

# The New Light of Myanmar

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## Myanmar, Norway to cooperate in hydropower generation

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Minister of Trade and Industry Mr Trond Giske and party of Norway at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Their discussions focused on political, economic, social reform process of Myanmar, environmental conservation, establishment of labour-intensive factories and workshops, mutual cooperation in information technology and communication sectors by establishing factories and

workshops, investment and establishment of SME factories and workshops to manufacture value-added products based on natural products and cooperation of Norwegian companies in generating hydropower.

Also present at the call were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thane, Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw and officials.

The Norwegian Minister and party were accompanied by



*President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein poses for a documentary photo with Minister of Trade and Industry Mr Trond Giske and party.—MNA*

Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Katja Nordgaard and embassy staff.—MNA

## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets scouts, Norwegian Trade and Industry Minister



*Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann delivers speech in meeting with scouts at Hluttaw Hall.*

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann met 530-member scout team led by Scouts Organization Chairman U Tin Nyo (Retd Director-General) at Pyithu Hluttaw Meeting Hall this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Chairperson of the Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo and personnel from Hluttaw Office.

The Speaker called for love and loyalty towards the

motherland, urging them to turn themselves into good citizens. He also spoke of the need to train oneself to have a sense of discipline, morality, and competency.

He representing the parliament vowed to serve better the interests of the nation and the citizens, restating that qualities of lawmakers would be improved to take greater part in State-building and reform processes. To become a good citizen, he said, youths always try to equip themselves with good moral, discipline and qualification. In so doing, youths need to value the time and work with diligence. Cooperation

is also crucial. It needs to cultivate good habits for mutual respects and cooperation. He called on them to work for individual, local and public interests. He urged youths to do their bit in the process of country's development.

After that, Chairperson of the Committee for the Rule of Law and Tranquility Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

and Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa explained scouting experience. A student and the group leader spoke words of thanks.

*(See page 8)*

*Singapore-Myanmar Business Forum in progress at Sedona Hotel in Yangon.*

MNA

## Singapore-Myanmar Business Forum held

YANGON, 4 April—In his opening address at Singapore-Myanmar Business Forum held at Sedona Hotel, here, this morning, Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin said that President U Thein Sein's visit to Singapore in 2012 had opened a new chapter for further cooperation between Myanmar and Singapore.

He expressed his belief that the business forum could bring better cooperation to the two countries in making great strides for sustainable development in future.

Next, three agreements and two MoUs between the economic entities of Singapore and Myanmar were signed by officials.

Then Daw Khine Khine Nwe of the Republic of

the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry gave talks on economic opportunities in Myanmar.

The newly-opened International Enterprise (IE) Singapore Office is meant to help Singaporean companies invest in Myanmar.

Today's forum, jointly-organized by UMFCCI and Singapore Business Federation, was also attended by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, Singaporean Minister for Trade and Industry Mr Teo Ser Luck, the Myanmar and Singaporean ambassadors, President of Singapore Business Federation Mr Tony Chew and guests.—MNA



## Meiktila starts to come alive after days of fear



MEIKTILA, 4 April — With the restoration of peace and stability in Meiktila, patterns and regularities of social life of local people have returned to normalcy and the marketplace has become busy and full of activities in Meiktila, resuming their livelihoods peacefully. Victim families in relief camps also live freely and happily.

“We play football or

cane-ball together in the playground when we have free time in the morning and evening”, says a youth from BEHS No (1) relief camp.

Likewise, groups of youth in other relief camps— Institute of Education, District sports ground, BEPS No (16), BEHS No (3), BEHS No (5) and BEMS No (2)— are playing together joyfully.

Kyemon

## Four young vandals detained in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 4 April— As police members were informed that a traffic police box at the junction of 26<sup>th</sup> Street and 66<sup>th</sup> Street in Pyigy Myatshin ward of Chanayethazan Township, here, had been vandalized at about 3 am on 28 March, they rushed there and tried to arrest a group of young men who committed an act of vandalism.

Police arrested Aung Phyto Min, 18, and Min Ko Kyaw, 22, of Nann Oo Lwin Village of Patheingyi Township on a motorbike together with a three-foot and 1.5-inch iron rod on 19<sup>th</sup> street between 63<sup>rd</sup> street and 64<sup>th</sup> street at about 3.50 am.

## Gold shop robbery in Muse

MUSE, 4 April — An armed robbery happened to a gold shop called Shwe Linyaung at Sibinhaya Myoma Market in Muse of Shan State (North) at about 12.35 pm on 1 April.

Three masked men armed with two handguns

had robbed the gold shop and ran away after snatching 200 gold chains, other gold wares and K 5 million which were being kept in the counter and the counter drawer from the shop. No casualties were reported in the incident. They seemed



The remaining two young men— Htet Aung, 17, and Aung Ko Ko, 19, of Bukon village of Patheingyi Township— were detained together with a motorbike at about 4.10 am. The four

young men were charged with a crime of destroying the traffic police box and lines of wire of traffic control device and setting a traffic record book on fire by No (3) police station.—Kyemon

to have left here for the neighbouring country via an illegal border exit (Pan Kham ferry) as a motorbike they drove was left on the riverbank. It is learnt that the police captain of Muse District Police Force informed Kyalgaung Police Force of the robbery.

Kyemon

## Outstanding students make excursion tour to Patheingyi

PATHEINGYI, 4 April — Outstanding students who were in Pale Ngwehsaung recreation camp on the beach of Ngwehsaung made and excursion tour of around

Patheingyi on 2 April.

In the afternoon, they visited Kanthaya garden for recreation and had luncheon hosted by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U

Thein Aung and ministers at Royal Lake Hotel. Next, they visited Fertilizer Plant No (5) and Shwesar Patheingyi umbrella workshop on Tawakyaung street in

## Fire negligence reduces three houses to ashes

EINME, 4 April — A fire broke out at a house in Sarchunkhan ward of Einme Township in Ayeyawady Region at about 11.30 am on 1 April. The fire started from the house of Ko Chit Oo on Anawrahta street in the ward, destroying three houses. Fire crews led by Head of Einme Township

Fire Services Department U Than Zaw managed to bring the fire under control in cooperation with auxiliary fire brigade members and locals and the fire died down at about 11.45 am. Officials concerned presented supplies to fire victims and comforted them.

Kyemon

## Motorcyclist suffers serious injuries in collision with six-wheeled truck

MUSE, 4 April— A crash involved a six-wheeled truck and a motorbike occurred on Aungban-Ywangan-Han Myint Moh motorway at about 7.40 pm on 29 March, leaving a motorcyclist seriously wounded.

The loaded six-wheeled truck driven by Pyone Cho (a) Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing, 26, of Zaydan ward in Ywangan Township collided head-on with the motorbike driven

by Win Hlaing, 40, at a place between mile post No (24/5) and (24/6), three-mile north of Ywangan Township on Aungban-Ywangan-Han Myint Moh motorway.

The motorcyclist had got severe injuries to his head, left arm and right thigh. As the victim was in a critical condition, he was transferred to Mandalay General Hospital.—Kyemon

## Flocks of parrots destroy sunflower plantations in Toungoo Township

TOUNGOO, 4 April — Sunflowers plantations which are ready to harvest are being destroyed by flocks of parrots recently in Pade village-tract along the east bank of Sittoung River in Toungoo Township of Bago Region, making farmers difficult.

“These parrots have come in flocks since the previous month and we are always guarding our plantations with catapults in hands everyday”, says a local of Pade Village.

“Only one or two parrots come in the morning and after noon. But they come in flocks in the evening. We tried in vain to protect



our plantations by shooting at them with the catapults. They are very quick and smart in eating seeds from a plant of sunflower”, he added.

Local sunflower

growers voiced their concerns over the destruction of plantations by flocks of parrots, saying that there will be a drop in sunflower output.


Kyemon



Patheingyi. In the evening, they left for Pale Ngwehsaung

recreation camp together with officials and enjoyed the

scenic beauty of Ngwehsaung Beach.—Kyemon



**World Health Day**  
**7 April, 2013**  
**High Blood Pressure**

**Ministry of Health**

## Two passers-by make citizen's arrest to gold chain snatcher

YANGON, 4 April — Two staff of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees Office made a citizen's arrest on the pavement beside the People's Square and People's Park along U Wisaya road in Dagon Township at about 4.15 pm on 28 March.

While walking along U Wisaya road, Ma Tin Myo Khine, 24, of Hlinethaya Township who works for Shwedagon Pagoda development committee was robbed of her gold

chain by Kyi Kyi Tun, 32, of Kwatthit ward in Insein Township who snatched the 0.5 tical gold chain worth K 350000 from her and ran away.

As she shouted for help, passers-by Phyto Wai Lin and Tun Tun Win, staff of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees Office, ran after the snatcher and caught her. Kyi Kyi Tun was taken into police custody for snatching of gold chain and Dagon Township police station is investigating into the case.

Kyemon

## WORLD

## Italy parliament to begin voting on new president on 18 April

ROME, 4 April—Italy's parliament will begin voting to select a new president to replace Giorgio Napolitano on 18 April, a statement from lower house speaker Laura Boldrini said on Wednesday.

Napolitano, whose seven-year term ends in mid-May, has been struggling to break a

political deadlock since last month's election left no one with a workable majority, making it likely that the next president will inherit the impasse.

The president is elected by a joint sitting of the two houses of parliament together with representatives from Italy's regions.—Reuters



Italian President Giorgio Napolitano (front, L) meets the "wise men", a panel of experts he appointed to help find a way out of the political deadlock created by last month's election, at the Quirinale Palace in Rome, in this picture provided by the Italian Presidency Press Office on 2 April, 2013.—REUTERS

## Japan, US to start within the year process to return land to Okinawa

TOKYO, 4 April—Japan and the United States are set to start within the year process to return to Okinawa Prefecture some land used as US military facilities, a move that could facilitate the controversial plan to relocate a US air base within the island, a Japanese government source said on Wednesday.

Tokyo may announce that intention within this week at the earliest, the source said.

The two countries are negotiating conditions for the return, in hope of improving prospects for gaining local approval to relocate the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station from the city of Ginowan to a less populated coast area. That plan faces fierce local opposition.

The Japanese and US governments are awaiting a decision by the Okinawa Governor on whether to approve the Japanese government's application to reclaim land at the relocation site.

Tokyo and Washington apparently want to show a willingness to ease the burden on Okinawa, which has long hosted the bulk of US forces in Japan, by announcing the plan to begin the land

return process even before the governor decides whether to accept the land reclamation application, the source said.

People in Okinawa have urged the governments of both countries, if they are really considering the feelings of the local people, to move the Futenma base outside the prefecture, a view echoed by Okinawa Gov Hirokazu Nakaima.

Nakaima again rejected the current relocation plan when he met with Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga in Okinawa earlier in the day. He also told Suga, the top government spokesman, that he will take "significant time" before concluding whether to approve the application for land reclamation.

Officials in Tokyo and Washington are negotiating

## US official puts onus on Iran in upcoming nuclear talks

WASHINGTON, 4 April—Progress in this week's nuclear talks between Iran and six major powers depends on how Teheran responds to a proposal offered by the six in February, a senior US official said on Wednesday.

"How far we get ... depends on what the Iranians come back with in terms of a response on the substance to our proposal," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"There has been a very positive line out of Teheran on the talks so far. We hope that that positive talk will now be matched with some concrete responses and actions on the Iranian side," the official added.

The United States and its allies suspect Iran of using its civilian nuclear programme as a cover to develop atomic weapons. Iran denies this, saying its programme is entirely peaceful.

At 26-27 February talks with Iran in Almaty,

Kazakhstan, the six major powers — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — offered modest sanctions relief in return for Iran curbing its most sensitive nuclear work.

