-evaluate things.

"But, with just short of three weeks left of filming, Robert's beginning to get nervous about returning to LA and Kristen. He left in frosty circumstances and needs to make a decision on what to do next."

While Rob has been working down under, 22-year-old Kristen — who cheated on him with married director Rupert Saunders last year — has been spending time with her friend and Twilight co-star Taylor Lautner in a hope the hunk will have advice on how she can win Rob back for good.

PTI



Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart.

Serena wins first match back as number one



MIAMI, 22 March—Serena Williams, playing her first match since regaining the world number one ranking, made a triumphant start to the Sony Open, thumping Italy's Flavia Pennetta 6-1, 6-1 on Thursday.

Playing her first match after a bye in the opening round, Williams made a sloppy start, hitting two double faults in her opening service game, but was unstoppable once she found her rhythm.

"I think I was off, footwork-wise, but it's always good to win a match and then just keep going," Williams said. "There's nothing like when they announce you and they say, 'the number one player in the world.'"

"It definitely gives me a little bit more confidence, I think a little bit more pep in your step. It's just a great feeling." At 31, Williams is already the oldest woman to reach the top of the rankings but says she feels as young as ever and has lost none of her motivation as she chases a sixth Sony Open title.

"Growing up this was dubbed the fifth grand slam — it's not a grand slam, but it's definitely a great tournament," Williams said.

"It would be really cool to have the record. But I have a lot of matches to play these two weeks." China's Li Na also made a flying start to the tournament, winning her first match since losing in the

Australian Open final.

Li, beaten by Victoria Azarenka in Melbourne, reeled off the last 10 points of the match to beat Kiki Bertens of the Netherlands 6-3, 6-1. "My game was pretty good today," said Li. "I followed the plan of what I should do."

Defending champion Agnieszka Radwanska fired down six aces in a 6-3, 6-2 win over Taipei's Hsieh Su-Wei. "I will do everything to hold the trophy again," said the Pole. "Winning this tournament is almost like winning a grand slam."

Former Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova and ex-world number one Caroline Wozniacki also won, but both had to fight all the way.

Kvitova rallied from a set down to beat Peng Shuai 5-7, 6-2, 6-2 while Wozniacki did the same to beat Czech qualifier Karolina Pliskova 5-7, 6-3, 6-3.

Reuters

Football needs a black Mourinho, says Milan's Boateng

MILAN, 22 March—AC Milan midfielder Kevin-Prince Boateng, who led a walk-off in a club friendly in January after being racially abused, believes the game needs to be more multi-cultural. The Ghanaian player has since decided his protest in the match against Italian fourth-tier side Pro Patria was not the right thing to do but, ahead of a meeting with FIFA president Sepp Blatter, Boateng said drastic changes were needed.

"If it's more multicultural, it gets more people and more countries involved and these things can help," former Portsmouth player Boateng was quoted as saying by the BBC on Thursday.

"Let's hope that soon there's going to be a black (Jose) Mourinho and Pakistani (Pep) Guardiola," he added in reference to Real Madrid coach Mourinho

and former Barcelona manager Guardiola.

Harsher penalties are also needed for racist players, said Boateng.

"A player who does something wrong, who is racist, can never play for the club again or can never play in the country again," he added.

"These are the things that hurt and I think this is the right way to go. (It needs to be) very

strict, very hard and make it very clear. Money doesn't really hurt, it's not the subject that can hurt you so much."

English football's reputation has suffered from players being accused of racism with Chelsea's John Terry fined 220,000 pounds by the FA in September for racially abusing Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand in October 2011.

Reuters



AC Milan's Kevin-Prince Boateng reacts at the end of the team's Champions League match against Barcelona at the San Siro stadium in Milan on 20 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

Klinsmann cool about criticism, vows to continue change

DENVER, 22 March—Juergen Klinsmann shrugged off criticism of his work as US national team coach on Thursday and said he welcomed debate over the team's performance as a sign of soccer's growth in the country.

Klinsmann came under fire from anonymous critics in an article published by the *Sporting News* on Tuesday and while he was clearly unhappy at not knowing where the sniping had come from he took a relaxed approach to the issue.

"Obviously, I prefer if people have any problems, that they come to me and talk to me about it," he said ahead of Friday's World Cup qualifier against Costa Rica.

