

Preliminary results of census to be published in August with near complete coverage

By Ye Myint

Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi briefed the media on the 2014 Population and Housing Census Enumeration at Mingala Hall of Yangon Region Government Office in Yangon on Wednesday, stating Myanmar “ensured a successful outcome” with a census coverage rate of 99 percent and a response rate of 98 percent.

He announced that the

final population information with the nearly-completed data will be released in May next year following the release of preliminary findings in August that will include the exact number of males and females and households in townships.

Regarding the census delays in some areas in the country, the Union minister said that four options suggested by International Technical Advisory Board and local and UNFPA experts will be taken into consideration in the counting process for

“self-identified people as Rohingya in three districts in Rakhine State” during the period of the eight-week technical delay.

If none of the four options is working for them, the completion of the census-taking process might be announced and will state why the process could not continue.

The first option is to conclude the process and to state which areas were left out and why, while the second option would be the release of an estimated num-

ber of the population using “other sources.”

The third option is to continue the process after further coordination in order to avoid unnecessary delays, and the last one is to carry out surveys covering 10 to 20 percent of the total areas left out instead of covering the whole area.

There are 1.33 million Bengali in the country, with 1.05 million living in Rakhine State, officials said.

A Swiss diplomat who was present at the press briefing told The New Light

INSIDE

Myanmar, Austria discuss bilateral cooperation in energy sector

PAGE-3



of Myanmar that the Myanmar census was meeting international standards and was satisfactory, and that one of the four options the Union minister said will be the best way for Rakhine State in the counting process.

Responding to questions during a Q and A session, the Union Minister reaffirmed that only those who are eligible for citizenship under the 1982 Citizenship Law will be granted

Myanmar citizenship despite outside proposals to give citizenship status to the “so-called Rohingya,” adding that the term Rohingya has never existed in Myanmar’s ethnic history. Myanmar began conducting its first census after 30 years on 30 March, 2014. About 90,000 census-takers and 25,000 census-auditors covered around 81,000 areas across the country during the 12-day population survey.—NLM

Massive foreign investment creates over 90,000 jobs for Myanmar workers

Myanmar has become the most interesting market among the neighbouring countries due to the influx of foreign direct investments since it has been on the right track towards democratic transition.

Myanmar Investment Commission claimed, “So far, foreign investors have made over USD 36,161 million in various sectors across the country.”

MIC shows amount of foreign investment of the

existing enterprises—USD 13,630 million in oil and natural gas sector, USD 13,254 million in electricity sector, USD 2,785 million in manufacturing sector, USD 2,337 million in mining, USD 1,549 million in hotel and tourism, USD 1,327 million in transport and communication, USD 715 million in real estate, USD 179 million in industrial estate, USD 174 million in agriculture, USD 166 million in livestock and fisheries and USD 40 million in other services countrywide.

Among the 26 investing countries, China with its USD 14,159 million tops the table, followed by Hong Kong with USD 6,407 million and Singapore with USD 4,185 million.

“Job opportunities could be created for over 90,000 workers in the country during the 2013-2014 FY, thanks to large foreign investment,” said an official of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development.

The MIC gives top priority to labour intensive manufacturing and high-tech industries in the foreign investment sectors.

By Aung Kyaw Kyaw



Union Minister U Khin Yi taking a floor at press conference on 2014 Population and Housing Census Enumeration.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

Thai court rules PM must step down but ministers remain

BANGKOK, 7 May — A Thai court found Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra guilty on Wednesday of violating the constitution and said she had to step down, although ministers not implicated in the case can remain in office.

The decision is bound to anger her supporters, but the survival of her government could take the sting out of protests they had planned for the weekend and may make confrontation with opposing groups less likely.

Yingluck has faced six months of protests in the capital, Bangkok, aimed at toppling her government. The anti-government protesters have failed to

achieve their aim in the street but turned to legal challenges to remove her.

The judge who delivered the verdict said Yingluck had abused her position by transferring the National Security Council chief to another post in 2011 so that a relative could benefit from subsequent job moves.

