

## Myanmar immigration, Interpol enhance security cooperation prior to ASEAN Summit

By Ye Myint

Myanmar Immigration officers are working together with a team of experts from the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) at Yangon International Airport as of 3 May, Assistant Director Aung Thiha of the Ministry of Immigration and Population, who is also the Head of Airport Immigration, confirmed the deployment of ICPO officers at the airport ahead of the ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw while giving a brief interview to The New Light of Myanmar on Monday.

The team is comprised of three Interpol officials—two male and one female officers from the Republic of Korea, Canada and Slovenia. Their main responsibility is to screen for suspects as part of the counter-terrorism activities in cooperation with the Airport Immigration, said the assistance director who has led Airport Immigration since four years ago.

According to Air-



Assistant Director Aung Thiha, Head of Airport Immigration.

port Immigration, Yangon International Airport received 896,015 foreign visitors during the previous fiscal year and 67,972 from the start of this fiscal year to 4 May.

During his first ever official mission to Myanmar for two days in January, 2013, Chief of the global police agency Ronald K. Noble pledged enhancing security cooperation with Myanmar law enforcement authorities by connecting airports and border crossing gates in Myanmar to Interpol's state-of-the-art passport screening system called Mobile Interpol Network Database (MIND) and Fixed Interpol Network Database.

Laptops which are connected to the Interpol's

database and passport readers are being used in screening arriving foreign passengers at each immigration counter, said Aung Thiha.

He elaborated on the past cooperation with Interpol that an Interpol Major Event Support Team (MEST) was deployed for taking security measures ahead of and during the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games. Interpol gave eight Myanmar Immigration officials including me

a course to use the passport screening system that offer a network to have access to Interpol's database last year, he told The NLM.

Myanmar will host XXIV ASEAN Summit at Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 and 11 May.

Interpol headquartered in Lyon, France is the second largest intergovernmental organization after the United Nations. It is facilitating global police

cooperation with an annual budget of around £70 million contributed by its membership of 190 countries.

The INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) for Myanmar is housed at the Myanmar Police Headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw, concentrating its activities on the fight against drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, money laundering and terrorism.



Officers performing immigration clearance at counter for foreign passport holders in Yangon International Airport's arrival lounge.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

## Myanmar Traditional Arts and Crafts Exhibition on 12-14 May



NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—The Myanmar Traditional Arts and Crafts Exhibition will be staged at Mani Yadana Jade Hall (Jade Sales Hall), in Nay Pyi Taw, from 12 to 14 May.

Textile and silk-

ware made in Amarapura of Mandalay Region, the textile made of lotus thread in Inlay of Shan State, traditional textiles of national people, tapestry wares, silverware and lacquerware, various sizes of umbrellas made

in Patheingyi of Ayeyawady Region and jade and various items of jewellery will be displayed for sales at the exhibition.

The exhibition will be kept open from 9 am to 8 pm daily. Admission is free.—MNA

## GAD staff, civilian abducted by KIA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—Two staff of the General Administration Department and a civilian were abducted by the Kachin Independence Army on Saturday morning.

They were going to the bank of the Ayeyawady River with some of their friends (14 GAD staff and six civilians) on their motorcycles for an excursion.

Lower Division Clerk U Phyo Phyo of GAD and driver U Mon Kham Naw were riding ahead of others when they were stopped by

six KIA members in plain clothes near a rubber plantation between Don Gun and Lon Gazwun Villages in Myitkyina and forced them to go into the rubber plantation.

The group realized what was happening when another civilian was forced to do the same. Later, they learnt that the three abducted and taken to Inkhaibum Mountain. Kachin State government is taking necessary measures for the release of them.

MNA

## Moderate earthquake hits outside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.8 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Thailand) about 290 miles southeast of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 17 hrs 41 min 28 sec MST on Monday, according to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

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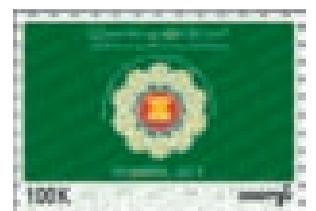
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MPT to sell new stamps to mark ASEAN chairmanship of Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—In commemoration of the ASEAN chairmanship of Myanmar in 2014, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology will sell two new stamps worth K100 each at region/state/district and township communication stations (post offices) at 9.30 am on 8 May.

As a special programme, the new stamps bought on 8 May will be sealed at Nay Pyi Taw General Post Office, Yangon and Mandalay post offices.—MNA



## Low-cost housing project under implementation in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 5 May—Under the supervision of Kachin State government, Rural Development Department is taking responsibility for construction of the low-cost housing project at the foot of Inkhaibum Hill in Myitkyina.

During the inspection tour, Kachin State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U B Htaw Zoung, Development Affairs Minister U Alay Pa and Social Affairs Minister Daw Bauk Ja instructed officials to

build education, health and religious buildings and sports ground and parks in the project.

Under the project 200 houses are to be built in 2012-13 fiscal year and 68 houses in 2013-14 fiscal year. The housing is named Ngwepyaw Model Village.

*Kachin State IPRD*

**A housing project being implemented at the foot of Inkhaibum Hill in Myitkyina.**



## Pyawbwe residents enjoy sufficient water from newly built dams, lakes



PYAWBWE, 5 May—Under the supervision of Mandalay Region government, Irrigation Department has already dredged 12 lakes in Pyawbwe Township of Mandalay Region before the rainy season.

The construction of the irrigation facilities started on 1 January 2014. Bon Lake, Uyin Lake, Kyaung Lake, Kyar Lake, Thayet-tan Lake, Theebin Lake, Kyaungbanpin Lake, Mi-

phaya Lake, Kantha Lake, Thanatkhatay Lake, Set-tawya lake and Thebok Lake in the township are now supplying potable water to the residents sufficiently. The Irrigation Department has built conduits and spillways.

The department continues construction of 13 village lakes, conduits, spillways, sluice gates and canals.

Spending K 40 million

of rural development fund of the Mandalay Region, Bawdipin Dam is under construction in Phettaw Village of Pyawbwe Township. The dam is located at the confluence of Bawdipin Creek and Pinnganpin Creek near Phettaw Village. On completion, the dam will benefit 541 acres of farmlands and 403 acres of croplands from surrounding villages.

NLM-018

## Farmers demand compensation for croplands where natural gas pipeline passes

NGAPHE, 5 May—Myanmar-China natural gas pipeline passes Bonbaw Village of Ngaphe Township, Magway Region.

Croplands of local farmers on which the pipelines are to be laid are

cleared.

About 180 local farmers led by U Thein Naing Oo of Linte Village marched along Minbu-An Road from Bonbaw Village junction to the football ground of

Gokkyi Village, expressing their wishes to get compensations for the croplands. They also highlighted environmental conservation.

*Kyaw Zayya (Magway)*



**Local national people staging protest to get compensation for confiscated croplands in laying natural gas pipeline.**

## Giant fish *Lates calcarifer* fetches high price in market

BOGALE, 5 May—Most of the fish in both fresh water and seawater can be caught inland and offshore the nation all the year round.

Now is time to catch a giant sea fish (Kathabaung) identified *Lates calcarifer* since January of fishery season. Although the fish can be caught to some extent, its price is higher than the previous year. So, fishery work of catching a giant sea fish (Kathabaung) identified *Lates calcarifer* is cost effectiveness, said U Aung Wai Lin, a fishery entrepreneur of Kadonkani Village in Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Now, Kathabaung, the species of sea fish, can be caught at the sea of delta area.

Price of fish depends on its weight. Kathabaung fish is categorized to four levels of price. Fishermen sell above 3.5 viss fish per K 7000, 3 viss fish per K 6000, 2.50 viss fish per K 5000 and the fish weighing 2.5 viss to 70 ticals per K 4000. One viss is equal to 16 kg.

Local farmers expect to catch a large amount of fish at the end of May in early monsoon.

If they catch the fish in large amount as they expected in the early monsoon and price of fish is stable, the fishermen will fetch higher benefit in fishery industry this season, said entrepreneur U Aung Wai Lin.

*Shwe Don Thar*



NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein felicitates President of the State of Israel

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Shimon Peres, President of the State of Israel, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the State of Israel, which falls on 6 May 2014.—MNA

Senior General urges BGF members to keep alive genuine patriotism

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—Senior General Min Aung Hlaing urged members of Border Guard Forces to work in the interest of the state and the Tatmadaw. He was speaking at the ceremony to commission the members of the central advisory and supervisory committee of the BGF as honorary officers at the Bayint Naung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

The senior general said, "Our country is a union which is made up of over one hundred national races. The soul of unitary states is non-disintegration of the union and the national solidarity. All our national brethren are to protect our country

that was inherited as a union from our ancestral leaders of national races so that it can stand as long as the world exists. Genuine patriotism means keeping alive of the union spirit no matter wherever one lives in the union. Only the union spirit is the genuine patriotism all the national races must preserve forever. Let's all work in the interest of the state and the Tatmadaw.

"It is stipulated in section 338 of the State Constitution that all the armed forces in the Union shall be under the command of the Defence Services. In accordance with the state constitution, armed national race organizations have been formed into 23

Vice-President flies to northern Shan State



Vice-President Dr. Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon pose for documentary photo with cleft lip and palate children in Lashio.—MNA

BGF troops and 84 people's militia groups since 28 April 2009. Such endeavours are the practical implementation of the internal peace," he explained. High ranking military officers read out the appointment orders for honorary officers and the honorary officers of the BGF expressed their thanks.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—Vice-President Dr. Sai Mauk Kham on Monday visited Lashio township, northern Shan State, accompanied by union ministers, deputy minister and responsible persons of respective government departments.

Vice-President attended the opening ceremony of free treatments for the persons with cleft lips and cleft palates.

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President; Daw Phyu Phyu Nyunt, wife of chief minister of Shan State; and managing director Dr. Aye Aye of Excellence Medicare & Pharmaceutical Co; Ltd, the sponsor company of this programme, opened the ceremony.

Dr. Sai Mauk Kham said: "This programme is aimed to provide free medical treatment for the persons with cleft lips and cleft palates. People with these clefts and birth defects have to face many health and

social problems. So, I here thank you all medical specialists, staff, the sponsor family, and responsible persons from the respective departments.

Vice-President then proceeded to Kunlong Township of Shan State, and met responsible persons of Wa Self-Administered division.

He urged the young people from Kunlong and Hopang townships to operate tourism business with travel agencies from China.

