

## For successful realization of political, economic and social reforms, it needs for firm establishment of peace and stability Maintain successes, take lessons from losses, prepare to face and overcome challenges ahead

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—The following is the translation of radio address delivered by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein on the occasion of Thingyan New Year.

### Esteemed people,

Now is the occasion of Thingyan New Year when the entire Myanmar people, young and old alike, far and wide of the country take part merrily in the traditional festivities held on a grand scale. First of all, I would like to send my wish to the entire people to be blessed with physical and psychological wellbeing on this occasion.

It is our society's fine tradition that the New Year occasion symbolizes washing away the ills and sins of the previous year, in preparation for new life with fresh mind. So I would like to seriously say the entire people on the New Year occasion that I wish to see the country filled with the good and happy events moving towards peace and tranquility next year after cleansing the black spots like the clashes, conflict and instabilities triggered by social misunderstandings with the use of Thingyan water while making

great strides in pursuit of democracy last year.

The reason why I emphasize like this is to say the point on the basis that our society has a centuries-old national tradition in which there has been a harmonious racial and religious pluralism. As our society managed to overcome enormous difficulties and challenges hand in hand, we can turn our society into the one which is possessed of harmonious pluralism and own traditions and customs.

Taking a look at the track we walk, sympathies, adjustments and negotiations based on national unity will be necessary to be able to surmount difficulties and challenges ahead as we are building a society with greater transparency.

Two years on we were moving towards democracy joining hand in hand. Our society not only achieved successes that had not hoped for but also encountered saddening and horrifying events that had not expected.

During the long road to democracy, we have to maintain our already-achieved successes, take lessons from the losses and be prepared to face and overcome the challenges ahead. In preparation for the challenges, we have to strive for the success with patience, tolerance and diligence.

For the successful realization of our political, economic and social reforms, I would like to stress the need for firm establishment of peace and stability based on compassion, the essence of Myanmar traditional Thingyan.

All in all, I would like to send my wish to the esteemed people to be happy on the New Year Thingyan occasion. Continuously, I would like to call on the entire people, during the Thingyan time, to ward off destructive acts by internal and external elements attempting to create the conflicts occurred last year into racial and religious ones.

## President and First Lady's New Year Greetings



Daw Khin Khin Win



President U Thein Sein

Myanmar people celebrate New Year Festival on a grand scale at the time when the old year ended in Tabauung, the last month of Myanmar lunar calendar, and the new year has started in Tagu, the first month of the calendar. Thingyan water festival is held across the nation at the beginning of Tagu.

Now Thingyan New Year period concluded. In the nature of things, old things are replaced with new ones. But new things are rejuvenating the old ones, without discarding them. Welcoming the New Year with fresh mind and new life, President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win extended New Year greetings for Myanmar people as follow:-

### President U Thein Sein

I would like to extend greetings wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year and to be blessed with fresh new mind and fresh new life.

### Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the President

I would also like to send my best wishes to the entire Myanmar people to be blessed with a happy and healthy New Year. May Myanmar be peaceful and pleasant.

## Water-throwing pandals in Nay Pyi Taw packed with Thingyan revelers on Atet Day, prizes awarded to dance troupes

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—Today is Thingyan Atet Day. Thingyan revelers from villages and townships in Nay Pyi Taw and other towns arrived in Nay Pyi Taw by car and motorbike in the morning to celebrate the final day of Thingyan festival.

Water-throwing pavilions in Hotel Zone and Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan pavilion were packed with merry-makers. Movie stars, singers, choral troupes, dancers and Thanchat groups

entertained them with their performance with songs and dances.

Likewise, there were groups of kids and young men along the road from Pinlaung junction to Yezin, dousing water on one another and splashing water on everyone in passenger buses and cars passing by.

Similarly, small water-throwing pavilions in Nay Pyi Taw National Landmark Garden were also teeming with revelers.

Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden, Safari Park, Hlaykwintaung and Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden were also crowded with merry-makers who were taking relaxation.

A prize-giving and closing ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Festival 1374 ME took place at Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pavilion in front of Nay Pyi Taw City

Hall, here, this evening.

Union Ministers Dr Kan Zaw and U Htay Aung, Deputy Ministers U Pike Htwe, U Han Sein and Daw Sanda Khin presented consolation prizes to the Yein troupes. Union Ministers U Win Shein, U Tint Hsan and U Soe Maung also awarded respective prizes winning Yein troupes.

Next, Union Minister Mayor U Thein Nyunt presented a trophy and cash award to first prize winning Yein Troupe of the Ministry of Construction. Union Minister U Thein Nyunt also presented cash awards to musicians, artistes, MCs, singers and referees.

The first, second and third prize winning Yein troupes entertained songs and dances together with artistes from the Fine Arts Department under the Ministry of Culture.

MNA



*Nay Pyi Taw dwellers joyfully participate in water festival in villages and townships of Nay Pyi Taw on Atet Day of Maha Thingyan Festival-1374.*

MNA

## Heavy rain with high wind, thunder and lightning batters Kyondoe



KYONDOE, 16 April— Kyondoe Township of Kawkaik District in Kayin State was caught in a sudden squall of rain for the second time on 13 April. Heavy rain with lightning strikes and hailstones lashed the township, knocking down trees and lampposts, cutting power lines and destroying roofs of houses and Kyondoe basic education high school. Aye Pagoda

of Kyondoe tilted to one side, trees fell onto the houses and the dais for Kayin traditional don dance collapsed due to the strong wind. Moreover, villagers were struck by lightning and killed.

Heavy rain with high wind and thunder and lightning claimed five lives— one from Yaypugyi village, one from Kawtwale village, one from Nyaungyattha-

Thayatdaw village and two from Kawtbaw village— and hurt three villagers including one-year-and-three-month-old child from nearby villages of Kyondoe.

Officials concerned and local people performed clearing debris and fallen trees and electrical staff carried out setting up of lampposts and reinstallation of power line on 14 April.

*Kyemon*

## Loaded truck with flat tyre plunges into ravine

INGAPU, 16 April— A truck loaded with bags of onion and mung plunged into the valley as it got a flat tyre on a steep slope at a place between mile post Nos ( 99/1) and (99/2) on Pathein-Monywa motorway near Kyaukpyinsan village in Ingapu Township at about 8 pm on 10 April.

The loaded truck plunged off the road and overturned, leaving five passengers and one truck conductor injured.

Mezali police station filed a lawsuit against truck driver Kyaw Hsan Lin who ran away from the incident and steps are being taken to arrest him.— *Kyemon*

## Sanitation worker knocked down by car

YANGON, 16 April— A 39-year-old woman died after she was knocked down by a light truck while she was carrying out sanitation work near a bus yard in Thuwunna, here, at dawn on 14 April.

Daw Mya Yin, a sanitation worker, was hit

by the light truck loaded with baskets of vegetables and she was pronounced dead on the spot in the incident.

Thuwunna police station filed a lawsuit against the light truck driver who ran away and investigation is ongoing.— *Kyemon*

## Dead body of unknown man found in Melamu creek

YANGON, 16 April— A man was found dead in Melamu creek to the west of Melamu Pagoda in North Okkalapa Township at about 1.15 pm on 12 April.

As they were informed that a dead body of an unidentified man who is believed to be 30 years old was found in the creek,

Police Inspector Nyi Nyi Lwin and party of North Okkalapa Township rushed there and made necessary investigations. The dead body was sent to North Okkalapa Hospital where it is under thorough examination whether there is evidence of third party hand on it.

*Kyemon*

## Car accident claims two lives, hurts three passengers

BOGALE, 16 April— A fatal car accident happened to a taxi driving from Yangon to Bogale at a place between mile post Nos (16/7) and (17/0) on the road near Kansu village in Bogale Township on 12 April.

The taxi driven by Ye Win Tun, 25, skidded out of control and overturned after getting a flat tyre, leaving Pyaeson Hlaing, 25, and Pyu Pyu, 25, of Bogale



seven passengers wounded. the driver was in critical condition.— *Kyemon*

## Girl ran over, killed by truck while crossing road

YEDASHE, 16 April— An eight-year-old girl was knocked down by a six-wheeled truck loaded with

sawn wood while she was crossing Yangon-Mandalay road after getting off the bus

together with her parents near a monastery in Swa of Yedashe Township during the Thingyan water festival period.

Moe Moe Thu, 8, was hit and ran over by the loaded truck driven by Aung Myo Swe. The victim was pronounced dead on the spot in the incident due to serious injuries.

Witnesses said that parents should be cautious of crossing the busy road together with their offspring. Swa police station opened a case and actions are being taken.— *Kyemon*



## Gold chain snatch in Kawhmu Township

YANGON, 16 April— A woman had fallen to the victim of a robber who snatched her gold chain and locket worth over K900,000 and went away while she was on her way back home by motorbike at about 1 pm on 9 April.

A man hiding his face behind a longyi ran after her motorbike and snatched the gold chain and locket from Ma Htet Htet Win, 36, of Sonshan village in Kawhmu Township on the village road near Tilokesan bridge between Ma Hseseik

village and Sonshan village. Then the robber went into the roadside bamboo forest and disappeared.

Kyaikhtaw police station opened a case and actions are being taken to expose the unknown robber.

*Kyemon*

## Warehouse fire in Zalun Township

HINTHADA, 16 April— A fire engulfed three warehouses at Nyaungbin Zay ward in Zalun Township of Ayeyawady Region at about 10 pm on 13 April.

Fire fighters accompanied by five fire

trucks managed to bring the fire under control and the fire died down at about 10.35 pm.

Officials concerned and responsible persons from Zalun Township General Administration Department, Fire Services Department

and Nyaungbin market took part in the fight against fire. There were no casualties in the fire. Investigation is ongoing to expose the root cause of fire.

*Kyemon*



## 32-year-old woman found dead in the forest

KALAW, 16 April— A 32-year-old woman was found dead near a graveyard, two-furlong north of Lamaing Village in Kalaw Township, at about 10 pm on 10 April. As they were informed of the case, Police Inspector Win Paing of Kalaw Police Station and party rushed there and made necessary investigations.

According to the Lamaing Village administrator and townsenders of Bawdikon Village, Ma Tin Oo, 32, did not get back home till 8 pm after going into the forest in the afternoon on that day.

Her father and villagers searched far and wide for her in the forest and she was found dead near the graveyard at about 8.30 pm. They discovered a packet of pesticide beside her dead body which was taken to the mortuary of Kalaw hospital the following day.

Investigation into the case is ongoing in order to find evidence whether there is foul play or not.— *Kyemon*

## WORLD

## Bombs kill three people, wound more than 100 at Boston Marathon



Police and runners react to an explosion during the Boston Marathon finish area in Boston, Massachusetts, on 15 April, 2013. —REUTERS

BOSTON, 16 April—Two bombs ripped through the crowd at the finish line of the Boston Marathon on Monday, killing three people, maiming others and injuring more than 100 in what a White House official said would be treated as an “act of terror.”

It was the worst bombing on US soil since security was tightened after the attacks of 11 September, 2001, and President Barack Obama promised to hunt down whoever was responsible for the attack on a day when tens of thousands of spectators packed the streets

to watch the world-famous race. No one has been arrested and the White House official said it would have to be determined whether the attack came from a foreign or domestic source.

Investigators found what could be five additional, undetonated explosive devices around the Boston area, the *Wall Street Journal* reported, citing two unnamed people briefed on the investigation. The evidence had yet to be fully analyzed, the *Journal* said. The blasts a few seconds apart knocked some runners off their feet and shattered what had been

a resplendent spring day with the state of Massachusetts celebrating Patriots’ Day, which commemorates the US war of independence on the third Monday in April.