"The so-called anonymous quotes, there is no way to know who said it. Is it a player, is it an agent, whoever? But it doesn't distract us at all."

The criticism emerged after the US lost their opening game in the final CONCACAF qualifying stage 2-1 to Honduras last month but Klins-

mann said he was comfortable with opinions.

"It's just part of our environment. Journalists and people can say whatever they feel, whatever they believe, which I think is important," said Klinsmann.

"It's a great sign. All the debates are going on in soccer in this country. It shows that people care. It shows that people really question things. People maybe get worried about we lost one game in Honduras, one out of 10 games in all. But you take that as a positive sign."

Some of the critics have questioned whether the German has tried to move too fast with new ideas and new methods during the qualifying process for Brazil 2014 but Klinsmann said change was a key part of his job.

"It is normal that we have had to move players out of comfort zones, we have to introduce them to different methods because we want to make them better," said Klinsmann.

Reuters

US soccer coach Juergen Klinsmann poses during an interview with Reuters in southern California on 31 Dec, 2011. —REUTERS

Rose outshines Woods to grab lead at Bay Hill

ORLANDO, (Florida), 22 March—Briton Justin Rose returned a seven-under 65 to grab the first-round lead at the Arnold Palmer Invitational on Thursday, while Tiger Woods got his bid for an eighth Bay Hill title off to a solid start.

Helped by a red-hot putter, Rose outshone playing partners Woods and South African Ernie Els by mixing an eagle and six birdies with a single bogey on a sunny but chilly and blustery day at "Arnie's place."

"It was a good round of golf, I kept myself out of trouble for the most part which is tough to do here at Bay Hill," Rose told reporters. "I thought I put together a clever round of golf and capitalized with the putter today. That's as good of a putting round I've had in a long, long time."

Playing the back nine

first, Rose got off to a stuttering start with a bogey at the 11th but it would be his only blemish in an otherwise sparkling round highlighted by an eagle at the par-five 16th and four straight birdies from the fourth to leave him two clear of American John Huh.

Huh spoiled an error-free round and missed a chance to join Rose atop the leaderboard when he bogeyed his final hole, the par-four ninth, after dropping six birdies for a 67. Lurking a further stroke back on 68 are American John Rollins and Canadian Brad Fritsch.

Woods, who can reclaim the number one world ranking from Rory McIlroy with a win on Sunday, was not at his best but battled to a three-under 69 to headline a pack of 10 golfers four shots off the lead.

Woods feasted on Bay Hill's par fives, carding three



birdies and an eagle on the four holes but the defending champion undid much of his good work with back-to-back bogeys at 17 and 18.

"I certainly didn't play my best, but I got around and made a few good saves out there," said Woods, who is a staggering 118-under on the Bay Hill par fives over his career. "It was so cool and the ball wasn't flying, and it

Britain's Justin Rose hits out of the bunker on the 15th hole during first round play in the Arnold Palmer Invitational PGA golf tournament in Orlando, Florida on 21 March, 2013.

REUTERS

presented a pretty good challenge.

"Days happen like this. It was cool this morning, and it just didn't work out but I scored well and I kept myself in the tournament."

With his confidence surging, Woods was unfazed by his uneven play, and with good reason having won seven times at Bay Hill.

Reuters



FIFA President Sepp Blatter attends a news conference at the Home of FIFA in Zurich, on 19 March, 2013.—REUTERS

played in June and July.

"This has never been put into question by the organizers, who have been given the responsibility.—Reuters

FIFA "not losing control" of 2022 World Cup, says Blatter

ZURICH, 22 March—FIFA has not lost control over the 2022 World Cup, president Sepp Blatter said on Thursday in response to ongoing controversy over whether the tournament should be staged in the European summer as planned.

Blatter reiterated that any request to change the timing of the event to cooler months would have to come from the organizers themselves.

He could not predict whether such a request would lead to a legal challenge from any of the countries who lost out to Qatar in the vote held in December 2010.

"We are not losing control with the World Cup, or 2022," he told a news conference at FIFA headquarters.

"Concerning the 2022 World Cup, discussions started at the time when the

decision was taken and then people have realized that when playing summer will be difficult because it is very hot."