Dr. Sai Mauk Kham also suggested the young generation should learn Myanmar and English languages. The deputy ministers explained education programmes, healthcare services, rural development

plans, and the sectors of construction, telecommunications and electricity distribution.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan also clarified the loan programmes for the rural development plans, collaboration of his ministry with the residents and providing more loans in the region. Vice-President then continued to Yadanar Thiri Shan Buddhist monastery, and paid respect to the head of monastery.

The managements of CB Bank, Kanbawza Bank, Asia World Co., Ltd and New Star Light Co., Ltd and Capital Diamond Star Co., Ltd totally donated K. 22 million for the construction of a monastery during the tour.—MNA

Yangon Region Advocate-General meets Japanese guest

YANGON, 5 May—Minister of Justice of Japan Shinsuke Okuno on 2 May and discussed judicial system of Myanmar.—MNA



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Vice-Senior General Soe Win decorate U Wai Hsan with military insignia.—MNA

Media accreditation cards to be issued on 9 May

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—The media accreditation cards will be issued to local and foreign correspondents who have registered through on line to cover the news of the 24th ASEAN Summit to be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-MICC in Nay Pyi

Taw on 10 and 11 May. The cards are available at the assembly hall of the Office 7 of the Ministry of Information from 10 am to 5 pm on 9 May (Friday).

Arrangements have been made for local and foreign media to take accommodation at Mannmyanmar Hotel and Sky

Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. For further information, those wishing to make reservation may contact afom@skypalace.asia and 067-422122~129 of Sky Palace Hotel and mannmyanmarhotel@gmail.com and 067-422131~134 of Mannmyanmar Hotel.—MNA

Media registration for ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—The ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw from 19 to 21 May.

Local and foreign correspondents who wish to cover the news are to click the registration link for the ASEAN Defence Minis-

ters' Meeting (ADMM) of Upcoming Events at the Home Page of www.asean2014.gov.mm to fill in the Media Registration Form. The registration must be made not later than 15 May. The media accreditation cards will be issued at MICC on 19 May.

Foreign correspondents are to apply for

visas to cover the Summit news at the respective Myanmar embassies. Please dial 067-404425 of the Ministry of Defence for further information about the summit and, 067-412126 at the News and Periodicals Enterprise for news coverage of locally based foreign news agencies and local media.—MNA

## Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams urges calm after release



Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams arrives at a news conference after he was released from police detention, in Belfast, on 4 May, 2014.—REUTERS

BELFAST, 5 May — Northern Ireland police released Gerry Adams from custody on Sunday and the Sinn Fein leader sought to calm fears that his four-day detention could destabilize the British province by pledging his support to the peace process.

Police arrested Adams on Wednesday over the 1972 murder of Jean McConville, a killing he repeated that he was “innocent of any part” in. His detention had raised tensions among Northern Ireland’s power-sharing government and its fragile peace.

After Sinn Fein pointed the finger at “dark forces” in the police service and their Protestant partners

in government accused it of a “thuggish attempt” at blackmail, a calm Adams toned down the rhetoric and said he supported the police.

“My resolve remains as strong as ever, that is to build the peace, not to let this put us off. It’s our future. The past is the past,” Adams told a news conference attended by about 150 cheering supporters in a hotel in west Belfast.

“The old guard which is against change, whether it is in the PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) leadership, within elements of Unionism or the far fringes of self-proclaimed, pseudo-republicans, they can’t win.” “I’m

an Irish republican. I want to live in a peaceful Ireland. I’ve never dissociated myself from the IRA and I never will, but I am glad that I and others have created a peaceful and democratic way forward for everyone. The IRA is gone, finished.”

Adams’ arrest over the killing of McConville was among the most significant in Northern Ireland since a 1998 peace deal ended decades of tit-for-tat killings by Irish Catholic nationalists and mostly Protestant pro-British loyalists.

In the predominantly Protestant Sandy Row area of Belfast, police said they had to deal with some disorder when a number of

petrol bombs and stones were thrown. Nobody was believed to have been injured, a police spokeswoman said.

The Sinn Fein leader, who is a member of parliament in the Irish republic, has been dogged throughout his career by accusations from former IRA fighters that he was involved in its campaign of killings, a charge he has repeatedly denied.

McConville, who was accused by the IRA of being an informer for the British, an allegation her family has always denied, was dragged away in front of her children, one of 15 people living in strongly republican areas who were spirited away by the IRA and dumped in unmarked graves.

The killing has haunted Adams and has been raised repeatedly in interviews during his transformation from the face of Irish militant nationalism to mild-mannered politician. Police said it would now send a file to the public prosecutor. Under the 1998 Good Friday agreement, which drew a line under 30 years of sectarian strife in the British province, those convicted of paramilitary murders during the conflict would have life sentences reduced to two years.

Reuters

## Earthquake of 6 magnitude strikes Thailand, some damage

BANGKOK, 5 May — An earthquake of 6 magnitude struck northern Thailand on Monday causing some damage to buildings and roads and knocking goods off shelves in shops but there were no immediate reports of any casualties.

The quake struck 17 miles southwest of the town of Chiang Rai, the US Geological Survey (USGS). It was felt in the Thai capital, Bangkok, and in neighboring Myanmar.

“There has been minor damage to buildings in Chiang Rai itself, some shops have goods scattered about and we’re seeing cracks in buildings,” a Chiang Rai police officer

told Reuters.

“No injuries have been reported so far but we’re hearing that some provincial roads have sustained some damage with large cracks appearing,” said the officer, who declined to be identified as he is not authorized to speak to the media.

The USGS initially said the quake was of 6.3 magnitude but later downgraded it. It was at the relatively shallow depth of 7.4 km (4.5 miles).

Chiang Rai, in the mountainous north of Thailand, is near the borders of both Myanmar and Laos. The epicenter was in a largely rural area of small villages, farms and forests.

Reuters

## Putin, Merkel discuss Ukraine, gas supply in telephone call

MOSCOW, 5 May — Russian President Vladimir Putin and German Chancellor Angela Merkel discussed the Ukraine crisis in a telephone call and stressed the importance of “effective international action” to reduce tension, the Kremlin said on Sunday.

The leaders also discussed the supply of Rus-

sian gas and its transit, based on the results of a recent meeting in Warsaw. In Warsaw on Friday, Russia threatened to cut natural gas supplies to Ukraine in June if it receives no prepayment in an escalating row between Moscow, Ukraine and the European Union over energy supplies.

Reuters

## Ukraine moving special forces to control Odessa

ODESSA, (Ukraine) 5 May — Ukraine’s Interior Minister said on Monday he had drafted a new special forces unit into the southern port city of Odessa after the “outrageous” failure of police to tackle pro-Russian separatists in a weekend of violence that killed dozens.

Fighting continued near the eastern city of Slaviansk where Ukrainian troops have been, somewhat tentatively, pressing a campaign to end pro-Russian rebellion. A Reuters correspondent said gunfire seemed to be coming closer to the city centre.

The violence in Odessa, a southwestern port with a broad ethnic mix from Russians and Ukrainians to Georgians and Tatars, is seen as something as a turning point in Kiev; a warning of dangers if rebellion spreads beyond the Russian-speaking east.

Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said the new

Odessa force was based on “civil activists who wanted to help the Black Sea city “in these difficult days”. The entire leadership of the local police had been sacked and could face criminal action.

The Odessa violence was the deadliest since Moscow-oriented president Viktor Yanukovich fled to Russia in February and pro-Russian militants

launched uprisings in the industrial east.

“The police in Odessa acted outrageously, possibly in a criminal fashion,” Avakov said on his Facebook page. “The ‘honor of the uniform’ will offer no cover.” Ukrainian leaders have made it clear they see the police force across wide areas of the country as unreliable in the face of rebellion

they say is backed by Moscow and led on the ground by Russian special forces. The units Avakov referred to emerged partly from the uprising against Yanukovich early this year.

That could fuel anger among the government’s opponents, who accuse it of promoting “fascist” militant groups, such as Right Sector, which took part in

**Pro-Russia protesters climb with a Donbass flag at the military prosecutor’s office building in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine on 4 May, 2014.**  
REUTERS



## IMF praises Portugal’s fiscal, economic reform

WASHINGTON, 5 May — International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde spoke highly of Portuguese government’s efforts to consolidate fiscal order and implement structural reforms on Sunday, as the country has decided to end the bailout program by the international lender.

“The Portuguese authorities have established a strong track record of policy implementation to address the country’s long-standing structural problems.

This bodes well as Portugal exits its EU/IMF-supported programme,” Lagarde said in a statement.—Xinhua

## WORLD

## India's Modi reiterates his strong stance against illegal immigrants



Hindu nationalist Narendra Modi

KOLKATA/NARAYANGURI, (India), 5 May — Hindu nationalist Narendra Modi, the prime ministerial front-runner in India's mammoth general election,

on Sunday reiterated his strong stance against illegal immigrants, just days after a wave of sectarian killings in the north-eastern state of Assam. India is in the home

stretch of a five-week election, which has heightened ethnic and religious tensions in many parts of the country and in which Modi's opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) looks set to emerge as the biggest group.

India deployed troops in Assam on Saturday after more than 30 Muslims were gunned down in three days of what police said were attacks by Bodo tribal militants, who resent the presence of settlers they claim are illegal immigrants from Bangladesh.

Modi has repeatedly called for tighter border controls and last week said illegal immigrants from Bangladesh living in the

state of West Bengal should have their "bags packed" in case he came to power.

At a rally on Sunday he accused the West Bengal state government of being soft on illegal immigrants because it was looking to secure votes from ethnic and religious minorities.

"You are concerned about infiltrators and not your own people ... they must go back, they are robbing the youths of India of their livelihood," Modi told the rally in the state, which borders Assam.

Police on Sunday said the death toll from the Assam attacks now stood at 34 after they found the bodies of two 30-year-old women

floating in the Beki River near Narayanguri village, where the worst of the attacks took place. A man's body was found elsewhere in the same district. All of the victims were Muslims.

Fifteen people have been arrested in connection with the attacks, including 10 forest guards employed by the state government and five former militants, police said. Bodo tribesmen have long argued many of the Muslims in their part of Assam state are illegal immigrants encroaching on ancestral lands.

In 2012, clashes erupted in which dozens of people were killed and 400,000 fled their homes. Assam

also has a history of armed groups fighting for greater autonomy or secession from India. On Saturday, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of the ruling Congress party condemned the latest attacks in Assam. Law Minister Kapil Sibal accused Modi of making divisive comments.

"This violence has a long history," BJP spokesperson MJ Akbar said on Sunday. "This knee-jerk reaction of blaming Narendra Modi for everything is absurd." Bangladesh's Information Ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Modi's latest speech.