April 15 is also the deadline for US taxpayers to file their annual income tax returns. Many runners were heading for the finish when a fireball and smoke rose from behind cheering spectators and a row of flags representing the countries of participants, video from the scene showed. The cheers turned to screams and panic. “I saw people who looked like they had their legs blown off. There was a lot of blood over their legs. Then people were being pushed in wheelchairs,” said Joe Anderson, 33, a fisherman from Pembroke, Massachusetts.

Reuters

## Lion Air crash pilot felt jet “dragged” from sky



The body of a Lion Air plane is seen in the water after it missed the runway in Denpasar, Bali on 13 April, 2013.

REUTERS

PARIS/DENPASAR, (Indonesia), 16 April — The pilot whose Indonesian jet slumped into the sea while trying to land in Bali has described how he felt it “dragged” down by wind while he struggled to regain control, a person familiar with the matter said. All 108 passengers and crew miraculously survived when the *Boeing 737* passenger jet, operated by Indonesian budget carrier Lion Air, undershot the tourist island’s main airport runway and belly-flopped in water on Saturday.

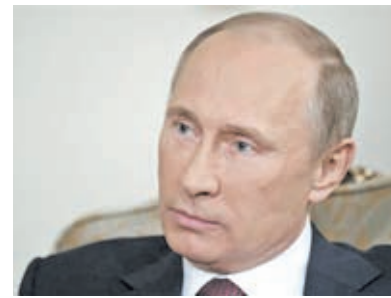
Officials stress it is too

MOSCOW, 16 April—Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated Nicolas Maduro on Monday on winning Venezuela’s presidential election, saying he expected good relations to continue with a country where Moscow has significant oil investments. Ties between Moscow and Caracas flourished under Hugo Chavez, the socialist leader who died last month of cancer.

Maduro was Chavez’s chosen successor and Russian officials were hoping for continuity to protect their energy and arms deals there.

“Putin expressed confidence that under Maduro’s leadership Venezuela will further strengthen its relations of strategic partnership with Russia,” the Kremlin said after the

## Putin congratulates vote winner in oil ally Venezuela



Russian President Vladimir Putin listens during an interview with German public broadcaster ARD at the Novo-Ogaryovo residence outside Moscow, on 2 April, 2013. —REUTERS

Sunday vote. Russia has invested billions of dollars in Venezuelan oil projects and has given Caracas loans to buy weapons. Igor Sechin, a Putin ally who is the head of Rosneft, Russia’s top crude oil producer, has been a regular visitor to discuss oil deals and arms sales in Venezuela.

Just weeks before the late Venezuelan president won re-election last October, Sechin donned a Chavez T-shirt to pose with workers. Sechin also headed Russia’s delega-

tion to Chavez’s funeral last month. Russia is on the lookout for new oil and gas projects globally, with the US shale gas revolution putting pressure on its energy export earnings, and is looking for new arms markets after losing some contracts in the Middle East since the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings. Maduro’s main rival in Sunday’s election Henrique Capriles said he did not accept the result giving Maduro a narrow victory and demanded a recount.—Reuters

## Obama’s message to Putin

### “constructive”

MOSCOW, 16 April—A message by US President Barack Obama to his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, was written in a constructive tone with proposals on deepening bilateral ties, the Kremlin said on Monday. The private letter, delivered by visiting US National Security Adviser Thomas Donilon to Putin, contains “a number of proposals on deepening bilateral dialogue and cooperation,” presidential aide Yuri Ushakov told reporters.

Obama’s letter contains both previously discussed topics and new elements, Ushakov said, adding that Russia “will thoroughly study them and give the corresponding answers.” Noting that the Obama administration has been sending “quite positive signals” to Moscow, Ushakov said, “We will certainly support these signals.

Xinhua

## Germany’s Merkel will stand for full term in election

BERLIN, 16 April—Chancellor Angela Merkel will stand for a full four-year term in the September election, her spokesman said on Monday, amid German media speculation that she might step aside in 2015 midway through a third term.

“The chancellor is naturally standing for the full legislative period,” her spokesman Steffen Seibert told a government news conference.

Earlier *Bild* newspaper



German Chancellor Angela Merkel visits the public transport company PVGS Personenverkehrsgesellschaft mbH in Salzwedel, eastern Germany, on 12 April, 2013. —REUTERS

published a story saying Merkel might step down in 2015 if she were to win re-election in September. The year 2015 would mark 10 years in power for Merkel and she would be 60 in 2015.

The newspaper, citing a new book by a *Bild* journalist, published quotes from Merkel telling sources that she considers “10 years to be the maximum time” someone should stay on as chancellor or state premier.—Reuters

## Three US naval ships make port call in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 16 April—Three ships of the US Navy Amphibious Squadron Three started to make a port visit in Hong Kong on Monday to get replenishment.

The flagship of the Amphibious Squadron Three, *USS Peleliu*, pulled into the Ocean Terminal besides Tsim Sha Tsui, on

the northern bank of the landmark Victoria Harbour in the morning. The other two ships anchored in waters outside the Harbour.

Capt Shawn Lobree, commander of the Amphibious Squadron Three, told reporters that the squadron had finished many months of deployment in the US Fifth Fleet and vis-

ited Dubai before coming to Hong Kong. While reporters continued asking him the relation between this visit and the tension on the Korean Peninsula, Lobree repeatedly responded to them by saying it was just “a routine visit.”

“The purpose of our visit is strictly for leisure. This is a routine visit. It

has been planned for a very long time. It doesn’t have anything to do with political things happening now. (It is) just a routine visit for the sailors and marines onboard the three ships.” The three ships and more than 2,500 sailors and marines are expected to stay in Hong Kong for four days.

Xinhua



A US Navy helicopter is pictured on the *USS Peleliu*, the flagship of the Amphibious Squadron Three, in Hong Kong, south China, on 15 April, 2013. —REUTERS

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Putin says Russia to launch first manned space flight from its soil in 2018



Russian President Vladimir Putin holds a communication session with the crew of the International Space Station (ISS) on Cosmonautics Day during his visit to the Amursk Region, on 12 April, 2013. — REUTERS

VOSTOCHNY COSMODOROME, 16 April — President Vladimir Putin told astronauts on Friday that Russia will send up the first manned flights from its own soil in 2018, using a new launch pad he said will help the once-pioneering space power explore deep space and the moon. Speaking by video

## Electronic Arts cuts staff at Montreal studio

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 April — Videogame publisher Electronic Arts has begun laying off staff at its Montreal game studio in its latest round of jobs cuts, less than a month after former Chief Executive John Riccitiello abruptly resigned.

The company, known for its “FIFA” and “Sims” games, declined to divulge



Visitors walk past an advertising placard of FIFA13 during the Gamescom 2012 fair in Cologne on 16 Aug, 2012.— REUTERS

the number of jobs affected, or how many employees it has in Montreal, where it has developed console games like “Army of Two”. “EA is sharpening its focus to provide games for new platforms and mobile. In some cases, this involves reducing team sizes as we evolve into a more efficient organization,” the Redwood City, California-based company said in a statement. The Montreal studio, which includes a team that makes mobile games, is not closing, a spokesman said. He declined to say which teams within the studio had been affected by the job cuts.

The layoffs come shortly after John Ricci-

tiello stepped down as CEO on 30 March, after taking responsibility for missed operational targets. Former CEO and Chairman Larry Probst has been appointed executive chairman as the company begins its search for the next CEO. EA and rivals like Activision Blizzard Inc have seen growth fall off sharply as more gamers flock to free games

on social networks or on mobile devices. The biggest traditional games publishers have tried to buy startups, reorganize existing studios and invest in mobile platforms but face intense competition from entrenched players like Rovio or Zynga Inc. EA has been reorganizing studios to embrace new game platforms and adapt to consumer behaviour. Last year, EA’s PopCap unit, which makes social and mobile games, laid off 50 of about 380 staff members in its Seattle and Vancouver studios to focus on free-to-play social and mobile games.

Reuters

link with the International Space Station’s crew from the building site, Putin said it will be open to use by the United States and Europe—playing up cooperation on the anniversary of cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin’s 1961 flight, which set off the Cold War space race.

But with the image of a fiery rocket launch as a backdrop, Putin also said he wants the Vostochny Cosmodrome to help Russia catch up with other powers in exploring beyond Earth’s orbit.

“We are lagging behind the world in some areas,” Putin said on a tour of the future launch site in eastern Siberia near the border with China.

“We’ve developed a

noticeable gap from the leading space powers in the technologies of so-called deep space exploration.”

Russia wants Vostochny, where it hopes to exploit a new generation of rockets carrying heavier payloads, to rival its current launch site in Kazakhstan, the lease of which has been in contention since the 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union.

Since NASA retired its shuttles last year, Russian rockets blasting off from the Soviet-built Baikonur launch pad provide astronauts around the world with the only ride to the \$100-billion research laboratory some 250 miles above Earth. While NASA pays a steep fee for the trip,

the upkeep and lease of the Baikonur Cosmodrome comes at Russia’s expense.

Congratulating astronauts on what is known in Russia as Space Exploration Day, Putin said: “These are not just any greetings, these are greetings from the construction site of our future.” He said the first launch from Vostochny will be in 2015 and the first manned flight in 2018.

The site, near Russia’s Pacific Coast, was chosen to allow cosmonauts to splash down on water after their mission. “I very much hope that it will be used not only by our specialists, but by our colleagues from the United States, Europe and other countries,” he said.

Reuters

## PayPal acquisition brings “growth hackers” into the fold

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 April — PayPal said on Thursday it acquired start-up Iron Pearl, bringing noted “growth hackers” Stan Chudnovsky and James Currier on board to help the online payments service expand more quickly.

PayPal, part of eBay Inc, did not disclose a purchase price. PayPal is a dominant online payments service with more than 120 million users, but its growth has slowed in recent years and the company’s new president, David Marcus, is looking for ways to revive that. Iron Pearl, a Silicon Valley start-up, analyzes data and develops computer models designed to drive the viral spread of products and services over the Internet, often across social networks such as Facebook Inc.

This niche in the technology world is often called growth hacking, and PayPal’s Marcus said on Thursday that Chudnovsky



Visitors walk past an Ebay and PayPal banner at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on 28 Feb, 2012.

REUTERS

and Currier are among the leading growth hackers. Other top growth hackers include Chamath Paliapitiya, who helped drive Facebook’s own rapid expansion, Marcus noted. “It’s time for PayPal to take this very seriously,” Marcus said. “This is a key function of any growth company.” Technology companies such as Facebook, LinkedIn Corp and Twitter have specific groups of employees who focus on growth hacking and PayPal should too, he added.

Chudnovsky will take on the new role of vice president of growth at PayPal and report directly to Marcus, while Currier will be a “growth adviser” to the company, Marcus said. Chudnovsky and Currier started Tickle, an early social media 7company that used online viral marketing and was acquired for \$100 million by Monster in 2004. Chudnovsky also helped design online growth strategies for start-ups such as GoodReads, Path and BranchOut.—Reuters

## Ahead of the curve: but bendable screens still seek breakthrough

SINGAPORE/NEW YORK, 16 April — The touted arrival this year of wearable gadgets such as computer displays strapped to wrists and in wrap-around glasses is just a step towards a bigger revolution in screens—those that can be bent, folded and rolled up. Once freed from today’s relatively heavy, breakable and fixed glass displays, tomorrow’s devices may look very different, with screens that can be rolled out, attached to uneven surfaces, or even stretched.