“The accused was involved in the transfer of Thawil Pliensri from his position as National Security Council head,” the judge said, adding that was done “... in order for Priewpan Damapong, a relative of the accused, to gain a new position”.

“The accused acted for her own political benefit ...

The transfer wasn’t done for the benefit of the country,” he added. Yingluck denied wrongdoing.

Some legal experts had expected her entire government to be forced out if she was found guilty. It remains unclear how a new premier will be appointed. In Thailand the prime minister is normally elected by the lower house of parliament but that was dissolved in December when Yingluck called a snap election to try to defuse the protests. From that point, she headed a caretaker administration with limited powers. The election in February was disrupted and later declared void by the Constitutional Court.—Reuters

New tax rates come into force in 2014-15 FY

By Myint Win Thein

The new income tax and commercial tax law has come in force in the new financial year, according to the Internal Revenue Department.

Under the new law, people who earn from K 2 million to K 5 million a year will have to pay 5 percent income tax while those earning from K 5 million to K 10 million are required to pay 10 percent income tax. People who earn between K 10 million and K 20 million are to pay 20 percent and those who earn more than K 30 mil-

lion and above will need to pay 25 percent income tax.

In the new law, tax reductions are offered for married couples and those who have children.

Commercial tax is collected starting from K 15 million and tax exemptions are offered for sixty items of goods. Those who fail to pay taxes will be fined under section 21 of the commercial tax law.

A total of K 3582 billion was collected during 2013-14 FY, according to the Internal Revenue Department.



Tractors, power-tillers used in ploughing for cultivation

WUNDWIN, 7 May—Local farmers are using not only power-tillers but farming cattle in preparations for cultivation of

monsoon crops in Wundwin Township.

Skilled workers of Agricultural Mechanization Department plough

the farmlands in villages.

“This year is expected to be good condition of early monsoon. Farming cattle is very expensive as



Dhamma School foundation produces trainers

MYINGYAN, 7 May—The trainers course of Dhamma School kicked off at Kokko Tawya Pariyatti monastery in Myingyan of Mandalay Region on Monday morning.

The chairman Sayadaw of Dhamma School Foundation explained the purpose of opening the course and it was aimed at

ensuring durability of lineage, religion and language.

A total of 10 male trainees and 50 female trainees are attending the course that will last six days.

Ships to suspend trips in Yangon River

YANGON, 7 May—Some ships that ran along Yangon River will suspend their trips from the early May to October.

They will suspend the trip during the rainy season and resume the runs in early October, according to the entrepreneurs of cruiseliners.

Some cruiseliners will run their trips in Yangon River depending on amount of travelers.

Thant Zin Win



GANGAW, 7 May—U Sarako, the single cyclist on hour of all corners of the nation, arrived in Gangaw of Magway Region on 4 May and left for Htilin on Tuesday.

While in Gangaw, he met members of social organizations and recounted his experiences of travelling and gave talks on prevention of HIV/AIDS.

He started his trip on 1 December 2013 from Yangon by bicycle.

He has visited Yangon Region, Ayeyawady

Region, Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Magway and Mandalay Regions, Rakhine, Shan and Chin States.

He made 3946 miles of trips during the period of five months and five days.

“Social organizations help me on my trips,” he said. U Sarako, son of U Kanet Aung-Daw Than Myint of Mandalay, lives on 19th Street between 89th and 90th streets.

He is 35 years old and joins health and social affairs.

Kyemon-465

Solo cyclist arrives in Gangaw



Region minister meets onion growers in Myingyan Tsp

MYINGYAN, 7 May—Mandalay Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Aung Zan held a talk with onion growers at the Basic Education Post-Primary School in Kanhsint Village of Myingyan Township in Mandalay Region on Sunday.

The region minister discussed sales of onion

and measurements. The onion growers reported on difficulties in cultivation and sales.