Reuters

## China gives 10-year sentence to leaker of military secrets

BEIJING, 5 May — China has handed a ten-year prison term to an individual who leaked secret military documents and photographs to a foreign spy, state media reported on Monday, without naming the country involved. China is working to strengthen its internet security after revelations that the US government spied on a top Chinese telecommunications firm.

The individual, surnamed Li, was approached by a foreign intelligence agent via a popular social media platform, state media said. Li leaked 13 highly classified documents, the official *China Daily* reported, which featured in the second highest tier in the country's three-tiered system for ranking military secrets. Li also leaked 10 classified secrets from the bottom tier.

Li had provided secret military journals and information about bases in the southern province of Guangdong, the report said. But state media did not name the country benefited by the leaks. China's military has warned that it faces a "severe and complex" task in maintaining secrecy, especially given the widespread use of the Internet and mobile communications, and needs to ensure tighter security.

Li was working in an unnamed coastal city, according to the website of the official People's Daily, when an Internet user claiming to be a woman got in touch on the Chinese instant messaging service QQ.

Over a month, they became friends, and the user, whom the paper called a "spy from outside China's borders," was revealed to be male. The user adopted the moniker "Flying Brother," and paid Li to subscribe to secret military publications via China's National Library.

Li also leaked a large amount of information on the development of military bases and pictures of military gear, the People's Daily said.

"This presented a grave danger to the security of our country's military," it added.

"Flying Brother" sought out military hobbyists online and recruited 40 people throughout China to provide military information, the paper said.—Reuters

## China vows continued efforts in search for MH370 in new phase

CANBERRA, 5 May — Chinese Transport Minister Yang Chuantang said here on Monday that China will continue uninterrupted and intensified efforts in the search for MH370 flight.

The search in the next phase will be "not interrupted, not suspended, not given up and not slacked," based on the consensus reached at the trilateral meeting, Yang told a press conference after a ministerial meeting between China, Malaysia and Australia.

China will deploy three vessels to participate in the transitional period of the search for the missing Malaysia Airline plane, he added.—Xinhua

## UN Security Council slams deadly terrorist attack in Somalia

UNITED NATIONS, 5 May — The UN Security Council on Sunday strongly condemned a deadly bomb explosion in the Somali capital of Mogadishu, calling it a terrorist attack, and reiterated its support for the peace and reconciliation process in the country.

"The members of the Security Council condemn in the strongest terms yesterday's terrorist attack in Mogadishu, Somalia, for which Al Shabaab has claimed responsibility and has caused numerous deaths and injuries," said a statement issued to the press here by the 15-nation

UN body. According to reports, a roadside bomb exploded in a busy conjunction in the Somali capital on Saturday, killing at least six people and wounding more than seven others.

Islamist militant group Al-Shabaab said it carried out the attack, targeting the vehicle of a prominent former government official, who was killed.

The number of attacks in Mogadishu has increased in recent months. Many have been blamed on the al-Qaeda-linked Al-Shabaab, which seeks to impose its version of Islamic law, was driven out of bases in the capital more

than two years ago, but has continued to control swathes of countryside and smaller towns.

In its statement, the Security Council members expressed their condolences to the families of the victims as well as the people and government of Somalia, and wished a swift recovery to those injured.

"The members of the Security Council reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of

their motivation, wherever and whenever and by whomsoever committed," said the statement.

The Council also reiterated its determination to combat all forms of terrorism and underlined "the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice."

It further "urged all states, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with the Somali authorities in this regard," the statement said.—Xinhua

## At least 19 killed, over 130 injured in Maharashtra train accident



Rescuers and police stand next to damaged coaches of a passenger train after it derailed near Nidi village in Maharashtra on 4 May, 2014. —REUTERS

NEW DELHI, 5 May — At least 19 people were killed and more than 130

injured when a passenger train was derailed in Maharashtra on Sunday, po-

lice said. The accident took place in Raigad District, around 100 km (60 miles)

south of Mumbai, when the engine and some of the coaches of the train came off the tracks on Sunday morning.

The train was travelling from Diva, in suburban Mumbai, to Sawantwadi, close to the beach resort state of Goa. The exact cause of the accident was not yet known.

Police in Raigad said on Sunday night that 19 people had been killed and 132 injured.

The Konkan Railway Corporation, the government-owned company that operates the railway line, put the death toll at 13 and the number of people injured at 123 in a statement on its website earlier on Sunday.

Reuters

## South Africa's ANC vows to extend rule, rivals promise election 'shock'

JOHANNESBURG, 5 May — South Africa's ruling ANC predicted it would sweep national elections this week on promises to build more houses, create jobs and eradicate inequality, but opponents warned of a shock for a party they said was arrogant after 20 years in power.

An Ipsos poll in the *Sunday Times* newspaper suggested the ANC would win 63.9 percent of the vote, down from 65.9 percent five years ago and short of the two-thirds majority needed in parliament to push through changes to the constitution.

Analysts and critics say Nelson Mandela's movement has lost support due to rising anger among its mainly black supporters over the slow delivery of adequate housing, sanitation, quality education and jobs.

"The ANC lives, the ANC leads. We will be victorious on 7 May," President Jacob Zuma told tens of thousands of supporters at the African National Congress's final rally ahead of Wednesday's vote, where it should gain



Supporters of South Africa's President Jacob Zuma's ruling African National Congress (ANC) cheer during their party's final election rally in Soweto, on 4 May, 2014.—REUTERS

another five-year mandate to govern. "The ANC has the history, experience, political will, capacity and the determination to ... take South Africa forward," said Zuma, dressed in yellow, green and black party regalia.

He told a packed Johannesburg stadium that the party would focus the next five years on improving education and health, developing rural areas, pressing on with land reforms, fighting crime, creating jobs and transforming

an economy still saddled with racial inequalities.

The Ipsos poll suggested the main opposition Democratic Alliance would increase its share of the vote to 23.7 percent from 16.7 percent. The Economic Freedom Fight-

ers, a radical leftist party led by former ANC youth leader Julius Malema, was expected to garner 4.7 percent in its election debut.

Malema on Sunday reiterated his party's intent to nationalize the country's mines, provide free edu-

cation and enforce a minimum wage, messages that have resonated with poor blacks resentful that whites still control the bulk of the economy two decades after the end of white-minority rule.

At a Democratic Alliance rally on Saturday, party chiefs said Zuma's administration, dogged by charges of rampant corruption, had veered off track and failed to build on progress made under Mandela, South Africa's first black president, and his successor Thabo Mbeki.

"The ANC has become arrogant because they believe that the voters will carry on voting for them, whatever they do. Well, they are in for a big shock on Wednesday," party leader Helen Zille told supporters.

Zuma's personal approval rating ahead of the vote has been dented by a report by South Africa's top anti-corruption watchdog that he benefited unduly from a \$21 million state-funded security upgrade to his private home.

Reuters

## Yemeni army in heavy fighting; six soldiers die in suicide blast

ADEN, (Yemen), 5 May — Yemen said at least 37 al-Qaeda militants were killed in the southern province of Shabwa on Sunday as the army intensified an offensive to root out foreign and local Islamist fighters holed up in some of the country's most impenetrable areas.

The report by state news agency *Saba* came shortly after a military source told *Reuters* a su-

icide bomber killed six soldiers by their outpost in Shabwa, one of two provinces where the army has been fighting al-Qaeda and its allies.

The source, speaking from the battlefield, also told *Reuters* that 20 soldiers were wounded in the bombing.

The number of attacks against the army and security forces in the south has risen sharply since

Yemen's US-backed army launched its anti-al-Qaeda offensive last week.

Western countries fear further destabilization in Yemen, which also faces separatists in the south and unrest in the north, could give more space to al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), the local branch of the global Islamist militant movement, to plot attacks on international targets.

Washington has used drones for several years to kill members and leaders of the group. In April, air strikes — presumed to have been carried out chiefly by US drones — were launched on central and southern provinces of Yemen, which Yemeni authorities said killed some 65 al-Qaeda militants.

*Saba* quoted a military source as saying that most of the militants killed in Sunday's fighting were Saudis, Afghans, Somalis and Chechens, as well as other nationalities. The source also said the army destroyed a number of vehicles and weapons belonging to the militants.

President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi said in a speech last week that 70 percent of al-Qaeda fighters in Yemen were foreigners, although AQAP later denied this.

Separately the defence ministry website said security forces had destroyed a vehicle carrying several "terrorists", killing two of them and wounding four in Shabwa.

Reuters

## Thousands flee Syria rebel infighting



A resident walks past damaged buildings in the Damascus suburb of Zamalka on 2 May, 2014. Picture taken on 2 May, 2014.—REUTERS

BEIRUT, 5 May — Fighting between al-Qaeda's Syria branch and a splinter group in eastern Syria has forced more than 60,000 people to flee their homes, emptied villages and killed scores of fighters, a monitoring group said.

Fighters from the al-Qaeda branch, the Nusra Front, also arrested a rebel commander from a more moderate group and several other insurgent leaders in a southern province, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

Infighting among insurgents has undermined the three-year-old rebellion

against President Bashar al-Assad and killed thousands of people since the start of the year.

The conflict has pitted hardline Islamists against more moderate insurgents, but disputes over turf and resources have also turned radical factions against one another, most recently in the oil-producing eastern province of Deir al-Zor.

The British-based Observatory said the Nusra Front had taken over control of the town of Abreeha from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), a former al-Qaeda affiliate formally disowned by the group this year.—Reuters



Yemeni army soldiers fire rockets at mountainous positions of al-Qaeda militants Mayfaa, in the southeastern province of Shabwa on 4 May, 2014 in this handout photo provided by Yemen's defence ministry.—REUTERS

## WORLD

## Panama leader's deputy-turned-rival wins presidency



An electoral staff member shows a ballot during a ballot count for the presidential election at a polling station in Panama City on 4 May, 2014.—REUTERS

PANAMA CITY, 5 May — Panama's vice-president, running as an opposition candidate, won the presidential election on Sunday after a campaign in which he took credit for outgoing leader Ricardo Martinelli's successful economic policies while promising a cleaner government.

Juan Carlos Varela of the centre-right Panamenista Party (PP) helped Martinelli get elected as president in 2009 but later fell out with him. He has vowed to tackle corruption, lower inflation and reduce poverty.

Varela had 39 per-

cent support with about 80 percent of votes counted, enough for a comfortable victory over his two main rivals, Jose Domingo Arias of the ruling Democratic Change party (CD) and left-leaning former Panama City mayor Juan Carlos Navarro of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD).