But there’s still some way to go. “It becomes a product designer’s para-

dise—once the technology is sorted out,” says Jonathan Melnick, who analyses display technology for Lux Research. There is no shortage of prototypes—South Korea’s Samsung Electronics this year showed off a display screen that extends from the side of a device—but obstacles remain: overcoming technical issues, figuring out how to mass produce parts cheaply, and coming up with devices compelling enough for gadget buyers.

Screen technology—and the global small display market is seen more than doubling to around \$72



A Cima NanoTech employee tests the conductivity of a piece of folded SANTE Film in their lab in Singapore in this 12 April, 2013 picture.— REUTERS

billion by 2016, according to DisplaySearch—is still dominated by liquid crystal displays (LCDs), which require a backlight and sit be-

## Two million-year-old creature had mix of ape, human traits

JOHANNESBURG, 16 April — A 2 million-year-old ancestor of man had a mixture of ape and human-like features that allowed it to hike vast distances on two legs with as much ease as it could scurry up trees, according to research published on Friday.

Discovered in cave near Johannesburg in 2008, the fossils of a species named “Australopithecus sediba” have given researchers clues about the evolution of man and which traits in our ancestors fell by the wayside. Standing about 1.3 metres (4 ft) tall, sediba had a narrow rib cage similar to apes but a flexible spine more similar to that of a human. Its long arms and powerful torso helped in climbing, according to the research published in the journal *Science*.

Sediba’s small heel resembled a chimpanzee’s and it walked with an inward rotation of the knee and hip on slightly twisted feet with a flat-footed gait that would have helped it cover ground, the researchers said. “It is the perfect compromise of something that has the need to walk on the ground efficiently for long distances. At the same time, it is a very capable climber,” said Lee Berger, project leader at the Wits Evolutionary Studies Institute in South Africa.

The researchers plan further studies to see how these fossils of early human relatives known as hominin compare to other remains, to help put together the pieces of evolution.—Reuters

tween two sheets of glass, making the screen a major contributor to the weight of a device, from laptops to tablets.—Reuters

## BUSINESS &amp; HEALTH

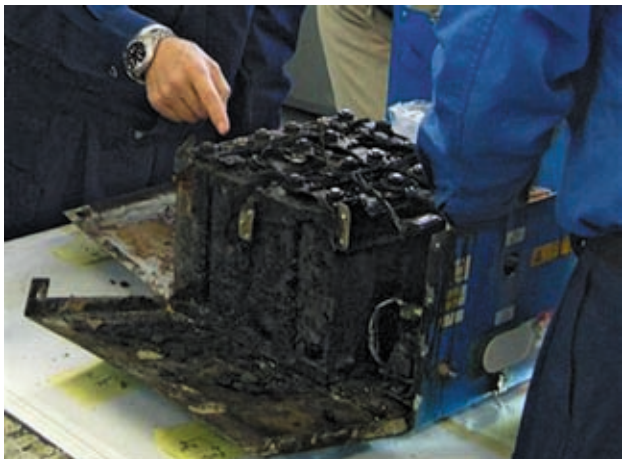
## FAA sees lessons from Boeing 787 battery woes

NEW YORK/COLORADO SPRINGS, 16 April—US regulators are discussing whether the batteries that burned on Boeing Co's 787 Dreamliner hold any lessons for other aircraft or vehicles. George Nield, associate administrator for commercial space transportation at the Federal Aviation Administration, said a dialogue is taking place about whether the overheating of two lithium-ion batteries on the 787 could have broader implications. "Everyone's looking to see if there are any lessons to be learned from this," Nield told Reuters during a conference hosted by the Space Foundation this week.

The discussion marks a shift for the agency. Two months after the Dreamliner was approved for service in 2011, a lithium-ion battery caught fire on a Cessna business jet, prompting the FAA to order that lithium-ion batteries be replaced with less hazardous cells on all of those jets within a week.

But the agency concluded there were no broader lessons to be learned for the 787 or other aircraft. Nield, who noted that the International Space Station is among the platforms that use the batteries, said the discussion is different now. "There might not have been a lot (of dialogue) in the past, but I can assure you there will be going forward," Nield said.

Lightweight and power-packed, lithium-ion batteries are used to power electric cars, laptops, tablets, cell phones, satellites. They are even used on the Lockheed Martin Corp F-35 fighter jet. The number of cells manufactured globally has leapt to 4.4 billion in 2012 from 800 million in 2002. But safety remains an issue. The battery industry still does not have a foolproof way to predict or prevent internal short circuits in the cells, according to experts who spoke about the issue this week at the National Transportation Safety Board forum.—Reuters



The burnt auxiliary power unit battery, removed from an All Nippon Airways' (ANA) Boeing Co 787 Dreamliner plane which made an emergency landing on 16 Jan 2013 in Takamatsu, is inspected by the manufacturer at the headquarters of GS Yuasa Corp in Kyoto, western Japan, in this handout photo taken on 26 Jan, 2013 and released by the Japan Transport Safety Board (JTSB) on 5 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

## India concerned FTA with EU might affect public health

NEW DELHI, 16 April—India is concerned that a free trade agreement with the European Union could jeopardize the country's public health, as such an agreement with EU would lead to a restriction of supply of generic medicines in the country and abroad as well, according to local media reports.

There are genuine concerns that the Free Trade Agreement, which India is finalizing with the European Union, can

prove detrimental to health equity, said local daily *The Tribune* on Saturday. "Supply of low cost generic medicines to patients within the country and in less developed nations should not be threatened by a treaty that may further tighten an already rigid global regime represented by the Trade Related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPs)," said an editorial of the daily.

It also asked the Indian

government to "take the country into confidence on the text of the India EU FTA." The article quoted Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz as saying TRIPs was designed to increase the price of medicines. However, despite the rising cost to patients and massive revenues for pharmaceutical companies, the profits have not led to remedies for disease affected poor countries, according to the opinion piece.

Xinhua

## Vegetables recommended for skin whitening



1. Pea
2. White raddish
3. Carrot
4. Sweet potato
5. Mushroom
6. Loofah
7. Cucumber
8. Wax gourd
9. Tomato

Xinhua

## Experts study possible spread of virus by migratory birds

BEIJING, 16 April—A group of medical, veterinary and avian experts recently gathered in Beijing to see if there is a relation between the current outbreak of the H7N9 avian flu virus and migratory birds.

Having failed to remove the birds from a list of possible carriers, the experts suggested monitoring not only east China, where the first

H7N9 cases were reported, but also northern and northeastern provinces, which lie along the birds' migratory routes. The new virus is closely related to Eurasian migratory birds, although it is difficult for those birds to transfer the virus to humans, the experts concluded, adding that the spread of the virus may have occurred through an intermediary

organism.

Since the new virus had completed its evolution prior to the outbreak and stayed in the bodies of the intermediaries, it would've been impossible to detect the virus at an early stage, the experts said at their meeting, which was held by the State Bureau of Forestry.

The bureau said poultry and birds living on the coast

may be the most likely intermediaries. Participants attending the meeting came from the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, the Academy of Military Medical Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Zhejiang University, Northeast Forestry University and the Chinese Academy of Forestry.

Xinhua

## India's Chidambaram to woo investors in North America to fund current account gap

NEW DELHI, 16 April—India's finance minister will seek to drum up foreign investment from the United States and Canada this week to fund a record high current account deficit, even as policymakers debate the risks of over-reliance on foreign investors to finance the gap.

As P Chidambaram kicks off a week-long North America trip, his officials are working on a series of

steps to attract at least \$20 billion in new investment to fund the deficit without depleting India's \$300 billion in foreign exchange reserves. The proposals include raising the cap on foreign investment in rupee-denominated government debt by up to \$5 billion, reducing tax rates on such investments, making it easier for Indian firms to borrow abroad, and easing curbs on foreign investment in sensitive sectors such as defense, telecoms and media, finance and trade officials told Reuters.

The measures are still being formulated and have not been approved, the officials stressed. Chidambaram, aiming to take advantage of a wave of cheap global funds, will meet foreign investors in New York, Ottawa and Toronto, the latest stops in a global roadshow to talk up India as an investment destination. The new push for foreign investment is seen as part of an important but potentially risky shift in how India



India's Finance Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram speaks during a news conference in New Delhi on 20 March, 2013.—REUTERS

approaches its widening current account deficit, which has emerged as the government's biggest economic worry.

"We will take all steps to ensure that inflows remain strong for the next two years," Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told a gathering of industrialists in New Delhi earlier this month. The new push for foreign investment stems from India's struggle to boost its merchandise exports in a fragile global economy and rein in a high import bill. The government is now willing to tolerate a current account deficit of 5 percent, roughly double what it has typically aimed for, the finance ministry

officials said.

India's current account deficit widened to an all-time high of 6.7 percent of GDP in October-December, driven by heavy oil and gold imports and muted exports. India's failure to attract sufficient capital inflows precipitated a balance of payment crisis in 1991, when the central bank was forced to airlift 51 tons of gold to Europe as collateral for a loan to avert a sovereign default. "The size of the deficit in itself is not a problem, if you can comfortably finance it," said an official familiar with the funding proposals being considered by the government.

Reuters

## Thingyan: Myanmar New Year Festival

“သကြီနီ” Thingyan is a Myanmar derivative word from original sanscrit word သင်္ကြန် Songkaran or Thinkaran meaning “change”—change from old season to new season, old year to new year, change from the month of Tabaung, the last month in the 12 month lunar calendar to the month of Tagu, the first month in the following year in new calendar.

Thingyan also means movement of the sun causing three seasons—Geinman [Summer] Wathan [Rain or Monsoon] and Heiman [Winter or Cold season] when the sun moves from the Tropic of Capricorn in the south to the Tropic of cancer in the north, Myanmar under the Tropic of cancer gets direct solar rays, thus has warm dry Summer. Tagu, the first month of the lunar calendar is astrologically termed Meshu [Aries] yathi, symbolized by the figure of a goat. Asterism “Seittra” and the moon shine abreast in night firmament. Gantgaw flower Myanmar native tree [Mesua ferrea] is designated flower of the month.

The origin of Thingyan festival in the month of Tagu is explained by a legend. The two mighty devas Thagya Min [Indra the Thunder god] and Athi Brahmar were drawn into a heated controversy regarding the solution of one mathematical problem. Finally the two agreed to refer the matter to a sage on Earth called Kavalamine whose verdict would be accepted as final. They also agreed to that

the winner should cut off the loser’s head. The sage judged that Indra’s solution was right and so Indra cut off Athi Brahmar’s head with his thunder bolt. Athi Brahmar is so omnipotent a god that if his head were thrown down to the Earth, the Earth would burn to ashes, if cast into the oceans all water would dry up. So Indra assigned seven goddesses of Seven Days to hold by turn every day of deva kingdom [equivalent to every year of the Earth]. The time when Athi Brahmar’s head changes hands between seven day goddesses corresponds to Thingyan. The blood which gushed out of Athi Brahmar’s head was believed to be potent and auspicious when applied to one’s body. In olden days especially among some Hindus and Myanmar they splashed Thingyan water dyed with blood red colour to represent Athi Brahmar’s head blood. His headless body should not remain headless. Indra cut off the head of one of his mounts Mahapeingala Elephant and affixed it to the Brahmar’s body thereby Athi Brahmar became Mahapeinhne God [Ganesha].

Another legend tells the genesis of human kind on earth. Four Brahmas descended to the Earth which was completely dark. With the light emitted from the rays of their bodies, the four Brahmas could see. But when they got the attractive smell of the Earth, they could not resist the temptation to eat it. So they lost their deva’s life and became

earthy mortals. They became human—two males and two females but lost their rays of light from their bodies as they now became earthy humans. They prayed for light. Outcome sun to shine in daytime and moon at night. They married and produced human generations. But the first sin of eating earth they committed passed down to their generations. So human beings are sinful, they should be guided by moral precepts as preached by the Buddhas.