It was attended by the head of Mandalay Region Trade Promotion Department and officials, local farmers from Kanhsint, Balon and Nathtar villages.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Plan to settle new school in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 7 May—A coordination meeting on move of No 1 Basic Education Middle School to another place was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Meiktila on Monday.

The school is now located in the precinct of

Yayle West Monastery in Myoma Ward 4. It was founded by Sayadaw U Parama and Sayadaw U Narinda. The school was upgraded to Government Primary School in 1953 and middle school in 1962. Over 800 students are pursuing education at the school.

Mandalay Region

government arranged to move the school to the place of No 14 Basic Education Primary School in Aungzeya Ward. However, the No 14 BEPS is not accessible for school children due to traffic jams and level crossing. Therefore, local authorities reported to build a new school near the old school.—NLM-018

Artists visit Agricultural Mechanization Training School in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 7 May—A 32-member delegation

comprising song composers, musicians and artists led by U Tin Oo Lay, Chairman of Myanmar Music Association (Central) visited agricultural farms in Paleik, Singaing, Kume and Shwedaung and Meiktila Agricultural Mechanization Training School on Tuesday.

Principal of the training school U Ko Ko Naing and officials conducted them round the training school.

Director-General U Soe Hlaing of Agricultural Mechanization Department explained use of modern tractors in transforming mechanized farming.

They also viewed cultivation of crops and thriving paddy plantations at the farms.—NLM-018

NATIONAL

Myanmar, Austria discuss bilateral cooperation in energy sector

NAY PYI TAW, 7 May—President U Thein Sein met with a delegation led by Ms. Doris BURES, Austrian Minister for Transport, Innovation and Technology, on Wednesday at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace to discuss bilateral cooperation in the energy sector.

At the meeting, both sides discussed further strengthening relations, Austria's technical assistance for hydropower generation and foreign direct investment in Myanmar.

The talks came just ahead of the 61st anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Myanmar and Austria.

MNA



President U Thein Sein greets Ms. Doris BURES, Minister for Transport, Innovation and Technology of Austria.

MNA

Over 6,000 acres of farmland returned to former owners



Vice-President U Nyan Tun hands over farmlands to local owners.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 May—Vice-President U Nyan Tun said land confiscated by the Army was neither

to be rented out to other peasants nor to be used by businesses on profit-sharing basis.

MNA

Mongolian Foreign Affairs delegation visits Myanmar to discuss cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 7 May—A Mongolian delegation led by Mr. Chu-luun Bayarmurnkh, Director-General of the Asia and Pacific Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia arrived in Myanmar on 4th May to attend

a consultation meeting on the cooperation between the two ministries, and the delegation left Myanmar on Wednesday after a round of productive talks.

The delegation called on U Thant Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign

Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw and also met with U San Lwin, Director-General of the Political Affairs Department to discuss promotion of bilateral relations and other matters of mutual interests.

MNA

Vice-President on tour of northern Shan State

NAY PYI TAW, 7 May—On his tour of Lashio, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon visited People's Hospital and met with patients on 7 May, officials said.

At the hall of Myanmar Medical Association, the vice-president met with doctors, nurses, officials from NGOs and townselders. In his meeting with them, Dr Sai Mauk Kham said arrangements are under way to provide the hospital with necessary equipment and health staff with the help of the Ministry of Health and wellwishers. He also called for harmonious cooperation between health employees. U Than Tun, senior project manager of Shining Myanmar Co Ltd, donated an ambulance for the township of Momeik.

The vice-president and his wife also went to Tangyan, where he had a cordial meeting with members of local parliament,

townselders and locals. Speaking on the occasion, he explained the development measures the government is taking for the town. He continued that the projects for electricity and GSM telecommunication are near completion.

After hearing reports from officials, Dr Sai Mauk Kham pointed out the need to turn the town into a tourist destination as it has long been a tourist attraction.

The vice-president and his entourage also toured Mongyai and inspected the undertaking of development projects and health facilities. He called on locals to take an active part in this process.

A total of K 18 million was donated for the construction of a Buddhist missionary school in Mongyai.