"Better times are on the way. There will be an honest, humane government of national unity, a government of social peace," Varela told *Reuters* at a Panama City hotel after the election tribunal declared him the winner.

Varela ran a cam-

paigned largely based around claiming credit for Martinelli's successes, including a popular programme to give \$120 a month to people over the age of 70 and outside the social security system, and infrastructure projects such as the Panama City metro.

Under Panamanian law, Martinelli was unable to seek re-election but his wife was Arias' vice-presidential running mate and critics accused the outgoing president of trying to maintain control of Panama behind the scenes.

He blamed the media for his protégée's defeat, accusing them of spread-

ing lies. He was also unable to contain his scorn for

Varela.

"I know the winner. May God have mercy on us," he said.

Varela, 50, inherits an economy that has grown rapidly in recent years and oversight of a major expansion of the Panama Canal, which briefly stalled earlier this year in a row with the building consortium over costs.

Martinelli, a supermarket magnate, has pushed the canal expansion and other infrastructure projects that helped spur economic growth. But his reputation was tarred by allegations that his government gave contracts and other favors to friends and business interests.

"This government ... will defend to the last cent money that belongs to the Panamanian people and it will not tolerate corruption," Varela told a cheering crowd on Sunday night.

*Reuters*



Juan Carlos Varela, presidential candidate for the Panamenista Party (PP), addresses supporters after the official election results were released, in Panama City on 4 May, 2014.—REUTERS

## Iran says successfully test-fires air defence system

TEHRAN, 5 May — Iran said it successfully test-fired on Sunday an air defence system capable of destroying different types of modern fighter jets and drones, local media reported. During the test, conducted at the Khatam al-Anbiya Air Defence Base, the mid-altitude missile system successfully targeted an unmanned aerial vehicle with an indigenous missile, the semi-official *Fars* news agency reported, quoting the base's commander, Brig Gen Farzad Esmaili. —*Xinhua*

## China hunting family members of Xinjiang bombers: paper says

BEIJING, 5 May — Police in China's restive far western region of Xinjiang are looking for the family members of one of the men who died in an apparent suicide bombing at a train station last week, a state-run newspaper said on Monday.

The Chinese government has blamed religious extremists for carrying out a bomb and knife attack at a train station in Urumqi, regional capital of Xinjiang, on Wednesday evening that killed one bystander and wounded 79.

Both attackers were killed in the blast, according to the government. In an embarrassing security lapse, the attack happened just as President Xi Jinping

was wrapping up his first visit to Xinjiang since becoming president last year. The newspaper identified one of the attackers as Sedirdin Sawut, a 39-year-old man from Xayar county in Xinjiang's Aksu region. The man is a member of the Muslim Uighur minority, judging by his name.

The *Global Times*, an influential tabloid published by the ruling Communist Party's official *People's Daily*, said police are now looking for Sawut's wife, father, two cousins and his father-in-law, who seem to have gone missing after the attack.

They are all suspected of helping Sawut in the attack, the newspaper said, citing anonymous Xinjiang



A man talks on his mobile phone as he walks past patrolling policemen and a police vehicle, outside the South Railway Station, where three people were killed and 79 wounded in Wednesday's bomb and knife attack, in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous region, on 2 May, 2014.—REUTERS

police officers.

Police are also looking for two other men who

may have been involved in making the bombs, both of whom knew Sawut and

also come from the same county, the report added.

*Reuters*

## Amari denies Japan-US accord on TPP

TOKYO, 5 May — Japan and the United States have yet to reach a broad agreement in bilateral talks on the envisioned Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact, Japan's TPP minister Akira Amari said on Monday.

Echoing weekend remarks by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Amari said the two countries "have yet to agree on final figures" in the bilateral TPP talks.

Amari spoke to reporters at Haneda airport before leaving for Paris to attend a two-day ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development from Tuesday.

Abe, who is on a six-nation tour of Europe, said on Saturday, "Whatever the definitions of words are, we (Japan and the United States) have yet to reach a broad agreement" on the TPP.

Abe and US President Barack Obama did not announce a TPP agreement after their recent summit in Tokyo, although they said in a joint statement that the two sides "identified a path forward" on important issues, marking "a key milestone" in the TPP negotiations.

*Kyodo News*

## PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 6 May, 2014

## Human resources key to prosperity of State

By Aung Khin

**I**N modern age, human resources become the most invaluable asset of a country to improve its economy and social development.

In some regional countries such as Singapore and South Korea, they don't possess natural resources like crude oil, forest and gems. Nevertheless, they are very much ahead of many Asian countries, by taking the opportunities of their human resources which bring them to prosper.

The government has a role to play in develop-

ing human resources because it is proven that motivated, matured and disciplined people are key to a prospering economic development.

The programmes for human resource development should be basically started by promoting and generating creativity, confidence, skills, knowledge and teamwork among the students. The young generation should be familiar with teamwork, good leadership, good discipline and motivation of participating students since they are at schools.

Methologies and classroom managements of teachers contribute as the important parts for human resource development. Education comes from the Latin 'educare' meaning to train, to educate. In this sense, education can be compared to training one's own body and mind.

Teaching methods should be focused on the creativity, rather than learning by heart, of the children. Despite Myanmar educationalists are

implementing education reforms, their efforts have not fully attained their goals. More supports are required for them to train and teach the children well. Only when these children could learn well, they could adopt systematic and practical policies when they become the leaders of the country.

Myanmar nationals still lag behind those from neighbouring countries especially in term of human resource management. It is hopeful that if the democratic reforms will go forward as planned, Myanmar could promote the skills and creativities of their citizens, and could solve the problems of the shortage in human resources.

## Write for us

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## Myanmar beauty stars to perform traditional dance



Nang Khin Zay Yar, the winner of Miss Myanmar 2012 beauty pageant, comedian Kyaw Htoo and Miss Supranational Myanmar Khin Wint Wah.—PHOTO: KTL

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

**N**ang Khin Zay Yar, the winner of Miss Myanmar 2012 beauty pageant, and Miss Supranational Myanmar Khin Wint Wah will perform traditional dance at the People's Park and People's Square here on 1 June.

The two celebrities will take part in the entertainment programme titled 'Miss Myanmar Internet Traditional Dance Troupe', the organizers said on Monday during a press release.

The event will be organized by the Zillion Business Services Limited, and broadcast live on MRTV-4 channel.

This free-show is aimed at introducing the two Miss Myanmar to the

audience and enabling the fans to enjoy traditional dance, according to an organizer.

The dances of two beauty contest winners will be supported by famous comedians; Tain Nyunt, Kyaw Htoo, Kin Kaung, Ngwe Taung and Chit Nyunt.

A responsible person of the Zillion Business Services Limited said the company has a plan to organize the 'Miss Myanmar Internet Traditional Dance Troupe' abroad if this show received rapturous applause from the audiences.

During the press release held in Central Hotel, head comedian Kyaw Htoo, said: "We have made re-

hearsals for jokes. We will not make jokes with personal affairs of others and we hope a great cheer will go up from the audiences."

Nang Khin Zay Yar said: "I have learnt Myanmar dance with a dance trainer for one month. Some dancing styles are not easy

for me, but I will try the best for my fans."

Khin Wint Wah said: "It is a very exciting opportunity for me. I feel happy to perform the show and welcome any suggestions from the fans."

Nang Khin Zay Yar won Miss Myanmar Title in 2012 and the Missosology's Miss International 2012 People's Choice Award, Pageantology.net Miss International 2012 People's Choice Award and Miss Internet Award in the Miss International 2012, Okinawa.

Youngstar Khin Wint Wah, who won the Miss Myanmar Supranational 2013 in August, also took home the People's Choice and the Miss Supranational Internet awards during the Miss Supranational competition in Belarus last year.

The two celebrities are actively taking part in the social welfare services. They are helping their hands to needy people by taking part in the Free Funeral Services Society and social works.



## Union FM sends felicitations to Israeli counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—On the occasion of the Independence Day of the State of Israel, which falls on 6 May 2014, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Avigdor Lieberman, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel.—MNA

## GOLD PRICE, (5-5-2014)

## Yangon Gold Price

Buying K 663,400 per tical: Selling K 664,400

## Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K 663,300 per tical: Selling K 663,800

## Free Medical Service for Eye Patients

YANGON, 5 May — Under the aegis of Groupnar Sann Ye Health Foundation from Mawlamyine District, Mon State, an Eye Specialist Team led by Retired Eye Surgeons Prof. Kan Nyunt and Prof. Thein Aung comprising five eye specialists and seven nurses gave free medical and surgical treatment to patients with eye diseases at Christian Skin Specialist Hospital, Taungwine,

Mawlamyine from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May. 1200 patients were given medical treatment and 131 patients with cataract received surgical treatment.

The patients were from nearby townships such as Chaungzon, Pong, Kyaikmaraw, Mudon, Thanbyuzayat and Kyaikhami townships.

The authorized persons from Mon State Social Welfare Minister Dr. U Hla Oo, Mon State Health Director Dr. U Than Tun Aung, Mon State General Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr. U Kyaw Zeya, Christian Skin Specialist Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr. U Chan Lwin and staffs, members of Groupnar San Ye Health Foundation attended to the needs.

The Groupnar Sann Ye Foundation provided free medical treatment to patients.

LOCAL NEWS

### Mandalarians hold tug-of-war in traditional belief anticipating rain showers

MANDALAY, 5 May—A tug-of-war was held in front of Baungdawkya Pagoda on 81<sup>st</sup> street between 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> streets in Pale Ngwetaung Ward of Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Region, on Sunday.

With a view to ensuring falls of showers, Baungdawkya Pagoda Board of Trustees and Pale Ngweyaung Ward Administrator jointly organized the tug-of-war in Myanmar traditional belief, said a member of the organizing committee.

At first, the official recited the order to ensure showers and then usher



Moe Khaung Kyaw Swa nat (spirit) in the ceremony. Afterwards, the tug-of-war ceremony kicked off, he continued.

The organizing committee will hold the ceremony from 4 to 6 May.

*Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)*

### Govt newspapers start early home delivery in Thaton, Mon State



THATON, 5 May—Myamma Alinn, Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar dailies are being delivered to the readers earlier than the past in Thaton Township of Mon State.

“In my 20 years experience, it was the earliest delivery of newspapers to the readers. In the past, my circulation started at about 4.30 pm and sometimes, at night. On 1 May, I delivered newspapers at 10.30 am. Such activity can attract more readers,” said an agent of newspapers.