At the time of Thingyan

### *Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt*

Festival, it is believed that Indra [Thagya Min] descends to Earth from his celestial Kingdom Tavatimsa, for his annual round of inspection to check whether human beings on Earth are behaving well or not. Indra is accompanied by two assistant gods Witha-kyone [Vissukama] and Matali. The former is the registrar-cum-carpenter and the latter is the driver of the charrot or any vehicle which Indra rides. Witha-kyone carries with him two Record Books, one made of gold for registering good people who behave well and the other Book, made of dog’s skin, is for registering bad people who misbehave. In life hereafter [on the Dooms day] the registers are examined and good people would be rewarded by being sent to higher planes of existences and punishments await bad people in hells.

The above legend is told

in Myanmar family by the elders to the younger. It is one of most edifying fables to instruct children in good morals and manners. At the time of Thingyan, children in the extended families of typical Myanmar tradition are warned by their elders in the family not to be naughty, wicked, and mischievous, but to be good, otherwise Indra the Thagya Min would note them down in the black list for punishment. This belief reminds not only the young but also the adults, all

and everyone, to live a good moral life and to do good work for others. Thingyan festival is celebrated with the spirit of good will and loving kindness.

Myanmar kings held Thingyan Festival at their palaces where all participated. King Narathihapate [1254-87 A.D.] of Bagan dynasty was recorded in Myanmar chronicles to have built enclosed corridors between his palace and the bank of Ayeyawaddy River, inside which he, his queens and all courtiers reveled in Thingyan water throwing. In the lake Byu Har Kyan, compiled by Minister Thiri Uzana, the festival of Royal Thingyan was mentioned in detail.

Since the time of Myanmar kings till today, there is a Board of calendar officially appointed by the state. This Board is composed of learned astrologers, astronomers, mathema-

ticians, historians and scholars, monks and Hindu Brahmin consultants. They hold meetings to work out annual calendar, with climatic and weather predictions and forecasts, as well as past and upcoming events of natural, political, economic and social significance. The Board issued standard calendar with days and time of Thingyan and a Bulletin called Thingyan Sar, foretelling the upcoming events in the new year.

Usually the date of Thingyan Festival falls in mid April. Normally it lasts three days but in certain years four days. “Akyo Ney” is the eve day of Thingyan. The first day of Thingyan is “Akyo Ney” which means the day Indra the Thagya Min descends to Earth on this day when the signal for the exact time of his descent is announced either by beating the big drum [Bahosi] in old days, or later by sounding the river or by the report of the cannon, people perform the rite of pouring lustral water out of the Ater pot. A new earthen pot of about four to six inches in diameter specially made for Thingyan Festival is called “Atar Oh”.

It is filled with clear cool and scented water, placed on a stand in front of the house. Springs of seven kinds of flora representing seven days of the week, such as ohnlet [Coconut palm leave, Cocos nucifera Linn] to represent Sunday, Gantgaw [Iron wood, Mesura ferrea Linn] to represent Monday, Sein Pan [gold mohur tree, Poinciana regia] to represent Tuesday, Ywet Hla [Croton, Codiaetum variegatum] to represent Wednesday, Myey Zar [Couch grass, Cynodon dactylon Pers] to represent Thursday, Thi [wood apple tree, Feronia elephantum corres] or Than [Terminalia oliveri Brandis] to represent Friday, and Dan [Henna, Lawsonia inermis Linn] to represent Saturday are arranged in order in the Atar [the period of Thingyan] pot. Sprigs of Thabyey [Eugenia jambolana Lamk] are also added because like laurel in ancient Greece, Thabyey is the symbol of victory.

When the report of Thingyan cannon signals the descent of Thagya Min the Atar pot is raised up above the head to welcome him, prayers are said and wishes

are made and then water is poured out to symbolically purify and cleanse the sinful world and human beings. The sprigs are then turned into a bouquet to be tied at the entrance of the house to usher in the New Year.

The second day of Thingyan called “Akyat Ney” means the day Indra the Thagya Min goes round inspecting moral behaviour of human beings. Usually the inspection day is one day. But according to the calculations of the astrologers there can be two inspection days in certain years. Final day is “Atet Ney”, the day Indra Thagya Min ascends to his Celestial Kingdom. The exact time of his ascent is announced by drum beat or cannon report.

The spirit of Thingyan Festival is vibrated with goodwill, cheerfulness and loving kindness. People especially, the elders, go out to perform religious and social works—keeping Sabbath, meditating, visiting pagodas, temples and monasteries for worshipping or alms offering, paying homage to monks, parents, elders, superiors, teachers, bathing and shampooing the aged, cleaning and washing one’s house and surrounding, and throwing cool scented water at passerby to cleanse him. Thingyan is a Myanmar national festival held on a national scale, in which all Myanmar nationalities regardless of age, race, class, and religion revel in water splashing and throwing.

More than that, Thingyan has assumed an international character since the days of Myanmar Kings. It is a free for all fun-lovers and merry-makers’ festival in which people of every clime and creed participate to enjoy benevolently and joyously. Foreign envoys of East and West left accounts of their experience and fond memories of Thingyan festival at the capital and courts of Myanmar kings in their reports and diaries.

Today, Myanmar Government is patronizing New Year Festival of Thingyan at all levels—state, region, local township, village. Individuals or organised parties revel at their pandals and rendezvous with music dance and songs to usher in Myanmar New Year.



IMAGES OF MAHA THINGYAN FESTIVAL 1374 ME THROUGHOUT THE NATION



Thingyan merry-makers and revellers participate in water festival at Sky Net Family pandal in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone on Akya Day.



Opening ceremony of Central Water Throwing Pandal in progress at Seikkantha Park of An-nawa Ward in Kawthoung on 13 April.



Thingyan revellers enjoying water throwing festival at Alpine pandal on southern moat in Mandalay on Maha Thingyan Akya Day.



Young people joyfully participate in water festival of 1374 ME Maha Thingyan in Pyinmana.



Diplomats together with local people enjoying Maha Thingyan Festival in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone.



Members of Moms Troupe perform traditional dances to Thingyan lovers.



People happily participate in water dousing festival at Sky Net and Shwe FM pandal at the corner of Anawrahta and 19th Street in Latha Township of Yangon Region.

## THE DOG-HIDE PARABEIK

BY BA THIAN

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 17 April, 2013

## Happy New Year!

Today is Myanmar New Year Day and the old year ends and the New Year has ushered in, bringing an auspicious occasion for everyone in Myanmar.

During the Myanmar traditional cultural Maha Thingyan festival, the people of Myanmar doused water on one another and merrily celebrated the New Year in a civilized manner. By nature, water is cold and clear and therefore Thingyan water makes people cool, fresh and pleasant and makes happiness. Thingyan water cleans dirt of the old year, gets rid of the ills and sins of the previous year, causes new and fresh mind, helping the people find common ground for the future.

On the auspicious Myanmar New Year Day, all the people in the country perform meritorious deeds and Buddhists usually go to the pagodas, monasteries and meditation centres where they take Sabbath and practice meditation.

Being the New Year Day, the people sprinkled scented water on the Buddha images and wash the pagodas. Some make the wells and lakes cleaned and build roads, upgrade the bridges and carry out sanitation works in their own wards and villages. The young pay respects to the elderly and mentors in accord with the Myanmar traditions and customs and provide them with drinking water, shampoo and manicure them, upholding traditions that have been deeply entrenched in Myanmar society.

As Myanmar New Year Day is significant, profound and meaningful, we wish all the people to make endeavors for the betterment of the nation, the people and the Sasana forever with new mind and vigour, upholding fine traditions, casting aside differences and working together.

Moral and manners, code of conduct, good conscience, ethics, discipline are essentially the bedrock or basic foundation integral to human society. People of all nations and nationalities observe these moral qualities as their way of life.

In Myanmar such morality and discipline originated in the teachings of Lord Buddha compiled in Dhamma two thousand and five years ago. Such teachings are propagated and perpetuated by Lord Buddha's disciples: the Order of the Sanghas following "Theravada" Path of the Elders purified through successive Samghayana Buddhist Conferences to this day. Learned scholar monks kept the torch of light shine through monastic education to the lay disciples intraditional curriculum which include Myanmar alphabet, basic grammar, composition, mathematics. Pali, language of the scriptures was also taught to the learner monks delving into the essence of Dhamma. Other complementary studies such as astronomy, astrology, Myanmar literature in prose and poetic compositions, didactic learning defining the duties of parents and children, teachers and pupils, husband and wife, monk and disciple, master and servant are also being taught.

There are duties a person is obliged to fulfil in the Buddhist Society. When a male offspring is under 18, he enters into novicehood by donning the saffron



robe. Under guidance of the preceptor monk of a monastery he observed ten precepts of higher discipline and codes of conduct of a monk. When he attains adulthood at the age of 18, he enters monkhood to be ordained into a full-fledged monk, observing 227 codes of Vinaya disciplines leading an austere life of purity and peace.

For common multitude many voluntary duties abound which the Buddhist community fulfil as a social obligation. Especially in Thingyan and New Year which falls in the month of Tagu (April), village and towns folks visit the pagodas and monasteries to carry out cleaning and sweeping work on the replica images, compound of pagodas and monasteries. Students and youths also visit Homes of the Aged and help bathe and shampoo the oldies. Then they manicure the nails and paste thanakha on the old grannies' faces, hands and legs. They also help clean the rooms and compound too. Then they all sat down to pay obeisance and receive the blessings for the day's voluntary work of merit.

These social duty and obligation, traditional in nature had been observed through centuries of feudal rule of Myanmar sovereigns. Now with the march of the times through the latter decades of the nineteenth to the second millennium twenty first century, accelerated development was followed close at heels by decadence and deterioration of well-defined moral and ethical standards. As IT and media sped with fleeting wings

beyond defined borders *sans frontiers*, the traditional society with cultural mores and values became adulterated, moral laxity and disregard of parents and elders, teachers and the Order of the Sanghas prevailed as age-old teachings have fallen into disrepute.

Summer holiday is a long vacation period for students of basic education before the new academic season starts. The end of yearly matriculation examination held in March leave 500000 students into idleness and wild spree before the results are out causing a real headache for parents. Parents take this opportunity to send their boys to the monasteries into novicehood and learn the fundamentals of Buddhist teachings. Monastic sessions are also being opened by scholar missionary Sayadaws to train learner monks for missionary works abroad. There are also short Buddhist sessions organized by renowned learned venerable monks to train youths into the basics of moral and manners.

Thingyan festival is a moment of special occasion for Myanmar. This year's Thingyan begins on 13<sup>th</sup> April and ends on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013, heralding **Day One** of the Myanmar lunar new year 1375 on 17<sup>th</sup> April (6<sup>th</sup> waxing day of late Tagu, Wednesday). High up in the celestial abode, Banuraja the Sun God makes his celestial travel from northeast to southwest. It is also a change of guard where the celestial Princess Nandar Devi hands over the severed head of Brahma Arsi to Princess Kanyar Devi for custody for 1375. For the

earthlings joy and hilarity prevails for the three days until the New Year ushers in.