At People's Hospital there, the vice-president and his entourage looked around women's wards, medicine stores, X-ray rooms and operation theatres. A total of K 10 million was donated for the hospital fund.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham presents cash assistance to cleft lip and palate children.

MNA



National Parliament set to resume on 28 May

NAY PYI TAW, 7 May—The ninth session of the first National Parliament is set to resume on 28 May in Nay Pyi Taw.

Speaker of the National Parliament U Khin Aung Myint announced the resumption of the National Parliament for 10 a.m.

The Speaker has urged

MPs to arrive on time in Nay Pyi Taw, and said that they are to report their arrival at Parliament Office on 26 and 27 May.

The resumption of Parliament will coincide with the 15th Waning of Kason 1376 ME.

MNA

MMCWA holds 24th annual general meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 7 May—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin recognized goodwill of members of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association as they surely implemented the duties and functions of the association

at the annual general meeting of the 24th Anniversary of MMCWA in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

Dr Pe Thet Khin urged the MMCWA members to effectively educate the local people with the use of easy language for conducting

how to prevent infectious diseases and solve other health problems.

At the meeting, region/state members of the association presented financial reports and their activities to the patrons of the association.—MNA

Malaysia most likely to be chosen as terrorism contact place

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 May — Terrorist state survey in 2013 Promulgated by State Department indicates that, Malaysia is where terrorists in the region mostly choose for activity transit and meetings, according to Malaysian media *Oriental Daily*.

The report states that inspite of the fact that Malaysia is not normally regarded as Terrorist Safe Havens, Malaysia is only an ocean away from Philippines and Indonesia.

And near the coastal zone of Sulu/Sulawesi sea, the terrorism activities are extremely active.

Oriental Daily reports that, the survey affirms the efforts Malaysian government has made in terms of counter-terrorism; including actively promoting Security Offences (Special Measures) Act and so on.

Moreover, Malaysian proper authorities have been working closely with International counter-terrorism organizations and enhance cooperation and combat terrorism with concerted efforts.

Xinhua

Pakistan seeks more security to its mission in Indian capital

NEW DELHI, 7 May — Pakistan has demanded more security to its mission and diplomats in India in the wake of threat letters, local media reported on Wednesday.

The matter has been taken up by officials of Pakistan High Commission in the national capital with the Indian Ministry of External Affairs on Tuesday, *'The Times of India'* newspaper reported.

Quoting an Indian government source as saying, the newspaper said that security agencies were been sensitized about the threat mails, one of which was forwarded by the Pakistan High Commission.

"We provide maximum possible security to all missions and same is the case with Pakistan," the source said.

The Pakistan High Commission is located in one of the Indian capital's most posh and highly secured locations, and already gets adequate security.

Xinhua

Rahul Gandhi (in white), Congress party vice president, and his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra attend an election campaign rally in Amethi, in Uttar Pradesh on 4 May, 2014.

REUTERS

BANGKOK, 7 May— Niwatthamrong Boonsongpaisan is to be Thailand's prime minister in place of Yingluck Shinawatra, who was forced to step down by the Constitutional Court on Wednesday along with several ministers after being found guilty of violating the constitution.

"The cabinet has decided that Niwatthamrong Boonsongpaisan will carry out duties in place of Prime Minister Yingluck," Justice Minister Pongthep Thepkanjana told a news conference.

Thailand has had an acting government since Yingluck dissolved the lower house of parliament in December in a failed attempt to defuse anti-government protests. That election was disrupted and then annulled. A new election is planned for 20 July.—Reuters



Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister Niwatthamrong Boonsongpaisan

China hasn't met Turkish missile defence tender conditions

ANKARA, 7 May — A Chinese firm has not yet met all of the conditions of a Turkish tender to build a missile defence system that it provisionally won in a \$3.4 billion (2 billion pounds) deal and Turkey may consider alternative offers, officials said on condition of anonymity.

A Russian bid for the advanced weapons project has been revised, but its price remained far higher than other offers, the

Turkish officials also told *Reuters* late on Tuesday.