The senior US official put the onus on Iran to put forward a substantive response at Friday's talks in Kazakhstan, known informally as "Almaty II," but also played down the idea that this week's discussions constituted a last chance for Iran.

"I would hope that we're not at any last chance," said the official. "If we are not sure about how much we've gotten and whether we have gotten enough, we'll go back and consult with capitals before we reach any ultimate conclusion here".

"So I think we have time and space to consider what we hear," the official added. "We hope that they make concrete, substantive and



Top officials from the US, France, Germany, Britain, China, Russia and Iran take part in talks on Iran's nuclear programme in Almaty on 27 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

specific responses so that we can go to work."

In February, Western officials said the offer presented then by the six powers included an easing of a ban on trade in gold and other precious metals, and a relaxation of an import embargo on Iranian petrochemical products. They offered no details.

In exchange, a senior US official said, Iran would among other things have to suspend uranium enrichment to a fissile concentration of 20 percent at its Fordow

underground facility and "constrain the ability to quickly resume operations there."

This appeared to be a softening of a previous demand that Iran ship out its entire stockpile of higher-grade enriched uranium, which it says it needs to produce medical isotopes.

Iran says it has a sovereign right to enrich uranium for peaceful purposes, and wants to fuel nuclear power plants so it can export more oil.

Reuters

## Dutch gov't maintains ban on catching mitten crabs in polluted water

THE HAGUE, 4 April—The Dutch cabinet has decided to maintain the ban on catching mitten crabs in polluted waterways, the government announced on Wednesday. "The government considers the interests of public health a priority," State Secretary of Economic Affairs Sharon Dijksma and Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport Edith Schippers wrote in a letter to the parliament.

"The ban on catching crab in polluted waterways ensures that seriously polluted crab will not enter the market and excludes unacceptable risks to consumers," the letter said. The mitten crab fishing ban in the major Dutch rivers was installed in April 2011 because the dioxin content in the brown meat of the crab was detected to be very high, 40 to 100 times higher than in the white meat. Crabs from clean

areas such as the IJsselmeer lake were not banned and are safe to eat.

The mitten crab is on average about four times more polluted than eels from the same area, which are also banned. The fishermen who are affected by both fishing bans have been compensated by the government with an allowance for five years for the loss of net income from eels and mitten crabs.—Xinhua

## Freak weather causes temporary power outage, fires in Houston

HOUSTON, 4 April—Strong winds and lightning overnight were blamed for power outage and multiple sporadic fires in Houston, the US state of Texas, with tens of thousands of homes being affected. Strong storms swept through the Houston area on Tues-

day night and Wednesday morning, bringing with them hail, lightning and strong winds. At the height of the storms, more than 45,000 customers of energy delivery company, Centre-Point Energy, lost power, according to the local TV channel ABC13.

A series of fires were also caused by the winds and lightning around the Houston area, said the news report. No major damage or human loss was reported in the city, said the news report, quoting local officials.

Xinhua

## Kerry to visit Turkey, Israel before G-8 talks and trip to Asia

WASHINGTON, 4 April—US Secretary of State John Kerry will travel to Turkey and Israel ahead of the Group of Eight foreign ministers' meeting in Britain and his trip to Asian countries, the State Department said on Wednesday.

After his stopover in Turkey this weekend, Kerry will visit Israel on 8-9 April and join the G-8 meeting in London on 10-11 April before travelling to South Korea, Japan and China on 12-15 April, it said.

Kyodo News



An official of the quarantine station at Narita Airport near Tokyo displays a poster on 3 April, 2013, warning people arriving from China about recent H7N9 avian influenza infections in that country. KYODO NEWS

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## China's Baidu developing digital eyewear similar to Google Glass



The company logo of Baidu can be seen on its headquarters located in Beijing on 24 March, 2010.

REUTERS

SHANGHAI, 4 April—Baidu Inc (BIDU.O), China's largest search engine, is developing prototype digital eyewear similar to Google Inc's (GOOG.O) Google Glass that will leverage Baidu's strengths in image search and facial recognition, a Baidu spokesman said on Wednesday. Internally

known as project "Baidu Eye", the glasses are being tested internally and it is not clear whether the product will ever be commercialized, said Kaiser Kuo, Baidu's spokesman. Kuo said the device will be mounted on a headset with a small LCD screen and will allow users to make image and voice

searches as well as conduct facial recognition matches.

"What you are doing with your camera, for example, taking a picture of a celebrity and then checking on our database to see if we have a facial image match, you could do the same thing with a wearable visual device," Kuo said.

Baidu's first foray in wearable technology will draw comparisons to Google's Google Glass product, which is a piece of electronic eyewear that can live-stream images and audio and perform computing tasks. Earlier this year Google launched the Google Glass Explorer programme, opening up the eyewear for early enthusiasts to test. Kuo said comparisons to Google Glass were premature as Baidu has not decided whether or not to commercialize the product.

Reuters

## Zynga dives into Internet gambling, in the UK

SAN FRANCISCO, 4 April—Zynga Inc will take the plunge into real-money gambling on Wednesday when it will begin offering poker and casino-style games in Britain in partnership with Bwin party Digital Entertainment. The launch, announced on Tuesday, marks Zynga's first foray into online gambling, which it hopes can help reverse a steady decline in revenue as users dwindle for its older Facebook games like "Farmville". Shares in Zynga climbed 5.5 percent to \$3.24 in after-hours trade.

"ZyngaPlusPoker" and "ZyngaPlusCasino", available on the Web and as desktop applications to British-based gamblers, will allow Zynga to gauge interest among its core users for online betting on everything from poker to blackjack and roulette.

Zynga has also been

developing Facebook-based versions of those games, which could tap into the social network's vast pool of potential players, executives said during Zynga's fourth quarter earnings call.

The Facebook - and mobile-based games are expected to be announced in the coming months, a person

familiar with the matter said. Although real-money gaming remains illegal in most states in the United States, the largest online gaming market, Zynga has signaled to investors it could begin to make money in smaller, regulated markets while it waits for Washington lawmakers to pass federal



The corporate logo of Zynga Inc, the social network game development company, is shown at its Headquarters in San Francisco, California on 26 April, 2012.—REUTERS

## Google to sell second-gen Nexus 7 tablet from July



A Google employee poses with Nexus 7 tablets at a promotional event in Seoul on 27 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

TAIPEI, (China) 4 April—Google Inc will launch a new version of its Nexus 7 tablet powered by Qualcomm

Inc's Snapdragon processor around July, two sources told Reuters, as the software giant pushes deeper into the cut-price mobile hardware market.

Google is aiming to ship as many as eight million of the Asustek-made tablets in the second half of the year, throwing down the gauntlet to other low-end tablets such as Amazon.com Inc's Kindle Fire and Apple Inc's iPad mini, the sources with knowledge of the new product said. This is the first time details about the timing and sales targets for Google's new

tablet have been unveiled, although the company has not publicly released any information.

Google, which gets almost all of its revenue from online advertising, wants the aggressively priced Nexus tablets to be a hit as more Nexus users would mean more exposure for Google's ads. The latest version will have a higher screen resolution, a thinner bezel design and adopt Qualcomm's chip in place of Nvidia Corp's Tegra 3, which was used in the first Nexus 7s released last year, the sources said, declining

to be identified because they are not authorized to speak to the media. In a blow to Nvidia, Google weighed both US chipmakers' processors but finally decided on Qualcomm's for power reasons, one of the sources added. Qualcomm and Nvidia are competing aggressively in the tablet market as they seek to expand from their traditional strongholds of cellphones and PCs respectively. A Google spokesman declined to comment on its new tablet. Qualcomm and Nvidia also declined to respond to questions.—Reuters

## Australia expects to have more extreme weather due to climate change

CANBERRA, 4 April — Australia is expected to experience more and worse extreme weather as a result of climate change, said a new report released on Wednesday by the Climate Commission. Climate change is already increasing the intensity and frequency of extreme weather, including

heatwaves, fires, cyclones, heavy rainfall and drought in Australia, leading to worse droughts and more frequent flooding rains, the report said.

In the report, titled The Critical Decade: Extreme Weather, the commission noted that the global climate system is warmer and moister

than 50 years ago, with the extra heat making extreme weather events more frequent and severe.

This has resulted in the extreme bushfires and floods that have engulfed Australian communities in recent years. According to Bureau of Meteorology, the past summer was Australia's hottest, capped by the longest and most extreme heatwave on record.

The effects of extreme weather have a corresponding dramatic impact on communities and infrastructure, with the economic cost often running to billions of dollars. "Only strong preventative action now and in the coming years can stabilize the climate and halt the trend of increasing extreme weather for our children and grandchildren," the commission's Chief Commissioner Tim Flannery said.—Xinhua



People visit the National Museum of Scotland during the Edinburgh International Science Festival held in Edinburgh, Scotland, Britain, on 1 April, 2013. The 25th Edinburgh International Science Festival was held from 23 March to 7 April.—XINHUA

## Bouygues launches

## 4G service sales drive

PARIS, 4 April—Bouygues Telecom (BOUY.PA) will add 200 sales staff to its call centres after winning the right to re-use mobile frequencies once used for voice calls for superfast mobile broadband, its chief executive told *Le Figaro* newspaper. The move is a shift from last year's plan to cut over 500 jobs to cope with an intense price war brought on by the arrival of low-cost mobile group Iliad (ILD.PA).

Bouygues is benefiting from a decision similar to one by Britain's regulator last year allowing mobile operator EE to launch 4G services ahead of rivals over old mobile spectrum.

Bouygues CEO Olivier Roussat said France's third-largest mobile operator would launch 4G in a few weeks in eight cities including Strasbourg, Lille, Douai, Lyon, and Toulouse.

"Significant coverage" of the country would be

assured, he added, after 1 October—the date the government has authorized Bouygues to begin reusing its 1800 megahertz spectrum for 4G.

Like other European operators, Bouygues will seek to use the move to 4G, which offers download speeds up to five times faster than older technology, to lift prices.

Roussat criticized larger rival France Telecom (FTE.PA) for initially charging only 1 euro per month more for 4G, saying this "was not the best way to bring value back" to the sector. "We believe that 4G, which is a real technology breakthrough, adds around 5 euros of value, which should translate into the price," he said in an interview published on Wednesday. In a statement, the company said it would announce its 4G mobile plans in the coming weeks.—Reuters



A Bouygues Telecom company logo is seen on the facade of the Sequana tower, the company's headquarters, in Issy-Les-Moulineaux, near Paris.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

## Dow, S&P set record highs after pullback

NEW YORK, 4 April—US stocks bounced back on Tuesday from Monday's pullback, with both the Dow Jones Industrial Average index and S&P 500 closing at all-time highs, bolstered by strong gains in health insurance companies.

The blue-chip Dow also set another record intraday high of 14,684.49 points before paring early gains. The index jumped 89.16 points, or 0.61 percent, to 14,662.01.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500-stock Index surged 8.08 points, or 0.52 percent, to 1,570.25. The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite Index soared 15.69 points, or 0.48 percent, to 3,254.86. The

main stock indices opened higher, following a rally in the European stock market as worries about Cyprus situation eased. Some European stock exchanges closed on Easter Monday.

The market moved higher, boosted by leaping shares of health insurers which benefited from the Medicare Advantage rate revise announced by federal government on Monday. Shares of Humana surged 5.45 percent while UnitedHealth shares rose 4.70 percent. In addition, Aetna shares were up 3.67 percent.

Wall Street has been showing impressive resilience since the start of this year.



The market seemingly could rebound soon after a selloff as investors intended to buy a dip. On the economic front, new orders for US manufactured goods in February increased 3.0 percent, following a dip of 1.0 percent in the previous month, the Commerce Department reported on Tuesday.