"But the basic principles of the award of the World Cup were very clear and have not changed in the meantime.

"They are still the same, FIFA's World Cup is a competition with 32 teams and 64 matches, and has to be

GENERAL



Guests visit the LEGO MINILAND of Manhattan's iconic landmarks that have been reconstructed from nearly one million LEGO bricks at LEGOLAND® Discovery Centre in Westchester, New York, the United States, on 21 March, 2013. The newly-built LEGOLAND® Discovery Centre will open on 27 March.—XINHUA

Truck crash in Texas kills six suspected illegal immigrants

HOUSTON, 22 March—Six people believed to be undocumented immigrants were killed and nine others injured when a truck being pursued by police made a sudden turn and crashed into a security barrier at a US Navy base in Texas, local officials confirmed on Thursday.

The accident happened late Wednesday at the Naval Air Station Kingsville, in Kleber County, as a Kingsville police officer was chasing the pickup truck through the town, the *Houston Chronicle*, a local newspaper, quoted Charlie Ramirez with the Texas Department of

Transportation as saying. The vehicle did not stop at the guard gate when it attempted to enter the naval air base, and “the pop-up guards were activated to prevent anybody from entering the base itself,” said Ramirez. “The pickup ran into it.”

Xinhua

Italy's Balotelli upstages Neymar in Brazil draw

GENEVA, 22 March—Italy striker Mario Balotelli left his Brazil counterpart Neymar in the shadows as he capped an inspiring performance with a majestic goal in a 2-2 international friendly draw on Thursday.

Balotelli curled an unstoppable shot past Julio Cesar as Italy recovered from 2-0 down at halftime to deny Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari his first win since being reappointed for a second stint in November.

Neymar, 21, billed as Brazil's great hope for the future, cleverly set up their second goal for Oscar but was not in the same class as the mercurial Balotelli.

Brazil, showing signs of a more physical approach under their 2002 World Cup-winning coach Scolari, produced flashes of flair and lots of bruising tackles as they improved on



Italy's Mario Balotelli (R) celebrates scoring a goal with team mate Daniele De Rossi during their international friendly match against Brazil at the Stade de Geneve in Geneva on 21 March, 2013.—REUTERS

their display in last month's 2-1 defeat by England at Wembley.

Brazil remain unbeaten against Italy since their infamous 3-2 loss at the 1982 World Cup but will be more worried about whether they can build a

title-winning team in time for the 2014 tournament which they host.

Scolari saw improvements from the England performance after an end-to-end match between two teams committed to attack.

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(23-3-13 09:30 am ~ 24-3-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Myanmar Upstream Summit 2013
- * Versatile Toddy Palms
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Teashop Culture
- * First Come First Practice
- * “Great Shwedagon” Charitable Associations
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Radiant Barrier Products Introduction Enviro- Tuff
- * A Proof of Media Freedom
- * Fresher Welcome of Shan Literary and Culture Committee
- * News
- * Tea Shop Culture
- * First Come First Practice
- * News
- * Humanity and Hope to Art
- * Myanmar International Trade and Investment Summit 2013
- * Myanmar Movies “A Glimpse at Love”

Myanmar TV

(23-3-2013, Saturday)

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| <p>7:00 am
1. PParitta By Venerable MinGun Sayadaw</p> <p>7:25 am
2. Health Programme</p> <p>7:30 am
3. Morning News</p> <p>7:40 am
4. International News</p> <p>7:45am
5. People Talks</p> <p>8:05 am
6. Poem Garden</p> <p>8:20 am
7. Documentary</p> <p>8:30 am
8. Teleplay (SEA Games)</p> <p>11:05 am
9. Musical Programme</p> <p>11:15 am
10. Game For Children</p> <p>11:40 am
11. Round Up Of The Week's TV local News</p> <p>12:30 pm
12. Song of National Races</p> <p>1:05 pm
13. Sweet Songs for you</p> <p>4:00 pm
14. Opening Song</p> <p>4:10 pm
15. Cultural Dances</p> <p>4:15 pm
16. Teleplay (Health)</p> | <p>4:50 pm
17. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second year (History)</p> <p>5:05 pm
18. Songs For Upholding National Spirit</p> <p>5:30 pm
19. Beautiful ASEAN</p> <p>5:40 pm
20. “Road to 27th SEA Games”</p> <p>6:00 pm
21. Evening News</p> <p>6:15 pm
22. Weather Report</p> <p>6:20 pm
23. Celebrity and Dinner</p> <p>7:00 pm
24. News</p> <p>7:10 pm
25. TV Drama Series</p> <p>8:00
26. News</p> <p>27. International News
28. Weather Report</p> <p>29. Centenary of A One Soe Myint (Composer)
30. TV Drama Series</p> <p>10:00 pm
31. News</p> <p>32. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn</p> |
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UN chief calls for better use of water, more cooperation