Awarding the tender to Russia may do little to ally concerns voiced by Turkey's NATO allies when Ankara said in September it had chosen China's FD-2000 missile defence system over rival offers from Franco-Italian Eurosam and US-listed Raytheon Co. It said then that China had offered the most competitive terms and would allow co-production in Turkey.—Reuters



Israeli air forces airplanes attend an air show above the Mediterranean Sea in Tel Aviv, Israel, during a celebration for Israel's Independence Day, on 6 May, 2014. Beginning at sundown Monday and ending at sundown on Tuesday, Israel celebrated its Independence Day marking the country's 66th anniversary.—XINHUA

Gandhi dynasty battles to hold seat in family bastion Amethi

AMETHI, (India), 7 May — At a shabby government health centre in the rural bastion of the ruling Nehru-Gandhi dynasty, mothers cradling sick babies

sidestep dogs sleeping in unlit corridors.

There is no power, there are no nurses on duty and only two doctors — one suffering from a crippling neurological disease

— trying to treat 60 to 70 patients a day in sweltering heat.

Few places in India illustrate more clearly how

loyalists' support for the ruling Congress party, and the Gandhi family that leads it, has been tested than Amethi, its traditional stronghold around 300 miles southeast of New Delhi. Many people in a constituency that has elected the Gandhis to parliament since 1980 feel they have been left behind and voters are getting angry, threatening family scion Rahul's bid to retain the seat when locals cast their vote on Wednesday.

"We are with the Congress party, we have always been from the time of our forefathers," said Arun Sharma, a local barber. "But we are not happy. Rahul just comes and waves from his car, and goes away." Congress leaders disagree, and counter that to a large extent, Rahul's hands are tied. Uttar Pradesh, a state of 200

million people where Amethi is located, is run by a regional party that, while loosely allied to Congress, has ruled mainly in the interests of its low-caste supporters. The state plays a critical role in building roads and providing power, and lobbying efforts by the Gandhis to secure better amenities for Amethi have often proved ineffectual.

"These health centres and schools — these are the responsibility of the state government," said Rita Bahuguna Joshi, former head of the state unit of Congress and now running on a party ticket from Lucknow, capital of Uttar Pradesh.

"It is the non-cooperation of successive governments that has been the problem. Rahul makes every effort, but they don't implement them. They want to show him in a poor light."—Reuters



WORLD

Japan, NATO agree to work closer, sign partnership programme

BRUSSELS, 7 May — Japan and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization agreed on Tuesday in Brussels to work more closely and extensively in areas such as maritime security and cyber defense and humanitarian operations.

After their talks at the NATO headquarters, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and NATO Secretary General Anders Rasmussen signed a roadmap, called the Individual Partnership and Cooperation Programme, detailing areas of focus for bilateral cooperation.

At a joint Press conference following their meeting, Abe said, “With security in Asia and Europe closely intertwined, we have shared the recognition that cooperation is important for Japan and NATO, which uphold common basic values such as rule of law.”

In reference to Ukraine, Rasmussen said,



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (L) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization Secretary General Anders Rasmussen (2nd from R) meet at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, on 6 May, 2014. — KYODO NEWS

“Today we are facing the gravest crisis to European security since the end of the Cold War.” He added, “In this time of crisis, our dialogue with like-minded partners like Japan is key to address global security challenges.”

During their meeting,

Abe touched on Japan-China relations and was quoted as saying that Japan “always keeps its doors for dialogue open” for China. A Japanese official said Abe cited a recent meeting in Beijing of Japanese lawmakers with top Chinese officials.

Rasmussen noted the importance of dialogue in his talks with Abe, the official told reporters.

The two leaders also shared concern about North Korea’s nuclear and missile development programmes, the official said.

Kyodo News

Vietnam protests to China over drilling in South China Sea

HANOI, 7 May — Vietnam has warned China it will take all necessary measures to protect its legitimate rights and interests in the South China Sea in the wake of the launch of Chinese drilling activities near the disputed Parcel Islands, state-run media reported on Wednesday.

Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Pham Binh Minh telephoned Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi on Tuesday to protest China’s deployment of a drilling rig and a large number of vessels, including warships, to the disputed waters and demanded they be completely withdrawn, according to the Vietnam News Agency.

It said Minh, who doubles as foreign minister, accused China of having “seriously violated Vietnam’s sovereignty over the Hoang Sa (Parcel) archipelago and its sovereign right and jurisdiction over the country’s exclusive economic zone and continental shelf.”

“Vietnam will take all suitable and necessary measures to safeguard its legitimate rights and interests,” he said.

Meanwhile, China’s official Xinhua News Agency reported that Yang accused the Vietnamese side of “disturbing” and “harassing” Chinese companies’ activities in the area, telling Minh in their conversation this has “severely violated China’s sovereignty, sovereign rights and administration right, and ran counter to relevant consensus made by both

sides on securing maritime stability.”

Yang said the activities being undertaken by Chinese companies in the area of the Paracels, known in China as Xisha, “are within the mandate of China’s sovereignty, sovereign rights and administration, which brooks no interference by any other party.”

He claimed the islands “are part of China’s inherent territory and there exists no dispute about it,” while urging the Vietnamese side “to stop disturbing such activities immediately and correct its wrongdoing for the sake of the overall ties between the two countries.”

Both sides accused the other of acting counter to international law and basic norms of international relations, and of undermining bilateral relations.

The naval forces of China and the former South Vietnam fought a battle in January 1974 that gave China effective control of the islands. In recent years, Chinese authorities have repeatedly seized Vietnamese fishing vessels operating in the disputed waters.

In Washington, US State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki called China’s move “provocative and unhelpful.”

“Given the recent history of tensions in the South China Sea, China’s decision to operate its oil rig in disputed waters is provocative and unhelpful to the maintenance of peace and stability in the region,” Psaki told reporters.

Kyodo News

China urges Philippines to release detained fishermen

BEIJING/MANILA, 7 May — China on Wednesday urged the Philippines to immediately release a Chinese fishing boat and its crew that the country seized in disputed waters. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying, speaking at a daily press briefing, also demanded the Philippines to “stop taking further provocative actions” and argued that China has “indisputable sovereignty” over the areas in the South China Sea where the fishermen were at before they

were detained.

Chinese official media reported earlier in the day that eleven Chinese fishermen have not been heard from since their boat was seized on Tuesday by an “unidentified armed vessel” in waters off Half Moon Shoal of the Spratly Islands.

Xinhua News Agency said the fishing boat Qiongzonghai 09063 was intercepted at about 10 am on Tuesday in waters off the shoal, located west of the Philippine island of

Palawan in the sea. It said several armed men forced themselves onto the boat, fired four or five shots in the air and took control of it.

The Philippine police said on Wednesday that two boats occupied by Chinese and Filipino nationals respectively and loaded with sea turtles were apprehended at the disputed shoal.

Chief Supt Reuben Sindac said the Chinese boat was carrying 11 Chinese nationals and had 120 live and 234 dead turtles, while the

Philippine boat had five Filipino passengers and 70 live turtles. The Philippine foreign affairs department said “the seizing of the Chinese fishing boat, carrying large numbers of endangered species, and the apprehension of its crew by the Philippine National Police Maritime Group Special Boat Unit were undertaken as actions to enforce maritime laws and to uphold Philippine sovereign rights over its exclusive economic zone.”

Kyodo News

South Africans vote in first ‘Born Free’ election

JOHANNESBURG, 7 May — South Africans voted in the first “Born Free” election on Wednesday, although polls suggest the allure of the ruling African National Congress as the conqueror of apartheid will prevail even among those with no memory of white-minority rule.

Polling stations opened at 0500 GMT, with voters waiting in line, many wrapped up against the early morning chill of the southern hemisphere winter. They close at 1900 GMT and a firm idea of the outcome should be available by midday on 8 May.

