

INSIDE

Improving farmer livelihoods through agriculture sector reforms stressed



PAGE-3

National Parliament Speaker attends certificates to exam-passed monks, laypersons



PAGE-3

Water throwing pandals under construction for Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Festival

PAGE-9

Relief aid presented to fire victims

PAGE-9

Weather expert warns of extreme UV index across Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—A Myanmar top weather expert has warned that the ultraviolet index in the south could reach the highly dangerous level of

14.5 on Thursday as extreme UV index readings above 11 have been recorded across the country in the past days.

“The UV index in Ka-

withoung city (in particular) is extreme and people must take precautions,” U Tun Lwin, former director-general of the Myanmar’s Meteorology and Hydrology

By Aye Min Soe

Department, posted on his face book site Wednesday.

The statement came four days after the local health department warned of health risks due to a UV index of 13.8 in the town which is located near the equator in the southern most part of Myanmar.

While people in the south are advised to stay indoors unless required otherwise, people in the northern parts of the country should also avoid direct sunlight between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., by seeking shade and wearing headwear and long-sleeved clothes at all times.

“The UV index in northernmost parts of Myanmar has reached over 11, meaning nearly the entire country is experiencing extreme levels” the meteorologist said.

While a UV index reading between 0-2 poses little danger from the sun’s UV rays, an index between 6-7 poses considerable health risks, with severe damage to the eyes and skin if unprotected. Any measurements above 11 mean extreme risk of harm from unprotected sun exposure, with skin and eyes burning within minutes.

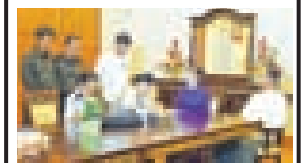


Fisherman braving the heat in Yangon as UV index soars to extreme level.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

INSIDE

Census taken at Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham’s family



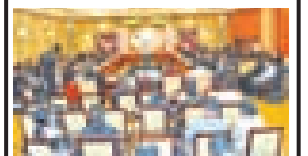
PAGE-2

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker meets Netherland Ambassador



PAGE-3

ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Governors’ Deputies Meeting held



PAGE-2

Myanmar boxer to take on foreigner in Yangon on 6 April



Ian Diamond from Ireland ready for his first fight in Myanmar after 6 months with Club Thatti.

PHOTO: MIN HTET

YANGON, 2 April— Myanmar traditional boxers will take to the ring in seven boxing contests at People’s Park in Yangon on 6 April, with the fight between Irish Ian Diamond from Thatti Club and Zaw Zaw from stable Aphyuyaung Thwaythit as the highlight of the tournament.

Saw Yan Paing from club Cement Plant will box against Tun Tun Min from Mudonthar stable, the gold medalist of the Muay Thai boxing discipline at the 27th SEA Games.

Another major match will see Myat Aung from

Aphyuyaung Thwaythit pitted against Ye Yint Tun (Mudonthar), the gold medalist of the Union Trophy Boxing Contest.

The tournament is being organized by the Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation, with the fee for an ordinary ticket to the contests costing K7,000 and the grand stand tickets selling for K15,000.

The contests of the new generation boxers will be held on 7 April, with the entrance to the contests free of charge, officials said.

By Maung Sein Lwin



A SEA Games Muay Thai gold medalist has been announced to fight in the traditional boxing event.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Census taken at Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham's family

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—As the 12-day nationwide census taking was launched on 30 March, a census taking group led by Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Win Myint took census data from Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Daw Nan Shwe Hmon and family on Wednesday at his residence. The Vice-President and wife openly answered the questions raised by census takers.—MNA

Census takers gathering data from Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon.—MNA



Closing of development gap, climate change discussed at 16th Meeting of Senior Officials' Committee for ASCC



Deputy Information Minister U Ye Htut.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The 16th Meeting of the Senior Officials' Committee for ASCC took place in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday, with senior officials discussing the implementation of a roadmap to the planned socio-cultural community.

“The ASCC Pillar's preparations for the 2015

ASEAN Community will be discussed at further senior official meetings, with the formation of a core group priority,” Daw Nanda Hmon, Director-General of Historical Research and the National Library Department under the ministry of culture said at the meeting.

Top on the agenda is the development gap between ASEAN countries, closer cooperation after the emergence of an ASEAN Community and issues related to social development.

Migrant workers and climate change will also be up for debate, officials said, adding that in order to disseminate detailed information the launch of an ASEAN website called ASEAN Virtual Learning Center is planned for later this year.

U Ye Htut, Deputy

Minister for Information said Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) under the Information Ministry is responsible for the information sector of ASCC, with the ASEAN information ministers slated to discuss the follow-up programme in June.

The ministry highlighted the importance of the ASEAN chairmanship to strengthen international ties in the long term as leaders from 27 countries, including the U.S. President, will attend the ASEAN summit to be held in October and November.

Officials also stressed the need to use the ASEAN chairmanship to extensively promote the country's tourism sector, as “Myanmar will have a chance to show its culture and traditions and people's hospitality.”—MNA

Japan contributes JPY 1.6 billion to UN agencies in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) have welcomed a timely and substantive contribution of 1.6 billion Japanese Yen (approximately US\$ 16 million) by the Government of Japan in support of the three UN agencies' activities in ethnic/border areas of Myanmar.

UNHCR received a contribution of JPY 300 million which will support

the agency's activity in assisting the efforts of the Myanmar Government to respond to the needs of conflict-affected populations, especially internally displaced people, as part of the United Nations' inter-agency efforts in Kachin and Rakhine States. Japanese will also support the Government in addressing issues related to citizenship, and also conflict-affected people in south-eastern Myanmar in Mon, Kayin and Kayah States, and Taninthayi Region.

Japan's contribution of

JPY 300 million to UNICEF will help children affected by conflict in Rakhine and Kachin States to access life-saving services such as clean water, sanitation, life-saving medicines to treat diarrhoea, pneumonia and other diseases. Children will benefit from improved overall nutrition through the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and distribution of multi-nutrient sprinkles and tablets for both children and pregnant and lactating women.

Japan's generous JPY 1 million contributions to

Industry Ministry should take care of old staff as benefactor

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The Ministry of Industry should take care of the old staff as a benefactor because of their endeavors to develop the ministry's work, said Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint, at the 1st gathering ceremony of Former Industry Ministry's Personnel Association on 29 March.

He made clarification

on the purpose of the foundation of the association and urged them to give advices for the ministry's interest.

During the ceremony, the Union Minister, former Union ministers and deputy ministers and wellwishers donated cash to the fund of the association.

The association was established on 5 March

2014. It was aimed at ensuring participation of the staff in the industrial development meetings and gathering association members in education, health and social sectors and sharing their experience to the new generations. Over 1000 members including 47 permanent members have so far joined the association.—MNA

ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Governors' Deputies Meeting held



ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Governors' Deputies Meeting in progress.—MNA

WFP will support life-saving food assistance to internally displaced people in Rakhine, Kachin and northern Shan states, whose livelihoods have been disrupted through conflict and violence. Japan is the largest donor supporting the current WFP operations in Myanmar, providing food assistance to the most food insecure and vulnerable people in the country.

NLM

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The ASEAN+3 Finance and Central Bank Governors' Deputies Meeting, a related meeting to 18th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM), took place at Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

Deputy Finance Minister Dr Maung Maung Thein and Mr. Furusawa, Vice Minister of Finance of Japan, jointly chaired the

meeting.

During the meeting, participants discussed 16 matters including ASEAN microeconomic issues, participation of countries for Chiang Mai agreement and securities exchange.

It promotes regional financial stability and brings about benefits to regional economic cooperation in East Asia.

The meeting lasts till 3 April.

MNA

NATIONAL

Improving farmer livelihoods through agriculture sector reforms stressed

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Vice-President U Nyan Tun stressed the need for creating better conditions for improving the livelihood of farmers through reforms in the agriculture sector during a meeting with members of the leading committee which draws laws, rules and regulations to protect the rights of farmers and promote their interest on Wednesday.

The meeting took place at a 900-acre educative farmland in Ottarathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw, with Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung and Chairman of Central Cooperative Union U Khin Maung Aye elaborating on

issues related to ongoing works on the formulation of laws, rules and regulations, and development of the agriculture sector.

In his speech, the Vice-President called for the protection of the rights of farmers, allowing farmers to grow cost-effective crops as they desire, receive loans for their cultivation, to deal with the process of agribusiness freely, to get a guarantee on their produce and to form associations focusing on the interest of the farmers. He also highlighted the importance of policies offering legal protection and promoting the interest of the farmers and financial assistance.

Regarding issues related to ensuring profitability in the market, the Vice-President stressed the need to establish silos and wholesale markets.



Vice-President U Nyan Tun visits 900-acre educative farmland in Ottarathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

He added that formulation of effective policies and laws is necessary to reduce waste in the supply chain.

He also called for ensuring smooth transportation, effective information delivery and developing mar-

ket research. Agriculture sector development calls for collaborative efforts of all, he concluded. After the

meeting, the Vice-President and party observed thriving crop plantations at the farmland. —MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker meets
Netherland Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met Netherland Ambassador Mr. Johannes Boer at Hluttaw building, here, at 9 am on Tuesday.

Also present at the call were Pyithu Hluttaw Commission member Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with Netherland Ambassador Mr. Johannes Boer.

MNA

National Parliament Speaker attends
certificates to exam-passed monks,
laypersons

Official accepts donation of wellwisher in presence of National Parliament Speaker

U Khin Aung Myint.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Amyotha Hluttaw (National Parliament) Speaker U Khin Aung Myint attended the religious certificates offering ceremony and stake-driving ceremony on Wednesday in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region.

The Speaker offered certificates and donations to the monks who won the 15th Pali Pahtamapyan (religious examination) at the religious building.

Forty-eight monks in Yamethin Township passed the religious examinations. The Speaker also present-

ed certificates to lay-person winners.

The Speaker drove the stakes at the designated places to construct the one-storey building in Yamethin Township. He urged the officials to construct the new town hall namely Thilawa systematically. The RC steel structure building is expected to compete within 10 months and to spend over K 228.1 million through development fund on construction of the building.

Wellwishers donated cash to the fund through the officials.—MNA

KIA interrupt census
taking process

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The nation-wide census taking could not be carried out in some areas of Kachin and Shan States (North) due to threats and distracts of KIA troops on 1 April, the third day of 12-day nation-wide census taking process.