UNITED NATIONS, 22 March—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Thursday called for a more intelligent use and less waste of water resources, as well as better water cooperation to promote sustainable development.

“Water holds the key to sustainable development. We need it for health, food security and economic progress,” Ban said in a message marking the World Water Day, which falls on Friday.

In the message, the UN chief warned: “One in three people already lives in a country with moderate to high water stress, and by 2030 nearly half the global population could be facing water scarcity.”

More than half of the world population depend daily on water resources shared by more than one country, and 90 percent of the global population live in countries that share river or lake basins. However, 60 percent of the world's 276 international river basins lack any type of cooperative management framework, according to UN figures.

“Climate change and

the needs of populations growing in size and prosperity mean we must work together to protect and manage this fragile, finite resource,” Ban said. “Agriculture is by far the largest user of freshwater, and there is growing urgency to reconcile its demands with the needs of domestic and industrial uses, especially energy production.”

This year is the International Year of Water Cooperation, which seeks to provide a platform for countries to collaborate in the management of water resources in the interest of peace and development. The UN General Assembly proclaimed the year in 2010, following a proposal from Tajikistan.

It is expected to raise awareness and prompt action on the multiple dimensions of water cooperation, such as sustainable and economic development, climate change and food security.

“We cannot prosper without clean, plentiful freshwater,” Ban stressed. “Let us use it more intelligently and waste less so all get a fair share.”—Xinhua

Khartoum orders to resume Juba's oil exportation

KHARTOUM, 22 March—Sudanese petroleum authority ordered Thursday oil companies operating in the country to take measures to resume South Sudan's oil exportation.

Sudan's Oil Minister Awad Ahmed Al-Jaz

required oil companies to take appropriate measures to reprocess, transport and export oil from South Sudan, the official radio reported.

The Sudanese parliament has recently announced the resumption of pumping South Sudan's oil through

Sudan's oil pipeline as of next Sunday, in accordance with the agreement inked between Khartoum and Juba in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Khartoum and Juba have been disputing over the fees which South Sudan was supposed to pay for

exporting its oil through Sudan's oil infrastructure.

In January 2012, Juba decided to halt its oil exportation through Sudanese territories after Khartoum deducted oil fees arrears in the form of crude oil.—Xinhua

Reuters

Sixth session of Pyithu Hluttaw ends



Hluttaw Representative U Soe Win from Sanchaung Constituency raising queries.—MNA



Deputy Health Minister Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay answering queries. MNA



Hluttaw Representative U Myint Soe from Pyawbwe Constituency asking questions.

MNA



Hluttaw Representative U Htay Win from Lewe Constituency shooting questions.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March— MPs of Pyithu Hluttaw discussed today health hazards caused by ultraviolet rays to the people, teaching democratic practices to students, efforts

for drafting a bill for farmers' and labours' rights were discussed and vacant seats of Pyithu Hluttaw committees and commissions were settled with MPs during the final day meeting of the sixth regular

session of Pyithu Hluttaw that ended today with concluding remarks by Speaker of the Hluttaw.

U Soe Win of Sangyoung Constituency asked **whether the ministry concerned has**

disseminated knowledge on the dangers of the ultraviolet rays which is currently hitting some cities including Yangon.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Thein Thein

Htay also suggested to monitor and released the information on the dangers of the rays and to disseminate knowledge in that regard.

Deputy Minister for Information U Paik Htwe replied that people are alerted through state-owned mass media such as MRTV, radio and daily newspapers and weekly journals to follow the preparedness measures against excessive heat and ultraviolet rays. The articles and perspectives of the newspapers also carried such kinds of warning.