The CBOE Volatility Index, considered the fear gauge of Wall Street, dipped 5.89 percent to 12.78. In corporate news, Verizon

shares gained 0.57 percent to 49.50 US dollars and AT&T shares rose 0.86 percent to 37.57 dollars after the two telecom giants have been reportedly working on a 245-billion-dollar break-up bid for Vodafone. If the deal succeeds, it would be the biggest takeover in history. Shares of Ford and General Motors advanced 0.85 percent and 0.47 percent respectively after posting increasing auto sales.

Xinhua

## Chile revises up growth forecast for 2013

SANTIAGO, 4 April—Chile's economy is expected to grow 4.5-5.5 percent, up from the 4.25-5.25 percent range predicted in last December, the central bank said on Tuesday.

In recent months, the Chilean economy has witnessed increased dynamism bolstered by strong domestic demand, the bank's President Rodrigo Verger told congress in a report.

As a result of consumption growth, the bank projected a current-account deficit of 4.4 percent of GDP in 2013.

The bank lowered its 2013 inflation forecast to 2.8 percent from an initial 2.9 percent, because the risk of

inflation was well-balanced, said the bank chief, while the market expects 3 percent inflation.

On copper, Chile's main export item, the bank forecast a market price of 3.5 US dollars per pound for 2013, and 3.4 dollars for 2014.

The bank expects a 50 million US dollar surplus in the 2013 trade balance, with total export-import volume amounting to some 80 billion US dollars.

Foreign investment in Chile is soaring. Foreign direct investment totaled 30.3 billion dollars last year, up 32.2 percent from the previous year. Most of the money went to the mining sector, according to the central bank.—Xinhua



Construction equipment sits next to signs advertising new condominium homes for sale in South San Francisco, California, on 22 Dec, 2009.—REUTERS

## Mortgage applications fell last week

NEW YORK, 4 April—Applications for home mortgages fell last week, as a decline in refinancing activity offset higher demand for purchase loans, an industry group said on Wednesday. The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted index of mortgage application activity, which includes both refinancing and home purchase demand, fell 4 percent in the week ended on 29 March. It was the lowest level since 15 March.

The MBA's seasonally adjusted index of refinancing

applications fell 5.6 percent, while the gauge of loan requests for home purchases, a leading indicator of home sales, rose 1.4 percent.

The refinance share of total mortgage activity fell to 74 percent of applications from 75 percent the week before.

Fixed 30-year mortgage rates averaged 3.76 percent in the week, down 3 basis points from 3.79 percent the week before. The survey covers over 75 percent of retail residential mortgage applications, according to MBA.—Reuters

## BOJ further eases monetary policy aiming at 2% inflation target

TOKYO, 4 April—The Bank of Japan decided on Thursday to further ease its monetary policy under a new monetary framework, displaying new Governor Haruhiko Kuroda's resolve to pursue further monetary easing to achieve a 2 percent inflation target in about 2 years to fight deflation.

Announcing that the central bank "will enter a new phase of monetary easing both in terms of quantity and quality," the BOJ will double the monetary base in two years and boost the purchases of government bonds.

Government bonds with all maturities including 40-year bonds will be made subject to the BOJ's purchases. As a result, the average remaining maturity of its government bond purchases will be extended from slightly less than three years at present to about seven years.—Kyodo News

## China announces two new bird flu cases, including one death

BEIJING, 4 April—China has found two more cases of a new strain of bird flu and one of the victims has died, state media said on Wednesday, bringing to nine the number of cases.

A 38-year old cook became ill early last month while working in the Province of Jiangsu, where five of the other cases were found. He died in hospital in Hangzhou city on 27 March, the Xinhua news agency reported. Samples tested positive for the new H7N9 strain on Wednesday.

The second patient, also in Hangzhou, is a 67-year old who is under treatment. Xinhua said no connection between the two cases had been discovered, and no one in close contact with either patient had developed any flu-like symptoms.

Of the seven other cases of the new strain, two have died, both in the business hub of Shanghai. The other five are in a critical condition in hospital in Nanjing.

Shanghai, Nanjing and

Hangzhou are all close to each other in eastern China.

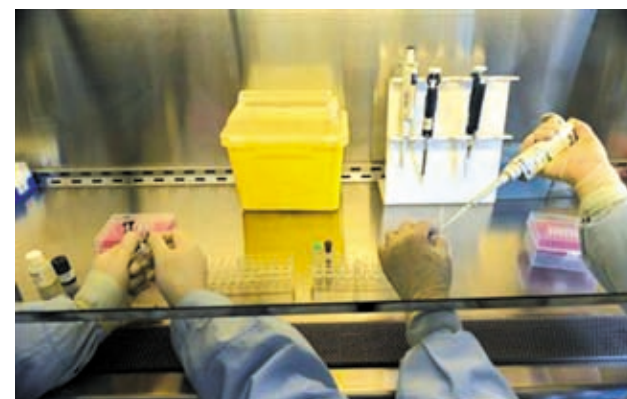
The Agriculture Ministry said it had yet to find any animals infected with H7N9, though added it was possible it had been brought to China by migratory birds.

The World Health Organization said on Monday that the first three cases had shown no evidence of human-

transmission.

China has stepped up its alert level since the cases came to light and has said it is being transparent in dealing with the outbreak.

China has a checkered record when it comes to tackling bad news, which has been known to be covered up by officials fearing it may attract



Technicians carry out a test for the H7N9 bird flu virus using test reagents at the Beijing Centre for Diseases Control and Prevention in Beijing on 3 April, 2013.

REUTERS

to-human transmission, but that there were questions about the source of the infection and the mode of

unwanted attention from superiors and damage promotion prospects.

Reuters

## Vodafone shares drop after Verizon rules out takeover

LONDON, 4 April—Shares in Vodafone (VOD.L) fell on Wednesday after Verizon Communications (VZ.N) ruled out a full takeover, turning the focus yet again to whether the two telecom giants can do a deal over their Verizon Wireless joint venture.

The British group's shares have risen more than 25 percent this year on hopes that it would sell its 45 percent stake in Verizon Wireless for around \$115

billion and end an often fractious relationship.

But with a sale likely to incur a tax bill for Vodafone in the region of \$20 billion, investors and analysts had suggested the two groups may prefer to merge. The denial of that option by Verizon late on Tuesday pushed shares in Vodafone down 3.6 percent on Wednesday.

"As Verizon has said many times, it would be a willing purchaser of the 45



percent stake that Vodafone holds in Verizon Wireless," it said. "It does not, however, currently have any intention to merge with or make an offer for Vodafone, whether alone or in conjunction with others."

Strategists at Olivetree Securities said the statement was aimed at Vodafone shareholders, to try and break the deadlock that has existed since Verizon Wireless was formed by the two groups

in 1999.

"That message appears to be: 'If you want a deal, it's your own management team holding this up—you need to tell them to engage more intensely/shift their price expectations,'" Olivetree said.

"Speculation of a resolution to this story will continue and thus Vodafone shares won't fall far."

Reuters

A pedestrian passes a Vodafone store on Oxford Street in central London, on 10 Nov, 2009.—REUTERS

## WORLD

## More Dutch households struggling with debt

THE HAGUE, 4 April—More and more Dutch people are struggling with debt, according to a survey report the Ministry of Social Affairs sent to the parliament on Wednesday.

One of six Dutch households (17.2 percent) are at risk of or have problematic debt. The majority of these households, between 719,000 and 961,000, are estimated at risk of debt, while between 373,000 and 531,000 households already suffer from debt.

Households at risk of severe debt are often families with children. Compared to the 2009 study, the risk cases are often better educated and they often have a job and are homeowners. Households with debt are often singles, non-working, less educated, living in a rented house and quite often women.

“In this time of economic crisis, this government realizes that people face more financial risks,” said State Secretary for Social Affairs and Employment Jetta Klijnsma in a letter to the parliament. “The fight against poverty and debt is a key priority for this government.”—Xinhua

## Sudden flooding kills at least 46 people in Argentina

LA PLATA, 4 April—Flash floods killed at least 46 people and forced about 1,500 residents to evacuate the Argentine city of La Plata, capital of Buenos Aires Province, government officials said on Wednesday.

Some people drowned after being trapped in their cars or while walking along city streets when the water rose suddenly on Tuesday night, while others were electrocuted, provincial governor Daniel Scioli told reporters.

The same storm killed at least five people in Buenos Aires, which lies about 60 km (36 miles) northwest of La Plata.



Residents try to clean up garbage from a flooded a street after heavy rains in La Plata on 3 April, 2013.

REUTERS



A car passes the toll gate of Southern Yangzhou Toll Station for free in Yangzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, just after the zero hour on 4 April, 2013. Chinese government scrapped the expressway tolls for cars with seven seats or fewer on the three-day holidays from 4 April to 6 considering that mourners travel out to pay homage to the deceased. The Qingming Festival or tomb-sweeping day, which falls on 4 April this year, is a traditional Chinese holiday for mourning the dead.

XINHUA

## Abe, India's Singh to hold summit in Tokyo in late May

TOKYO, 4 April—Japan and India are arranging for Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to visit Tokyo in late May to hold a summit with his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe, a senior official of Japan's Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

The two leaders are expected to confirm plans to strengthen bilateral coordination in a range of areas, such as security and the economy, as China, the world's second-largest

economy, becomes increasingly powerful in the region both militarily and economically.

Abe and Singh are also likely to compare notes on a high-speed railway system planned in India and a bilateral pact for civilian nuclear energy cooperation, with Japan keen on exporting its shinkansen bullet train technology to India.

The nuclear energy talks have stalled following Japan's March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, which

sparked a nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant northeast of Tokyo.

In an interview in Tokyo last month, Indian foreign minister Salman Khurshid said Singh will likely visit Japan by the end of May. Singh was scheduled to visit Japan last November, but his trip was postponed due to the decision by Abe's predecessor to dissolve the lower house of parliament for a general election.—Kyodo News

## Japan to set frequency limit for serious nuclear accidents

TOKYO, 4 April—The Nuclear Regulation Authority said on Wednesday it plans to set a frequency limit for accidents resulting in large releases of radioactive substances of below one every million years per reactor.

The NRA has been discussing nuclear safety goals, saying it is important to be aware of the risks that will remain once planned measures are implemented, instead of reviving the nuclear “safety myth” that prevailed before the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi complex disaster.

During a meeting of NRA commissioners on Wednesday, Chairman Shunichi Tanaka said he hopes to compile the nuclear safety goals around next week, including the accident incidence limit.

The safety goals also include limiting the frequency of reactor core damage incidents to once every 10,000 years and cesium 137 releases to up to 100 terabecquerels even if radioactive sub-

stances need to be emitted to prevent critical damage to a reactor container.

One hundred terabecquerels is around a hundredth of the estimated amount of cesium 137 released during the Fukushima Daiichi crisis. The figure indicates that environmental contamination must be contained within accident-stricken plants, according to the NRA.

One terabecquerel is equivalent to 1 trillion becquerels.

As part of the ongoing efforts to flesh out the country's new nuclear regulations after the Fukushima crisis, the NRA decided the same day to impose a special inspection process for reactors that operators are seeking to run beyond 40 years.

Japan has decided to limit the operation of reactors to 40 years in principle, but an exceptional extension of no more than 20 years is allowed when safety requirements are met.

Kyodo News

## Russia's 2012 arms exports up 12 percent despite Libya losses

MOSCOW, 4 April—Russia's weapons exports rose 12 percent in 2012 to a record \$15.2 billion, President Vladimir Putin said in remarks broadcast on Wednesday, despite losing billions of dollars in deals with Libya after the ouster of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011.

Russia, the second biggest arms exporter after the United States, said its largest clients were in Asia.

Putin, speaking in televised remarks during a meeting with senior Russian officials, said Russia supplied weapons to 66 countries but gave no breakdown for 2012 exports.

State arms exporter Rosoboronexport has said 43 percent of its 2012 exports went to Asia, with India, Vietnam and China

among the top clients, while 23 percent went to the Middle East and North Africa and 18 percent to Latin America.