The areas include Kaungnan and Saijar Wards in Lwejel Sub-Township, 20 village-tracts including Maikaung and Kaunglwin Village-tracts and 20 village-tracts in Mansi Township in Bhamo District and Kasont and Zupmai Villages in Mogaung Township in Mohnyin District in Kachin State and Hinkhok, Narkhalon and Lweya village-tracts in Momeik Township and Pankon Village-tract in Mongton Township of Kyaukme District in Shan State (North).—MNA

Information for census
taking process

1. As the nationwide census taking was launched on 30 March, the census taking groups carry out their work for the fourth day on 2 April.
2. A total of 2,035,001 households—44709 in Kachin State, 9408 in Kayah State, 60947 in Kayin State, 13262 in Chin State, 216,595 in Sagaing Region, 61296 in Taninthayi Region, 138,530 in Bago Region (East), 104,535 in Bago Region (West), 174,169 in Magway Region, 249,051 in Mandalay Region, 80379 in Mon State, 65477 in Rakhine State, 298,424 in Yangon Region, 22406 in Shan State (East), 91801 in Shan State (South), 69884 in Shan State (North), 287,114 in Ayeyawady Region and 47014 in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area have already been taken census data on 31-3-2014.
3. The census taking groups peacefully continue the census taking process and all people are actively taking part in the process.

Central Census Committee

2 April 2014

Chairman of Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Myat Hein and guests view works of ICT projects at displays of Educational Competition for National ICT Award 2013 and prize winning projects at MICT Park in Hline Township of Yangon on 29 March.
AUNG THURA



Kengtung Township sees sufficient power supply in 2015

KENTUNG, 2 April—Kengtung Electrification Committee assigned duty to Kengtung Energy Co at the city hall in Kengtung on 1 April.

The manager of the company explained arrangements for sufficient supply of electricity to the local people.

Five 500 KV diesel generators have been installed at the necessary areas of the township to generate electricity to the people at a time when wa-

ter level is not enough for hydropower generation. The company will generate hydropower from Namwok and Namla hydropower stations.

While implementing the project, the company will supply power to the township 10 hours a day in the morning and evening sessions.

By the end of 2015, the company will supply electricity to the town round the clock.

Htet Taing Kyaw

Thailand transfers illegal employers to Myanmar

TACHILEK, 2 April—Officials from Immigration Bureau of Thailand handed over the illegal employers to Myanmar at Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge No.1 between the two border areas in Tachilek of Shan State (East) on

1 April. A combined team made a surprise check to the illegal workers in Macaokham Ward of Tachilek and they found 21 illegal labours—11 men and 10 women.

The Myanmar officials handed over them to their

relatives on Tuesday afternoon.

Up to now, Thailand had handed over 6867 illegal workers to Myanmar authorities from 19 November 2010 to 1 April 2014.

Myintmo (Tachilek)



Photo shows 21 illegal Myanmar workers handed over by Thai authorities to Myanmar in Tachilek.

New rate of electric bill explained

ZALUN, 2 April—A ceremony to clarify charge of new rate for electric bill was held at the Dhammayon in Lanmadaw North Ward in Zalun of Ay-

eyawady Region on 31 March.

Hinthada District Electrical Engineer U Myo Min Hlaing explained change of new rates and replied to

questions raised by local people.

It was attended by 150 people including entrepreneurs and local authorities.

Ngwe Than (Zalun)

Mass participation of people important for successful census taking process

THANDWE, 2 April—Officials gathered to discuss matters on successful nationwide census taking process in Thandwe Township of Rakhine State on 5 March.

In his clarification, Chairman of Central Census Committee Deputy Minister for Immigration

and Population U Win Myint said that every people regardless of citizen/religion, age and gender have opportunity to take part in census taking process. They can answer questions of census collectors without any anxiety.

He also called for mass

participation of people in taking census process to meet the target for successful conclusion, he said.

Thandwe District IPRD

Participants discuss implementation of drug elimination plan organized by CCDAC.

Motorbikes legalized in Meiktila



MEIKTILA, 2 April—Mandalay Region Transport Minister U Kyaw Hsan viewed issuance of licence to motorbike at Meiktila District Directorate of Road Administration on

Tuesday morning.

The minister greeted staff of the directorate, Customs Department, Myanmar Insurance, Myanmar Economic Bank and applicants.

The authorities daily issue licences to about 100 motorbikes. A total of 2000 motorbikes have already been issued licences in Meiktila.

Chan Tha (Meiktila)

Implementation of 2014-15 session of Drug Elimination Plan discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Member of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Chief of Staff (Police) Police Brig-Gen Win Khaung of Myanmar Police Force held a meeting of CCDAC at the hall of

the MPF, here, on 1 April.

Head of Planning Department Poice Col Zaw Lin Tun of MPF, Director of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department U Aung Min, other departmental officials and police

officers participated in the meeting.

Police Col Zaw Lin Tun reported on supply of more fund for implementing the 2014-15 session of the drug elimination 5-year plan.—MPF



WORLD



Chinese Ambassador to Turkey Gong Xiaosheng delivers a speech at the forum "Understanding and Doing Business with China" in Istanbul, Turkey, on 1 April, 2014. The forum, organized by the Turkish Association of Industry and Commerce and Committee on Foreign Economic Cooperation, was held in Istanbul on Tuesday. Nearly 200 representatives from Chinese-funded institutions in Turkey and the Turkish business community attended the meeting. The forum aims at providing a window for Turkish businessmen to understand China, and a face-to-face platform for entrepreneurs of both countries to explore investment in China and share experiences in cooperation.—XINHUA

Britain, Tanzania to boost cooperation in energy, defence

LONDON, 2 April — British Prime Minister David Cameron and visiting Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete on Tuesday vowed to boost their bilateral cooperation in energy and defence.

"They noted further strengthening of the UK-Tanzania energy relationship, which will bring jobs and growth to both countries," a Downing Street spokesperson said following the two leaders' meeting on Tuesday.

British energy firms BG Group, Ophir Energy and the Tanzanian Petroleum Development Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the potential development

of a multi-billion pound on-shore liquefied natural gas plant.

British company Al-dwyck International made progress on a 175 million-pound (about 291 million US dollars) wind farm in Tanzania during Kikwete's visit, the spokesperson said.

The two sides also signed a MoU to strengthen cooperation between the British armed forces and the Tanzanian People's Defence Force, seeking to provide training of Tanzanian troops for peace support operations as well as create opportunities for British troops to train in Tanzania, according to the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

Xinhua

Cambodia sends possible remains of 3 US soldiers to US

PHNOM PENH, 2 April — Possible remains of three missing US soldiers recovered in Cambodia was repatriated to Hawaii on Wednesday for testing, officials said.

During a ceremony at Phnom Penh International Airport, American soldiers carried three white coffins draped with US flags onto a C-17 military cargo plane.

The possible remains were found in eastern Kampong Cham Province, US embassy spokesman Sean McIntosh told reporters.

If the remains are prove to be US servicemen, 40 of 90 US soldiers lost in Cambodia will have been found.

In Hawaii, the remains will undergo DNA tests, dental analysis, forensic identifi-

cation, and other tests to determine their origin, he said. SiengLapresse, Vice-Chairman of the Cambodia Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Committee, formally turned over the remains to US Ambassador to Cambodia William E Todd.

"Cambodia is pleased to assist a US recovery team in search for missing Ameri-

can soldiers," SiengLapresse said at the ceremony. "This humanitarian mission will further contribute to developing our military ties and people-to-people relations."

He also pledged cooperation with the US in search for other missing US servicemen.

William E. Todd said the US formally requested

the assistance of the Cambodian government in conducting joint recovery operations in Cambodia in 1992.

According to the US embassy, 90 American soldiers were originally missing in Cambodia during the Vietnam War in the 1970s. Thirty-seven of them have been recovered and identified.

Xinhua

New chief Supreme Court justice vows to ensure trust in judiciary

TOKYO, 2 April — Itsuro Terada, new chief justice of the Supreme Court, pledged on Tuesday to do his utmost to ensure trust in Japan's judiciary system.

"The need for fairness is greater than ever as we see more complicated conflicts of interest due to changing social circumstances," Terada said at an inaugural press conference. "I would like to make a ceaseless effort to meet people's expectations and

give it my all to ensure trust in the judiciary."

Terada, 66, is the 18th chief justice and the first whose parent was also a top Supreme Court justice.

His father, Jiro Terada, was the nation's 10th chief justice.

On Japan's joining an international treaty for settling cross-border child custody disputes, Terada said, "We need to deepen our consideration of trends in the international

community to deal with family affairs and areas that have international dimensions."

On Tuesday, Japan became the 91st signatory of the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which sets out rules and procedures for the prompt return to the country of habitual residence of children under age 16 taken away or held by one parent, if requested by the

other parent. Terada, from Kyoto, became an assistant judge in 1974 but worked from 1981 for the Justice Ministry for many years and was involved in reform of the judicial system.

He returned to the bench in 2007, serving as head of the Saitama District Court and of the Hiroshima High Court before being appointed in December 2010 one of the 15 justices of the Supreme Court.

Kyodo News

Scheduled re-entry to US nuke dump delayed

HOUSTON, 2 April — Due to delayed equipment supply, workers were unable to re-enter a New Mexico nuclear waste dump as scheduled on Tuesday to investigate a radiation leak that contaminated 21 people and kept the facility closed for over six weeks.

A total of eight workers had been prepared to go down the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in south-eastern New Mexico, but the radiation monitors that they need to wear didn't arrive in time. It was the first re-entry attempt since the underground repository was shuttered on 14 Feb when air sensors detected unusually high levels of radioactive particles on its underground levels.

It remained closed as reports came that small amount of radiation was detected both at the underground and surface levels.

Previously, 17 workers were confirmed positive for radiation. The Energy Department said on Monday that four more workers were tested positive, though their levels of exposure are well below those deemed unsafe.

The prolonged closure of the repository has forced Los Alamos National Laboratory, a nuclear weapons manufacturing facility in New Mexico which used to store its refuse at the plant, to relocate its radioactive waste to Texas.

The cause of the radiation leak still remains unknown. A truck fire was reported at the underground site on 5 Feb and prompted evacuations, but officials said the fire was in a different part of the site and did not seem related to the leak.—Xinhua



A performer waving her hand takes part in a march to commemorate the 205th anniversary of Russian writer Nikolai Gogol's birth, in St Petersburg, on 1 April, 2014.—XINHUA

Russia could achieve Ukraine incursion in 3-5 days

BRUSSELS, 2 April—Russia has massed all the forces it needs on Ukraine's border if it were to decide to carry out an "incursion" into the country and it could achieve its objective in three to five days, NATO's top military commander said on Wednesday.

Calling the situation "incredibly concerning", NATO's supreme allied commander in Europe, US Air Force General Philip Breedlove, said NATO had spotted signs of movement by a very small part of the Russian force overnight but had no indication that it was returning to barracks.

Russia's seizure and annexation of Ukraine's Crimea region has caused the deepest crisis in East-

West relations since the Cold War, leading the United States and Europe to impose sanctions on Moscow. They have said they will strengthen those sanctions if Russia moves beyond Crimea into east Ukraine.

NATO military chiefs are concerned that the Russian force on the Ukrainian border, which they estimate stands at 40,000 soldiers, could pose a threat to eastern and southern Ukraine.

"This is a very large and very capable and very ready force," Breedlove said in an interview with Reuters and The Wall Street Journal.