Head of District Fire Services Department U Aung Kyin Tun remarked, “Early delivery of dailies will help the government service personnel to enjoy various fresh issues and information even during office hours. We are satisfied for early delivery of newspapers as part of public service media.”

U Tin Maung, over 70 years old, thanked the authorities for their arrangements to early deliver the newspapers and publications in the morning.

A sub-printing house that will print and publish coloured newspapers is being built in Mon State. On completion, the local people in Mon State will read newspapers in the early morning.

*Thet Oo (Thaton)*

### Public digital library services to serve readers with publications

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May—Information and Public Relations Department under Ministry of Information plans to install six devices of public digital library services in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area soon.

Thanks to the devices of public digital library services, the people will have the opportunities to enjoy literatures through laptop, ipad, tablet, android phones and netbook. The machine can serve the readers in 650 kilometre radius area through Wifi system.

The machines will be allotted to the library of Pyinmana Township IPRD Office, Pyinmana General Hospital (200-bed) and Lewe Township Hospital (100-bed) in Dekkhina District of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area and Nay Pyi Taw Railways Station, Kanbawza Bank and Tatkon Township Hospital (100-bed).

*Shwe Kokko*



### Letkhokkon beach to contribute to tourism industry development

YANGON, 5 May—Letkhokkon beach in Kungyangon Township, two hours-drive from Yangon, attracts flocks of globetrotters.

Ministry of Hotels and Tourism opens Letkhokkon Hotel at the beach. It comprises three double

rooms, six bungalows and a lobby. Coconut plants with bunches of coconuts are ready to be served for the guests.

Those wishing to systematically provide hotel services and those wishing to pay visit to the beach should contact tour-

ism agencies, said Dr Tin Shwe, deputy minister for Hotels and Tourism on his inspection tour on 4 May.

Visitors could enjoy the beauties of the sea before the Nargis-hit period but they missed the chance to enjoy the scenic beauty of the sea with the cover of

three-mile mangrove forest on the sandbank.

As tourism industry is booming across the nation, Letkhokkon beach should be improved as a recreation centre for attracting larger number of visitors at home and from abroad.

*Maung Say Aung*

### Maintenance of retaining walls completed in Myinmu

MYINMU, 5 May—The gravel-filled retaining walls saw cracks along Strand Road in Athawka Ward of Myinmu at a time when the Ayeyawady River rose water level.

To be able to prevent landslides on the Strand Road and floods from the river, Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha

Aye funded K5 million and Myinmu Township Development Affairs Committee K9.13 million for maintenance of the retaining walls as of 27 November 2013.

The maintenance of the 125 feet long, four feet wide and eight feet high retaining wall was completed on 5 March 2014.—*Ko Ko Naing (Myinmu)*



## Ukraine tensions, Chinese data sour sentiment

LONDON, 5 May — European stocks slipped in thin trade on Monday after soft Chinese manufacturing data, while simmering tensions in Ukraine underpinned safe-haven government bonds and gold.

Portuguese bond yields edged to eight-year lows after Lisbon said on Sunday the country would make a clean exit from its bailout later this month.

Volumes were thinned by the closure of markets in London and Tokyo for public holidays. At 0848 GMT (4.48 a.m. EDT), the euro zone's blue-chip Euro STOXX 50 .STOXX50E index was down 1.36 percent at 3,134.55 points, after a survey showed activity in China's manufacturing sector contracted for a fourth consecutive month in April. That added to signs the

world's second-largest economy is still losing momentum and knocked Asian shares overnight. "The crisis between Russia and Ukraine and the sluggish Chinese data which confirm a slowdown in growth are the two big negative catalysts for markets," said Lionel Jardin, head of institutional sales at Assya Capital in Paris.

Reuters



The curve of the German share price index DAX board is pictured at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 2 May, 2014.—REUTERS

## Hon Hai in talks to buy 22 percent of Asia Pacific Telecom

TAIPEI, 5 May — Hon Hai Precision Industry Co Ltd, which makes iPhones for Apple Inc, is in talks to buy 22 percent of compatriot mobile network provider Asia Pacific Telecom Co Ltd, local media reported citing unidentified sources.

The deal will be worth T\$11 billion to T\$14 billion (\$464.48 million) and represent all Asia Pacific Telecom stock held by government-owned enterprises, the Commercial Times reported on Monday.

Any purchase would come after both Hon Hai and Asia Pacific Telecom won licenses to provide fourth-generation mobile communications services (4G) on a network widely expected to come online on this year. Hon Hai, the

world's largest contract manufacturer of electronic goods, bid for 4G licenses after the chairman said he wanted Hon Hai to diversify from pure manufacturing as sales of wide-margin smartphones such as the iPhone slow worldwide.

The smartphone market is likely to grow 19 percent this year from 39 percent in 2013, showed data from researcher IDC.

On buying into Asia Pacific Telecom, which has a market value of T\$49.88 billion, Hon Hai would gain access to 2.1 million subscribers and 3,000 wireless base stations, the Commercial Times reported.

Still, any deal would not be a game-changer for Hon Hai, said Yuanta Securities analyst Vincent Chen.



A motorcyclist rides past the entrance of the headquarters of Hon Hai, which is also known by its trading name Foxconn, in Tucheng, New Taipei city, on 24 December, 2013.—REUTERS

"Asia Pacific Telecom's profitability is only okay, not great," Chen said. "The deal could help Hon Hai get those 4G base stations, but I'm pretty sure they'd try to drive a hard bargain."

A spokesman for Hon

Hai said the company was open to all forms of cooperation and hoped to offer 4G services as soon as possible. He declined to comment on the Asia Pacific Telecom report. Asia Pacific Telecom also declined to comment.

Reuters

## Bahrain on alert to fend off MERS virus amid regional concerns

MANAMA, 5 May — Bahrain's Health Ministry announced on Sunday it plans to launch a nationwide awareness campaign on the latest outbreak of the deadly Middle Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in the region.

It follows similar education initiatives taken by neighboring countries like Saudi Arabia, which has reported 371 confirmed infections of the killer virus and a death toll of 107 people in the past two years.

"Bahrain has contingency plans in place to control the outbreak of coronavirus and all hospitals and health centers have been instructed to report immediately any suspected cases," Bahrain's Health Minister

Sadiq al-Shehabi said in a statement.

The minister called his Saudi counterpart Adel Fakeih on Sunday and discussed plans and strategies to rein in the virus and deal with new infections.

Shehabi stressed on a "common road map," in both countries that cover all stakeholders, including health care workers, to control the spread of the virus. He said the World Health Organization (WHO) accredited public health lab staff will also work round the clock to deal with any emergency.

In addition, a national campaign will soon be launched to educate citizens and foreign workers about precautionary measures.

Xinhua

## Novartis says Signifor LAR drug helps control acromegaly disease



Pigeons sit on a roof in front of the logo of Swiss drugmaker Novartis at the company's plant in Basel on 28 Jan, 2009.—REUTERS

ZURICH, 5 May — Swiss drugmaker Novartis said on Monday a final-stage trial of its Signifor LAR therapy allowed for greater disease control in patients with the endocrine disorder acromeg-

aly than existing therapies. Acromegaly is caused by a benign tumor in the pituitary gland that secretes excess growth hormone, and can lead to the enlargement of body parts, including the

hands, feet and facial features. Worldwide regulatory filings for pasireotide LAR in acromegaly are currently underway based on these results, Novartis said.

Reuters

## Study finds environment as important as genes in autism

LONDON, 5 May — Environmental factors are more important than previously thought in leading to autism, as big a factor as genes, according to the largest analysis to date to look at how the brain disorder runs in families.

Sven Sandin, who worked on the study at King's College London and Sweden's Karolinska institute, said it was prompted "by a very basic question which parents often ask: 'If I have a child with autism, what is the risk my next child will too?'" The findings, published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, suggest heritability is only half the story, with the other 50 percent explained by environmental factors such as birth complications, socio-economic status, or parental health and lifestyle.

The study also found

that children with a brother or sister with autism are 10 times more likely to develop the condition, three times if they have a half-brother or sister with autism, and twice as likely if they have a cousin with autism.

"At an individual level, the risk of autism increases according to how close you are genetically to other relatives with autism," said Sandin.

"We can now provide accurate information about autism risk which can comfort and guide parents and clinicians in their decisions."

People with autism have varying levels of impairment across three common areas: social interaction and understanding, repetitive behavior and interests, and language and communication.

The exact causes of the neurodevelopmental disorder are unknown, but evidence has shown it is

likely to include a range of genetic and environmental risk factors.

As many as one in 50 school-age children in the United States are diagnosed with autism, although some of these will be milder cases that have been diagnosed partly because of better recognition of autism symptoms by carers and doctors. In Europe, experts say the rate is around one in 100 children.

For this latest study, researchers used Swedish national health registers and analyzed anonymous data from all 2 million children born in Sweden in between 1982 and 2006, 14,516 of whom had a diagnosis of autism. The researchers analyzed pairs of family members, identical and non-identical twins, siblings, maternal and paternal half-siblings and cousins.

Reuters

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## SAP's Vishal Sikka steps down, two new board members named

BERLIN, 5 May — German business software maker SAP AG said Vishal Sikka, head of products and innovation, has stepped down and that it had named two new members to its executive board. Sikka was leaving SAP for personal reasons with immediate effect, the company said in a statement on Sunday.

A computer scientist by training, Sikka was key in developing SAP's flagship product, Hana, which helps firms analyze large amounts of data quickly, and bringing it to market.

"I would like to personally thank Vishal for his contribution to take SAP to this stage," said Hasso Plattner, chairman of SAP's supervisory board. "We will remain friends as he pursues the next step in

his journey."

Sikka joined the company in 2002 as head of its technology group and was appointed Chief Technology Officer in 2007.

He has been a member of the executive board since 2010. SAP, based in Walldorf, southern Germany, said it named Robert Enslin and Bernd Leukert to its executive board.

Enslin will continue to lead global customer operations and Leukert will assume responsibility for the global development organization, the company said.

SAP also appointed Helen Arnold, who will assume the role of Chief Information Officer, and Stefan Ries, who will lead human resources, to its global managing board.

Reuters

## Twitter stock overpriced despite recent price drop

NEW YORK, 5 May — US micro-blogging company Twitter Inc still looks overpriced even after a 47 percent drop from its late December high of \$74, according to an article in the May 5 edition of Barron's.

Officials at Twitter were not immediately available for comment.

The Barron's article said Twitter trades at a "big premium" to other Internet stocks based on its price/sales ratio, and its user growth is slowing.