U Myint Soe of Pyawbwe Constituency asked **whether curriculum for the students can be included international democratic practices** and Dr Myat Aye, Union Minister for Education replied that respective teachers are teaching democratic norms and practices that recognize

the majority's wishes and provide peace of mind and happiness to students at universities, degree colleges and schools.

U Htay Win of Lewe Constituency asked **the progress of drafting the bill for farmers' and labours' rights** and the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw replied that the legal affairs and special cases assessment commission of Pyithu Hluttaw is working to write the bill. In the concluding remarks, the Speaker expressed thanks to MPs for their active participation in reviewing and amending the bills and projects of the Union Government in the interests of the people. He also stressed the need for enacting the law for farmers' and workers' rights in upcoming seventh session of Pyithu Hluttaw.

The meeting ended at 12.15 pm.—MNA

House Speaker: lawmakers should stand out and speak what they believe

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March— Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint called on lawmakers to have "self-confidence and courage to speak out what they believe", in his concluding remark to the final session of the Amyotha Hluttaw today.

He cited a lawmaker who asked Amyotha Hluttaw only for documentation of his proposal while discussing it during a parliamentary session, criticizing the "shakiness" of the belief he/she took and held. "What's

the point of putting forward a proposal if you dare not face the decision of the parliament?," said he who demanded the lawmakers to meet the must-have qualities.

The Amyotha Hluttaw is constituted with 12 representatives each from 14 regions and states, said the Speaker stressing its obligation to take care of the issues of regions and states as priority.

He expressed sympathy for ethnic representatives, whose proposals on national

racial affairs were rejected though should be approved. He demanded that a lawmaker needs to act on his own with his thinking power and rationalization, and should not follow the majority in whatever cases.

He believes that the interests of the national races people should be placed at the fore.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw final session in progress.

MNA



Public urged to cooperate with authorities to avoid escalation of violence

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—According to the latest report this evening, the official death toll in Meiktila communal violence has reached 11 while 39 other were wounded.

The riot also left 152 houses, two vehicles, one education officer's

office building, one motor bike, two three-wheel motorbikes, 13 religious buildings damaged, it is reported.

State of emergency has been imposed in four townships in Meiktila District for earliest restoration of order with issuance of

ordinance No. 1/2013 by the President Office.

The public is urged to cooperate with authorities concerned to avoid escalation of tensions and to expose those who led and attempted to instigate violence, arson, killings, and ransacking.

MNA



Exchange of notes for Japan's Grant Aid Projects signed

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—Japanese Ambassador Mr Mikio Numata and Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Daw Khin San Yi yesterday attended the signing ceremony of 11 exchanges of notes worth US\$ 215 million as Japan's grant assistance to Myanmar for 2012 amounting to approximately US\$ 273 million.

Among seven projects of 11, the first project funded with US\$ 10.6 million will be implemented for strengthening human development institutions in agriculture for Yezin Agriculture University, the second project funded with US\$ 12 million for improvement of medical

equipment in hospitals in Yangon and Mandalay, the third with US\$ 40.4 million for establishment of disastrous weather monitoring system in Yangon, Kyaukpyu and Mandalay, the fourth with US\$ 12.9 million for improvement of nationwide airport safety and security in Yangon, Mandalay, Nyaung U, Heho, Tada U and Dawei, the fifth with US\$ 70.2 million for rehabilitation of Beluchaung No 2 Hydropower Plant, the sixth with US\$ 12.3 million for upgrading ferryboat in Yangon city and the seventh with US\$ 8 million for road construction and maintenance equipment in Kayin State.

With regard to four more projects, plan to spend

US\$ 7.36 million on the programme for development and rehabilitation of community in ethnic minority areas in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, US\$ 13.7 million on programme for strengthening local governance capacity, livelihoods and social cohesion in ethnic minority areas in Rakhine, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Shan and Chin States, US\$ 21 million on project of food aid in ethnic areas in Rakhine, Kachin, Kayin, Kayah, Mon and Shan States and Taninthayi Region and US\$ 6.9 million on programme for assistance to displaced persons in ethnic minority areas in Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Shan, Kayah and Mon States.—NLM