Russia supplied nearly \$1 billion in arms to Syria in 2011, but Putin and other officials said last year that it was no longer delivering offensive weapons that could be used in the civil war.

The United States accounts for around 30 percent of conventional global arms sales, according to Amnesty International.

Russia's state arms exporter Rosoboronexport said in February it sold weapons worth \$12.9 billion in 2012. The figure did not include spare parts and services from private companies that do not go through Rosoboronexport.

Reuters

## Death toll rises to 53 in Taliban attack on Afghan court

KABUL, 4 April—The death toll from Wednesday's massive Taliban attack against an Afghan court office building in the western city of Farah has risen to 53 with over 100 others injured, local media reported.

“In Wednesday's Taliban coordinated attack against the Farah appellate

trance of the compound enabling other militants to take positions. The gunfight lasted for nine hours and several buildings and cars around the scene were damaged in the attack starting early Wednesday morning.

No official with the Interior Ministry was available to make comments.



Still image from 3 April, 2013 video footage shows damage at the site of an attack by Taliban suicide bombers at a courtroom in Farah Province in western Afghanistan.—REUTERS

court 53 people were killed and over 100 wounded,” local TV channel Arianna reported citing provincial officials. Those who had been killed included 34 civilians, 10 security members and nine attackers.

The attack aimed to release 13 Taliban members who were standing trial in the building in Farah, the provincial capital of the same name province 695 km west of Kabul.

Two of the attackers wearing army uniform detonated a car bomb near the en-

The Taliban claimed the responsibility for the attack. The insurgent group, which has been waging an insurgency of more than a decade, has recently intensified attacks across the country as spring and summer known as the fighting season is drawing near.

The Taliban-led insurgency and conflicts claimed the lives of more than 2,800 Afghan security forces and over 400 foreign soldiers besides leaving 2,750 civilians dead last year in the central Asian state.—Xinhua

LOCAL NEWS

**OPV given to children under five in Rakhine State**



SITTWAY, 4 April—Polio vaccine immunization was launched in 12 townships of Rakhine State on 26 March morning.

At the local health centre in Sittway, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and wife, state ministers and their wives, the chairperson of State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and members, officials of state and township Health Departments gave polio vaccine to children.

Ministry of Health gave

polio vaccine to children under five from 26 to 30 March in riot-stricken townships of Rakhine State for the first time and planned to feed polio vaccine from 26 to 30 April for the second time.

Over 900 oral polio vaccine teams will give vaccine to about 330,000 children at 3000 gathering points so as to prevent infection of polio diseases.

The Ministry of Health will carry out other tasks of taking care maternal and children.—*Myanma Alinn*

**12 artists host group show**



YANGON, 4 April—Twelve senior artists have exhibited their masterpieces at the Lokanat Galleries here from 1 to 6 April.

The group show the “ARTIST Art Exhibition” has showcased over 60

paintings. Among the variety of media exhibited there, two paintings are created with colourful soaps and one is created on plywood combining original texture of plywood and an artist’s creation.—*NLM*

**People enjoy bullock carts race**

KALAY, 4 April—The third bullock cart race in commemoration of the Pathana Desana recitation and ThidaAye Buddha

Pujaniya of Kyaungtaik Model Village in Kalay Township of Sagaing Region was held at the field from 22 to 25 March. A total of 16

bullock carts participated in the contest. After four-day contest, officials presented prizes to the winning cars.

*Myanma Alinn*



**Diamond orb, pennant-shaped vane hoisted atop Lawkananda Pagoda in Bagan**

NYAUNGU, 4 April—Lawkananda Tooth Relic Pagoda is one of four tooth relic pagodas built by King Anawrahta in Bagan ancient cultural region.

On 26 March, a ceremony to hoist diamond orb and pennant-shaped vane atop the pagoda was held at the pandal of the pagoda.

It was attended by venerable monks of Bagan, the administrator of NyaungU District Administration Department and officials, religious association members, social organization members, townelders and local people.

At first, members of the Sangha recited Namo Tassa three times.

Chairman of NyaungU Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Paññasiri administered

**People get health care service with traditional medicine**

MONYWA, 4 April—Under the arrangement of Medical Superintendent U Nay Aung of Traditional Medicine Hospital (50-bed), head of traditional clinic U Aung Soe and party gave free health care services to the local people at the Dhammayon of the monastery in Kyeebinchaung Village in Budalin Township of Monywa District on 23 March morning.

Head of the traditional medicine clinic U Aung Soe explained advantages of herbal plants.

The medical team provided health care services to 103 people from Kyeebinchaung,

Nine Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Wellwishers offered religious diamond orb and pennant-shaped vanes and objects to members of the Sangh. Member of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Gana Shweminwun Ingadaunt Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimala of NyaungU delivered a sermon, and the congregation shared merits gained.

The wellwishers conveyed the diamond orb and pennant-shaped vanes round the pagoda.

They then hoisted the diamond orb and pennant-shaped vane atop the pagoda and performed the rituals of golden and silver showers as an act of successful completion of the ceremony.

Diamond orb and



pennant-shaped vane weighing 2.45 viss of gold were worth K 224,210,000.

The people offered gold foil worth K 574.2 million.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Scholarship award winners selected in Sittway**

SITTWAY, 4 April—The scholarship examination at high and middle school levels was held at Basic Education High School No 1 in Sittway on 24 March.

Nine students sat for the exam comprising English, general knowledge and physical exercise at the high

school level.

Altogether 14 students participated in the middle school level.

The exam ran up to 25 March. The winners in the examination will be presented scholarship awards in 2013-2014 academic year.

*Myanma Alinn*



**Hotels in Nay Pyi Taw plan free one-night stay for tourists**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—With the aim of ensuring tourism promotion in Myanmar, arrangements are being made for serving globetrotters one-night free accommodation at hotels in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone.

At present, Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone is constituted with 31 hotels. Each hotel plans to accommodate tourists at 10 rooms for one night.

If the tourists stay at the hotels in Nay Pyi Taw free

of charge for one night and free breakfast will be served to them.

Thus, over 300 rooms from 31 hotels in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone will accommodate tourists as one night service.

Moreover, the hotels will give free transport service to tourists from Nay Pyi Taw International Airport to the hotel. The service will start from April to June.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Danu nationals hold get-together**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat attended the get-together of Danu nationals at the platform of ShweUmin Pagoda in Pindaya of Danu Self-Administered Zone on 25 March morning.

The Chief Minister donated K 1 million to Danu literature and culture association and regional development, K 500,000 to Taungyoe literature and culture association, the Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman U K1.2 million and Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Shu Maung K 100,000 to Danu literature and culture association. They then offered alms to the Buddha image.—*Myanma Alinn*

# PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 5 April, 2013

## Beware of rumors

These days, we see a lot of clashes, conflicts and violence around the globe. Today is the age of globalization. With the rapid advancement of IT, we have so many chances to enjoy the up-to-date information through the media and internet. These news may be right or wrong. Some media want to release information ahead of others as quickly as possible without knowing whether or not the news comes from the reliable sources.

A rumor is a piece of information whose truth or source is unknown. Rumors are known for spreading between people quickly and easily since they are easy to tell, but hard to prove. A lot of the time, rumors contain hurtful information. Since rumors are often not even true, it's not a good idea to spread a rumor. If you hear something that sounds like a rumor, you don't need to tell it to other people unless the information contains something hurtful or dangerous that a grown-up needs to know about.

Rumors are also often discussed with regard to "misinformation" and "disinformation". Rumors thus have often been viewed as particular forms of other communication concepts. Recent unrests and violence have caused a loss to the State. People have to suffer the evil consequences of it. The violence has displaced and killed a number of people and damaged lots of houses and buildings.

Some organizations and people will instigate the outbreak of bloodshed by utilizing fear and hate. Such kind of news is very sensitive. We all should not respond to anything with anger and need to be well aware of it. We should not believe rumor. Don't spark the clashes off.

## UNDP to provide technical assistance to Myanmar's Hluttaw Committees

NAYPYI TAW, 4 April—Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw International Relations Committee Col Maung Maung Htoo received UNDP Program Analyst Mr Edin Elgsaether at the meeting hall of Hluttaw Affairs Hall, here,

this evening.

They exchanged the views on UNDP's short-and long-term technical assistance to Hluttaw Committees and appointment of senior advisor.

MNA

## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets ...

(from page 1)

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Norwegian Minister of Trade and Industry Mr. Trond Giske and party at Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 2 pm today.

The meeting focused on bilateral trade and investment, technical assistance, and cooperation in legislation.

Also present at the call together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker were Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen U Hla Myint Oo and U Soe Naing, commission members and officials concerned of the Hluttaw Office.



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives Norwegian Minister for Trade and Industry Mr. Trond Giske and party at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex.—MNA

The Norwegian delegation was accompanied by Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs. Katja

Christina Nordgaard.

After the meeting, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann

and party posed for a documentary photo with the Norwegian Minister and party.—MNA

## IE Singapore opens Myanmar branch

YANGON, 4 April—The visiting Singaporean President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam attended the opening of the 37<sup>th</sup> foreign branch by International

Enterprise (IE) Singapore, at Sedona Hotel, here this noon.

The Singaporean President unveiled the signboard. The foreign

branch of IE Singapore is another milestone of increasing economic cooperation since establishment of diplomatic ties between the two

countries in 1996. It will serve as facilitator for economic cooperation, bilateral trade and investments.

MNA

## Heritage and Community: Methodology for Management of Cultural Properties in Myanmar Workshop kicks off



Heritage and Community: Methodology for the Management of Cultural Properties in Myanmar Workshop in progress.—MNA

YANGON, 4 April—Heritage and Community: Methodology for the

Management of Cultural Properties in Myanmar Workshop, jointly-organized by Myanmar and Colombia, took place at the National Museum, here, this morning.

In her opening speech, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin said that the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage Law had been enacted by Myanmar government for preservation of cultural heritage and ancient cities. The Ministry of Culture has designated 46 sites as cultural heritage zones and placed them under the protection of the law. Besides, the ministry is making preparations to include ancient cities Beikthano, Hanlin and Srikshehra-ancient Pyu city in the list of World Heritage sites.

Next, Advisor Mr. Daniel Manjarres of Direction of Cultural Affairs Office under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia extended greetings.

The workshop lasts till 9 April.—MNA

## Press conference on 2013 Davis Cup Tennis Tournament held

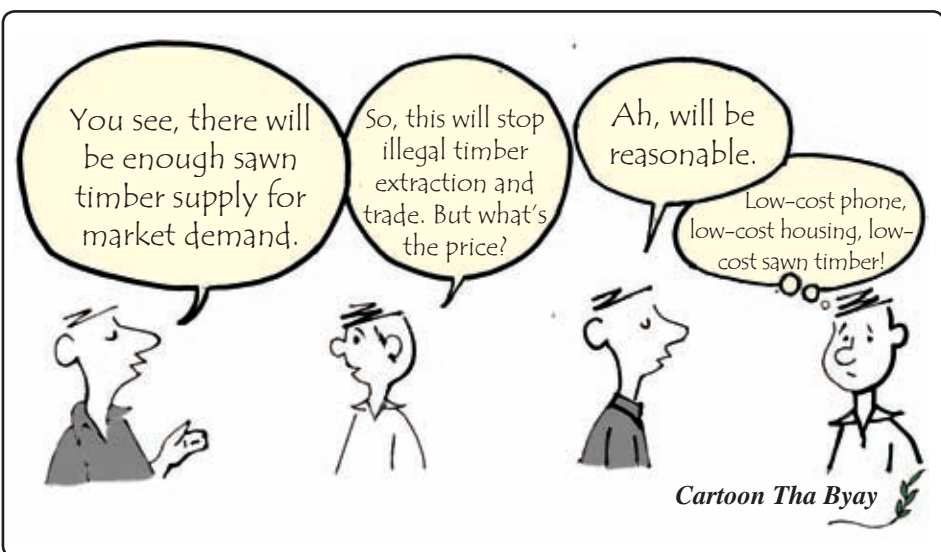
YANGON, 4 April—Press conference on 2013 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas, Asia/Oceania Zone Group III & IV Tennis Tournament, jointly organized by Tennis Federation of Myanmar (MTF) of the Ministry of Sports and International Tennis Federation (ITF), was held at Central Hotel

this afternoon.