The company "appears to be a long way from profitability, based on conservative accounting that properly treats as an expense its

massive stock-based compensation to employees," the article said.

Shares of Twitter, which ended on Friday at \$39.02, could drop toward \$30, which would still leave it trading at a premium to Facebook Inc on a price/sales ratio, Barron's said.

The number of US users at 57 million appears to be plateauing despite efforts to make Twitter more appealing, Barron's said, warning that "Twitter's quirky format may make it tough for it to become a mass-market medium like the more user-friendly Facebook."—Reuters

## Young blood rejuvenates brains and muscles of old mice

NEW YORK, 5 May — If three discoveries in mice reported on Sunday are applicable to people, making old brains and old muscles perform like young ones may require simply a blood transfusion.

In two of the studies, giving the blood of young mice to old ones undid age-related impairments in the brain, reversing declines in learning and memory and boosting the creation of new neurons and the ability of the brain to change its structure in response to experience. The third study found that a protein in the blood of young



mice improved the ability of old ones (comparable to a 70-year-old person) to exercise. "I think the study is quite wonderful," said neuroscientist Eric Kandel of Columbia University,

who shared the 2000 Nobel Prize in medicine for his studies on the molecular basis of memory, referring to one of the brain papers.

"It suggests there may be diffusible factors in the

blood that are age-dependent, and if you can isolate these substances you might be able to give them as dietary supplements," added Kandel, who was not involved in the studies and at 84 continues to conduct research. Previous studies had shown that giving young mice blood from old mice impaired their cognitive function. But these discoveries are the first to show the opposite: young blood can reverse age-related impairments.

In a paper published in *Nature Medicine*, biologists led by Tony Wyss-Coray of Stanford University and

Saul Villeda of the University of California San Francisco described two ways of exposing old mice to young blood. They either injected plasma from 3-month-old mice (young adults) into 18-month olds, which are near the end of their lifespan, or surgically connected the circulatory system of a young mouse to that of an old one.

Old codgers exposed to young blood improved markedly on two standard tests of learning and memory. They made fewer errors navigating a "water maze" and they learned that a specific environment

was associated with an electric shock. Examining the brains of aged mice exposed to young blood, the scientists found both structural and molecular differences from regular old brains.

The treated brains had more "dendritic spines", structures on neurons through which one communicates with another. In addition, the rejuvenated brains produced more of a molecule whose levels rise during learning. And they showed a greater ability to strengthen connections between neurons, the cellular basis for learning and memory.—Reuters



Brown-headed gulls are seen in the scenic spot of Qinghai Lake in northwest China's Qinghai Province, on 4 May, 2014. A birds protection activity was launched here on Sunday, by which the organizers called on people to cherish the birds.—XINHUA

## US e-cigarette experiment inspires new medical device

WASHINGTON, 5 May — When Noah Minskoff's mother died of lung cancer in 2007, e-cigarettes were just entering the US market. Minskoff, who had just started medical school in Utah, wondered whether the devices might have saved his mother's life by helping her quit smoking. Later, he sent some samples to his boyhood friend Nathan Terry, a mechanical engineer, and asked for his opinion.

Terry, who was working in Germany for the French industrial firm Areva, took apart the products to see how they were made. What he found disturbed him: at the heart of the devices were heater wires of unknown quality wrapped

around bundles of glass fibers and surrounded by steel wool, silicon, plastic, tape and adhesives.

Wires between the heater, circuit board and batteries were connected with lead solder and also housed in tape and plastic. Everything was close to the heat source, meaning consumers were at risk of inhaling fiber and metal particles as well as toxic fumes from hot plastic and lead.

"There were red flags everywhere," Terry said. Still, he liked the concept and decided to design a version of his own, avoiding the use of fiberglass, plastic and solder and sourcing his materials entirely in the United States.

In 2009 he reunited with Minskoff in California and formed a company, Thermo-Essence Technologies, to sell the product.

At \$300 a piece, the e-cigarette serves a niche market, albeit one with a loyal following among medical marijuana patients and smokers looking for a high-end e-cigarette.

As many as 30,000 have been sold. But what began as a quest to develop a better e-smoke has broadened into an ambitious effort to design a new medical device: an inhaler that delivers measured doses of nicotine to help people quit smoking.

The technology could also eventually be used as an abuse-resistant delivery

device for other drugs, including opioid painkillers.

If successful, the inhaler could become the first new smoking-cessation product to emerge from the e-cigarette field and would compete with products such as GlaxoSmithKline Plc's nicotine gum and Pfizer Inc's antismoking drug, Chantix.

To develop the inhaler, Terry formed a second company, Minusa LLC, which is based in Newtown, Connecticut. Minskoff left Thermo-Essence for family reasons and is not involved in Minusa. Terry himself is leaving Thermo-Essence, which is currently being sold, to concentrate on Minusa.—Reuters

## Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej attends Coronation Anniversary Ceremony



Well wishers hold a picture of Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej as they gather with others outside the palace where he is staying in Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan Province, during Coronation Day, on 5 May, 2014.—REUTERS

BANGKOK, 5 May — Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej on Monday attended a ceremony commemorating the 64th anniversary of Royal Coronation Day, but did not deliver his traditional address for this occasion.

Broadcast live on TV nationwide, the ceremony

was held at the Rajapracha Samakhom Pavilion of Klai Kanwon Palace in the resort city of Hua Hin in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province.

The royal motorcade started to move slowly towards the pavilion at around 10:15 a.m. local time. The king waved to

tens of thousands of people who were waiting along the road and chanting “Long Live the King.” Many of the well-wishers had been waiting since Sunday.

The ceremony was attended by members of the royal family, caretaker cabinet members and senior government officials,

including caretaker Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and Privy Council president Prem Tinsulanonda. It ended at about 11 am.

The 86-year-old king was crowned on 5 May, 1950 at the Royal Palace in Bangkok.

Xinhua

## Iran elite group suspected of keeping secret funds in Asia

WASHINGTON, 5 May — An Iranian elite group is suspected of keeping secret funds in various parts of the world including South Korea and Malaysia, dodging internationally coordinated economic sanctions, people familiar with the matter said on Sunday.

The US Treasury Department is believed to be probing details of what it sees as a possible case of money laundering by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, with a view to sanctioning another of the group's affiliated companies, they said.

Petrosina Arya, a Teheran-based company under the IRGC, allegedly has savings worth more than \$1 billion in an account at a major South Korean bank, a diplomatic source told *Kyodo News*.

A heavily armed unit under the Iranian leadership, the IRGC set up the firm as a front company after the UN Security Council subjected two firms under its wing to sanctions in a 2010 resolution related to Iran's nuclear programmes, the source said.

The front company of energy business arm Sepanir of Iran's largest construction company Khatam al-Anbiya Construction Headquarters, which the IRGC owns, has won-denominated savings worth some \$1.3 billion as of the third quarter of 2013, the source said.

It also has accounts in Malaysia and former Soviet republics, the source added.

The findings suggest Iran may be funneling funds to Asian and other

countries to evade close monitoring by US and European financial authorities, the source said.

The Supreme National Security Council, Iran's policy-setting body on nuclear programmes, has organized activities aimed at sidestepping international sanction measures, according to the source.

A classified memo of the SNSC dated 30 April, 2013, shows the council instructed all key bodies in Iran to cooperate with KAA's request to change the names of its affiliates in contracts and other business documents, apparently to hide the firm's activities.

The Central Bank of Iran is playing a leading role in implementing the directive, the source said.

A US Treasury

spokesperson stopped short of directly commenting on the allegation but said the department “has previously issued warnings on efforts by the Iranian government to engage in deceptive practices and evade US and international sanctions.”

“We have a close relationship with our international partners and continue to reach out to them to discuss Iran sanctions enforcement,” the spokesperson said.

The department designated what it regards as other front companies under the IRGC as companies subject to sanction measures even after Iran agreed with the United States and other countries in November to suspend its nuclear programmes, including uranium enrichment.

*Kyodo News*

## Philippines, US hold annual military exercises

MANILA, 5 May — Almost 6,000 troops from the United States and the Philippines on Monday began a series of joint military exercises aimed at enhancing security collaboration between the two countries.

The Balikatan drills will “develop our collective capacity to meet any threat that would undermine peace and security,” Gen Emmanuel Bautista, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said at a ceremony marking the start of the annual joint exercises.

Philippine military officials said this year's drills will focus on maritime security, as well as staff exercises, field training, and

humanitarian and disaster response.

The US military has sent fighter jets, surveillance aircraft, cargo planes and helicopter gunships for the drills.

Maj Gen Emerald Magnaye, the ranking Philippine officer in charge of the exercise, said between 35 and 40 Australian troops are also participating in the exercises, which will last until 16 May.

The drills come a week after Manila and Washington concluded a new defence cooperation agreement that grants the US military wider access to Philippine military facilities.

*Kyodo News*

## Japan lawmakers visiting China to convey Abe's wish for Xi talks



Masahiko Komura (2nd from front in right row), vice head of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, and former Chinese State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan (L) meet in Beijing on 4 May, 2014. — KYODO NEWS

BEIJING, 5 May — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's willingness to hold formal talks for the first time with Chinese President Xi Jinping later this year will likely be conveyed on Monday to Zhang Dejiang, ranked third in the Communist Party of China, by a group of senior lawmakers from Tokyo.

The head of the delegation, Masahiko Komura, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, told reporters that he already relayed Abe's hope to meet with Xi on the sidelines of this year's summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in November in Beijing to former Chinese State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan on Sunday night.

The cross-party delegation's three-day visit to Beijing through Tuesday comes at a time of almost no high-level political contacts between the two countries, a situation that has lasted for several years. Abe, the LDP chief,

and Xi have yet to hold official talks since they each came to office more than a year ago, amid continuing tensions over a territorial dispute and divergent perceptions of wartime history.

Under such circumstances, China has arranged a meeting between Zhang, the head of the country's parliament who sits on the party's powerful seven-member Politburo Standing Committee, and the delegation at the Great Hall of the People on Monday evening.

It will be the first time for a senior lawmaker of the Japanese ruling party to meet with anyone from the Politburo Standing Committee since Abe's government was formed in December 2012.

“The Chinese side also thinks that the situation should not remain as it is. So I believe that it has set a meeting for us with National People's Congress chairman Zhang Dejiang,” Komura said.—*Kyodo News*

## Six people killed, two dozen injured in a bus accident in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 5 May — Six people were killed and more than two dozen others injured in a fatal bus accident in eastern Nepal early on Monday morning, police.

“The injured people are receiving treatment in a local hospital, “ police officer Pancha Man Waiba told *Xinhua* over the telephone.