The Russian force has aircraft and helicopter support as well as field hospitals and electronic warfare

capabilities.

"The entire suite that would be required to successfully have an incursion into Ukraine should the decision be made," Breedlove said. "We think it is ready to go and we think it could accomplish its objectives in between 3 and 5 days if directed to make the actions."

He said Russia could have several potential objectives, including an incursion into southern Ukraine to establish a land corridor to Crimea, pushing beyond Crimea to Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odessa or even threatening to connect to Transnistria, the mainly Russian-speaking, separatist region of Moldova that lies to the west of Ukraine.

Reuters



NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) US Air Force General Philip Mark Breedlove attends the Opening Remarks of the NATO Military Conference in Budapest, on 14 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

S Korea believes drone found on island to be N Korean

SEOUL, 2 April—South Korea believes that a mysterious drone found on a western border island earlier this week is from North Korea, Yonhap News Agency reported on Wednesday, citing a presidential spokesman.

The small, unmanned plane measuring about 1.83 metres long and 2.45 metres wide was found on the island of Baengyeong on Monday when North Korea conducted a live-fire exercise near a disputed maritime border.

The office for national security at the president's office is looking into the case with the view that the drone originated from North Korea, though a final result of the investigation has yet to come, spokesman Min Kyung Wook was cited by Yonhap as saying.

The drone was recovered around 4 pm on Monday shortly after North Korea finished its three-hour live-fire drill. It was not immediately known when the unmanned aerial vehicle crashed on the island.

The vehicle has a Japanese-made engine and various Chinese components, and is equipped with a small camera, Yonhap said.

Kyodo News

Huge earthquake off Chile's north coast triggers tsunami

SANTIAGO, 2 April —A major earthquake of magnitude 8.2 struck off the coast of northern Chile on Tuesday, causing five deaths and triggering a tsunami that pounded the shore with 2-meter-tall waves. Officials said the dead included people who were crushed by collapsing walls or were killed by heart attacks. The government evacuated Chile's northern coast and President Michelle Bachelet declared the area a disaster zone, promising troops and police reinforcements to maintain public order while damage was repaired after landslides blocked roads.

"We're leaving with the children and what we can, but everything is clogged up by people fleeing buildings by the beach," said 32-year old Liliana Arriaza, who was driving away with her three children.

The US Geological Survey said the quake was shallow at 12.5 miles (20.1 km)



Vehicles and boats lie on the shore after a tsunami hit the northern port of Iquique, on 2 April, 2014.

REUTERS

below the seabed and struck about 100 km northwest of the mining port of Iquique near the Peruvian border. Mining in the world's No 1 copper producer did not appear significantly interrupted, but about 300 prisoners took advantage of the emergency and escaped from a female penitentiary in Iquique. About 26 of the women were soon recaptured, authorities said, while security forces fanned out through the area amid reports of power outages and isolated looting. Photos

showed Chileans calmly evacuating coastal areas on foot, with policemen helping bundled-up elderly people and some residents loading up vehicles with their belongings.

Some schools were being used to shelter people, and classes were cancelled in most of the country on Wednesday. LATAM Airlines said it had cancelled some flights to and from Antofagasta, Iquique and Arica in northern Chile.

Reuters

Missing plane search classified as criminal investigation

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 April—Malaysian Inspector General of Police Khalid Abu Bakar said on Wednesday that the search for missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 was a criminal investigation, and there were things they could not share, according to local newspaper New Straits Times.

"We are investigating based on the four areas of focus (personal and psychological problems, sabotage and hijacking)," Khalid said at a press conference after opening the Royal Malaysian Police Quality and Innovation Seminar 2014.

He said until now there had been about 170 statements recorded from family members of the passengers and crew on board the missing jetliner.

Khalid said the investigators did have some clues of what happened, but they would not reveal anything as the investigation was ongoing.—Xinhua

Protesters clash with riot police blocking the way to the parliament in Athens, Greece, on 1 April, 2014. Greek authorities set up exclusion zones in central Athens in which all protests are banned because of the ongoing Eurogroup meeting attended by all European Union finance ministers.—XINHUA



Thai court takes on new case as PM Yingluck's legal woes mount

Anti-government protesters carry a large national flag as they arrive for the funeral service of their slain comrade at a Buddhist temple in Bangkok on 2 April, 2014. Gunmen opened fire on a group of Thai anti-government protesters driving away from a Bangkok rally on Tuesday, killing one, wounding four and raising tension in a political crisis that has gripped the country for months.

REUTERS



BANGKOK, 2 April—A Thai Court accepted a new case against Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on Wednesday over her removal of the security chief three years ago, compounding her legal problems after months of sometimes violent anti-government protests.

Twenty-four people have been killed in the crisis, including a protester shot in the head on Tuesday after weeks of calm in the capital, Bangkok.

Yingluck's supporters plan mass rallies of their own this week to counter attempts to remove her from office by activists determined to stamp out the influence of her brother, ousted ex-premier Thaksin Shinawatra, seen by many as the real power behind the government.

The Constitutional Court accepted a case brought by a group of 27 senators who petitioned it to rule that her removal of

National Security Chief Thawil Pliensree in 2011 violated the constitution. Their case is that the prime minister abused her position by moving the security chief to an inactive post.

Court spokesman Pimon Thampitakpong said he could not yet say how long the case would last but said it bore similarities to a probe of former premier Samak Sundaravej who was forced to step down in 2008.

Reuters

WORLD

Lowered expectations as Malaysia Airlines search drags on

PERTH, 2 April—The search for missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 resumed on Wednesday, even as senior Australian officials warned that bad weather and a lack of reliable information were seriously impeding efforts to locate the plane's wreckage.

Up to 10 planes and nine ships from a half dozen countries are scouring a stretch of the Indian Ocean roughly the size of Britain, where the plane is believed to have crashed more than three weeks ago.

The search and rescue teams are in a race against time to locate the plane's black box recorder, which has an expected battery life

of around 30 days and contains what could be the only clues about the plane's mysterious disappearance.

But retired Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston, the head of the Australian agency coordinating the operation, said that a lack of reliable flight telemetry and punishing conditions at sea were making the operation even more challenging.

"In other words, we don't have a precise aircraft location for six hours before the aircraft went into the water somewhere," he said in an interview with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation on Wednesday.

"The reality is it's the most complex and challeng-



Crew member Koji Kubota (L) of the Japan Coast Guard and John Pumpa of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) look out an observation window aboard the Japan Coast Guard Gulfstream V aircraft as it flies over the southern Indian Ocean looking for debris from missing Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 on 1 April, 2014.—REUTERS

ing search and rescue operation, or search and recovery operation now, that I've ever seen."

Broken clouds, sea fog and isolated thunderstorms were expected to further complicate operations on

Wednesday, Australia's Joint Agency Coordination Centre said.

Reuters

Libyan militia, Gaddafi remnants cooperate to smuggle oil

TRIPOLI, 2 April — The militia in eastern Libya were in contact with remnants of former Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's government, attempting to smuggle crude oil, Gaddafi's son Saadi Gaddafi said on Tuesday.

Saadi unveiled the plot during an interview with Libyan TV that Ibrahim Jathran, leader of the militia who have been blocking ports in eastern coastal region of Libya, was cooperating with some senior members of Gaddafi's government to illegally sell oil.

Jathran and his gunmen have been in control of three oil ports in eastern Libya since June 2013, demanding a bigger share of oil income and political rewards.—Xinhua

Australia's Abbott faces tough mission on 'trifecta of trade' in Asia



Australia's Prime Minister Tony Abbott speaks during a session at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos on 23 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

SYDNEY, 2 April — Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott wants to finalize a free trade agreement with Japan on his forthcoming North Asia trip, but will have to walk a fine line between Tokyo and Beijing over geopolitical tensions in the region.

Abbott leaves for Japan on Saturday, kicking off a tour that also includes South Korea and China. China is Australia's top export market, followed by Japan and South Korea.

"This is the trifecta of trade we are working towards," Abbott said in an

address to the Asia Society in Canberra last week ahead of his first visit to the region.

After clinching a free trade deal with South Korea late last year, Abbott hopes to complete a similar deal with Japan after seven years of talks and to make "substantial progress towards freer trade" with China during his one-week long trip.

But Abbott is seen in China and South Korea as "very pro-Japanese", making his visit a difficult mission to balance between Japan and its neighbours, said Hugh White, professor of strategic studies at the Australian National University (ANU). "The problem for Abbott is that if his visits in South Korea and China are going to go well, he will have to distance himself from Japan and have to step back from a very

pro-Japanese position he has taken so far," White said. Abbott has regularly talked up Australia's relations with Japan since coming to power last September, describing Tokyo as Australia's "best friend in Asia" and inviting his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe to address parliament later this year.

Australia's relationship with Japan has been "one of the most mutually beneficial bilateral relationships in global history", Abbott said recently, while putting a condition on Australia being a "strategic partner" of China.

"As liberalization spreads from the economy into other elements of Chinese life, I am confident that Australia will be a valued friend and strategic partner...to the Chinese people and government," he said.—Reuters

Worsened security leads to further displacement in Central African Republic

UNITED NATIONS, 2 April — The deteriorating security in the Central African Republic (CAR), especially in its capital city, Bangui, has triggered further displacement within the country and beyond its borders, a UN spokesman told reporters here on Tuesday.

"The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) expressed its concern today about the deterioration of the security situation in Bangui since the High Commissioner's recent visit, with at least 60 people killed since 22 March," said Deputy Spokesperson for the Secretary-General Farhan Haq at the daily briefing.

Xinhua

US House passes Ukraine aid bill

WASHINGTON, 2 April — The US House of Representatives passed legislation on Tuesday to provide economic assistance to Ukraine, sending the bill to President Barack Obama for final signature.

In an overwhelming vote, the House passed the bill that was approved by the Senate last week which included giving Ukraine 1 billion US dollars of loan guarantees, and providing 150 million dollars in aid to Ukraine and surrounding countries.—Xinhua

Venezuela troops block opposition leader from parliament

CARACAS, 2 April — Venezuelan troops dispersed opposition demonstrators with tear gas on Tuesday and blocked anti-government activist Maria Corina Machado, recently stripped of her seat in the National Assembly, from reaching the legislature.

National Guard soldiers surrounded a rally of opposition sympathizers who had planned to march into downtown Caracas to protest at Machado's expulsion from Congress, preventing them from leaving and clearing the square

with tear gas.

Parliament stripped Machado of her post last week on charges she violated the constitution by accepting an invitation from Panama to speak against the government of President Nicolas Maduro at a meeting of the Organization of American States.

The opposition leader dismissed that process as an illegal maneuver by a dictatorial government and vowed to attend a session of the legislature on Tuesday. She was stopped from doing so by a line of troops several blocks from

the parliament. "I want to thank every citizen for their support and strength!" she said on Twitter as her supporters gathered.

"Today I am more a deputy than ever, and I will continue to be one until the people decide otherwise."