Thingyan is also a period for King Sakka Deva of Tavatimsato tour the earth. Along with his trusted PSO Martali he covers his ground armed with two parabeiks folded books: a golden parabeik to record the feats of well-mannered boys and girls auguring good fortune for the ensuing year. There is also the second one, a dog-hide parabeik to record the misdeed of youths who behaved badly, a perennial sore to the parents. This amusing legend of dog-hide parabeik sends shivers to unruly youths, momentarily keeping them in check till Thagyamin returns to his celestial abode and a relief to parents for the Thingyan period. It will be a warm welcome for the parents who might have wished the Thagyamin and PSO Martali to set permanent abode in earth planet much to the ire of his four chief queens.

This is the story of Thingyan from a different perspective, a moral restraint for unruly youths using the Thagyamin as a popular legend to persuade youths towards good conduct. The endearing tradition of respect for parents, elders and venerable monks and the monastic education to sustain morality, ethics and good conscience is also revived for consideration and application.

Kudos to King Sakka Thagyamin, hail to Thingyan 1374 and New Year 1375.

\*\*\*\*\*



Diplomats joyfully participate in water throwing festival by pouring water at a Myanmar damsel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone on Akya Day (14-4-2013) of Maha Thingyan Festival.—MNA



NATIONAL

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred Director-General Dr Kyaw Zin Thant of the Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) under the Ministry of Health to the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) under the same ministry as Director-General from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) Daw Maw Maw Deputy Director-General International Organizations and Economic Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director-General Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(b) U Pe Zin Tun Deputy Director-General Energy Planning Department Ministry of Energy	Director-General Energy Planning Department Ministry of Energy
(c) Professor Dr Daw Theingi Hlaing Dean/Professor Medical Physiotherapy Department University of Medical Technology (Yangon) Medical Science Department Ministry of Health	Rector University of Medical Technology (Mandalay) Medical Science Department Ministry of Health
(d) Professor Dr Shwe Toe Dean/Professor Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department University of Dental Medicine (Mandalay) Medical Science Department Ministry of Health	Rector University of Dental Medicine (Mandalay) Medical Science Department Ministry of Health

Union Peace-making Work Committee members hold talks with representatives of KNPP



Members of Union Peace-making Work Committee holding talks with representatives of Kayinni National Progressive Party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—Members of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Ministers U Than Htay, U Khin Maung Soe and U Win Myint on 12 April afternoon met with peace representatives of Kayinni National Progressive Party at the office of Kayah State government.

Union Minister U Than Htay explained plan for construction of new liaison office, plans for regional development tasks including border trade and further strengthening the peace process as peace is playing a key role in economic development.

Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe also explained that tasks would be undertaken for adequate supply of electricity in Kayah State soon, and Union Minister U Win Myint disclosed that as peace has been restored in the state, a plan is underway to open a border trade camp for economic development.

The delegation of KNPP discussed that the state needed development. They said that families of the KNPP wished to enjoy job opportunities for their basic needs. They expressed their firm belief that they would

like to engage in legal business. They added that they would like to hold the Union level peace talks as soon as possible. And, they expressed that they have a great aim to join hands with the government.

In the afternoon, the Union Ministers met with local entrepreneurs of Loikaw and discussed undertakings for economic development of the state.

On 13 April, the Union Ministers attended the 55<sup>th</sup> Kaehtyobo (a) Dagundaing festival in Chikehtaythama Village of Loikaw and donated cash to the fund for construction of Mawdudeboho Hall.

After inspecting the site for construction of the liaison office of KNPP, the Union Ministers explained plans for soonest construction of the office to the representatives of KNPP.

MNA

MoUs on power plants signed

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—Hydropower Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power signed an MoU on construction of coal-fired Thermo Power Plant Project in Ngayokkaung of Ayeyawady Region with Tata Power Co Ltd of India and one more MoU on Feasibility Study of Combined Cycle Power Plant Project in Kanbauk of Taninthayi Region, here, on 11 April evening.

At the signing ceremony of MoU on construction of coal-fired Thermo Power Plant Project, Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung made a speech.

Director-General U Kyee Soe of Hydropower Implementation Department and Executive Director Mr Sowmyan Ramakrishnan of Tata Power Co of



Signing ceremony of MoUs on power plants in progress.—MNA

India signed the MoU and exchanged notes.

Next, Chief Minister U Myat Ko of Taninthayi Region made a speech at the signing ceremony of MoU on Feasibility Study of Combined Cycle Power Plant Project.

Director-General U Khin Maung Zaw of Electric Power Department and Chairman Mr Upakit Pachariyangkun of Dawei Power and Utility Co Ltd of Thailand signed the MoU and exchanged notes.

On completion, coal-

fired Thermo Power Plant will generate 540-600 megawatts and Combined Cycle Power Plant, 500 megawatts for sufficiently satisfying electricity demands to the local people and the nation.—MNA

Suggestions invited for printing and publishing law (draft) in Mandalay, Monywa

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—The printing and publishing law (draft) was redrawn meeting international standards and norms for national security; and necessary suggestions might be given, said Deputy

Minister for Information U Paik Htwe at the ceremonies to clarify matters related to the law (draft) at the hall of Mandalay Region Government Office on 11 April and at the office of Sagaing Region Information

and Public Relations Department in Monywa on 12 April.

At the ceremonies, Director-General U Ye Tint of IPRD explained the draft law. Printing and publishing entrepreneurs, region

Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives and legal experts participated in the discussions and the deputy minister replied to queries.

The ceremonies were also attended by the deputy speakers of Region Hluttaws, region ministers, journalists, observers and departmental officials.—MNA

Myanmar swimmers sweep 10 gold, 10 silver, three bronze medals

YANGON, 16 April—An eight-member Myanmar swimming team led by General Secretary of Myanmar Swimming Federation U Myo Wunna Tun as manager together with coach Mr Nakayama Kashu brought prestige to the State by winning 10 gold, 10 silver and three bronze medals in the Thailand National Age-group Swimming Championship held in Bangkok of Thailand from 5 to 8 April 2013.

In the two classes, Myanmar youth team stood eighth on the standing table of 20 teams list.

Hsu Moe Theint San swept six gold and two silver

medals, Khant Khant Su San four silvers and one bronze, Ingyin Kay Khaing one silver and one bronze, Arnt Htut Khaung one gold, three silver and one bronze medals.

The Myanmar team comprising Hsu Moe Theint San, Khant Khant Su San, Sabei Thin and Ingyin Kay Khaing secured three gold medals in the 100x4 free relay, 50x4 free relay and 50x4 medley relay events.

The team also bagged 11 gold, 14 silver and four bronze medals in international age-wise swimming championship in Singapore from 15 to 17 March.

MNA

## LOCAL NEWS

## MFF secures AFF Member Association of the Year Award

YANGON, 16 April—A ceremony to present AFF Member Association of the Year Award was held at Pattalinjaya of Selangor State in Malaysia on 3 April.

Myanmar Football Federation secured the AFF Member Association of the Year Award. The best women's team coach award went to Japanese Kumada, Chief Coach of Myanmar women's team.

Winger Kyi Lin of Myanmar national team was chosen as selected player in the best 11 list.

President of MFF U Zaw Zaw, General Secretary U Tin Aung and Chief Coach Kumada of Myanmar women's team accepted the awards at the ceremony.

Kyi Lin missed the

## Mawgyun's road eroded by Tonehle Creek

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 16 April—Tonehle Creek that rounds the west ward of Mawlamyine in Ayeyawady Region has been causing erosion of the bank since

chance to accept the award because he was playing in the AFC Cup qualifier matches.

The delegation led by MFF President U Zaw Zaw arrived at Yangon International Airport on 3 April morning. The delegation was welcomed back by officials.

At the airport, President of MFF U Zaw Zaw said that he would try hard to uplift standard of Myanmar football sports in the ASEAN region. He explained that he had planned to turn out qualified referees and new generation youths through youth projects. A football academy would be opened in Yangon, he disclosed. He expressed his thanks for football fans as strength to secure the awards.

Myanma Alinn

1990. At present, Yamonna circular road in Ward 9 disappeared in the erosion. Moreover, only seven of 29 houses were left in the erosion.



## Colourful City Yangon Photo Show opens

YANGON, 16 April—Yangon City Development Committee held the prize presentation for the winners in the Colourful City Yangon photo show at the city hall, here, on 3 April afternoon.

Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs U Hla Myint and U Tin Myint (Sit Nyein Pan)

of Myanmar Photographic Society formally opened the show. They then enjoyed the works of the photo show.

The Yangon mayor, Secretary U Kyaw Soe of Yangon City Development

Committee and members awarded first, second, third and consolation prize winners.

The prize winning works were displayed up to 5 April.—Myanma Alinn

## Cash and kind provided to victims at relief camp in Yamethin



YAMETHIN, 16 April—Mandalay Region Minister for Electricity and Industry Dr Myint Kyu, Mandalay Region Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Myint, Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Kyaw Tun of the District General Administration Department and officials inspected supply of basic needs and health care services to victims at the relief camp

## Kyaukse dwellers get CSC through one-day service



KYAUKSE, 16 April—The Ministry of Immigration and Population adopted Moe Pwint plans from first to fifth to issue citizenship scrutiny cards to the eligible people.

Moe Pwint Plan-5 is being implemented from 1 April to 31 May.

On 3 April, Staff Officer U Khin Maung Latt of Kyaukse Township

On 4 April, over 1000 feet long Yamonna road was eroded by the creek and trees along the road fallen down into the water.

Myanma Alinn

Immigration and National Registration Department and staff issued the cards to 132 citizens at Yesu Ward of Kyaukse.

Assistant Director U Hsan Aung of the District INRD explained salient points of the plan for the people and presented cards to 20 more people.

Myanma Alinn

## Chinese embassy donates equipment to Home for the Aged

BHAMO, 16 April—The Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar handed over equipment worth US\$ 10000 to Home for the Aged in Bhamo on 4 April morning.

At the ceremony held at the hall of District General Administration Department, Deputy Commissioner U Teza Aung of the district made a speech. He on behalf of the embassy handed over the equipment to member of the home U Myint Swe who spoke words of thanks.

The home accommodates seven grandpas and nine grandmas.—Myanma Alinn

## MPF launches emergency, complaint-handling phone lines

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs has put hot lines into place at Myanmar Police Force HQ and region/state police

The public may reach the numbers for their information and complaints but are requested to avoid manners causing disruptions to these phone lines.

Myanmar Police Force HQ, Nay Pyi Taw Police Force, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan State Police Forces, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Region Police Forces, Offices of Commanders of East, West, South and North District Police Forces in Yangon Region, No (1) Police Station in Taunggyi, Office

of Deputy Commander of State Police Force in Lashio, and Kengtung Police Station in Kengtung have emergency numbers of 199.

Phone numbers receiving complaints from the public are Myanmar Police Force HQ (067-412222 and 067-412444), Nay Pyi Taw Police Force (067-550333), Kachin State Police Force (074-21444), Kayin State Police Force (058-23355), Sagaing Region Police Force (071-24996), Taninthayi Region Police Force (059-23998), Bago Region Police Force (052-23999), Magway Region Police Force (063-28099), Mandalay Region Police Force (02-61444), Mon State Police Force (057-24987), Rakhine State Police Force (043-22833), Yangon Region Police Force (01-2302199), Shan State Police Force (081-2125455) and Ayeyawady Region Police Force (042-23844).—MNA

## Tapestry work production developing in Sagaing



SAGAING, 16 April—Tapestry industry is booming in West NanU Myothit of Sagaing.

Ma Soe Soe Aye of the industry said, "I take materials from Amarapura to produce tapestry works. At first, I worked at alone. After that, I shared my experience to enthusiast

young women with the encouragement of the tapestry industries. Then, these women work under my control for production so as to earn income. We create one set of women ware two days and get K 4500 per ware. My workers are now convenient in production."