Police attributed the

accident to speeding and careless driving.

This is the second fatal bus accident in a week. Last week, 19 people were killed and two dozen others injured in a similar

accident in western Nepal.

Nepal has witnessed a series of bus accidents over the past few months due to the low quality of road and passenger buses.

*Xinhua*

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# CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to congratulate the Chairman of the Kanbawza Bank Ltd., U Aung Ko Win, who has been awarded the "Special Honorary President's State Excellence Award" (the Highest Tax Payer Entrepreneur Award) once again for the Tax Assessment Year of 2012-2013, at the President's State Excellence Award Presentation Ceremony, at Nay Pyi Taw on 3.5.2014. We hope that you continue to be the highest tax payer in the upcoming years and continue to contribute toward the betterment of society and development of the country.



**Chairman and Working Committee**  
**The Myanmar Banks Association**

## MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

U Khin Maung Myint and Daw Tin Tin Hlaing of Yangon, Myanmar, announce the marriage of their youngest daughter, **Ms. Pann Nu Wah** to **Mr. Yelin Htwar**, son of Dr. Set Htwar and Dr. Daw Aye Myint of Maryland, USA. Ms. Pann Nu Wah and Mr. Yelin Htwar were married on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 2014 at The Circuit Court, in Westminster, Maryland, USA. Accompanying the bride and the groom were Mr. Thiha Htwar (Yelin's older brother), and Mr. Mark Zaw Win and Ms. May Thu Maung (wife of Mark and good friends of the bride and groom). Ms. Pann Nu Wah and Mr. Yelin Htwar now reside in Sykesville, Maryland, USA.

## Arkansas gunman released from hospital before killing three

WASHINGTON, 5 May — A gunman in Arkansas who killed three people, including a 12-year-old girl, and wounded four others before taking his own life had been released recently from a mental health treatment hospital, police said on Sunday. The suspect in the shooting rampage on Saturday afternoon, identified as Porfirio Hernandez, 40, was acquainted with his victims, Jonesboro Police Chief Mike Yates said at a press conference.

Hernandez entered a home near Jonesboro, about 130 miles (209 km) northeast of Little Rock, armed with a .357 magnum handgun and opened fire, killing a 38-year-old man and a 12-year-old girl, Yates said.

The girl's age was originally thought to be 13. Four other people in the home were wounded, including boys aged 10 and 8 and two adults aged 43 and 36.

Reuters

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION  
MYANMA RAILWAYS  
INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tenders are invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	12(T)14/MR(YUG)	Spare Parts for Locomotive	133-Item
2.	12(T)15/MR(ISN)	Spare Parts for 2000HP Dalian & Alstom DEL	263-Item
3.	12(T)16/MR(ISN)	Nickle Cadmium Battery for Locomotive	50-Set
4.	12(T)17/MR(ISN)	Locomotive Rolled Steel Tyres and Wheel Mono Bloc for DEL	2-Item
5.	12(T)18/MR(ISN)	Carbon Brush for DEL	1-Lot
6.	12(T)19/MR(ISN)	Spare Parts for Loco: Engines(CAT, Jinn, Alco, MOI (ZIBO))	432-Item
7.	12(T)20/MR(ISN)	Spare Parts for DEL	236-Item
8.	12(T)21/MR(ISN)	Electrical Spare Parts for DEL	260-Item

Closing Date & Time - 11.6.2014(Friday) 12:30(Hour).

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 5.5.2014 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon. Phone:95-1-291985, 291994.

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE  
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)  
(9/2014)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB -006(14-15)	100KW Diesel Engine Driven Generating Set	US\$
(2)	IFB -007(14-15)	185KW, 3.3KV Induction Motor	US\$
(3)	IFB -008(14-15)	Double Row Radial Spherical (Self Alignment) Roller Bearing	US\$
(4)	IFB -009(14-15)	Spares for SAFE Compressor	US\$
(5)	IFB -010(14-15)	Spares for Vector Magnetic Ex HDD Rig	US\$
(6)	IFB -011(14-15)	Spares for Telecommunicatixon Equipment	US\$

Tender Closing Date & Time - 2-6-2014, 16:30 Hr.  
Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.  
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

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 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 CMA CGM**  
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
**MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1015W)**  
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**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**  
**AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES-**  
 Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
**MV KOTARAJIN VOY NO (RJN 855)**  
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 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.  
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**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**  
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**  
**AGENT FOR: M/S MOL SINGAPORE**  
**PTE LTD**  
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 No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**  
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**  
**AGENT FOR: M/S HANJIN SHIPPING LINES**  
 Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
**MV PHUONG NAM 69 VOY NO (-)**  
 Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHUONG NAM 69 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.5.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (4) 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.  
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**'Spider-Man 2' catches \$92 million to kick off summer movie season**

LOS ANGELES / New York, 5 May — "The Amazing Spider-Man 2," a sequel about the web-slinging superhero, snared \$92 million in US and Canadian ticket sales over the weekend, taking the top spot on movie box office charts at the start of Hollywood's lucrative summer blockbuster season.  
 The big-budget, effects-filled movie starring Andrew Garfield is expected to rank as one of the year's highest-grossing films. With international sales, it has rung up nearly \$370 million around the globe through Sunday,

distributor Sony Corp said. "The Other Woman," a comedy about three women out for revenge on a cheating husband, finished a distant second on domestic charts with \$14.2 million, according to estimates from tracking firm Rentrak.  
 "Captain America: The Winter Soldier," another superhero sequel and previous box office champ, landed in the No 4 slot with \$7.8 million from Friday through Sunday, behind "Heaven Is for Real," a faith-based drama and Sony release which grabbed third place with \$8.7 million for a \$65 million box office total in just

its third week of release. The performance of "Spider-Man 2" could not quite match the strong domestic opening for "Captain America" in April, when the Marvel Studios film took in \$95 million over its first three days. Ahead of the weekend, box office forecasters projected "Spider-Man" would collect \$85 million to \$95 million.  
 In the "Spider-Man" sequel, Garfield returns as the masked hero who swings through the streets and skyscrapers of New York, battling new villains including the formidable Electro played by Jamie Foxx.

Garfield's real-life girlfriend, Emma Stone, portrays Gwen Stacy, the on-screen love interest of Spidey alter ego Peter Parker.

"This was a really fantastic result," said Rory Bruer, president of worldwide distribution for Sony Pictures Entertainment, adding that the opening bodes well for Sony "not

only meeting our goals, but exceeding them."

The film is Sony's biggest bet this year, with a production cost of roughly \$200 million, according to movie website IMDB. Last summer, the studio suffered from two major bombs, thrillers "After Earth" and "White House Down."

"Spider-Man" leads a parade of action-packed superhero and monster movies that will reach theaters by August. They include "Godzilla" on 16 May, "X-Men: Days of Future Past" on 23 May, and "Transformers: Age of Extinction" on June 27. Hollywood earns about 40 percent of ticket sales from the first weekend in May through Labor Day in September.

Bruer said Sony was well-positioned going forward, saying "It's nice to be going into next weekend with no outrageous competition. That will give us a chance to build."

"The Amazing Spider-Man," which Sony

released in 2012, took in more than \$750 million worldwide according to the website boxofficemojo, and Bruer said the studio hoped to equal or exceed that total.

"Captain America," starring Chris Evans as the patriotic superhero, got a head start on the summer releases and generated blockbuster sales. Through Sunday, the film had earned \$680 million globally, distributor Walt Disney Co said. "The Other Woman," in its second week of release, brought its domestic total to \$47 million. The movie stars Cameron Diaz and Kate Upton as women who are dating the same married man. Leslie Mann plays his wife. Rounding out the top five, animated sequel "Rio 2," about a family of rare Brazilian birds, collected \$7.6 million to bring its box office total to \$106 million.

"The Other Woman" and "Rio 2" were released by 20th Century Fox, a unit of Twenty-First Century Fox.—Reuters

**Cast members (L-R) Jamie Foxx, Emma Stone and Andrew Garfield attend a promotional tour of "The Amazing Spider-Man 2" in Beijing, on 25 March, 2014.**



GENERAL



Joanne Galea (L), Miss Malta 2014, and Bjorn Demicoli, Mr Malta 2014, pose for photos during the contest of Miss Malta and Mr Malta held in Valletta, Malta, on 4 May, 2014. Joanne Galea and Bjorn Demicoli was respectively titled Miss Malta and Mr Malta. They will be the Maltese representatives for the forthcoming International Beauty Pageant. XINHUA

## Five killed as boulder crushes house in Sierra Leone capital

FREETOWN, 5 May—Five people, including two children, were killed on Sunday when a boulder dislodged by heavy rains crushed a house in a poor area of Sierra Leone's capital Freetown, witnesses said.

Residents of the Grey Bush neighbourhood of the hilly, coastal city said the incident happened around 8 a.m. (0800 GMT) during a seasonal downpour.

Among the dead were a 10-year-old girl and a 17-year-old citizen of neighbouring Guinea, who was visiting Freetown on holiday.

Local residents began digging out the victims as emergency personnel were

slow to arrive.

"We had to make do with our bare hands and the shovels and pick axes we could lay hands on," youth organiser Yusufu Bendu told Reuters. "We brought out alive one of the people, but he died because it took us long to get any assistance."

The West African nation is entering its annual rainy season and landslides are commonplace in Freetown, where roads and infrastructure are often poorly maintained.