Opinion polls suggest there is no doubt about the overall result, with ANC support estimated at around 65 percent, only a shade lower than the 65.9 percent it won in the 2009 election that brought President Jacob Zuma to power.

The resilience of ANC support has surprised analysts who a year ago were saying it could struggle at the polls as its glorious past recedes into history and voters focus instead on the sluggish economic growth and slew of scandals that have typified Zuma’s first term.

Africa’s most sophisticated economy has struggled to recover from a 2009 recession — its first since the 1994 demise of apartheid — and the ANC’s efforts to stimulate growth and tackle 25 percent unemployment have been hampered by powerful unions. South Africa’s top anti-graft agency accused Zuma this year of “benefiting unduly” from a \$23 million state-funded security upgrade to his private home at Nkandla in rural KwaZulu-Natal province that included a swimming pool and chicken run.

His personal approval



Election officials work in a classroom that has been transformed into a voting station on the eve of the general election in Embo on 6 May, 2014. — REUTERS

ratings have dipped since the findings by Public Protector Thuli Madonsela. But at a news conference

this week to conclude the ANC election campaign, the 72-year-old brushed aside suggestions the im-

broglia was damaging the party. “I’m not worried about Nkandla,” Zuma said. “The people are not worried about it. I think the people who are worried about it is you guys, the media, and the opposition.”

Besides being easy fodder for the cartoonists who have reveled in the freedom of speech enshrined in the post-apartheid constitution, Nkandla has exposed the gulf between current and former ANC leaders, in particular Nelson Mandela, South Africa’s first black president, who died in December.

Reuters

Britain to review punishment system for bankers who break rules

LONDON, 7 May — Britain is to review whether punishments for bankers who break the rules are tough enough to deter others from doing wrong in the financial markets, where there are currently allegations of possible rigging of currency rates.

MPs have criticised British financial regulators for being softer than their counterparts in the United States in terms of the size of fines imposed on offenders. They have also been criticised for failing to bring individuals and not just their employers to book.

“For enforcement action to be effective, wrongdoers must believe that they face a real and tangible risk of being held to account and must expect to

face meaningful and proportionate sanctions,” the finance ministry said in a statement on Tuesday announcing the review.

“The general public must also have confidence that wrongdoers will be subject to sanctions and that the enforcement machinery will be robust enough to deliver those sanctions when wrongdoing occurs,” the statement said.

After the financial crisis, British financial regulation was revamped to create two new watchdogs, the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) at the Bank of England, and the standalone Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

The FCA has fined banks for manipulating the London Interbank Offered



A worker arrives at his office in the Canary Wharf business district in London on 26 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

Rate or Libor, a widely-used benchmark. It is investigating potentially

similar rule-breaking in foreign exchange markets.

The government’s

review will look at how the two watchdogs decide on enforcement action and

will report to Britain’s Finance Minister George Osborne by the autumn. It will also look at what goes on in other countries.

The two watchdogs were formally launched in April 2013 and the government said it was a good time to see if they are effective in enforcement work.

The review will look at whether stronger incentives are needed to encourage early settlement of cases, and if the current system provides a credible deterrence to rule breakers.

A public call for evidence was published on Monday with a July 4 deadline, and round tables will be held with interested parties next month.

Reuters

US proposes immigration rules to help high-skilled workers

WASHINGTON, 7 May — Newly proposed rules for highly skilled immigrants to the United States, including a provision to allow their spouses to work, are aimed at making it easier to keep those talented science, technology and engineering workers in the country, officials said on Tuesday.

“These individuals are American families in waiting,” Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker said. “Many tire of waiting for green cards and leave the country to work for our competition. The fact is we have to do more to retain and attract world-class talent to the United States and these regulations put us on a path to do that.” One of the two proposed regulation changes would allow the spouses of holders of H-1B visas, which are given to workers in fields such as science, technology and engineering, to have jobs in the United States while their spouses’ green card



A woman holds a cluster of US flags during a US Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization ceremony in Oakland, California on 13 Aug, 2013.