President of Myanmar Tennis Federation (MTF) U Aung Maw Thein extended greetings. And the MTF Tournament Director explained the tournament and the team Captain of Myanmar selected tennis team, preparation. The MTF President and officials

replied to the queries raised by the press.

2013 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas, Asia/Oceania Zone Group IV Tennis Tournament will be held at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingalar Taungnyunt, on 22-28 April and Group IV Tournament from 29 April to 5 May.—NLM



Cartoon Tha Byay



NATIONAL

**Sitagu Sayadaw Dr. Ashin Nyanissara sends peace...**

(from page 16)

the country, the Sangha (monks) community having an equal strength of the Army crush all forms of violence using the powerful weapon of loving-kindness without using force, contribute towards strengthening of peace and stability of the nation, cooperate with any religious leaders who wish to work on the same route.

At present, leaders of the country are trying to turn a new page in Myanmar political history. In this time of critical change, religious leaders, social leaders and spiritual leaders are requested to lend helping hands to them in their nation-building endeavours. I would here like to express my grave concerns that if we are now unable to work together with noble fundamental principles of peace, harmony and co-existence, we are sure to face with unexpected problems and challenges posed by rumors, suspects, riots and violence which would endanger peace and stability of the country. Then we would not be able to continue our on-going democratic process and the country would be back on the road full of hardships and difficulties.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my earnest request that all national races residing in Myanmar, noble-hearted Myanmar people, people of various religious communities holding the noble spirit of non-violence to practice Guardian of the world which is Tolerance, Forgiveness, Forgetting each other's faults and wrong doings and harmonious co-existence and cooperate each other to prevent all forms of violence and strengthen peace and unity in the country.

Thank you very much.



Venerable Dr Ashin Nyanissara (D. Litt., PhD)  
Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy

Honorary Professor of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University  
Chairman of International Association of Theravada Buddhist Universities  
Chairman of the board of director (TDSA) Aggamahapandita  
Mahadhammakathika Bahujanahitadhara, Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Sasanadhaja-dhammacariya

**MOA signed for feasibility study on unconventional oil and gas drilling**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Energy Ministry, Daewoo International Corporation of the ROK and Shwe Sandar Company signed memorandum of agreement (MOA) on feasibility study for unconventional oil and gas exploration, drilling and production in RSF-7 and MOGE-8 oil fields, at the Energy Ministry yesterday evening.

It was attended by Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung, Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, deputy ministers, Deputy Attorney-General and personnel of Daewoo International Corporation and Shwe Sandar Company.

Under the agreement, Daewoo International Corporation and Shwe Sandar Company are eligible for conducting feasibility study for drilling and production of oil and

gas from source rock shale or tight reservoirs with advanced technologies and for submitting the report to MOGE within three months after the completion of study.

MNA



Signing ceremony of MoA for detailed study of exploration of unconventional hydrocarbon resources in progress.—MNA

**Yangon Region Chief Minister hosts dinner to Singaporean President, wife**

YANGON, 4 April—The visiting Singaporean President Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam and wife Mrs. Mary Tan met Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay at Sedona Hotel, here, this evening.

The meeting was

attended by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung and wife, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Tin Oo Lwin and wife, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win and wife, Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs

Mayor U Hla Myint and wife, the region ministers and officials concerned. The Singaporean delegation was accompanied by Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Chua Hian Kong Robert and wife and embassy staff.

After the meeting, the

Singaporean President and party enjoyed the dinner hosted by the Yangon Region Chief Minister at the hotel.

The Singaporean delegation then paid homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda.

MNA

**Dy FM attends 11<sup>th</sup> Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting**



Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw attends the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April—The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin

Yaw attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting from 28 to 29 March 2013 in

Dushenbe, the Republic of Tajikistan.

On 29 March, Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw

delivered a statement at the Meeting. In his statement, the Deputy Minister stressed that ACD Member States must be able to create wealth for the Asian nations through the economic, trade and investment cooperation, and at the same time, ACD Member States need to encourage the private sectors to match business. He also said that the diversity is the beauty of Asian Cooperation Dialogue that we all enjoy, and this beauty is to bring the diversity together so that Asia becomes a better place to live, travel and do business.

During the meeting, Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw met with Japanese Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E Mr. Minoru Kiuchi at 11:30 hrs on 29 March.—MNA

**NyaungU gets new transformer**

NYAUNGU, 4 April—Under the supervision of Township Electrical Engineer U Win Zaw Moe of NyaungU Township Electricity Supply Enterprise of NyaungU District, electricians installed a new 315 KVA transformer in

Thiri Mingala Ward beside Myingyan Road.

Thanks to the new transformer, lamp-posts along NyaungU-Myingyan Road and Thiri Mingala Ward can be illuminated at full capacity.

Myanma Alinn



## WORLD



Portugal's Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho (L) reacts near Foreign Affairs Minister Paulo Portas during the debate on the no-confidence motion at the parliament in Lisbon on 3 April, 2013.—REUTERS

## Portugal government defeats no confidence motion, warns of instability

LISBON, 4 April—Portugal's austerity-minded government defeated on Wednesday a no confidence motion, which nevertheless united all the opposition in parliament, showing growing resistance against further budget tightening under an EU/IMF bailout.

The vote was largely symbolic as the ruling centre-right coalition holds a comfortable majority in parliament, yet Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho warned the move created political instability.

The main opposi-

tion Socialists and the two smaller left-wing parties backed the motion, garnering 97 votes in a 230-seat parliament.

It has contributed to concerns that a growing campaign against the government's austerity drive could derail Portugal's efforts to exit the bailout programme. It also throws the focus more sharply on to an impending court ruling on the legality of the administration's budget plans. Portugal's stocks fell sharply on Wednesday due to these concerns.—Reuters

## Fifth battery of Iron Dome system deployed in Israel

JERUSALEM, 4 April—A fifth battery of Israel's Iron Dome missile defence system became operational on Wednesday amid the flare-up of hostilities on the border with the Gaza Strip.

Army Radio reported that the battery and its crew were "fully ready" for interception missions.

The news came hours after a rocket fired by Palestinian militants exploded in southern Israeli town of Sderot on Wednesday morning, followed by another three projectiles that fell in open areas in the vicinity, causing no injuries or damage.

On Tuesday night, Israeli aircraft struck targets in northern Gaza Strip in retaliation for mortar shells fired at western Negev earlier in the day.

In a first official response to the latest violence, Israeli military chief Lt Gen Benny Gantz vowed late Wednesday that Israel will not allow the renewal of incessant rocket fire from the coastal territory.

"We will not return to the reality that existed five

months ago, prior to the ceasefire," Army Radio quoted Gantz as saying.

Defence Minister Moshe Ya'alon, in remarks published earlier in the day, said Israel holds Islamist group Hamas accountable for all attacks emanating from Gaza, though Magles Shoura al-Mujahadeen, a group reportedly linked to al-Qaeda, claimed responsibility for Tuesday's rocket attack. "We won't allow firing of any sort on our citizens and forces," Ya'alon said.

Xinhua



Sheep are released in a field managed by the Paris city government in the northeastern part of the city on 3 April, 2013, to eradicate weeds without the use of herbicide and weeding machines. KYODO NEWS

## Cattle age limit for domestic mad cow tests to be raised

TOKYO, 4 April—The health ministry has decided to raise the age limit for exempting domestic cattle from testing for mad cow disease to 48 months, up from 30 months now, probably in July, sources close to the issue said on Wednesday.

That reflects the conclusion of a governmental food safety panel that the higher age limit for tests for the disease, formally known as bovine spongiform encephalopathy, would not have negative health effects on humans.

The expert panel of the Food Safety Commission will formally suggest the

new inspection threshold to the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry after public consultations.

The ministry will then revise a related ministerial ordinance to reflect the change.

On Monday the exemption threshold for testing domestic cattle for mad cow disease was raised from 21 months to 30 months.

The ministry will also ask local governments to stop conducting their voluntary inspections of domestic cattle for BSE, as there is no need for those safety check, according to the sources.

It will also terminate

state aid for inspections of cattle aged below 48 months.

The first case of mad cow disease in Japan was reported in 2001. Japan began blanket testing of domestic cattle from October that year but eased requirements in August 2005, testing only cattle aged 21 months or older.

But local governments, fearing the spread of harmful rumours, have continued on their own to test all cattle regardless of age.

Some 1.18 million cattle were slaughtered in Japan in fiscal 2011, of which less than 20 percent, or about 200,000, were over

48 months old, the ministry said.

By raising the exemption age limit, nearly 1 million cattle annually will be exempted from BSE testing. So far, 36 cows have been found infected with BSE in Japan, with the last animal testing positive in 2009. BSE infections are also declining worldwide.

The expert panel concluded that there is little possibility for BSE infections to occur in Japan, given that it has been 11 years since the last BSE-infected cow was born in 2002 and preventive measures have continued to be taken.

Kyodo News

## Russia delivers aid for Syria refugees in Lebanon

BEIRUT, 4 April—A Russian plane carrying 36 tonnes of humanitarian aid for Syrian refugees in Lebanon landed in Beirut on Wednesday, the first such shipment by Moscow which has supported President Bashar al-Assad throughout the two-year-old conflict.

Russia's Ambassador to Beirut Alexander Zasyppin said the Ilyushin transport plane brought blankets, food supplies and generators to Lebanon, where the United Nations says 398,000 Syrians are seeking refuge from the conflict in their country.

Moscow has supported Assad throughout the revolt by refusing to consider sanctions on Damascus, vetoing three resolutions condemn-

ing his crackdown on opposition groups and supplying weapons to the Syrian army.

The wave of refugees is threatening to overwhelm authorities in a country of only four million people, whose prime minister Najib Mikati resigned last month over disputes in cabinet which have been inflamed by the Syrian civil war.

Mikati, still serving in a caretaker capacity, and President Michel Suleiman have appealed for international help to cope with the flood of refugees escaping a civil war between Assad's forces and rebels. Zasyppin told reporters at the airport that Moscow would send another shipment of aid next week and two more later this month.—Reuters



Workers unload humanitarian aid from a Russian aeroplane at Beirut International Airport on 3 April, 2013.—REUTERS

## Intensified crackdown fails to curb rhino poaching in S Africa

CAPE TOWN, 4 April—South Africa has lost more than 200 rhinos this year despite an intensified crackdown to curb the scourge, authorities said on Wednesday.

A total of 203 rhinos have been slaughtered since the beginning of the year, with the Kruger National

Park (KNP) remaining the hardest hit with 146 rhino having been poached, the Department of Environmental Affairs said.

The North West Province have had 18 rhino poached, to be followed by KwaZulu-Natal (17), Limpopo (13) and Mpumalanga (10).

A total of 60 suspects have been arrested, 36 of them in the KNP.

56 incursions by alleged rhino poachers were recorded by members of the KNP ranger corps between 21 March and 1 April. In the shootouts that ensued with poachers, one alleged poacher was fatally

wounded on Sunday, while another was believed to have committed suicide on Monday after he was surrounded by members of the ranger corps.

The South African Air Force (SAAF) has joined the fight against rhino poaching.

Xinhua

## Japanese-French venture set to win Turkish nuclear plant order

CAIRO, 4 April—A joint venture between Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd and France's Areva SA looks set to win an order from the Turkish government to build a nuclear power plant in Sinop on the Black Sea, diplomatic sources in Ankara said on Thursday.