Anti-government protests began in the South American OPEC nation of 29 million in mid February over shortages of basic items and high crime levels. The protests have decreased in intensity in the last few weeks as opposition demonstrators grow weary.—Reuters



Venezuela's opposition leader Maria Corina Machado runs away from supporters of President Nicolas Maduro after she tried to take her seat at the national assembly in Caracas on 1 April, 2014.—REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 3 April, 2014

Authorities should deal with black market ticket prices during holiday season

By Htin Kyaw Aye

We are nearing the holiday season in Myanmar. There will be 10-day holiday starting from mid-April as Myanmar celebrates the traditional lunar New Year with the Water Festival which, of course, is the most famous traditional

festival in Myanmar. In theory, there will be only 16 working days this April.

As there is a considerable amount of migration in Myanmar, many people from business and administrative centres such as Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw are returning to their homes which are mostly in countryside towns. It is the season where highway bus lines are struggling to cope with the huge amount of passengers. The prices of bus tickets will also soaring this holiday season as always. It is a headache to get bus tickets or train tickets for everyone who is returning to their native towns during this Thingyan New Year period. It is common in Myanmar that when the demand rises, the price spikes unreasonably.

There are efforts by administrative bodies to keep transportation cost at normal level during that period, but there is little they can do to maintain the regular prices.

It shows that most industries in Myanmar are poorly regulated. It is not possible to crack down on black market business, but with better management by administrative bodies of the related industries, some changes would happen.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi and Ms. Cui Yuying, Chinese Vice-Minister of the State Council Information Office, held talks at the MRTV in Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on Wednesday.

During the meeting, they discussed TV broadcasting systems between the two countries, opening of media exchange offices, further cooperation in information and culture sectors and potentials to offer technical support for cinemas and studios of the country.

Next, they attended Experience China in Myanmar held at MRTV.

Union Minister U Aung Kyi expressed thanks for the movie dubbed into Myanmar in cooperation with CRI and MRTV. Preparations are being made for next movie dubbed into Myanmar.

The Chinese Vice-Minister said Chinese people are joining hands with Myanmar people to create a better future. Culture is a bridge of friendship to promote mutual understanding and friendships among the world countries.

It was attended by Union Ministers U Kyaw Hsan and U Aye Myint Kyu, deputy ministers, the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar and officials concerned.—MNA

Myanmar, China discuss TV broadcasting, culture sector



Union Ministers U Aung Kyi, U Kyaw Hsan and U Aye Myint Kyu together with Chinese Vice-Minister of the State Council Information Office pose for documentary photo at Experience China in Myanmar.—MNA

Second national consultation workshop held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The second national consultation workshop on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization was held at Royal Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 31st March and 1st

April.

It was jointly organized by Manila-based ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity-ACB of the Philippines and the Environmental Conservation and Forestry Ministry of Myanmar.

At the workshop, attendees discussed review

and assessment of ABS Policies in Myanmar and its related factors and outline of national ABS legal framework.

Altogether 45 delegates including the experts of internal ministries and NGOs participated in the discussion.—MNA

Myanmar Police Force, ROK sign LOA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—An official of Myanmar Police Force and the Director-General of Narcotics Department of the Attorney-General Office

of the Republic of Korea signed a letter of agreement (LOA) on implementation of the plan to combat drug related crimes between Myanmar and ROK

at Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday. Afterwards, the two delegations shared their experiences on drug abuse control at a workshop.—MNA

Union FM receives Resident Representative of ICRC

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received Resident Representative of the

International Committee of the Red Cross to Myanmar Mr. Jurg Montani at his office, here, on Wednesday.

They discussed mat-

ters relating to the cooperation between Myanmar and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

MNA

Investigation Committee continues probe into recent riots

SITTWAY, 2 April—The Investigation Committee is making probes into the riots that occurred on 26 and 27 March in Sittway Township of Rakhine State.

Rakhine State Health

Department is solving the health problems in line with the MoU. The MSF has already distributed HIV/AIDS medicines for three months to the patients and remaining medicines have been handed over to

the State Health Department.

Foods have been distributed to the relief camps till 16 April. A total of 12 suspects involved in the riots are under investigation.—State IPRD

Myanmar's oldest English daily newspaper is hiring now!

The Global New Light of Myanmar will relocate to Yangon in mid-April and is now looking for foreign editors and local reporters. Journalists who prefer to work as freelancers or on a part-time basis are also welcome to submit their applications. For further details, please send an email with your resume and samples of your work to the chief editor wallace.tun@gmail.com.

CB bank introduces banking services to customers in Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—CB Bank introduced its payment channels services at Saya San Plaza in Bahan Township of Yangon on Wednesday.

Deputy General Manager U Zeyar Aung of CB Bank IT Department

elaborated on banking services including ATM and POS machines, e-commerce mobile banking and cards services to the attendees and he replied the questions raised by the enthusiasts.

MNA

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (2-4-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K 655,300 per tical: Selling K 656,300

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K 655,000 per tical: Selling K 656,000

FE RATE

USD Buying K 960 - Selling K 964

SGD Buying K 756 - Selling K 766

Euro Buying K 1310 - Selling K 1330

LOCAL NEWS

Relief aid presented to fire victims



MINDON, 2 April—A total of 31 houses were reduced into ashes in outbreak of fire in Thayetok Village in Mingon Township of Magway Region due to negligence of a mental illness older person on 28 March. On 31 March,

Chief Minister of Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe and party inspected construction of makeshift buildings of fire victims and instructed officials to provide health care, built houses as soon as possible and distribute agricultural

loans and paddy seeds to the victims.

At the monastery, the Chief Minister comforted the fire victims and presented rice, edible oil, salt, gram and clothes worth K 30,000 each to them.

Thura Tun (Magway)

Summer literacy campaign launched in Minbu



MINBU, 2 April—The summer literacy course was opened at Basic Education High School No 1 in Minbu of Magway Region on Monday. Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe of Magway Region and Rector Dr Aye Kyaw of Magway University made speeches.

Region Minister for

Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Aung Naing presented gifts to the students.

A total of 150 students of Magway University together with supervisor faculty members will give teaching to local people during 45 days in Magway Township.—Tin Tun Oo

open the road.

A total of 350 people attended the opening ceremony. Local people will see socio-economic development thanks to the new concrete road.—Thandwe District IPRD

Concrete road opened in Thandwe Tsp

THANDWE, 2 April—A concrete road was opened in Alei Village in Thandwe Township of Rakhine State on Thursday.

Rural Region Development Department allot-

ted K 29.306 million for 2013-14 FY to construct the road. The construction work was being undertaken by Zwe Construction Co. Ltd.

Deputy Commission-

er U Kyi Win, Head of Township Rural Development Department U Tin Maung Htay and Chairman of Township Development Supportive Committee U Soe Myint cut the ribbon to

Water throwing pandals under construction for Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Festival



NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan festival is held on a grand scale. The water throwing pandals will be held at Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone. The pandal and people serve the visitors and revellers with refreshment and entertainment.

Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Festival organizing committee held a meeting on 17 March at the Nay Pyi Taw City Hall and issued nine points of disciplines for the festival. The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism distributed disciplines to hotels.

The water throwing pandals are under construction in Hotel Zone. At present, water pandals of Sky Net, Royal Kumudra, Nway Pagyi and Hotel ACE are being built there in line with the prescribed disciplines. Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)

Students join basic scout course in Tatkon

TATKON, 2 April—The basic scout course was kicked off at the hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw Council

Area, on Tuesday, attended by 100 students and teachers.

The training is aimed at turning out the youths with good moral and be-

ing loyal to the State and the citizens.

Three instructors are giving training to the students from 1 to 7 April.

Township IPRD



Outstanding students honoured in Mahlaing for first time

MAHLAING, 2 April—Mahlaing Township Education Supervisory Committee awarded outstanding students for the first time in 2013-14 academic year at the hall of the town on 31 March.

People's Parliament MP U Aye Mauk, Chairman of the supervisory committee Township Administrator U Aung Thein Hlaing and officials presented prizes worth K 4 million to out-

standing students.

Mahlaing Township turned out one double outstanding student award winner, 14 township level outstanding students from 5th grade to matriculation, 20 district level English and Maths outstanding students, winners in extempore talks and teachers.

Aung Htay (Mahlaing)

Census taken in Zabuthiri Township

ZABUTHIRI, 2 April—Census data are being collected in Danatheikdi Ward of Zabuthiri Township as of 30 March 2014.

A total of 17 collector groups gather data at 115 buildings, market and schools.

The collector groups comprise 44 members from census committee, women's affairs organizations, maternal and child welfare association, health staff, education staff and ward supportive committee.

Ward administrator U Saw Lin said, "Thanks to collection of census data, population and households in addition to education, social and economic matters will come out correctly and exactly. The census will be taken up to 10 April."

Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)

Census taking process continues in Tatkon Township

TATKON, 2 April—Census taking process is being undertaken in Tatkon on Sunday morning. A total of 358 census takers and 89 inspectors collected data from 341 areas of six wards

and 49 village-tracts during the designated period.

On 30 and 31 March, they collected data from 42670 people from 9830 households.

Township IPRD



As part of implementing nation-wide census taking process, a census taker collects data at local people in Tatkon Township.

Beijing gets tough on big polluters

BEIJING, 2 April—Beijing is imposing harsh fines against polluting enterprises in an attempt to cut down on the region's notorious smog.

Beijing's environmental watchdog said it levied fines of 7.09 million yuan (\$1.14 million) on owners of 266 coal-fired boilers from November to March. That is more than double the figure from the previous season, when regulators fined 127 companies a total of 3.01 million yuan.

Most of the companies were fined for excessive smoke exhaust, lacking or having faulty emission-monitoring facilities and leaving coal dumps

uncovered, the Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau said during a news briefing on Tuesday.

Beijing's bureau of city administration and law enforcement also handed down fines on construction sites for excessive emissions, having illegal outdoor barbecues and for burning household waste and straw outdoors on the outskirts of the city. The law enforcement bureau said construction sites and vehicles transporting construction waste were fined 1.1 million yuan over the past three months.

Beijing has outlined stricter and more detailed punishments for excessive

emissions, including on construction sites, coal-fired boilers, chemical companies and vehicle owners. The regulation, which went into operation in March, gives more authority to environmental departments and is the first time the capital has established a law to reduce air pollution, said Fang Li, spokesperson and deputy head of the bureau.

Ma Jun, director of the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs, said stricter punishments against polluting enterprises and the suspension of companies during polluting weather has played a significant role in improving air quality.—Xinhua



Pupils read books at the Fourth Primary School in Gu'an County, north China's Hebei Province, on 2 April, 2014. The school on Wednesday organized a reading activity themed on "Making reading a habit" on the International Children's Book Day, which falls on 2 April each year.—XINHUA

Notorious armed robbery gangs smashed

ABUJA, 2 April—The police in Nigeria's southern state of Imo have arrested two notorious armed robbery gangs which have terrorized residents for a very long time, authorities of the anti-crime agency said on Tuesday.