Myanma Alinn

at Ywadan Basic Education High School in Yamethin Township and donated cash, personal goods and foodstuff to them on 4 April.

Wellwishers donate cash and kind to the victims continuously.

On 5 April, U San Win-Daw San San Myint (Myodaw Biscuit-Mandalay) donated biscuits worth K 100,000 and K 200,000 in cash, U Khin

Maung Than-Daw Htwe Htwe (Mya Gon Yaung textile shop of Zegyo, Mandalay) 204 clothes worth K 816,000 and snacks worth K 33000, UCT Construction (Mandalay) K 200,000 and Nunnery (Mandalay) K 300,000.

The donations of 59 wellwishers to the relief camp have so far amounted to K 14,935,650.

Myanma Alinn

## REGIONAL

## Korean Air jet makes emergency landing at Narita, no info of injuries



Photo shows a Korean Air passenger jet, en route from South Korea to the United States, which made an emergency landing at Narita international airport near Tokyo on 14 April, 2013, after smoke was reported in the cockpit.—KYODO NEWS

NARITA, 16 April—A Korean Air passenger jet en route from South Korea to the United States made an emergency landing on Sunday at Narita international airport after smoke was reported in the cockpit, the transport ministry

said.

The ministry's Narita airport office said there was no immediate word of injuries. Korean Air Flight 11, which had taken off from Incheon international Airport west of Seoul heading for Los Angeles,

made the emergency landing at 10:05 pm, according to the office.

According to Narita International Airport, after the plane landed an inspection was being performed on the plane's body on the taxiway.—Kyodo News

## WB warns of possible overheating in East Asia, Pacific

SINGAPORE, 16 April—The World Bank on Monday changed slightly its forecast of the economy growth of developing countries in East Asia and Pacific in 2013, and at the same time warned of possible overheating in the regions' large economies.

The forecast was revised downward by 0.1 percentage point to 7.8 percent on year, according to a WB report released on Monday. The report, published once half a year, shows the economic update performances all across the countries in the East Asia and Pacific region, mainly focusing on developing countries. According to the report, the forecast of GDP growth in China was also revised down to 8.3 percent in 2013, 0.1 percentage point lower than the previous forecast of 8.4 percent in last De-

cember. The World Bank said in a press briefing here that the external downside risks, including the EU, the US fiscal discussions, as well as China's slowdown, dominated in the region of East Asia and Pacific during the past year of 2012. But in 2013, a new risk of overheating in some of the larger economies in this area has also emerged. "The latest number suggests that if global demand continues to revive, these economies may be reaching the limit of their current productive capacity," the bank said in a statement.

Meanwhile, continued demand-boosting measures, which have helped sustain growth, may now risk stoking inflationary pressures and amplifying the credit and asset price risks that are emerging in the context of strong capital inflows into

the region. According to the global lender, most of the regional countries' inflation is "clearly all cycling up early this year." On the other hand, the general government debts in Malaysia, Thailand and China all saw growth during recent years.

The bank suggested the policymakers of such economies "be prepared to withdraw stimulus as the whole economy recovers." "Several countries need to manage strong capital inflows by maintaining an appropriate macro policy mix, sufficient flexibility in the exchange rate and macro-prudential policies," it added. It also encouraged most of the region's countries to increase productive capacity by investing infrastructure and human capital, in order to pave the way for continued high and equitable growth.—Xinhua

## Spy agency power increased over New Zealand citizens, residents

WELLINGTON, 16 April—New Zealand's foreign intelligence agency will be allowed to spy on New Zealanders under legislation changes announced on Monday in the wake of findings that the agency had illegally helped spy on a resident German millionaire who was wanted by US authorities. Prime Minister John Key said the proposed changes would remedy the inadequacies of the 2003 law governing the Government Communications Security Bureau (GCSB). A government review last week showed the GCSB had helped the domestic intelligence agency, the Security Intelligence Service (SIS), and the New Zealand Police in surveil-

lance against New Zealand citizens or residents in ways that were questionable under the law.

"The GCSB plays a vital role in protecting the security and safety of New Zealanders," Key said in a statement. As a result of the review, the GCSB, which is currently prohibited by law from spying on New Zealand residents and citizens, had ceased helping other agencies like the SIS and Police as it had done for more than a decade. "It is now the responsible thing to do to clarify the legislation, to make it clear that the GCSB can provide support to agencies which are undertaking their lawful duties," said Key. "To do anything less would be

to leave our national security open to threat, and as prime minister I am simply not willing to do that. To do nothing would be an easy course of action politically, but it would be an irresponsible one."

The changes would also be subject to more "proactive" oversight by the Inspector General of Intelligence and Security. However, opposition parties called for a full independent inquiry into the spying and accused the government of "rewarding" the GCSB's illegal operations by changing the law to make them legal. "The GCSB is also part of a wider international network. New Zealanders would be rightly concerned if information captured here

was being given without controls to other countries," main opposition Labour Party leader David Shearer said in a statement. Green Party co-leader Dr Russel Norman said the current law needed to be better implemented with parliamentary oversight. "The GCSB have shown they have a culture of operating outside the law and that is what needs to be addressed, not a law change," Norman said in a statement. The illegal spying was exposed after the New Zealand Police raided the Auckland home of German internet millionaire Kim Dotcom in January last year at the behest of US authorities who want to extradite him for alleged Internet piracy.—Xinhua

## Nepali sets world record for longest television talk show

KATHMANDU, 16 April—Guinness World Records has recognized a 36-year-old Nepali presenter for hosting the longest marathon talk show on television, local media reported on Monday.

Rabi Lamichhane, 36, got the recognition on Sunday for hosting the show "Lord Buddha was born in Nepal" for 62 hours and 12 minutes from Thursday morning to late Saturday. The talk show was aired live by News24 channel in Nepal. He broke a world record set by Ukraine's Pavlo Kuzhnev and Tetiana Da-

nylenko who hosted a talk show on Ukraine's Channel5 for 52 hours in 2011.

In the show aimed primarily at spreading the message that Gautama Buddha was born in Nepal, Lamichhane interviewed over 100 people including politicians and local celebrities.

He took 5 minutes rest every hour and ate during the interviews. Lamichhane now resides in the United States where he manages a branch of sandwich chain Subway in Baltimore and produces an online TV show.

Kyodo News



Street dancers perform during the Aliwan Festival in Manila, the Philippines, on 13 April, 2013. More than 5,000 participants from all over the Philippines took part in the annual event.

XINHUA



Visitors view a yacht during the 18th China (Shanghai) International Boat Show (CIBS) at the Shanghai World Expo Exhibition & Convention Centre in Shanghai, east China, on 11 April, 2013. A total of 550 real boats from 500 exhibitors were displayed at the four-day-long CIBS that kicked off on Thursday.—XINHUA

## Sultan of Brunei arrives in Philippines for state visit

MANILA, 16 April—Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkhiah arrived at Metro Manila, the Philippines' capital region, on Monday afternoon for a state visit. Hassanal is expected to hold bilateral talks with Philippine President Benigno Aquino III on Tuesday.

Malacanang, the presidential palace, said the two-day state visit of Hassanal is in preparation for

Brunei's assumption of the chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and to reaffirm bilateral ties with the Philippines.

This is the Sultan of Brunei's first visit to the Philippines since 2009 and the first under the administration of Aquino, who visited Brunei twice since becoming President in 2010.

Xinhua

## Panasonic to build new plant for wiring devices in Vietnam

TOKYO, 16 April—Panasonic Corp said on Monday it will build a new factory in Vietnam to produce wiring devices and circuit breakers at a total investment of around 4 billion yen.

The factory in Binh Duong Province is expected to become operational in

April 2014.

In the first year of production, the Japanese electronics maker plans to produce 27 million units of wiring devices such as light switches and electric outlets to be marketed in Vietnam as well as 12 million units of breakers.

Kyodo News

## ADVERTISEMENT &amp; GENERAL

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV ER TURKU VOY NO (015)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ER TURKU VOY NO (015) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: M/S HAN JIN SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (037)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (037) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.4.2013 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING  
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1314)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1314) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.4.2013 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 CHINA SHIPPING  
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

## Rainstorms to sweep central, eastern China

BEIJING, 16 April—Rainstorms will sweep most of central and eastern China, lowering temperatures by four to eight degrees Celsius from Tuesday to Friday, the National Meteorological Centre (NMC) said on Monday. Rainfalls and downpours are likely to hit areas to the south of the Yellow and Huaihe riv-

ers, parts to the south of the Yangtze River, and south China. Some regions will experience thunderstorms, strong winds and hail.

The NMC forecast that winds may bring sandstorms to parts of Inner Mongolia, Gansu, Ningxia and Xinjiang. Rain is expected to hit north and northeast China.—Xinhua

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**Amendment to VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT – 009/UNDP HR/2013**

Further to our Vacancy Announcement No. – 009/UNDP HR/2013 published on 26 March 2013 in the New Light of Myanmar, please take note of the following amendments revising academic qualifications, the number of years of experience required and the number of positions available for each of the four positions advertised :

**Area Office Coordinator, Level NO-B, No. of require position – 8, Multiple Duty Station**

**Responsibilities:** Ensure the development and implementation of program strategies; effective management of the Country Office programme; and quality control from formulation to implementation of the country programme. Work in close collaboration with the UNDP field coordination unit as well as UNDP program and operation specialists to facilitate the provision of high quality client services, knowledge building and management.

**Qualifications and experience:** Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, Economics, Political Sciences, Social Sciences or related field. Minimum 4 years of relevant experience at the national or international level, hands-on experience in working with government level, monitoring and evaluation of projects. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages, experience in handling of web based management systems. Fluency in both spoken and written English is a pre-requisite of this role.

**Monitoring and Reporting Analyst, Level SC-9, No. of require position – 1, Yangon**

**Responsibilities:** Ensure the management and coordination of all field level monitoring and reporting including the application of policies and strategies. Provide effective management and oversight for the facilitation of knowledge building and knowledge sharing in the area of monitoring and reporting. Implement a reporting framework for all field level operations. Provide technical expertise in the coordination of field level reporting to management including the administration, facilitation, knowledge building and knowledge sharing on monitoring and reporting practice. Be accountable for the compilation and finalization of drafts, quality assurance measures, and finalization of various reports from the field offices to the central level, in a timely manner consistent with UNDP and donor requirements.

**Qualifications and experience:** Bachelor's Degree in International Relations, Political Science, Economics or related social sciences. Minimum 4 years of relevant experience in international or local development issues. Significant experience in monitoring and reporting with a background and interest in the analysis of socio-economic issues and related policy matters as they relate to local governance. Experienced in the use of computers and office software packages, experience in handling of web based management systems. Fluency in both spoken and written English is a pre-requisite of this role; ability to learn and speak local languages an asset.

**Satellite Office Manager, Level SC-7, No. of require position – 6, Multiple Duty Station**

**Responsibilities:** Ensure the development and implementation of UNDP program strategies. Provide high quality client services and facilitate knowledge building. Development and implementation of program strategies that achieve the key expected results of this role.

**Qualifications and experience:** Secondary Education, preferably with specialized certification in Accounting and Finance. University Degree in Business or Public Administration, Economics, Political or Social Sciences would be desirable, but it is not a requirement. A minimum of 7 years progressive work experience holding responsibilities for administrative and program management, at the national or international level. Experience in the use of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advanced knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages including web based management systems. Fluency in both spoken and written English is a pre-requisite of this role; ability to learn and speak local and national language of the duty station.