Japan and Turkey have reached a basic accord on construction of the coun-

try's second nuclear plant, the sources said, adding the two countries are finalizing the details of an intergovernmental accord that would award preferential negotiating rights to the Mitsubishi-Areva alliance.

China, South Korea and Canada have also bid for the contract. The four-reactor plant will be built at a cost of \$25 billion. Japanese Prime

Minister Shinzo Abe is considering visiting Turkey in late April or early May to promote the construction of the nuclear plant.

Turkey plans to build nuclear power plants in three locations by 2023. A Russian company won the bid to construct its first nuclear plant in the Mediterranean port city of Mersin.

Kyodo News

## REGIONAL

## Cambodia reports 10th bird flu case this year

PHNOM PENH, 4 April — A six-year-old boy from Southwestern Kampot Province was confirmed to have contracted with Avian Influenza H5N1, bringing the number of the cases to 10 and the death toll remained at eight in 2013, a health expert said on Wednesday. “The boy was admitted to the Kantha Bopha Hospital in Phnom Penh on 31 March for severe pneumonia, and he was tested positive for H5N1 at the Institut Pasteur on Tuesday,” Dr Denis Laurent, deputy director of the hospital, told *Xinhua*. “The boy is still alive, but in severe conditions.”

The country sees the worst outbreak of the virus this year since the disease was first identified in 2004. To date, the country has recorded 31 human cases of the virus, killing 27 people. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen repeatedly appealed to television and radio stations to broadly educate people about the outbreaks of Avian Influenza H5N1 virus, which has killed eight people so far this year.

*Xinhua*



*Pakistani employees craft a hand-made carpet at a local carpet factory in northwest Pakistan's Peshawar, on 3 April, 2013. According to reports, Pakistan's carpet exports have witnessed a huge decline of more than 50 percent during the last five years.—XINHUA*

## Volcano erupts in North Sulawesi, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 4 April—Mount Lokon in Indonesia's central North Sulawesi Province erupted on Wednesday, spewing ash to the sky and volcanic materials around the slope, an official said.

The volcano in Tomohon city erupted at 12:28 local time (0428 GMT), said Suro, head of national volcanology agency.

The agency has issued



*Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra (R) shakes hands with visiting Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Thongloun Sisoulith at Government House in Bangkok, Thailand, on 3 April, 2013.*

XINHUA

## Australia demands keeping tariffs on Japan autos

TOKYO, 4 April — Australia has demanded to keep in place for a longer period its 5 percent tariff on Japanese vehicles imported into the country in ongoing bilateral free trade negotiations with Japan, in an apparent response to Tokyo's recent decision to tolerate US auto tariffs in another free trade negotiation, a Japanese government source said on Wednesday.

While Australia had been willing to abolish the tariff on automobiles and trucks in three years from enactment of the planned bilateral pact, it changed its stance to seek a longer period.

During the period, probably around 10 years,

Australia is expected to lower the tariff step by step to help protect its domestic auto factories.

The move follows reports last month that Japan decided to allow the United States to keep its auto tariffs for a certain period in the preparatory talks for joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, the source said.

Japan made the concession in the US talks, deeming it as an exchange for negotiating maintenance of its own tariffs on rice and other farm products in the TPP talks.

But it now raises concerns there could be similar calls from Canada and Vietnam, which are involved

in the TPP negotiations and protect their auto industry by maintaining high tariffs, if Japan accepts Australia's request. It could subsequently undermine Japan's aim of expanding exports by joining the TPP.

Regardless of whether Japan will accept the demand in the bilateral talks, Australia, which is also a member of the TPP talks involving 11 nations, is expected to approve Japan's participation in the multi-lateral negotiations. Japan has been engaged in the bilateral free trade negotiations with Australia since 2007, seeking to secure a stable supply of energy resources and eliminate auto tariffs.—*Kyodo News*

## Cambodia dispatches 2nd batch of military personnel to South Sudan for peacekeeping operations

PHNOM PENH, 4 April — Cambodia on Thursday sent the second batch of 152 military police and medics to South Sudan in order to take part in the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations.

The group including 10 female will replace the first batch's forces who have completed a one-year peacekeeping mission in that country.

Speaking at a departure ceremony at the Military Airbase in Phnom Penh, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Tea Banh said the government of Cambodia has strongly determined in contributing to the humanitarian affairs for building and maintaining peace through the process of sending troops to the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations.

Meanwhile, he advised them to strictly respect South Sudan's independence and sovereignty and

have to work actively to achieve this humanitarian mission.

“You have to remember that your identity at this time is not only representing the Cambodian peacekeeping forces, but also peacekeeping forces for ASEAN,” he said. “Therefore, you have to behave well in order to maintain national dignity and to bring the fame of Cambodia to international arena.”

In South Sudan, the military personnel will conduct humanitarian duties such as security and public order preparation and intervention, while the military medics will provide healthcare to peacekeepers, diplomatic corps, humanitarian organization staff and Sudanese. Marc Derveeuw, Coordinator of the United Nations Development Programme to Cambodia, said only 20 years ago, UN peacekeepers supported Cambodia to recover from conflict.—*Xinhua*

## Vietnam to host int'l conference on aviation logistics

HANOI, 4 April — An international conference on aviation logistics will kick off in Vietnam's southern Ho Chi Minh City, from 25 to 26 April, attracting international logistics scholars and representatives from aviation agencies and logistics companies worldwide, announced organizers on Thursday.

The conference will be co-organized by the Viet-

nam Civil Aviation Administration, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Association (FIATA).

During the two-day meeting, participants will discuss Vietnam's aviation logistics in 2013, and review opportunities and challenges for the sector as far as its security regula-

tions are concerned.

According to the Vietnam Civil Aviation Administration, in 2012, the sector carried 17.5 million of passengers, up 5.2 percent and transported 201,000 tons of cargo, up 1.98 percent, compared to the previous year. This year, it expects to carry 19.2 million of passengers and transport 214,000 tons of cargo.

*Xinhua*



*Pedestrians walk past Nokia's flagship store in Nanjing East Road in Shanghai, east China, on 3 April, 2013. The retail store, which is Nokia's only stand-alone flagship store and the largest around the world, was found closed in recent days.*

XINHUA

## Mt Fuji “official website” to open for climbers

TOKYO, 4 April — The Environment Ministry is planning to open an official website for Mt Fuji climbing safety, route, weather and other information for climbers in June when the country's highest peak may be listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Heritage listing will likely generate renewed interest in climbing and the ministry is hoping that providing information via the website before the climbing season opens in July will help reduce accidents and injuries among trekkers and climbers.

The website about the 3,776-metre-high mountain, which straddles Shizuoka and Yamanashi Prefectures, will be launched by a ministry-led associa-

tion. The association is also planning an English-language version in anticipation of an increase in interest from foreign tourists.

A survey of climbers conducted by the Shizuoka prefectural government has found that 51 percent said they obtained information from the Internet.

The new site will include information on clothing, headlamps and other gear as well as on measures to prevent altitude sickness. It will also provide a map of four climbing routes listing mountain cabins, aid stations and toilet facilities.

For smartphone users, the site will offer live video feeds of the climbing routes as well as of weather at the summit and raincloud movements.—*Kyodo News*



*File photo shows climbers on a trail on Mt Fuji on 30 June, 2012, waiting for the summit's opening the following day.—KYODO NEWS*

# ဂုဏ်ယူဝမ်းမြောက်ခြင်း

အင်္ဂလန်နိုင်ငံ၊ လန်ဒန်အခြေစိုက် World Finance အဖွဲ့အစည်းမှ  
**KBZ Group of Companies** (ကမ္ဘောဇကုမ္ပဏီများအုပ်စု) အား (၃.၄.၂၀၁၃) နေ့တွင်  
**"Best Corporate Governance in Myanmar for 2013"** ဆုကို  
 ချီးမြှင့်ခဲ့သည့်အတွက် အထူးဂုဏ်ယူဝမ်းမြောက်မိပါကြောင်းနှင့်  
 ဆထက်ထမ်းပိုး ပိုမိုတိုးတက်အောင်မြင်ပါစေကြောင်း ဆုမွန်ကောင်းများတောင်းအပ်ပါသည်။



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မြန်မာနိုင်ငံကုန်သည်များနှင့် စက်မှုလက်မှုလုပ်ငန်းရှင်များအသင်းချုပ်(UMFCCI)

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Our heartiest congratulations to the  
**KBZ Group of Companies** for winning the award  
**"Best Corporate Governance in Myanmar for 2013"**  
 conferred by **"World Finance"**, a London based prestigious  
 organization on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2013.

We also wish for further success of the **KBZ Group of  
 Companies** in future endeavours.



Central Executive Committee/Executive Committee

Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI)

ENTERTAINMENT & ADVERTISEMENT

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
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Dated: 5 April 2013

**Muppets creator Jane Henson dies at 78**

LONDON, 4 April—Jane Henson, who co-created popular US TV puppet programme Muppets with her husband Jim, has died following a long bout with cancer. She was 78.

The Jim Henson company confirmed the news, stating that Henson, who died at her home in Connecticut, was an "integral creative and business partner" in the Muppets, reported *Guardian*.

Jane, born in Queens, New York, in 1934, was an early puppeteer, as well as puppet designer for the Muppets, best known for characters Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy, who starred in numerous televi-

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
**MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (026)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (026) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2013 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

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
**MV KOTA RANCAK VOY NO (709)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RANCAK VOY NO (709) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2013 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Jane Henson died after battling cancer.

sion programmes and films. She first met her future husband in puppetry class at the University of Maryland in the mid-1950s and the two went on to create the five-minute television programme *Sam and Friends*, a precursor to the Muppets. The show served as a lead-in to *The Huntley-Brinkley Report* news show and *The Tonight Show Starring Steve Allen*. Although Henson stopped working as a puppeteer to raise her children in the early 1960s, she was still responsible for recruiting top talent and performing occasionally on the children's show *Sesame Street*. Henson legally separated from her husband four years prior to his death in 1990 of organ failure following a bacterial infection at the age of 53. She later founded *The Jim Henson Legacy* to promote his work. Jane is survived by her five children.—PTI

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
**MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/04/13)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/04/13) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2013 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 HUB SHIPPING SDN-BHD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



Tom Cruise wants to fly to space aboard the Virgin Galactic's planned commercial space mission.—PTI

**Tom Cruise is latest celebrity to want to go into space**

LOS ANGELES, 4 April—Tom Cruise would pay to go into space. The 50-year-old star is interested in Virgin Galactic's planned commercial space missions — where ordinary people can pay \$200,000 to fly outside of the earth's atmosphere — as he always thought intergalactic travel would be more commonplace by now.

Speaking about the space flights, he said: "Who wouldn't want to do something like that? "I'm going to let a couple of other people test it out first but it would be great. I was always hoping when I was a kid that we would be travelling to different planets by now."

Tom — who plays one of the last men alive after earth is almost destroyed by an alien battle in his new film, *Oblivion* — is also open

to the existence of aliens. He added: "I don't think you can actually count it out. It might be a little arrogant to think we were the only ones in all the galaxies throughout the universe — but I've never met one."

Tom will be in good company if he does book himself aboard one of Virgin Galactic's space flights. Two and a Half Men star Ashton Kutcher has been confirmed to take part, and others who have expressed an interest include Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, Tom Hanks, Katy Perry and scientist Steven Hawking.

The first ever two-hour flight will see British billionaire Richard Branson — who set up the project — fly into space with his family. So far over 500 people have been confirmed for flights.—PTI



Jon Bon Jovi (R) performs with Richie Sambora during the "12-12-12" benefit concert for victims of Superstorm Sandy at Madison Square Garden in New York on 12 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

**Bon Jovi guitarist Sambora leaves tour due to "personal issues"**

NEW YORK, 4 April—Bon Jovi's Richie Sambora has dropped out of the current leg of the rock band's tour because of "personal issues," but the guitarist, who has done stints in rehab for problems with alcohol, tweeted fans on Wednesday that he was "well."