At a news conference, state commissioner of police Abdulmajid Ali paraded four persons, who allegedly specialized in car and motorcycle theft, with another gang of five armed robbers that has been terrorizing the state. He said two other suspects were killed in an exchange of gunfire with security agents.

"Imo State will be too hot for criminals, robbers, kidnappers and people involved in other forms of illegality," said Ali at the news conference in Owerri, the state capital. According to him, many items, including two sports utility vehicles (SUVs), a Toyota Avalon car, a motorcycle and live ammunition, were recovered from the gunmen.

Xinhua



Artists of Yuju, a traditional local opera originated in central China's Henan Province, perform at the opening drama of the Third China Yuju Festival in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan Province, on 1 April, 2014. A total of 18 plays from 11 provinces and autonomous regions would be presented during the festival, which kicked off on Tuesday.—XINHUA

Officials evaluating whether tsunami warning will be issued for Hawaii

HAWAII, 2 April — A tsunami warning could be issued for Hawaii due to a magnitude 8.0 earthquake that struck on Tuesday off the coast of Chile, US officials said.

If tsunami waves reach Hawaii they would strike at 3:24 am (9:24 am ET) local time on Wednesday, the

Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre said in a statement.

The earthquake off Chile generated a tsunami that hit the northern part of the country and led officials to issue a tsunami warning for all of South and Central America's Pacific coast.

"An evaluation of the Pacific wide tsunami threat

is underway and there is a possibility that Hawaii could be elevated to a watch or warning status," the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre said.

There is currently no tsunami warning, watch or advisory in effect for Hawaii, according to the centre's website.—Reuters

Colorado town rejects drone-hunting licenses

DENVER, 2 April—Voters in the small farming town of Deer Trail, Colorado, on Tuesday overwhelmingly rejected a tongue-in-cheek proposal to issue hunting licenses to shoot down unmanned drones that fly over the hamlet's airspace, an election official said.

The ballot question, which would have allowed the town of 600 to issue mock \$25 permits for the supposed targeting of unmanned aerial vehicles,

was rejected by 73 percent of voters, said Town Clerk Kim Oldfield. "We weren't going to really let people shoot aircraft out of the sky," Oldfield said.

The proposal in the town 50 miles east of Denver was a whimsical notion. Some residents suggested it be accompanied by an annual shooting contest using model airplanes or other quirky activities to attract tourism, Oldfield said.

Reuters

Suspected FARC rebels blow up highway in Colombia

BOGOTA, 2 April—Suspected Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas blew up a stretch of the Pan-American Highway on Tuesday, disrupting traffic, authorities said.

The attackers destroyed a 10-metre stretch of highway between the towns of Santander de Quilichao and Mondo in the southwest of the country early in the day, local police commander Col Ivan Ramiro Perez said. Perez told local media that the incident cut off a main artery connecting southwest Colombia with the rest of the country, noting some 6,000 vehicles pass through the stretch every day.

There was no alternative route, he added.

The police have blamed the attack on the FARC's Jacobo Arenas Front, saying it operates in the region.

The Defence Ministry condemned the attack via Twitter, saying "those who attack the structure of the country and undermine Colombia's progress deserve our repudiation." The Colombian authorities have been working to establish aerial transportation for emergency cases, such as hospital visits, Perez said.—Xinhua

Kenyan president reverses cancellation of EU-Africa summit in Brussels

NAIROBI, 2 April—The Kenyan President, Uhuru Kenyatta on Tuesday made a last minute reversal of an earlier decision to boycott the EU-Africa summit in Brussels due to a diplomatic hitch.

Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary, Engineer Karanja Kibicho told journalists in Nairobi that State House had cancelled Kenyatta's visit following refusal by Belgium to issue visa to the head of presidential security.

"Last minute interventions by Kenyan officials and their Belgium counterparts have reversed this unfortunate action, but its import in the context of other negative actions by the EU directed at African delegations has been met with strong disapproval by Kenya," said Kibicho.

He stressed that Kenyan authorities had the prerogative to determine who was to be included in the Presidential entourage. Following the diplomatic spat with Belgium, the Kenyan government demanded an official apology from authorities in Brussels.

"The Ambassador of Belgium to Kenya, Ambassador Bart Ouyry, has been called to the ministry of foreign affairs to receive a formal protest note," Kibicho said.

Kenyan authorities are concerned by unfriendly attitudes shown by several EU member states towards African leaders.

Kibicho regretted that the EU has not been courteous in its dealings with African countries.—Xinhua



A child poses for photos among flowers at Shanghai Botanical Garden in east China's Shanghai, on 1 April, 2014. Many citizens went to parks in Shanghai to view flourishing blossoms.—XINHUA

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Methane-spewing microbe blamed in Earth's worst mass extinction

WASHINGTON, 2 April — Sometimes bad things come in small packages.

A microbe that spewed humongous amounts of methane into Earth's atmosphere triggered a global catastrophe 252 million years ago that wiped out upwards of 90 percent of marine species and 70 percent of land vertebrates.

That's the hypothesis offered on Monday by researchers aiming to solve one of science's enduring mysteries: what happened at the end of the Permian period to cause the worst of the five mass extinctions in Earth's history.

The scale of this calamity made the one that doomed the dinosaurs 65 million years ago — a six-mile wide asteroid smacking the planet — seem like a picnic by comparison.

The implicated microbe, Methanosarcina, is



A fossil of a trilobite, a horsecrab-like creature that thrived in the seas for hundreds of millions of years before becoming one of many kinds of animals wiped out in a mass extinction that befell the planet 252 million years ago, is shown in this handout photo provided by the University of Chicago on 31 March, 2014. — REUTERS

a member of a kingdom of single-celled organisms distinct from bacteria called archaea that lack a nucleus and other usual cell

structures.

"I would say that the end-Permian extinction is the closest animal life has ever come to being total-

ly wiped out, and it may have come pretty close," said Massachusetts Institute of Technology biologist Greg Fournier, one of

the researchers. "Many, if not most, of the surviving groups of organisms barely hung on, with only a few species making it through, many probably by chance," Fournier added.

Previous ideas proposed for the Permian extinction include an asteroid and large-scale volcanism. But these researchers suggest a microscope would be needed to find the actual culprit.

Methanosarcina grew in a frenzy in the seas, disgorging huge quantities of methane into Earth's atmosphere, they said.

This dramatically heated up the climate and fundamentally altered the chemistry of the oceans by driving up acid levels, causing unlivable conditions for many species, they added.

The horseshoe crab-like trilobites and the sea scorpions — denizens of the seas for hundreds of millions of years — simply vanished. Other marine groups barely avoided oblivion including common creatures called ammonites with tentacles and a shell.

On land, most of the dominant mammal-like

reptiles died, with the exception of a handful of lineages including the ones that were the ancestors of modern mammals including people.

"Land vertebrates took as long as 30 million years to reach the same levels of biodiversity as before the extinction, and afterwards life in the oceans and on land was radically changed, dominated by very different groups of animals," Fournier said.

The first dinosaurs appeared 20 million years after the Permian mass extinction.

"One important point is that the natural environment is sensitive to the evolution of microbial life," said Daniel Rothman, an MIT geophysics professor who led the study published in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The best example of that, Rothman said, was the advent about 2.5 billion years ago of bacteria engaging in photosynthesis, which paved the way for the later appearance of animals by belching fantastic amounts of oxygen into Earth's atmosphere.

Reuters

BlackBerry ends licensing deal with T-Mobile

NEW YORK, 2 April — BlackBerry Ltd said on Tuesday it will not renew its license with T-Mobile US Inc to sell BlackBerry products after the current contract expires on 25 April.

The Canadian company said it will continue to provide service and support to existing customers on T-Mobile's network or those who will buy products from the carrier's inventory.

"Regretfully, at this time, our strategies are not complementary and we must act in the best interest of our BlackBerry customers," BlackBerry Chief Executive John Chen said in a statement. BlackBerry said it is "working closely" with other carrier partners



A T-Mobile branded BlackBerry smart phone is pictured in Hoboken, New Jersey, on 20 March, 2011. — REUTERS

to provide users with alternatives should they decide to switch from T-Mobile.

The relationship between the two companies soured after BlackBerry's CEO criticized T-Mobile for sending out emails to

some of its customers in February, pitching free iPhone 5s and touting the promotion as a "great offer for BlackBerry customers."

This sparked an uproar on social media forums after some of the

telecommunications company's loyal BlackBerry customers reacted angrily to the offer, which they perceived as a slight. The backlash prompted T-Mobile US Chief Executive John Legere to respond publicly, assuring BlackBerry and its users of his company's support.

T-Mobile could not immediately be reached for comment outside regular US business hours. BlackBerry, a one-time pioneer in the smartphone industry, has been struggling to claw back market share lost to Apple Inc's iPhone, Samsung Electronics Co Ltd's Galaxy devices, and other smartphones powered by Google Inc's Android operating system.—Reuters

Renesas considers selling chip-making subsidiary to Apple



A Renesas Electronics Corp's chip is pictured at the company's office in Tokyo on 21 March, 2013. — REUTERS

TOKYO, 2 April — Struggling chipmaker Renesas Electronics Corp is considering selling to Apple Inc of the United States its subsidiary that develops chips for liquid crystal display panels, sources close to the matter said on Wednesday.

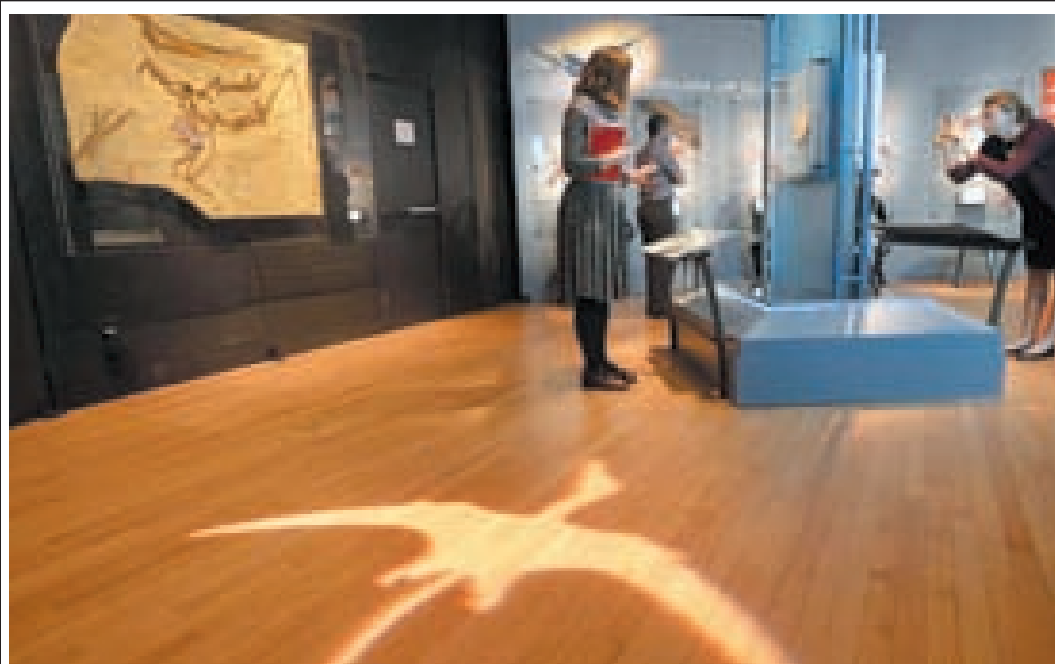
Apple aims to develop smartphones with higher definition and lower power consumption by acquiring Renesas SP Drivers Inc's technology for key components that determine the quality of LCD panels,

they said.