Detailed Terms of References are posted on the bulletin board at No.6, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. Candidates should clearly indicate which post they are applying for when submitting their application and completed UNDP Personal History (P-11) Form. Applications should be addressed to Deputy Resident Representative (Operations) Attention: Human Resources Unit, No.6 Natmauk Road, UNDP, Yangon or apply on-line through [application.mm@undp.org](mailto:application.mm@undp.org).

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Only those candidates whose qualifications and experience strongly meet the requirements of these roles will be contacted for subsequent interview/s. **Closing Date: 25 April 2013**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV GRANDE FORTUNA VOY NO (3)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GRANDE FORTUNA VOY NO (3) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE  
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV FORE SIGHTER VOY NO (9)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FORE SIGHTER VOY NO (9) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.4.2013 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: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE  
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

## CEEAC summit postponed to 18 April

YAOUNDE, 16 April—A new summit of the Economic Community of Central African States (CEEAC) supposed to be held on Monday in Chad to discuss the crisis in Central African Republic is postponed to 18 April, according to an independent source in Bangui. The revelation was made just a day after the head of the Seleka coalition, Michel Djotodia, was elected as the country's interim president.

"Normally, it's today we are supposed to have gone to N'Djamena, but until now, nothing has happened. According to the information we have, the summit has been postponed to 18 April," said Fulgence Zeneth, a representative of the human rights organizations in the National Transition Council, which on Saturday unanimously elected Djotodia as the country's interim president.

The meeting, the second after a summit was held on 3 April in the Chadian capital N'Djamena at the initiative of Chadian President Idriss Deby Itno, is supposed to evaluate the transition process in Central African Republic after the Seleka rebels took power on 24 March. The election of the Seleka leader by the 105 members of the National Transition Council, which was formed to replace the Supreme Transition Council created on 6 April, marked the effective start of a transitional period of 18 months.—Xinhua

# Make hay while the sun shines

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (333)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (333) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.4.2013 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER  
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (012)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (012) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.4.2013 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (071)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (071) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.4.2013 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 STX KRISTING VOY NO (SPQK-016)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV STX KRISTING VOY NO (SPQK-016) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.4.2013 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 STX PAN OCEAN**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV TUG: DANUM 91, BG: LINAU 93 VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TUG: DANUM 91, BG: LINAU 93 VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.4.2013 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 HOCK LEONG SHIPPING  
SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**Ministry of Information**

**Open tender for purchase of Set-top**

**Boxes for Myanma Radio and Television**

1. Myanma Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information invites open tenders to purchase DVB-T2 Set-top Boxes in US dollar to transform Analogue system to Digital one.

(a) DVB-T2 Set-top Box (Free to Air) 1,000,000 Nos.

2. Open tender forms are to be drawn from Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm during the office days as of 9-4-2013.

3. The open tender forms are to be submitted in the presence of the Tender Board members at Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm on 8-5-2013. The overdue tender forms will not be considered.

4. Disciplines for the open tender forms, list of machinery and detail information are available at the following address.

Machinery Purchase Committee  
Myanma Radio and Television,  
Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon)  
Ministry of Information  
Tel: 067-79411, 067-79135

**Scarlett Johansson hates jealous men, controlling behaviour**

NEW DELHI, 16 April —Scarlett Johansson hates “jealous” men. The We Bought A Zoo actress enjoys her independence in a relationship and while she accepts that her partner may want to “check-in” on her daily antics, she hates feeling smothered and has no time for possessive guys.

Speaking in the May issue of *Marie Claire* magazine, she said: “I don’t like jealous behaviour. I don’t mind an occasional check-in, but when somebody is passive-aggressively jealous, it’s really unattractive because it shows a sort of insecurity. Oh, controlling behaviour is awful. Nobody’s going to say they love that.”

Scarlett Johansson, 28, also opened up about her marriage to Ryan Reynolds, who she divorced in July 2011, and said that the experience has “helped” her in relationships since. One thing the blonde beauty — who also dated Sean Penn and Jared Leto — does to protect her romantic life is stay off social media as much as she can because she wants her personal life to remain private.

She said: “Well, it wasn’t that long ago. But I think I’ve had a fair amount of time to process the experience and be able to move forward. I continue to get to know myself better as I get older, and that helps me in my relationships. All [social media] drives me crazy. I don’t understand this need to ‘share.’ We almost exploit ourselves in order to feel seen.” —PTI



Scarlett Johansson

**Korean rapper Psy chases new megahit with “Gentleman” video**

SEOUL, 16 April — it clear he was aware of the high expectations.

Hips swinging, South Korean rapper Psy launched the dance and video of his new song “Gentleman” at a packed Seoul concert on Saturday, with nearly 160,000 tuned in online to see if he could carry off a repeat of his megahit “Gangnam Style”.

The video for “Gangnam Style” is the most watched ever on YouTube with more than 1.5 billion hits, and its horse-riding dance has been imitated by thousands around the world, from Eton schoolboys, to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. But a recent challenge from the “Harlem Shake” global dance craze upped the ante for “Gentleman”, and the 35-year-old Psy has made

“Of course I feel more burden than before, because lots of people are watching,” he told a news conference before the concert. “(Today’s show) is a performance of thanks for the ‘Gangnam Style’ success.” The video for “Gentleman”, whose refrain is “I’m a mother father gentleman”, featured a fast, hip-swinging dance by Psy in his trademark sunglasses and a variety of jackets, from baby blue to hot pink and sparkly white. Fans, many of them dressed in white as Psy had requested before the concert, packed the 50,000 seats at Seoul’s World Cup Stadium. The concert was also streamed live on the Internet. — Reuters

## SPORTS

## Judo: Former women's 48-kg world champion Fukumi retires

URAYASU, (Japan), 16 April—Judoka Tomoko Fukumi, who won the 2009 world championship in the women's 48-kilogram class, announced her retirement on Monday.

Fukumi, who finished fifth at last year's London Olympics, said she will become a coach at her alma mater Tsukuba University, as well as work as a roving instructor with the Russian national team. As a second-year high school student in 2002, Fukumi ended the winning streak of Japanese judo legend Ryoko Tani at 65 bouts.

"Because of the challenge of getting past Tani, I was able to develop to an amazing degree," Fukumi said at a press conference in Chiba Prefecture. "I improved a lot through my time with her (Tani). I



*Judoka Tomoko Fukumi, who won the 2009 world championship in the women's 48-kilogram class, announces her retirement at a press conference in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture near Tokyo, on 15 April, 2013.—KYODO NEWS*

was able to see my dream of reaching the Olympics come true, which I'm enormously proud of." "I have had a wonderful career."

*Kyodo News*

## Gov't to bestow national award on baseball stars Nagashima, Matsui

TOKYO, 16 April—The Japanese government said on Tuesday it will award national honours to two of the country's most prominent former baseball players, Shigeo Nagashima and Hideki Matsui, praising their contributions to the sport.

Nagashima, 77, a legendary former third baseman for Yomiuri Giants nicknamed "Mr Baseball," was a superstar symbolic of post-World War II Japan. Matsui, 38, played for Yomiuri under



*Former Yomiuri Giants manager Shigeo Nagashima (L) and New York Yankees outfielder Hideki Matsui shaking hands.*  
KYODO NEWS

Nagashima before signing with the New York Yankees, with whom he won the 2009 World Series MVP. He retired in December following stints with other teams.

The two will receive the People's Honour Award on 5 May with a ceremony to be held at Tokyo Dome, the Giants' home field. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters that Nagashima "achieved a number of great performances in the history of Japanese baseball, contributing to its development as a national star."

Matsui "recorded a world-class achievement with hard work, beloved by lots of Japanese and US citizens, and giving sensation and pleasure to the society," the government's top spokesman added.

The announcement came after the government acknowledged earlier this month that it was considering giving them the award.

*Kyodo News*

## Chinese teenager to play next week's Zurich Classic

AUGUSTA, (Georgia), 16 April—Chinese teenager Guan Tianlang, fresh off his Masters debut at the record-setting age of 14, accepted a sponsor's exemption to next week's Zurich Classic in New Orleans, tournament organizers said on Monday.

Guan, who had quali-

fied for the Masters as the Asia-Pacific Amateur champion, earned low amateur honours at the year's first major after a 73-75-77-75 set of rounds left him with 12-over 300 total.

The Chinese prodigy had no three-putts during the tournament and nothing worse than a bogey on his

BUDAPEST, 16 April — Italy, Kazakhstan and South Korea beat their respective opponents at the 2013 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I Group A in Budapest on Monday.

South Korea won its first ever game against host Hungary 5-4 (0-3, 1-1, 3-0, 0-0, 1-0) in a shootout. Italy defeated Japan 4-1 (1-0, 2-1, 1-1) while Kazakhstan beat Britain 5-0 (2-0, 1-0, 2-0).

Italy and Kazakhstan remained undefeated and have good chances to be promoted to the top division. The competition kicked off on Sunday and will conclude on Saturday.

*Xinhua*

## Italy, Kazakhstan, S Korea win at Ice Hockey World Championship



*Aaron Keller (L) and Ryo Hashimoto (R) of Japan fight with Vincent Rocco of Italy for the puck during their match at the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I Group A in Budapest, Hungary on 15 April, 2013. Italy defeated Japan 4-1.—XINHUA*

## Scott's win gives Masters a near-perfect ending



*Adam Scott of Australia (L) celebrates winning the 2013 Masters golf tournament on the second playoff hole in front of Angel Cabrera of Argentina at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia, on 14 April, 2013.—REUTERS*

AUGUSTA, (Georgia), 16 April—Adam Scott's dramatic playoff victory on Sunday provided a perfect exclamation point to the 77th Masters which had endured moments of imperfection while also offering a tantalizing glimpse into golf's future. The quality of shot-making produced by Scott and Argentina's Angel Cabrera at the business end of the tournament was extraordinarily good, and perhaps even more impressive was the high level of sportsmanship they extended to one another.

Double major win-

ner Cabrera gave Scott a thumbs-up after they each hit the green with their approach shots at the second extra hole, and the pair walked off arm-in-arm after Australian Scott had stunningly sealed the win with a 15-foot birdie putt. The two Presidents Cup team mates gave fans around the world a breathtaking reminder of how clutch golf can be played with integrity and honor, even during the white-knuckle intensity of a major championship played down the stretch. All this after the opening major of the year had been tainted

by two controversial rules incidents.

China's 14-year-old Guan Tianlang, the feel-good story of the tournament, incurred the wrath of Masters officials during the second round when he received a rare penalty for slow play that almost ended his amazing debut at Augusta National. Rules officials imposed a one-stroke penalty on the prodigy, a decision panned by Guan's playing partner, twice former Masters champion Ben Crenshaw, but the Chinese narrowly survived to make the cut and seal the award for the best amateur player.

The youngest competitor ever at the Masters, Asia-Pacific Amateur champion Guan commanded much of the spotlight during the week with his poise, demeanor and superb short game as he became the youngest player to make the cut at a major championship. While many fans and several players viewed the slow-play penalty as heavy-handed to say the least, Guan once again provided tantalising proof of the vast golfing potential in the Chinese market.

*Reuters*



*Amateur Guan Tianlang of China holds up his ball after sinking a par putt on the 18th green during final round play in the 2013 Masters golf tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia, on 14 April, 2013.*  
REUTERS

## London Marathon to be held as scheduled, organizers

LONDON, 16 April—The London Marathon will be held as scheduled on 21 April despite the explosions in Boston Marathon killed two and injured 23 on Sunday, organizers said. But security for Sunday's London Marathon will be reviewed, British police said.

London Marathon chief executive Nick Bitel said that there was "absolutely no chance" that this year's marathon would be cancelled.