"Thank you everyone for your concern," Sambora said on Twitter. "I'm well, but had to stay in LA to take care of a personal matter. Love you all and see you very soon."

Sambora, 53, who spent time in rehab in 2007 and 2011 for alcohol and prescription drug abuse, was not included at Bon Jovi's performance in Calgary, Alberta, on Tuesday and the band said he would miss a run of North American concerts.

"Due to personal issues, Richie Sambora will not be performing on this upcoming leg. All shows will go on as scheduled," said a statement on the band's website on Wednesday, offering no other details or when Sambora might resume performing.

Sambora also missed Bon Jovi's 2011 North American and European tours. Celebrity website TMZ.com, citing unnamed sources connected to the band, said Sambora's absence was due to long-running tension between the guitarist and singer Jon Bon Jovi. Bon Jovi is scheduled to perform this week in Edmonton, Alberta, and Winnipeg, Manitoba, and St Paul, Minnesota, on Sunday.—Reuters

## SPORTS

## Indonesia expects miracle to beat India in Davis Cup

BANGALORE, 4 April— Indonesian team is expecting a miracle to pull off a victory against a full-strength India in the Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Group I relegation tie to be played under lights from 5 to 7 April at KSLTA Stadium here.

“The Indian team look strong, particularly after the return of their main players, but we still are confident because anything can happen in the court. We will do our best to give a fight to the Indian contingent,” Indonesia’s non-playing captain Hendri Susilo Pramono told reporters here.

Pramono said the team has not yet decided on who would play singles and doubles, however would take a call an hour before the draw.



*Top Indonesian player Christopher Rungkat said he has been used to carry the pressure and responsibility of the team on his shoulders, especially being No 1 player for the country in Davis Cup for last two years.*  
PTI

Top Indonesian player Christopher Rungkat said he has been used to carry the pressure and responsibility of the team on his shoulders, especially being No 1 player for the country in Davis Cup for last two years.

“The team is expecting from me to perform. I cannot say. I will give my best,” he said.—PTI

## Former England keeper Robinson suffers blood clot on lung

LONDON, 4 April— Former England goalkeeper Paul Robinson will be out of action for at least six months after developing a blood clot on his lung during an operation, his club Blackburn Rovers said on Wednesday.

The 33-year-old suffered serious respiratory complications following a back operation last week, but has returned home after being kept in hospital over the weekend, second-tier Blackburn said in a statement on their website.

Robinson won 41 England caps but has not played since December and is out of contract at the end of the season.

Rovers, who were relegated from the Premier



*Paul Robinson watches during their English Premier League soccer match against Chelsea in Blackburn, northern England on 30 Oct, 2010. —REUTERS*

League last season, have been left short of keepers after first choice Jake Kean was also ruled out for the rest of the season.

He sustained torn car-

## Motorcycling — No end in sight for the reign of Spain

LONDON, 4 April— Valentino Rossi is back on a Yamaha but it will take some heroics for the ageing Italian great to wrest the MotoGP title from Spanish hands in the season that starts under the Qatar floodlights this weekend.

Honda’s Dani Pedrosa lines up as the early favourite, closely followed by Rossi’s team mate and reigning champion Jorge Lorenzo, while Honda new boy Marc Marquez completes a trio of Spanish frontrunners in a new era following the premature retirement of Australian Casey Stoner.

Rossi, a 4/1 shot for the title with British bookmakers William Hill, is their closest rival as fourth

favourite with no other rider given better than odds of 40/1 ahead of the season-opener. The charismatic

Italian has ditched his uncompetitive

Lorenzo, but at 34 he is starting to feel the ravages of time.

“My comeback to Yamaha is a great story and a great bet, for me but also for Yamaha,” said the Italian, winner of 105 grands prix in all classes, during test-

ing last month.

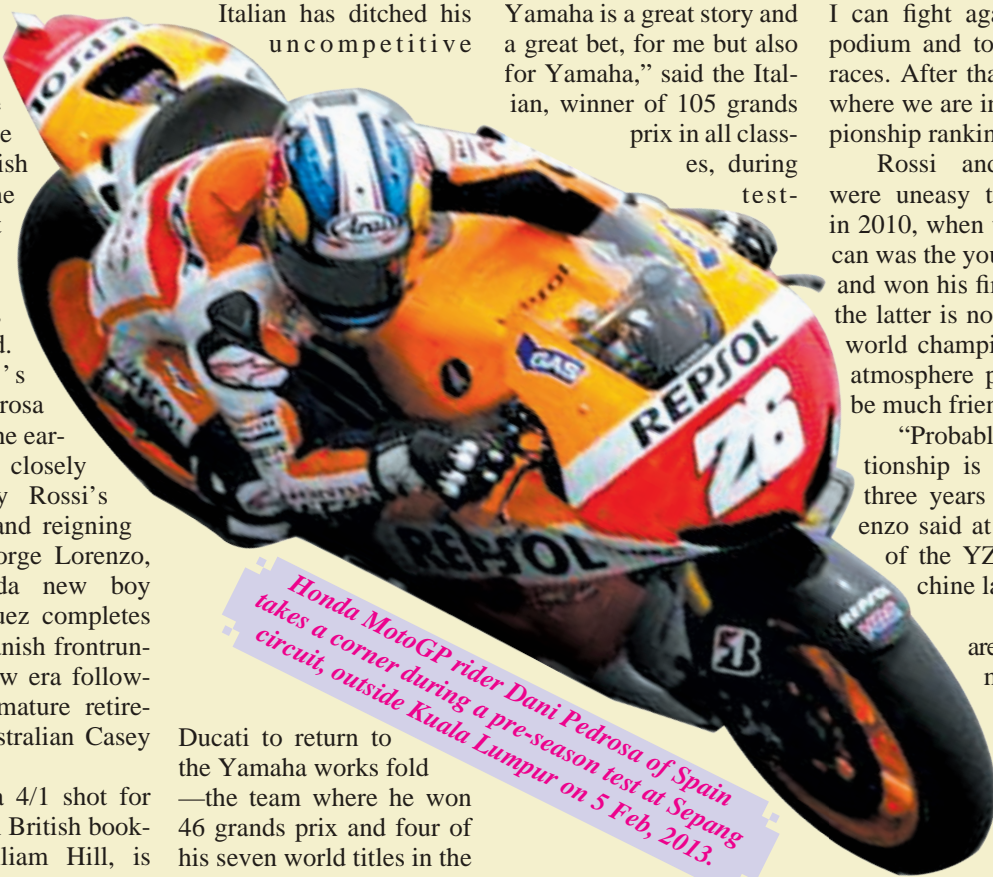
“Unfortunately I am quite old, this is true, but I feel very good...I hope I can fight again for the podium and to win some races. After that we’ll see where we are in the championship ranking.”

Rossi and Lorenzo were uneasy team mates in 2010, when the Mallorcan was the young hotshot and won his first title, but the latter is now a double world champion and the atmosphere promises to be much friendlier.

“Probably our relationship is better than three years ago,” Lorenzo said at the launch of the YZR-M1 machine last month.

“Now we are a bit older, more mature, especially me as I was only 20 when I arrived in MotoGP.”

Reuters



*Honda MotoGP rider Dani Pedrosa of Spain takes a corner during a pre-season test at Sepang circuit, outside Kuala Lumpur on 5 Feb, 2013.*

Ducati to return to the Yamaha works fold—the team where he won 46 grands prix and four of his seven world titles in the top category — alongside

## Defoe out for up to three games with muscle injury

LONDON, 4 April— Tottenham Hotspur striker Jermain Defoe will miss up to three matches with a muscle injury, his manager Andre Villas-Boas said on Wednesday.

The England forward will sit out Thursday’s Europa League quarter-final first leg at home to Basel and Sunday’s Premier League clash with Everton and could also miss the return match with the Swiss side next week.

“Jermain has a muscle injury which is probably going to take him out of the next two games definitely and maybe Basel away,” Villas-Boas told reporters.

“If he can’t make Basel away he should be fit for Man City.”



*Tottenham Hotspur’s Jermain Defoe reacts during their Europa League soccer match against Panathinaikos at White Hart Lane in London on 6 Dec, 2012.*

REUTERS

“It’s a big blow. It’s on the same muscle that he had a small tear last month. It’s on the other side now and it’s a big miss as he represents a lot for us and he will be a big miss.”

Defoe, who scored twice in England’s 8-0 win over San Marino last month, came on for the final half an hour of Tottenham’s 2-1 win over Swansea City on Saturday.—Reuters



*Real Madrid’s Gonzalo Higuain (2nd R) celebrates his goal with captain Sergio Ramos passing by Galatasaray Dany Nounkeu during the Champions League quarter-final, first leg soccer match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 3 April, 2013.*

REUTERS

## Real outclass Galatasaray, Malaga hold Dortmund

LONDON, 4 April—Real Madrid proved far too strong for Galatasaray when they beat them 3-0 in the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final on Wednesday as Malaga against Borussia Dortmund ended in a goalless stalemate.

Madrid, seeking to lift the European Cup for an unprecedented 10th time, went ahead when Cristiano Ronaldo scored his 45th goal of

the season after nine minutes and Karim Benzema added the second with a shot in off the post in the 29th.

Substitute Gonzalo Higuain sealed the win with a 73rd-minute header. Real’s victory virtually guaranteed them a semi-final place because Galatasaray would have to achieve the most unlikely of turnarounds to rescue the tie in Istanbul on Tuesday. Ronaldo opened

the scoring with a superb lofted shot over goalkeeper Fernando Muslera following a perfect pass from Mesut Ozil to settle the home side’s nerves. Galatasaray came back into the game and dominated possession for a spell, but fell further behind when Michael Essien crossed for Benzema who controlled the ball at the far post before planting it low into the net.

Reuters

GENERAL



A tourist films vendors with a camera on a commercial street in Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, on 3 April, 2013. Lhasa received 436,900 trips during the first quarter of this year, up 72.11 percent as compared to the same period of last year, with the tourism revenues up 35.05 percent year on year to 447 million yuan (about 72 million US dollars).—XINHUA

### Sierra Leone peacekeeping troops arrive in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 4 April—Sierra Leone's peacekeeping troops on Wednesday arrived in Somalia to join the African Union peacekeeping Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

"An advance team from the Sierra Leonean contingent arrived today in Somalia... They will operate alongside the Kenyan contingent," AMISOM said here in a statement.

The battalion-strong Sierra Leone contingent would be deployed "shortly" to southern Somalia where Kenyan forces were deployed, it said.

AMISOM said the deployment of the Sierra Leonean troops would enable the Kenyans to withdraw one battalion from the region in accordance with a UN Security Council resolution.

"The Special Representative welcomed the deployment of the contingent and said that their integration into AMISOM signifies the commitment across Africa to stabilizing Somalia," said the AMISOM statement.

Sierra Leone was the fifth African country to have contributed troops to the 18,000-strong peacekeeping mission in Somalia alongside troops from Uganda, Djibouti, Burundi and Kenya.

Xinhua

### US Army investigates shooting at Fort Knox base

CHICAGO, 4 April—Investigation has been launched after a shooting caused a temporary lockdown of the Fort Knox army base in Kentucky on Wednesday afternoon, according to local news reports. There were no immediate reports of casualties, a fort spokesman told WDRB-TV. The lockdown was lifted about 7 p.m., but traffic in and out of the fort was slow because of increased security.

A civilian was flown by helicopter to a hospital,

but there was no immediate word on the victim's condition, a military official told NBC News.

The shooting happened near the Human Resources Command, which has 3,800 employees. Fort Knox, about 60 kilometers from Louisville, Kentucky, is home to more than 40,000 soldiers, family members and civilian employees.