In the global smartphone market, South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co holds the top spot and Chinese makers such as Huawei Technologies Co also have a strong presence.

Renesas currently owns a 55 percent share in the subsidiary, while Sharp Corp. holds a 25 percent stake and Taiwan chipmaker Powerchip Technology Corp. has a 20 percent share.

Kyodo News



Visitors attend the preview of the exhibition "Pterosaurs: Flight in the Age of the Dinosaurs" at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, on 1 April, 2014. The special exhibition is to kick off on 5 April, featuring rare fossils, life-size models and hands-on interactions. — XINHUA

Japan ranks 3rd in problem solving skills in OECD survey

TOKYO, 2 April — Japan ranked third after Singapore and South Korea in 15-year-old students' computer-using problem-solving skills among 44 economies that participated in a 2012 survey by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the OECD said on Tuesday.

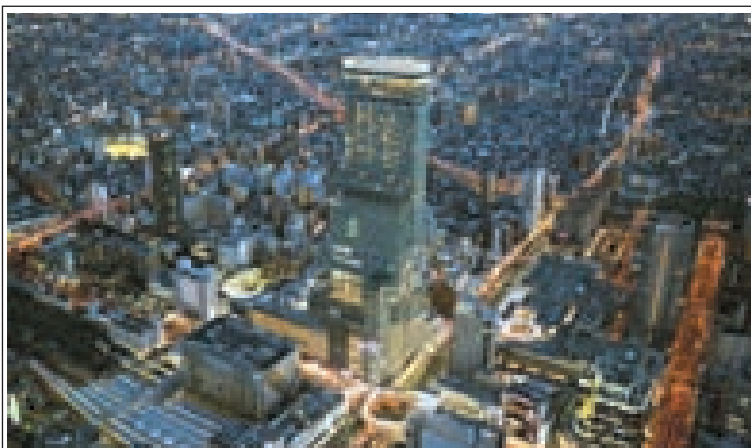
The survey under the Program for International Student Assessment used computers for the first time for measuring problem solving, defined as an ability to use cognitive processes to confront and resolve a real situation where the solution path is not immediately obvious.

About 85,000 students including some 6,300 in Japan took part in the survey to solve problems while using knowledge and skills to collect information. Operation data left in computers were digitized for assessment.

Asian economies occupied the top seven spots including the top three, the OECD said.

The result came as Asian countries reformed school curricula to promote education in line with the OECD programme known as PISA, a Japanese education ministry official said. The high ranking for Japan reflects the government's education guidelines and nationwide achievement examinations designed to nurture students' application skills, the official said.

Kyodo News



File photo taken from a Kyodo News helicopter on 7 March, 2014, shows Japan's tallest skyscraper, the 300-meter Abeno Harukas, in Osaka, western Japan.

KYODO NEWS

3.56 mil. visit Japan's tallest building Abeno Harukas in 25 days

OSAKA, 2 April — A total of about 3.56 million people have visited the 300-meter Abeno Harukas, Japan's tallest skyscraper, since it fully opened on 7 March, building owner Kintetsu Corp said on Tuesday.

An average of about 140,000 visitors a day visited the building through the end of March, topping Kintetsu's target of 130,000. The skyscraper

accommodates the nation's second-highest observation deck, the flagship Kintetsu Department Store as well as a hotel and a museum.

The department store, which partially opened last June in the building, drew 3.23 million visitors, or about 90 percent of the total. Its sales roughly doubled compared with a year before, as customers bought luxury items such as watches before the 3 per-

centage-point consumption tax hike to 8 percent on Tuesday.

The observation deck, which offers panoramic views of the Kansai region in western Japan, had roughly 170,000 visitors.

About 60,000 people stayed at the Osaka Marriott Miyako Hotel, while about 30,000 visited the art museum located inside the building.

Kyodo News

Election campaign season claims 3 in Indonesia's Aceh

JAKARTA, 2 April — Election campaign season has claimed three lives, including an 18-month-old child, in Indonesia's Aceh Province as rivalry between two parties controlled by former separatist combatants intensifies.

The three were killed when a group of unidentified men opened fire at a minibus that was carrying them and eight other passengers, mostly from one family, in a village in Bireuen Regency, local police said. The shooting is believed to have been

related to the campaign for the April 9 general elections as the minibus passengers were supporters of the Aceh Party, one of the three local parties in Aceh contesting the parliamentary elections.

The party's stickers were plastered over the minibus, police said.

Bireuen Police Chief Ali Khadafi said, however, he has not been able to confirm if political rivalry was connected to the violence, only saying the case is still under investigation.

Kyodo News

Philippine leftist rebel group ready to hold informal talks with gov't

MANILA, 2 April — The leftist rebel group National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) is willing to hold informal talks with the government in May, its senior official said Tuesday. NDFP negotiating panel chairperson Luis Jalandoni denied allegation of Philippine government peace panel head Alexander Padilla that his group only proposed to have informal talks with the Aquino government after the arrest of couple Benito and Wilma Tiamzon, top leaders of the Communist Party of the

Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) recently.

Jalandoni said that in his meeting with Padilla last February in Makati City, Metro Manila, "We already stated our willingness to agree with the proposal of the Royal Norwegian Government to hold informal talks or consultations with the Aquino government in May 2014."

Norway has been facilitating the peace process between the Philippine government and the NDFP, the political wing of the CPP-NPA.—Xinhua

12 trapped in collapsed tunnel in NE China

CHANGCHUN, 2 April — A high-speed railway tunnel under construction in northeast China's Jilin Province collapsed early Wednesday, leaving 12 workers trapped inside, local authorities said.

The collapse happened at about 2 am when workers were pouring concrete to reinforce the tunnel in Hunchun City.

An investigation into the cause of the accident is underway.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 1 April, 2014 shows the Great Wall amid flowers in the suburban district of Huairou in Beijing, capital of China.—XINHUA

India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh holds key to parliamentary polls

NEW DELHI, 2 April — India goes to the polls next week. And it's not the national capital but a state in its vicinity which holds the key to the next government formation in India — Uttar Pradesh.

In fact, the northern state of Uttar Pradesh boasts of 80 out of 543 parliamentary seats — the largest in India — and so all the major political parties—the ruling Congress party, the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the anti-graft Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) are all focusing there.

Even the country's top political leaders—Congress chief Sonia Gandhi, her son and party's Vice

President Rahul Gandhi, BJP's candidate for prime minister Narendra Modi and AAP's head Arvind Kejriwal — are also contesting from Uttar Pradesh.

"These leaders know if they can grab the maximum number of parliamentary seats in this state, then their party will have a good chance of forming the central government after the general elections which begins on 7 April," said Delhi-based political analyst Prof Ajay Singh.

While Sonia Gandhi will contest from Rae Bareilly, a traditional Congress seat, and Rahul Gandhi from Amethi, another traditional family constituency for the Gandhis, Modi is

fighting from Varanasi, the world's oldest city, from where civil servant-turned-politician Kejriwal will also contest.

In Rae Bareilly, the BJP has fielded noted Supreme Court lawyer Ajay Aggarwal against the Congress chief and actor-turned-politician Smriti Irani in Amethi against Rahul Gandhi, the scion of Nehru-Gandhi family. AAP has fielded Kumar Vishwas against Rahul Gandhi.

"Everyone knows how important is winning in Uttar Pradesh. It's the battleground state. So the top politicians of this country are all campaigning hard to woo voters ahead of the general elections.—Xinhua



Chen Xin takes off a bus with the help of her guide dog on 1 April, 2014 in Shanghai. The city issued a new regulation which take effect on Tuesday, permitting blind residents take their guide dogs to public places or on board public transport.

XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT

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(Reg. No. 4/3014/2014)
(13.3.2014)

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Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For Takatori Corporation,
C/o Kavin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
#1505-1508-1509, 15th floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union
of Myanmar.
um@kcyangon.com
Dated 3 April 2014

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Mr. Udo Fischer, residing at Röttelnblick 15, 79540 Lörrach, Germany and **Mr. Peter Kropf**, residing at Hohe Möhrstrasse 6, 79650 Schopfheim, Germany. We are German citizens of Germany, are the sole owner of the following trademark:

HOLLE

Reg. No. 2122/2014

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U Kyi Naing, L.L.B., L.L.M., H.G.P.
For **Mr. Udo Fischer and Mr. Peter Kropf**
Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1703A, 17th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com
Dated: 3 April, 2014

The Republic of The Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Energy
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Request for Expression of Interest

Title: Joint Venture Project of LPG Production, Storage, Distribution and Marketing for Liquefied Petroleum Gas Plant (Nyaung Don)

The Republic of The Union of Myanmar, Ministry of Energy, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise intends to implement joint venture between Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise and interested foreign investors who have the ability in terms of worldwide experiences in LPG Production, Storage, Distribution, Marketing and services, financial capacity, reliability for long term cooperation with respect to business expansion and enhancing the existing facilities/capacities for production, storage, distribution and marketing to operate the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Plant (Nyaung Don). Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours starting on 7.4.2014. No telephone enquiries shall be allowed.

Planning Department
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise
Fax: 067 411124

E-mail: MPEHO@mptmail.net.mm, mpeict@gmail.com
Building No(44)
Nay Pyi Taw

Letter of Expression of Interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by e-mail, by fax, by mail) by 15.5.2014 during office hours.

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise
Building No(44)
Nay Pyi Taw

Fax: 067 411126
E-mail: MPEHO@mptmail.net.mm, mpeict@gmail.com

Ministry of Electric Power
Myanma Electric Power Enterprise
Invitation for Open International Bids

The Myanma Electric Power Enterprise has allocated Funds to be used towards the cost of various Projects. We intend to apply a portion of the proceeds of these funds to eligible payments under the contract for which this Invitation for Bids is issued.