At least two people were killed and 23 injured after the blasts at the finish line of the event in Boston. The London Metropolitan Police said a security plan was in place for London's race but "we will be reviewing this".

The BBC quoted he Met Police's Ch Supt Julia Pendry, the commander in charge of policing the London race, as saying: "A security plan is in place for the London Marathon.

We will be reviewing our security arrangements in partnership with London Marathon." British Prime Minister David Cameron said: "The scenes from Boston are shocking and horrific—my thoughts are with all those who have been affected."—Xinhua

GENERAL



Lightning flashes across the night sky over Singapore on 13 April, 2013.—XINHUA

### Tokyo Disneyland marks 30th anniversary of 1983 opening

CHIBA, (Japan), 16 April — Tokyo Disneyland marked its 30th anniversary on Monday with a commemorative ceremony at the theme park in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture.

A performance featuring Disney's signature characters including Mickey Mouse took place in front of the Cinderella Castle before a speech by Toshio Kagami, chairman of Oriental Land Co, the operator of the theme park which opened to the public on 15 April, 1983.

Oriental Land said it will designate the one-year period to next 31 March as the "Happiness Year," during which a renewed daily daytime parade of Disney

characters and embellished floats will be staged. Tokyo Disneyland drew more than 10 million visitors in the first year of its opening. The operator added the Tokyo

DisneySea park in 2001 to a location adjacent to Tokyo Disneyland. Cumulative visitors to the parks eclipsed 500 million people in 2010.—Kyodo News



Popular characters assemble in front of Cinderella Castle at Tokyo Disneyland in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture, on 15 April, 2013, in a commemorative ceremony to mark the 30th anniversary of the theme park. — KYODO NEWS

### Samsung appeals Japanese court ruling in favour of Apple

TOKYO, 16 April — Samsung Electronics Co has filed an appeal with the Intellectual Property High Court against an earlier Tokyo District Court ruling that came down in favor of Apple Inc over their patent dispute, court officials said

on Monday. The 28 February ruling said Apple had not infringed the South Korean firm's patent in making smartphones and tablet computers, and that Samsung had no right to claim damages from the US firm. Samsung and Apple are



involved in patent lawsuits in Japan as well as the United

States and South Korea. Kyodo News

### Osaka tourism bureau begins traveler satisfaction poll of foreigners

OSAKA, 16 April—Osaka's tourism bureau on Monday began conducting a traveler satisfaction survey on foreigners before they leave Kansai International Airport after visiting Osaka in a bid to increase the number of foreign travelers to the western Japan prefecture.

At the departure lobby of the airport, four female researchers asked foreign travelers about the length of their stays and how much they spent on sightseeing in English and other languages, and input the data into tablet computers. The bureau will analyze

the data to estimate tourism revenues and set business targets. Kunio Kano, head of the tourism bureau, said the survey is necessary to see what impression foreign travelers have of Osaka. The bureau was opened by the prefectural and city governments of Osaka and

### MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(17-4-13 09:30 am ~ 18-4-13 09:30 am) MST

- \* News
- \* Melodious Myanmar Harp (Auspicious Blessing)
- \* Donation Ceremony of Parami Energy Group of Companies
- \* News
- \* A Trip to Mon State
- \* News
- \* Music
- \* Scenario of Domestic Footwear Industry
- \* First Come First Practice
- \* News
- \* Meditation Centres Throughout Myanmar "Myayzin Tawya Meditation Centre of Arthawka Monastery"
- \* News
- \* International Show 2013
- \* Karen Diary (Part-1)
- \* News
- \* Karen Diary (Part-2)
- \* News
- \* Scenario of Domestic Footwear Industry
- \* First Come First Practice
- \* News
- \* Return of the Scouts
- \* Myanmar Movies "Glass Marble"

### Myanmar TV

(17-4-2013, Wednesday)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>6:00 am</b>                          | <b>2:15 pm</b>  |
| 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw  | 18. Myanmar Movie (Part-3)  |
| <b>6:20 am</b>                          | <b>2:50 pm</b>  |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise               | 19. Dance of Thingyan Festival  |
| <b>6:25 am</b>                          | <b>3:15 pm</b>  |
| 3. Documentary                          | 20. Recitation of Parittas by 5000 Members of The Sangha                  |
| <b>6:50 am</b>                          | <b>3:25 pm</b>  |
| 4. Dance & Song of National Races       | 21. Dhamma Puja Song  |
| <b>7:00 am</b>                          | <b>4:25 pm</b>  |
| 5. News                                 | 22. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Zoology) |
| <b>7:20 am</b>                          | <b>4:45 pm</b>  |
| 6. New Year Sermon                      | 23. Classical Songs   |
| <b>8:00 am</b>                          | <b>5:15 pm</b>  |
| 7. News / International News            | 24. Fashion Show  |
| <b>8:25 am</b>                          | <b>7:15 pm</b>  |
| 8. Nine Precepts                        | 25. Kya Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than  |
| <b>9:00 am</b>                          | <b>7:30 pm</b>  |
| 9. News / International News            | 26. Alinka Wat Yi Music Troupe  |
| <b>9:20 am</b>                          | <b>8:00 pm</b>  |
| 10. Sing A Song                         | 27. News / International News / Weather Report                            |
| <b>10:15 am</b>                         | <b>8:35 pm</b>  |
| 11. Nine Precepts                       | 28. People Talk   |
| <b>11:00 am</b>                         | <b>8:45 pm</b>  |
| 12. Approaching Science Discovery World | 29. Dance of Thingyan Festival  |
| <b>11:15 am</b>                         | <b>9:00 pm</b>  |
| 13. Dance of Thingyan Festival          | 30. News / International News   |
| <b>12:25 am</b>                         | <b>9:00 pm</b>  |
| 14. Myanmar Movie (Part-1)              | 31. My Mind Game My SEA Games   |
| <b>1:00 pm</b>                          | <b>2:00 pm</b>  |
| 15. News                                | 32. Myanmar Movie   |
| <b>1:15 pm</b>                          |   |
| 16. Myanmar Movie (Part-2)              |   |
| <b>2:00 pm</b>                          |   |
| 17. News                                |   |

### Russian anti-submarine ship visits South Korean port

MOSCOW, 16 April — Russian anti-submarine ship Marshal Shaposhnikov is visiting South Korean port of Pusan, the Pacific Fleet said on Monday. The routine visit started on Sunday and would last five days until 18 April, the Pacific Fleet's spokesperson Roman Martov told Itar-Tass news agency.

The Russian delegation, led by Commander of the Pacific Fleet convoy Rear Admiral Vladimir Vdovenko, would pay a protocol visit to the Command of the South Korean Navy on Tuesday, Martov said. During the visit,

Russian navy sailors would have "an intensive cultural programme," said the spokesperson, adding Russian nationals and residents of the city could visit the warship.

The Marshal Shaposhnikov warship, along with sea tanker Irkut and the rescue tugboat Alatau completed a long anti-piracy mission in the Gulf of Aden and returned to its base at the port of Vladivostok on March. The crew of the warship includes marine units and the aviation group with two deck helicopters for reconnaissance missions.—Xinhua



Women take photos of flowers at Mellat park in northern Teheran, Iran, on 14 April, 2013. Spring flowers blossom here as the temperature keeps rising recently. XINHUA

# Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival-2013 concludes

# Union FM and diplomats visit Kengtung



YANGON, 16 April— Myanmar merry-makers and revelers participated in the closing ceremony of the Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival-2013 in Yangon today.

Yangon saw Akyo, Akyia, Akyat and Atat Days of Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival-2013 on which besides Myanmar people, foreigners partook joyfully and enthusiastically.

Of those days, today (Atat Day) was also more actively than others for streams of revelers enjoyed entertainments presented by

MANDALAY, 16 April— Mandalay was teeming with Thingyan revelers on Atat Day, the last day of Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival for 1374 ME.

In the morning, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and Wife Daw Myat Ngwe took part in Thingyan festival at Kaung Myat Thu, ASK, Yadanabon Market Family, Central Command, Nanmyothu and Alpine pandals. The film stars and vocalists presented Thingyan songs and modern songs to merry-makers at the pandals.

The wellwishers provided Shweyinae, soft drink and fried-vermicelli to Thingyan revelers. Thanks to the entertainment programmes, the pandals were crowded with the globetrotters and Thingyan lovers.

Moreover, Thingyan revelers flocked to

film stars and vocalists at water-throwing pandals of Bogyoke Aung San Street, Anawrahta Road, Maha Bandoola Road, Kyonegyi Street, Pyay Road, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and Kandawgyi ring-road.

Besides, providing free meal (Satuditha), performing Yein dances and paying respects to elderly today were prevalent in Yangon.

“ F o r e v e r T h i n g y a n - 2 0 1 3 ” was jointly organized by Forever Group and Myanmar Index Creative at Myoma Ground (Minder Ground) to celebrate Myanmar Traditional

Taungthaman Inn and U Pein Bridge in Amarapura Township relaxation there. Myanmar people made charitable donations in meditation centres and monasteries were packed with devotees.

The merry-makers and Thingyan revelers participated in water festival at the pandals in downtown Mandalay and around the Mandalay moat the whole day. The prize presentation and the closing ceremony of Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival-2013 were held at respective pandals.

MNA

**Revelers happily enjoying Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival 1374 ME in Mandalay.**

MNA

Maha Thingyan Water Festival-2013. “Forever Island” play-ground is kept open until 19 April for fun seekers. The closing ceremony of Myanmar Traditional Cultural Maha Thingyan Water Festival-1374 for Yangon Region Government took place at the pandal of region government office, this evening. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Region High Court Judge U Win Swe and members enjoyed the Thingyan songs and dances performed by

the Yein troupes.

The chief minister presented the certificates of honour to the officials from National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon) and Alinka Wutyi Music Band that entertained songs and dances at the water-throwing pandal of the region government.

The region chief minister announced to conclude Myanmar Traditional Cultural Maha Thingyan Water Festival for 1374 ME. The national race cultural troupes, Yein troupes and the artistes sang Mantaung Yeikkho song with dance.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April— A 37-member group comprising diplomats from 12 countries and their families and UNRC, UNHCR and ICRC officials led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin arrived in Kengtung by air yesterday morning.

They visited Kengtung Myoma Market in the morning. In the afternoon, they observed Kanyinpyu tree planted in 1753 ME and enjoyed scenic beauty of Thittabintaung and its

environs. Then they observed traditional works of Akhar and Lahu national races on Loimaw street in ward-3 in Kengtung. They also visited Mya Shwe Yee hot spring.

In the evening, the Union minister and diplomats and their families attended a dinner hosted by Shan State Government at New Kengtung Hotel. During the dinner, they enjoyed songs and dances of Thingyan choral troupes and national race cultural troupes.

MNA

**Choral dance troupe at closing ceremony of Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan in Yangon.—MNA**

## Untimely rainfall warning

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—According to the observations at 12:30 hrs MST today, rain or thundershowers will be scattered to fairly widespread in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kachin, Chin, Shan and Rakhine States under the influence of western disturbance during the next

five days commencing this noon and will be scattered to widespread in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon States under the influence of unstable atmospheric conditions over the Gulf of Thailand during the next three days commencing this noon announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

NLM

## Strong earthquake jolts outside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 16 April—A strong earthquake of magnitude 7.6 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Southern Iran) about 2300 miles northwest of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 05 hrs 20 min 12 sec M.S.T this evening, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.—MNA

## Mandalarians successfully conclude Thingyan



**Revelers happily enjoying Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Water Festival 1374 ME in Mandalay.**

MNA