Less than two weeks ago, a US Marine shot two colleagues to death at a Virginia base before killing himself.—Xinhua

### Jeev Milkha Singh wants truce between rival tours in Asia



Jeev Milkha Singh acknowledges the crowd after making his birdie putt on the first green during the first round of the British Open golf championship at Royal Lytham & St Annes, northern England on 19 July, 2012.

REUTERS

NEW DELHI, 4 April—Twice Asia number one Jeev Milkha Singh would like to see a truce between the Asian Tour and its rival OneAsia so the continent can realise its potential as golf's next big market, the golfer said on Wednesday.

For the second time this year, the rival tours went head-to-head last week with Australian Scott Hend winning the Asian Tour's inaugural Chiangmai Golf Classic in Thailand while South Korean Choi Ho-sung clinched the Indonesia PGA Championship on the OneAsia circuit. Singh was one of the four Asian Tour order of merit winners to tee off in Thailand and the Indian said he wanted the rival tours to reach a compromise.

"I just hope that compromise takes place for the betterment of the game in the region," Singh, an honorary Asian Tour member, said on the eve of the Panasonic Open India at the Delhi Golf Club.

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**  
(5-4-13 09:30 am ~ 6-4-13 09:30 am) MST

- \* News
- \* 12 Sign of Ascendants in April, 2013
- \* News
- \* Culture Stage
- \* Thingyan Songs & Dances
- \* News
- \* Myanmar's Gold Market
- \* Sustainable Development of Kandaw Gyi Lake and Inya Lake
- \* News
- \* Donation Ceremony of Parami Energy Group of Companies
- \* Press Meeting by Special Envoy of Japanese Government for National Reconciliation in Myanmar
- \* News
- \* Rural Electrification in Myanmar
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- \* Myanmar's Golds Market
- \* Sustainable Development of Kandaw Gyi Lake and Inya Lake
- \* News
- \* Myanmar Movies "Renewed Love Story"

### Myanmar TV

(5-4-2013, Friday)

<b>6:00 am</b>	1. Paritta By Venerable MinGun Sayadw	<b>2:15 pm</b>	18. Myanmar Movie (Part-3)
<b>6:25 am</b>	2. To Be Healthy Exercise	<b>4:15 pm</b>	19. Dance of Thin Gyan Festival
<b>6:30 am</b>	3. Pyi Thu Ni Ti	<b>4:25 pm</b>	20. Dance & Song of National Races
<b>6:50 am</b>	4. Documentary	<b>4:30 pm</b>	21. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures)
<b>7:00 am</b>	5. News	<b>5:00 pm</b>	-Second Year (Maths)
<b>7:40 am</b>	6. Dance of Thin Gyan Festival	<b>5:00 pm</b>	22. Road to 27th SEA Games (Archery)
<b>8:00 am</b>	7. News	<b>5:25 pm</b>	23. India Drama Series
<b>8:20 am</b>	8. India Drama Series	<b>6:00 pm</b>	24. News
<b>9:00 am</b>	9. News	<b>6:20pm</b>	25. Amazing World
<b>9:20 am</b>	10. How It's Works	<b>6:45 pm</b>	26. TV Drama Series
<b>9:40 am</b>	11. ASEAN "Programmes"	<b>7:00 pm</b>	27. News
<b>10:15am</b>	12. TV Drama Series	<b>7:15 pm</b>	28. TV Drama Series
<b>11:10 am</b>	13. CLEVER	<b>8:00 pm</b>	29. News
<b>11:40 am</b>	14. Myanmar Series	<b>8:35 pm</b>	30. Peple Talk
<b>12:00 pm</b>	15. News	<b>8:45 pm</b>	31. Present Songs
<b>12:25 pm</b>	16. Myanmar Movie (Part-1)	<b>9:00 pm</b>	32. News
<b>1:15 pm</b>	17. Myanmar Movie (Part-2)	<b>9:30 pm</b>	33. Pyi Thu Ni Ti
			34. Nostalglia to Myanma Cultural Arts



Firemen put out a fire at the Zhangwan Farmers Market in Shiyan City, central China's Hubei Province, on 3 April, 2013. The fire broke out around 2:20 pm at the market and was put out later, leaving one person injured.—XINHUA

### US Army investigates shooting at Fort Knox base

CHICAGO, 4 April—Investigation has been launched after a shooting caused a temporary lockdown of the Fort Knox army base in Kentucky on Wednesday afternoon, according to local news reports.

There were no immediate reports of casualties, a fort spokesman told WDRB-TV. The lockdown was lifted

about 7 pm, but traffic in and out of the fort was slow because of increased security.

A civilian was flown by helicopter to a hospital, but there was no immediate word on the victim's condition, a military official told NBC News.

The shooting happened near the Human Resources Command, which has 3,800

employees. Fort Knox, about 60 kilometres from Louisville, Kentucky, is home to more than 40,000 soldiers, family members and civilian employees.

Less than two weeks ago, a US Marine shot two colleagues to death at a Virginia base before killing himself.—Xinhua

# Sitagu Sayadaw Dr. Ashin Nyanissara sends peace message to Community Dialogue for Social Harmony & Stability in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April— *Sitagu Sayadaw Dr. Ashin Nyanissara sent a peace message to Community Dialogue for Social Harmony & Stability in Myanmar, at Myanmar Peace Center on 30 March. The following is the full text of the message.*

## STRONGLY CONDEMN ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE

by

**Sitagu Sayadaw**

As a religious leader, I would like to affirm that I strongly condemn all forms of violence.

Today, Myanmar has witnessed riots, violence and clashes between one national race and another in different faith caused by unknown instigators. Actually, racial and religious riots and violence which started from Rakhine State spread to Meiktila in Mandalay Region resulting in clashes between Buddhists and Muslims. It did not stop and moved to some townships in west Bago Region. At the same time, due to unscrupulous people who wanted to exaggerate the situation, rumors spread to other states and regions and made the national brethren who want to live in peace and unity anxious about the security matters. This kind of rumor, indeed, is a major hindrance to our country which is marching towards a new society of peace and prosperity. Therefore, I strongly protest and condemn all forms of religious, racial and economic violence.

The core essence of Buddhism is based on Non-violence which is termed "Ahimsa" in Pali language. I

accept the fact that it is a universal principle and value which other major religions such as Christianity, Islam and Hinduism also embrace. I also believe that all Gods who founded their respective religions talked only about Peace (Santi) but protested violence. So the people of different faiths are requested to live in peace, harmony and co-existence in line with the noble teachings of their respective religions. In doing so, it is of utmost importance that Tolerance (Khanti), Forgiveness (Khama) and Forgetting each other's mistakes and wrong doings (Anunnyata).

I also wish to urge that rumors and suspects should not be created with ill-intention to trigger violence. They are greatly detrimental to building peace and stability. Those who created suspects among the different communities are committing major crimes while those disseminating rumors are destroying peace and stability. The Buddha used to emphasize by saying, "Ma Anussavena Gahnittha"... which means: "Do not be led by rumors based on exaggerated hearsay without trying to discover the truth yourself". So I would like to stress that the people should not be led by rumors and moved by suspects. Deduction should be taken through thorough observation and contemplation proving that the rumors are logical and acceptable.

Myanmar is a country rich in cultural heritage where

Buddhism is significantly flourishing. It is not a land of uncivilized people. It is a country of multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, and multi-faith where the people have long enjoyed the rights to worship any religion they choose. The people have enjoyed a fine tradition of following religions and cultural teachings of their parents, teachers and virtuous recluses for thousands of years.

I would like to put my special request that the people who are living on the same land under the same flag drinking same water stand united reflecting Myanmar's spirit of peace, harmony and co-existence.

The word Myanmar comes from Brahma which means "Noble". The meaning would be complete if it is added with patience, forgiveness, loving-kindness, compassion, justice and rationality. I would, therefore, like to urge the people of Myanmar to be noble-hearted and also united in protecting and preventing violence.

The number of monks in Myanmar figures nearly 500,000 at present which is about the strength of the Myanmar Armed Forces. What I would like to request here is that while the Myanmar Army is carrying out its prime responsibility of defending the sovereignty of the State for the prevalence of peace and stability within

(See page 9)

## Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives member of EU Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April— Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received a delegation led by Member of the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights in Brussels Mrs Barbara Lochbihler at

Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Hall-1, here, this afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed human rights, food security in the region and Myanmar MPs' visit to EU Parliament.

Also present at the meeting together with

the Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw were chairmen of committees, secretaries, members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and officials from the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

## Development of meat and fish sector discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April— Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint held talks with a delegation led by Australian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Bronte Nadine Moules

at his office, here, yesterday morning.

During the discussion, they mainly focused on milch cow breeding and dairy products, providing course to scholars of fishery

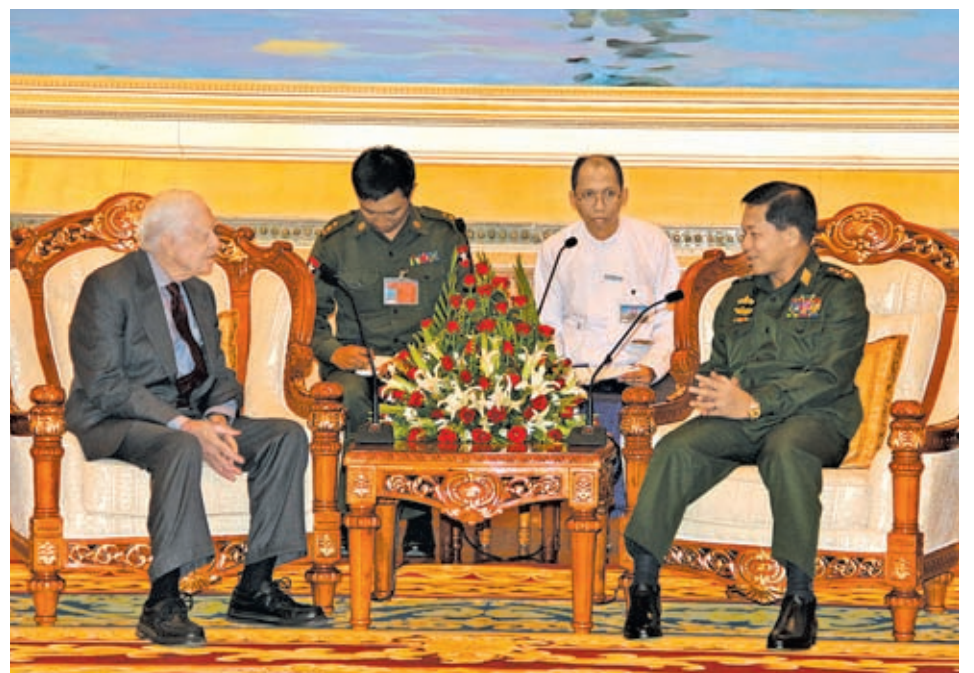
and meat sectors, Australian investment in meat and fish sector, technical assistance and uplifting human capability and assisting with skilled workers.

MNA



Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint poses for documentary photo together with Australian delegation.—MNA

## C-in-C receives former US President and wife



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds discussion with former US President Mr Jimmy Carter.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a delegation led by Former US President Mr Jimmy Carter and wife Mrs Rosalynn Carter at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, at 9.45 am today.

Also present were Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint,

senior military officers from Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office. The visiting delegation was accompanied by high-ranking officials.

At the meeting, they had cordial discussions on 2008 Constitution, 2015 general elections, internal peace making process, Tatmadaw's role and participation in respective

Hluttaws, relations between Myanmar and neighboring countries and relations between the two Armed Forces of Myanmar and the US.

After the meeting, the Commander-in-Chief presented gifts to the Former US President and posed for a documentary photo.

MNA

Significant night temperature (4-4-2013)

Chauk

43°C