We here by Inform you that invitation of the Open International bidding, Design and Supply of Galvanized Steel Tower for Taung Twin Gyi - Shwe Taung 230 kV Double Circuit, Transmission Line. The Currency of the bid shall be US Dollar and quoting plan is CIF Yangon. Interested eligible Bidder may obtain future Information from and inspect from 10:00-15:30 hrs at Power Transmission Project Myanma Electric Power Enterprise Bldg No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw Myanmar
Phone : + 9567410216

A complete set of the bidding document in English Language and should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address below by (31-5- 2014), 14:00 hrs and be clear marked "Bidding for Design and Supply of Galvanized steel Tower for Taung Twin Gyi- Shwe Taung 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission line"

Material Planning
Myanma Electric Power Enterprise
Bldg No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw
Myanmar

Phone : + 9567410282
Fax: 067: -9567410391

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For inquiries to place an advertisement in the NLM,
Please email
wallace.tun@gmail.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NEW ENERGY VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NEW ENERGY VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.4.2014 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 TAN BINH CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Weather outlook for subsequent two days

Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Upper Myanmar areas.

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
ASEAN Summit and related Summits Committee
Sub-Committee on Logistics and Administration
INVITATION FOR BIDS

ON SPONSORSHIP MANAGEMENT OPERATOR

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has assumed the Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2014 and will hold 24th ASEAN Summit and 25th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. It will be first time that Myanmar takes ASEAN Chairmanship since it joined ASEAN in 1997.

2. Myanmar has drawn great attention from the international community due to its significant reforms, abundant natural resources and historic and scenic beauties. Hosting of ASEAN Summits and related Summits will be a golden opportunity for the local and foreign companies to promote business and to further expand investment in Myanmar and to the Southeast Asia Region.

3. In view of the above opportunities, bids are invited by the Sub-Committee on Logistics and Administration (the Committee) for the selection of Sponsorship Management Operator whose sole responsibility is to find sponsors and to collect sponsorship fees for the duration of the Myanmar Chairmanship which will come to the end on 31 December 2014.

4. The company who will be selected as "Sponsorship Management Operator" (the winning bidder) will have the exclusive rights to dispense the following rights on behalf of the Committee:-

- (1) Television Advertising Right
- (2) Billboard Advertising Right
- (3) Merchandize Advertising Right

5. All the operation costs inclusive of various costs for advertising shall be borne by the Sponsorship Management Operator and/or Sponsor.

6. The winning bidder shall enter the contract with the Committee.

7. The Committee will take exclusive intellectual property right for logo, motto etc., pertaining to the Myanmar ASEAN Chairmanship 2014.

8. The bidders shall attach the following information with their application among others—

- (1) Certificate of incorporation and the company profile;
- (2) Estimated amount of earning (in USD) from sponsorship;
- (3) Minimum guaranteed amount (in case of failure the winning bidder is responsible for that amount);
- (4) Commission rate (inclusive of expenses) for the bidder;
- (5) Amount of deposit (in USD);
- (6) Past record of performance, in any.

9. No territorial limit of marketing sponsorship.

10. Deposit shall be refunded within 14 banking days after the year end.

11. Bids shall be only on the Official Bidding Form and to be delivered into the Tender Box located at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office No.9, Nay Pyi Taw no later than (16:00) hours on 10 April 2014.

12. Bids shall be opened at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office No.9, Nay Pyi Taw on 11 April 2014.

13. Announcement on the successful bidder will be made as earliest as possible.

14. Official Bidding Form shall be available at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office No.9 Nay Pyi Taw during the office hour from (31-3-2014) to (10-4-2014) in payment of Kyat 10,000 (Kyat ten thousands).

15. The Committee has made this tender invitation without prejudice to its right.

16. The selection will be made based on criteria and point system.

17. Inquiry can be made at the following contact phone number, 067-412509.

Secretary
Sub-Committee on Logistics
and Administration
ASEAN Summit and Related
Summits Committee

Album of unheard Michael Jackson songs to be released in May

LOS ANGELES, 2 April—Eight previously unreleased songs by the late Michael Jackson will be part of a new album, “Xscape,” the singer’s estate and Sony Music Entertainment’s Epic Records said on Monday.

The songs were unearthed from Jackson’s archive of recorded material by LA Reid, the chairman and chief executive of Epic Records. “Xscape” will be released on 13 May.

The new album is the latest venture for Jackson’s estate to capitalize on the

posthumous popularity of the King of Pop.

Jackson died in 2009 at age 50 in Los Angeles from an overdose of the powerful anesthetic propofol given to him by his personal physician while he was rehearsing for a series of 50 comeback concerts in London.

The unreleased tracks have been re-produced by the likes of present-day hitmakers Jerome “Jroc” Harmon, who has helped produce hits for Beyonce and Justin Timberlake, and Norwegian duo Tor

Hermansen and Mikkel Eriksen, who work under the name Stargate and have produced hits for Rihanna and Selena Gomez.

Top pop producers Rodney Jerkins and John McClain were also enlisted to make the songs sound contemporary in style, Reid said. One of the songs is called “Xscape,” which was taken for the album title to continue Jackson’s tradition of using a one-word song title on the album for its name, Reid said.

Reuters



David Beckham’s son makes his ling debut



David Beckham and Brooklyn.

LONDON, 2 April—Former soccer ace David Beckham and singer-fashion designer Victoria’s eldest son Brooklyn has shot for a men’s magazine.

The 15-year-old will be seen on the cover page of British magazine ‘Man About Town’, wearing clothes by famous designers Ralph Lauren and Yves Saint Laurent, reported Contactmusic. The teen is not the first Beckham child to enter modelling, Romeo Beckham, 11, did a Burberry campaign in 2012.—PTI

LONDON, 2 April—Songstress Miley Cyrus and her father Billy Ray Cyrus have both reached the top ten list of best celebrity dances in a survey of the British public.

The ‘Wrecking Ball’ star and her ‘Achy Breaky Heart’ singing father have both reached the top ten of a list of the best celebrity dances thanks to their impressive moves, according to a nationwide poll of Britain by The London Cabaret Club, reported Contactmusic.

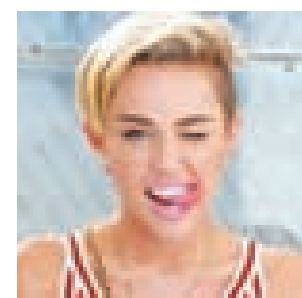
Miley Cyrus wins best celebrity dance title

Cyrus’ infamous ‘twerking’ landed her in the top spot beating Madonna’s iconic ‘Vogue’ dance moves and Michael Jackson’s legendary Moonwalk.

Other names which made it onto the Top Ten Celebrity Dances included South-Korean sensation Psy, who took the world by storm with his ‘Gangnam Style’ routine, in fourth place, and Village People’s cult dance ‘YMCA’ scored seventh place. Ricky Gervais’ David Brent dance,

Kylie Minogue’s ‘Locomotion’, Beyonce’s ‘Single Ladies’ and Alfonso Ribeiro’s Carlton Dance from ‘The Fresh Prince of Bel Air’ completed the list.

PTI



Miley Cyrus.

Jude Law explodes as hot-headed safecracker in ‘Dom Hemingway’

NEW YORK, 2 April—With an extra 20 pounds, an impressive paunch and bad teeth, actor Jude Law, best known for his golden boy roles, transforms himself into a sleazy, ranting southeast London safecracker in the film “Dom Hemingway.”

It is Law, Oscar nominated for “The Talented Mr. Ripley” and “Cold Mountain,” as he hasn’t been seen before - unfit, unkempt and with a penchant for delivering expletive-filled speeches.

In the film, which opens in select US theaters on Wednesday, Law plays Dom Hemingway, a damaged, hot-headed crook released from prison after a 12-year stint for not ratting on his crime boss.

He paid a high price for his loyalty in lost years, missed opportunities and estrangement from his daughter and is hell-bent on collecting his money and making up for lost time.

The role enabled Law, 41, to mine the southeast London streets of his childhood for the character and to discard any lingering



Actors Jude Law and actor Richard E Grant attend a news conference for the film “Dom Hemingway” at the 38th Toronto International Film Festival on 19 Sept, 2013.—RUETERS

remnants of his matinee idol image.

“The golden boy thing was never a mantle I went out looking for. That was something I was told I was,” said Law, adding that for him it was always about the work.

“To me it was like who cares if it’s about the work? And now, having walked those minefields and survived, and having worked for 20-odd years, it feels like at last having gone over that hump we can maybe just talk about the work,” he added.

From the opening scene when he pontificates

about his manhood, through drinking binges and brawls, Law holds nothing back as Hemingway, who is the complete opposite of the tightly coiled Russian aristocrat Karenin he played in the 2012 drama “Anna Karenina,” based on Leo Tolstoy’s 1877 novel.

“The joy of the job is getting to mine these different characters,” he said.

The website film.com called Law’s Hemingway “a career-best performance,” and Scotland’s Daily Record said he “fills the screen with a gloriously over-the-top character.”

“Dom Hemingway

gives (Law) a chance to sink his teeth into one of the meatiest personalities in a genre know for larger-than-life types,” said the trade magazine Variety.

American screenwriter and director Richard Shepard (“The Matador”) was a big fan of British gangster movies such as “Sexy Beast” and “Mona Lisa,” and always wanted to make a film in the British capital.

“I had the DNA of a lot of British gangster movies in my brain,” he said. “This is about a low-level safecracker who is a mess.”

Reuters

Tokyo Disney Resort marks record number of visitors in FY 2013

TOKYO, 2 April—The Tokyo Disney Resort amusement park complex near Tokyo marked a record-high 31.3 million visitors in fiscal 2013 due to events commemorating its 30th anniversary and a better Japanese economy, the operator said on Tuesday.

The resort complex, which opened as Tokyo Disneyland in 1983 with Tokyo DisneySea added in 2001, had 13.8 percent more visitors over the previous year as the events were held throughout the year ended in March, Oriental Land

Co said. New attractions including the ride “Star Tours: The Adventures Continue” introduced at Disneyland last May, and seasonal events also contributed to the rise in visitors to the parks in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture, it said.

It was the second straight year for the combined number of visitors to the parks to reach a record high, according to the operator. But Oriental Land said it expects a decline in visitors in fiscal 2014 after the 30th anniversary festivities.

Kyodo News



More than 1,200 people who turn 20 years old by the end of the current fiscal year in March attended a Coming-of-Age ceremony on 13 Jan, 2014, a national holiday, at Tokyo Disneyland in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture.—KYODO NEWS

GENERAL

Kidnapped Afghan provincial council candidate reportedly killed

SARI PUL, (Afghanistan), 2 April — An Afghan provincial council candidate and eight supporters are believed to have been killed in the country's northern Province of Sari Pul overnight, according to reports citing police and relatives on Wednesday.

The victims were kidnapped by militants on Sunday evening. "Bullet-riddled bodies of four persons were found in Doghabi area early Wednesday morning. Another person was seriously wounded," the provincial deputy police chief Sakhi Dad Haydari told *Xinhua*.