Eight homeless people were killed in August when the bridge they were sleeping under collapsed in a landslide caused by heavy rains.—Reuters

### MYANMAR TV

(6-5-2014, Tuesday)

- 6:00 am
- 1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:40 am
- 2. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
- 7:00 am
- 3. News / Weather Report
- 7:25 am
- 4. People Talks
- 8:00 am
- 5. News/ International News
- 8:30 am
- 6. India Drama Series
- 10:20 am
- 7. TV Drama Series
- 11:20 am
- 8. Musical Programme
- 12:00 pm
- 9. News/International News/Weather Report
- 2:10 pm
- 10. Documentary
- 4:15 pm
- 11. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) First Year (Maths)
- 5:00 pm
- 12. News
- 5:30 pm
- 13. India Drama Series
- 6:00 pm
- 14. News/ Weather Report
- 6:45 pm
- 15. TV Drama Series
- 7:00 pm
- 16. News
- 8:00 pm
- 17. News/International News/Weather Report
- 8:50 pm
- 18. Hit Songs of Stars
- 9:00 pm
- 19. News
- 20. Alinka Wat Yi Music Troupe
- 21. Teleplay

### MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(6-5-14 07:00am~ 7-5-14 07:00am) MST

- \* Local News
- \* The Rising Glory of Myanmar Arts
- \* World News
- \* In the Studio "Khin Su Shin"
- \* Local News
- \* The Treasures in a Small Village
- \* World News
- \* Creations of a Designer: Fashion
- \* Local News
- \* Myanmar Performing Arts — Puppet
- \* World News
- \* Short Cut "Naga Land"
- \* Local News
- \* Travels in Monywa-Moe Hnyin Sambuddhe Pagoda
- \* World News
- \* Sagaing: Youth Leader
- \* Local News
- \* Myanmar Sculpture — work of Art
- \* World News
- \* Independent Filmmaker
- \* Local News
- \* Secret Places For Yummy Food- (Episode-4)(Pyay Daw Oo Rice Salad)
- \* World News
- \* The Photographer
- \* Local News
- \* A Tourist Destination of Shan State
- \* World News
- \* Art Students: Their Dream
- \* Local News
- \* A Short Trip with Steve (South Korea) (Episode-1)
- \* World News
- \* A Traditional Doctor

## Magnitude 6.0 quake strikes off Tokyo, 17 people injured

TOKYO, 5 May —An earthquake with a magnitude of 6.0 struck off the coast of Tokyo early Monday morning, jolting central districts in the Japanese capital, but no tsunami alert was issued, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency.

According to local police and firefighters, 17 people suffered injuries in Tokyo, Kanagawa and other prefectures in the Tokyo metropolitan area due to the 5:18 a.m. quake, which originated around 162 kilometers underground near

Izu Oshima Island in the Pacific Ocean some 120 km south of Tokyo.

In Tokyo's Otemachi business district, the quake registered lower 5 on the Japanese seismic scale of 7, the first time that level of intensity was recorded in central Tokyo since the devastating earthquake in March 2011. It marked intensity 4 at Haneda international airport and other central areas in Tokyo such as Shinjuku and Shibuya. Tokyo Electric Power Co reported no abnormalities at its nuclear plants in Fuk-

ushima and Niigata prefectures. Japan Atomic Power Co. said no abnormalities were confirmed at its Tokai No. 2 nuclear power plant in Ibaraki Prefecture. Yohei Hasegawa, a meteorological agency official in charge of monitoring earthquake and tsunami, told a news conference that the quake's focus was different from that of a powerful earthquake that could occur directly beneath the Tokyo metropolitan area.

"As the latest quake occurred at a deep location, it is unlikely to be followed

by active aftershocks," Hasegawa said.

All subway systems in Tokyo were temporarily halted after the quake, causing delays of around 10 minutes, according to operator Tokyo Metro. JR East said its Keihin Tohoku and Chuo lines, both linking central Tokyo and suburban cities, experienced delays of around 15 minutes. Shinkansen bullet services on the Joetsu and Nagano lines also had some delays, operators East Japan Railway Co and Central Japan Railway Co said.—Kyodo News

## Hungarian wins men's title at Pentathlon World Cup

KECSKEMET, 5 May — Hungarians took first and third places on Sunday at the men's competition at the 2014 Modern Pentathlon World Cup in Kecskemet, about 75 kilometers southeast of Budapest.

Adam Marosi came in first with 1,482 points. He received 238 points in fencing for fourth place, 337 in swimming for third, 279 in riding for 27th and 628 points in the combined event (running and shooting) for seventh. Marosi won the 2009 World Championship and was the bronze medalist at the 2012

Olympics.

Russia's Aleksander Lesun, 2010 World Cup winner and 2012 world champion, took second place with 1,477 points overall. Hungarian Robert Kasza was third with 1,468 points, beating Pavlo Tymoshchenko of Ukraine into fourth by six points.

Christopher Patte of France was fifth with 1,460 points in all, followed by compatriot Valentin Prades, Nicola Benedetti of Italy and Chinese Guo Jianli.

The World Cup continues on Monday with the mixed event. —Xinhua



Passengers walk in front of Beijing Railway Station in downtown Beijing, China, on 3 May 2014. China's railways saw an increase of passenger trips during the Labour Day holiday, data released on Sunday by the railway authorities showed. From 30 April to 3 May, 36.98 million railway trips were made, 16.5 percent higher than the same period last year, said the China Railway Corporation. XINHUA

## Local Sports

## Myanmar national team held 1-1 draw with Ayeyawady United

As preparations to take part in the AFC Challenge Cup, Myanmar national football team and Ayeyawady United FC of Myanmar National League played a 1-1 draw in the tune-up match at Youth Training Centre in Thunna of Yangon on Monday afternoon.

Nanda Lin Kyaw Chit scored an opening goal for Ayeyawady United FC. Yazar Win Thein kicked an equalizer for Myanmar national team.

Myanmar national team did not use first line-up players in the first half and it deployed its star players in the second half.

Nyi Myat Thawda



Yazar Win Thein of Myanmar national team penetrating defensive zone of Ayeyawady United FC.—PHOTO: SOE NYUNT

## Chelsea challenge all but over, Norwich need 'miracle'

LONDON, 5 May — Chelsea's slim hopes of winning the Premier League all but evaporated in the Stamford Bridge sunshine on Sunday as Norwich City ground out a 0-0 draw that left them hanging on to top-flight status by their fingernails.

Jose Mourinho's side needed a win to keep Manchester City and Liverpool on their toes but were frustrated by a wall of yellow and missed the chance to return to the top of the table. With one game left Chelsea's only chance of winning the title is to beat relegated Cardiff City and hope that neither City or Liverpool take more than one point from their remaining two fixtures.

Manchester City lead

the standings on goal difference from Liverpool with both on 80 points from 36 matches. Chelsea have 79 points from 37.

Defeat would have relegated Norwich along with Cardiff and Fulham but a draw means they now must beat Arsenal on the final day of the season and hope Sunderland lose their remaining two fixtures, both of which are at home.

Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho was desperate to avoid a third successive home defeat after his 77-match unbeaten league record at Stamford Bridge ended with defeat by Sunderland last month and Atletico Madrid won 3-1 to knock them out of the Champions League.

Reuters

## You will see me again next season, says Wenger



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger

LONDON, 5 May — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has told fans they have not seen the last of him after he ensured another top four Premier League finish and a spot in the Champions League.

Wenger's contract expires at the end of the campaign and the 64-year-old Frenchman has yet to sign a new one amid growing complaints from the terraces that it might be time for a change after 18 years of his stewardship.

The last nine of those have not seen them win a trophy but Wenger was steadfast in his commitment after they were handed fourth spot following Everton's 3-2 home loss to league leaders Manchester City on Saturday. "Look at me," he told reporters, arms outstretched when asked whether he would definitely be in charge for next season.

"You will see me again.

"Don't be impatient. My last time will come. You will get rid of me one day, don't worry."

Wenger's comments came after a Sunday stroll in the sun as they despatched struggling West Bromwich Albion 1-0 at the Emirates in their final home game of the season.

But it was not an entirely cheerful mood in North London with some fans protesting outside of the ground at the growing costs of watching the team as the sung "Arsenal till I'm skint".

They also unveiled banners that read "record commercial deals + greedy owners = poorer fans".

Revenues have been a hot topic at Arsenal, with British media reports suggesting a renewal for Wenger would only come if Arsenal ensured another season in the Champions League.

"No no, its not linked to that at all," Wenger said.

"It was of course important to be in the Champions League, that is for sure, but I have told you many times it is not linked to my commitment, linked to the fact that I feel I am useful.

"I told you many times that my word is my word. I am from a period where you did not need a pen to commit."

Reuters

## Serena coasts past Swiss qualifier in Madrid

MADRID, 5 May — Top seed and defending champion Serena Williams cruised past teenage qualifier Belinda Bencic into the Madrid Open second round on Sunday as the world number one began her quest for a 60th career title.

American Williams, chasing a third consecutive triumph at the premier clay event in the Spanish

capital, dispatched the 17-year-old Swiss, ranked 98th, 6-2, 6-1 to set up a meeting with unseeded Chinese Peng Shuai.

Bencic, the youngest player in the top 100, broke the Williams serve once in the opening set but crumbled thereafter and lost her own five times.

Williams was looking fresh after a month off



Serena Williams

## Murray ponders hiring McEnroe as coach

LONDON, 5 May — Wimbledon champion Andy Murray would consider hiring seven-times grand slam winner John McEnroe as his coach, saying the controversial American would have plenty to offer his game.

World number eight Murray, playing this week at the Madrid Masters, has been without a coach since he split from Ivan Lendl in March after a successful two-year spell during which he won two grand slam titles and gold at the 2012 Olympics.

"Every player would

consider someone with his credentials," the 26-year-old Scot told the BBC on Sunday.

"I like listening to him commentate and he has a lot to offer as well. It's interesting but if anything comes from it, who knows?"

"When you are very competitive as a player, you are likely to be the same as a coach and that's also a benefit.

"He was a great player and he's always kept an interest in the game, which is important. He has a great knowledge of the sport."

American McEnroe,

following her second-round defeat in Charleston and sealed victory with her 11th ace of the match for her 13th consecutive win in the Spanish capital.

"I was playing such a young player and she had nothing to lose and she has such a bright future so it wasn't very easy going out there," Williams said in an interview made available by the WTA.

"But it feels good to get a win under my belt on clay," added the 32-year-old, a 17-times grand slam singles champion.

"I think I played well, I went for a lot of winners and they actually went in so I was like wow.

"I love the crowd here, I love the Spanish. They just have so much life."

Williams was joined

in the second round by Czech fifth seed Petra Kvitová, who had a tough test against unseeded Romanian Sorana Cirstea before coming through 6-1, 5-7, 7-6.

Seventh-seeded German Angelique Kerber was trailing French qualifier Caroline Garcia 6-3, 2-0 when she had to retire because of a back injury.

"I've been feeling my back for a few days now and felt it again in the first set and it was getting worse as the match went on," Kerber said.

Maria Sharapova of Russia, the eighth seed, and 11th-seeded Serb Ana Ivanovic also went through, seeing off Czech Klara Koukalova and American Madison Keys respectively.—Reuters



John McEnroe of the US

"It depends how I do in the next couple of weeks," he said. "If I do well, I'm not going to have that much time. If I don't do so well, I'll have a little bit more time to think about it and chat to people.

"I need to have the right person in place. I don't want to have the wrong person in place by the French Open. I'd rather wait a few weeks and get the right person three weeks after Wimbledon."

The French Open begins on 25 May and Wimbledon just over a month later. — Reuters