"The initial reports said that five other people, including candidate Hussain Nazari, were also killed by the militants. Our police forces are searching the area," the police official added. The Taliban insurgent group has intensified attacks ahead of the third presidential and provincial councils elections on Saturday. The number of presidential candidates has dropped to eight after the withdrawal of three contenders from the race, and those running for the council seats in 34 provinces across the country exceed 2,500.—*Xinhua*



A bee rests on a branch in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 1 April, 2014, as the weather warms up recently. —XINHUA

EU-China Research Centre opens in Belgium

BRUGES, (Belgium), 2 April — The College of Europe on Tuesday opened an EU-China Research Centre in the historic city of Bruges in northwest Belgium, a new move promoting collaboration among scholars specialized in EU-China relations.

"Funded by In-Bev-Bailler Latour Fund, the EU-China Research Center aims to study the rapidly developing relations between the European Union and China by critical analysis and academic research," said Jing Men, the director of the EU-China

Research Centre.

"In particular, the center seeks to undertake high-quality research from an interdisciplinary perspective on topics of major importance in the field of EU-China relations, produce publications, organize conference and promote cooperation between scholars specialized in EU-China studies," she added.

Following the inauguration ceremony, the EU-China Research Center, together with other institutions of the College of Europe, organized a seminar on "China's Re-

form and Its Impact on the EU and the World" which will last two days.

Founded in 1949, the College of Europe is the first and one of the most reputed institutes of European studies with about 400 postgraduates from over 55 countries.

The college also has its "China Library" inaugurated last Friday, providing around 10,000 books and audio-visual publications in six languages which were donated by China's State Council Information Office.

Xinhua

Greece wants no third bailout, euro zone hopeful but cautious

ATHENS, 2 April — Greece, fully funded for the next 12 months, hopes to finance itself on the market afterwards, but its euro zone peers say success depends on whether Athens delivers on the reforms it has promised so far. Greece was cut off from markets in 2010 as the true scale of its

debt burden became apparent. But after four years of painful measures to contain debt, two bailouts worth 240 billion euros (198 billion pounds) and a hit on private bondholders, the Greek economy is expected to return to modest growth this year.

Encouraged by falling

bond yields, Greece is considering ending its four-year exclusion from bond markets by selling 1.5 billion-2 billion euros of five-year bonds in a test issue in the first half of the year. The cash raised would complement money that Athens will get from the euro zone and the International Monetary

Fund after a deal in March which unblocks the payment of overdue tranches.

The certainty that Greece will have enough money over the next 12 months to cover its expenses is important because it is a condition for the IMF to keep lending to Athens even after euro zone loans stop at the end of 2014. "We had assurance... that Greece is fully financed for the coming 12 months," the chairman of euro zone finance ministers Jeroen Dijsselbloem told a news conference after they met.

The ministers decided the next tranche of loans they would send to Greece would be 6.3 billion euros at the end of April. This will allow Athens to comfortably meet its large bond redemption needs in May. Greece will get two more tranches of 1 billion euros each in the following months, although the disbursements will hinge on the government meeting specific conditions.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(3-4-2014, Thursday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Min Gun Sayadaw

6:20 am
2. Physical Exercise

6:30 am
3. Song of Yester

7:00 am
4. News

7:20 am
5. People Talks

8:30 am
6. India Drama Series

9:00 am
7. News/International News

9:30 am
8. Shwe Yin Chon Than

12:00 pm
9. News/International News/Weather Report

12:25 pm
10. Teleplay

2:15 pm
11. Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance

3:00 pm
12. News

3:15 pm
13. Song Programme

4:00 pm
14. News

4:15 pm
15. Teleplay

4:45 pm
16. Dances of Thingyan Festival

5:00 pm
17. News

5:30 pm
18. India Drama Series

6:00 pm
19. News / Weather Report

6:20 pm
20. Approaching Science Discovery World

7:00 pm
21. News

7:15 pm
22. TV Drama Series

9:00 pm
23. News

24. Clever

25. Teleplay

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(3-4-14 07:00am~
4-4-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges (Myoma Market)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review "FAMILY FEUD"
- * Local News
- * A Famous Festival & Its Fantastic Fair
- * World News
- * My Life & My Art
- * Local News
- * The Eel Business
- * World News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Ladies "Kalayar Moe"
- * Local News
- * Myanma Pottery
- * World News
- * TECH School
- * Local News
- * Short Trip With Steve (Mon State)
- * World News
- * In the Studio "Khin Su Shin"
- * Local News
- * Anthropoid Origins in Myanmar (Ep-1)
- * World News
- * Snake Dancer
- * Local News
- * Kay Tu Mar Lar "The Family"
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Art Teacher
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Martial Art (EP-1)(Bando)
- * World News
- * Ngapali Beach: Fishing Villages

Serie A Standing Table

Pos	Clubs	P	W	D	L	Point
1	Juventus	31	26	3	2	81
2	Roma	30	21	7	2	70
3	Napoli	31	19	7	5	64
4	Fiorentina	31	15	7	9	52
5	Inter	31	12	13	6	49
6	Parma	30	12	11	7	47
7	Atalanta	31	14	4	13	46
8	Lazio	31	12	9	10	45
9	Verona	31	13	4	14	43
10	Torino	31	11	9	11	42
11	Milan	31	11	9	11	42
12	Sampdoria	31	11	8	12	41
13	Genoa	31	10	9	12	39
14	Udinese	31	11	5	15	38
15	Cagliari	31	7	11	13	32
16	Chievo	31	7	6	18	27
17	Bologna	31	5	11	15	26
18	Livorno	31	6	7	18	25
19	Sassuolo	31	5	6	20	21
20	Catania	31	4	8	19	20



Eurogroup President Jeroen Dijsselbloem arrives for an European Union Finance Ministers informal meeting in Athens on 1 April, 2014. —REUTERS

Bayern and Barca held to first leg draws

LONDON, 2 April — Bayern Munich and Barcelona were held to 1-1 draws against Manchester United and Atletico Madrid respectively in their Champions League quarter-final first legs on Tuesday.

Bayern, overwhelming favourites in the tie, dominated possession at Old Trafford but were left to rue their lack of cutting edge when Nemanja Vidic rose highest to head in Wayne Rooney's corner in the 58th minute.

The holders hit back in the 67th minute with

knock-down. Schweinsteiger was sent off in the 90th minute for a second booking and will miss the return leg next week.

sensational long-range strike for the La Liga leaders who lost top scorer Diego Costa with a hamstring injury in the 30th minute.

Barcelona drew level in the 71st minute with

the far corner.

Barca pressed for a late winner but Atletico held

on and will take a vital away goal back to the Vicente Calderon stadium.

In the other quarter-final fixtures, 2012 champions Chelsea travel to Paris St Germain while nine-time winners Real Madrid host last



Manchester United's Nemanja Vidic (R) scores a goal against Bayern Munich during their Champions League quarter-final first leg soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, on 1 April, 2014.—REUTERS

Bastian Schweinsteiger expertly steering home from a Mario Mandzukic

Atletico substitute Diego opened the scoring at the Nou Camp with a

Neymar meeting Iniesta's defence-splitting pass with a sublime first-time finish into

season's runners-up Borussia Dortmund on Wednesday.—Reuters



Barcelona's Neymar (C) controls the ball beside Atletico Madrid's Tiago (R) and Gabi Fernandez during their Champions League quarter-final first leg soccer match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 1 April, 2014.—REUTERS

Woods to miss Masters after back surgery

NEW YORK, 2 April — Tiger Woods announced on Tuesday he would miss next week's Masters after undergoing back surgery for a pinched nerve that has troubled him for months. The world number one pulled out of his traditional Masters warm-up event in Florida last month and released a statement on his website on Tuesday saying he was withdrawing from the first major of 2014, starting at Augusta National on 10 April.

"After attempting to get ready for the Masters, and failing to make the necessary progress, I decided, in consultation with my doctors, to have this procedure done," said Woods.

"I'd like to express my disappointment to the Augusta National membership, staff, volunteers and patrons that I will not be at the Masters.

"It's a week that's very special to me. It also looks like I'll be forced to miss several upcoming tournaments to focus on my rehabilitation and getting healthy."

Woods won the Masters four times, in 1997, 2001, 2002 and 2005, and had never missed the event since he made his debut at Augusta National as an amateur in 1995.

"Tiger was gracious in keeping us updated of his condition and making us aware of his decision," Billy Payne, the Chairman of Augusta National Golf Club and the Masters Tournament, said in a statement. "We wholeheartedly offered our best wishes for his immediate and long-term recovery. Tiger will be in our thoughts and will be missed by our patrons and all of us at the Masters Tournament next week. "He is one of our most decorated champions and we look forward to his healthy return in 2015 and beyond."

Woods skipped two British Opens, one US Open and one PGA Championship since 2008 because of injury and the 38-year-old has been plagued by painful back problems since last year that have worsened over the past month.

Reuters

Cepelova shocks Serena at Family Circle

LOS ANGELES, 2 April — Top-ranked Serena Williams suffered a shock 6-4, 6-4 loss to Slovakia's world number 78 Jana Cepelova in the second round of the Family Circle Cup on Tuesday.

The world number one and defending champion lost the first five games and never recovered.

"Obviously things didn't go great out there, but she was a great counterpuncher today and hit a lot of balls back," Williams told reporters.

"I really knew nothing about her game going into the match, so she played a really good match

and had been on a roll coming to Charleston, South Carolina where she was a three-time champion.

Her sister Venus also had problems in her opening round match, losing seven consecutive games at one point, but recovered to beat Barbora Zahlavova 6-3, 0-6, 7-5.

Venus, who won the event in 2004, said she had been under the weather recently.

"I've actually been pretty sick lately, so it was a little rough out there today," she said. "I just kept fighting till the end."

In other early-round action, sixth seed Eugen-



Serena Williams

against me today. And it just wasn't my day," added Williams.

The 20-year-old Cepelova had never beaten a top 15 player but held her nerve to pull off the biggest win of her career.

Williams, a 17-time grand slam champion, won the Sony Open on Saturday

ie Bouchard breezed past Alla Kudryavtseva 6-2 6-0, while Australian seventh seed Samantha Stosur overcame a stiff challenge from Yaroslava Shvedova in a 6-3, 5-7, 6-1 triumph.

Eighth seed Sorana Cirstea was upset by Teliana Pereira in a 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(0) defeat.—Reuters

Freestyler Uemura calls it quits with happy heart

NAGANO, (Japan), 2 April — Popular freestyle moguls skier Aiko Uemura, who narrowly missed out on an elusive medal in her fifth consecutive Winter Games in Sochi in February, said she was

able to enjoy a "happy career" at her retirement Press conference in Nagano on Tuesday.

"I was

able to compete with my heart and soul and had a happy career," said Uemura, who failed to medal but finished in the top eight in all five Olympic competitions starting with her debut in Nagano in 1998.

"Nagano was the first Olympics I wanted to compete in and I realized my dream," said the 34-year-old, who placed seventh, sixth, fifth, fourth and fourth in that order in her five appearances.

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Aiko Uemura.