REUTERS

applications are being considered. Spouses of US visa holders currently are not given permission to work.

Deputy Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, who announced the new regulations with Pritzker, said that change could affect as many as 97,000 people in the first year and some 30,000 annually after that.

The other proposed regulation change would give employers a wider range

of methods to document that immigrant researchers and professors are among the best in their fields. The regulations would go into effect after a 60-day public comment period.

Pritzker said approximately 28 percent of new businesses in the United States are started by immigrants and that about 40 percent of the Fortune 500 companies were started by immigrants or their children.

She cited Hungarian-born Andy Grove, the former Intel Corp chief executive; Sergey Brin, the Soviet immigrant who co-founded Google; and Yahoo co-founder Jerry Yang, who came from Taiwan as a boy, as immigrants who have made a profound impact on the US economy.

Pritzker also supported President Barack Obama’s push to overhaul the US immigration system so that it would allow the United States “to staple a green card to the degrees of graduate students instead of forcing potential innovators and job creators to leave after being trained at our universities.”

Senator Jeff Sessions, a Republican from Alabama and opponent of immigration reform, denounced the proposed changes. “Yet again, the administration is acting unilaterally to change immigration law in a way that hurts American workers,” he said.—Reuters

BBC Trust chairman Patten stands down after heart surgery

LONDON, 7 May — Chris Patten, the last British governor of Hong Kong, quit as the head of the BBC Trust on Tuesday due to ill health after three turbulent years overseeing Britain’s public broadcaster.

Patten, a senior figure in Prime Minister David Cameron’s Conservative Party, said he would resign with immediate effect following major heart surgery.

“The BBC is a huge national asset which is part of the everyday fabric of our lives,” he said in a statement which also detailed his health issues. “It is not perfect — what institution is? It always needs to challenge itself to improve.”

The BBC Trust oversees the publicly-funded state broadcaster, setting

the strategy and holding executives to account, and Patten was in charge during some of its lowest periods - including a child sex scandal that rocked the world renowned corporation.

As the broadcaster sought to recover from the revelation that Jimmy Savile, one of its biggest stars of the 1970s and 80s, was a prolific child sex abuser, it aired false child sex abuse allegations against a former politician.

That resulted in then Director General George Entwistle resigning just two months into the job. He was replaced by Tony Hall who has pledged to refocus the world’s largest state-funded broadcaster on its core values — to inform, educate and entertain.—Reuters



BBC Trust Chairman Chris Patten attends a press conference at New Broadcasting House in London on 19 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Passenger helmet law could save Cambodia 100 mln USD in 5 years

PHNOM PENH, 7 May — Cambodia could save nearly 100 million US dollars in the next five years if a passenger helmet law is adopted this year, according to a new study released on Wednesday.

The study on the cost and life-savings of the passenger helmet law was conducted by the Asia Injury Prevention

(AIP) Foundation with an aim to persuade the Cambodian government to immediately enact and enforce a draft traffic law mandating passenger helmet use.

“If the passenger helmet law is passed in 2014 and enforced in the beginning of 2015, helmet use rates among passengers are estimated to increase from 7 percent to 55 percent in

2015 and by 5 percent each following year, reaching 80 percent by 2020,” the study results showed. “As a result, roughly 561 fatalities will be prevented, 10,572 head injuries avoided, and 98.6 million US dollars saved from 2015 to 2020.”

Pagna Kim, AIP’s director to Cambodia, said this analysis demonstrated why the new law was

urgently needed in Cambodia.

“We encourage stakeholders, partners, and the media to utilize this evidence in their advocacy efforts for the government to approve and enforce the draft law to reach the target of 80 percent passenger helmet use by 2020,” he said during the launching of the study results.—Xinhua

HEALTH & BUSINESS

Tech stumble hits Europe, Asia shares, dollar weakens

LONDON, 7 May — European and Asian shares retreated and the dollar fell against the safe-haven yen on Wednesday as an overnight drop in US tech stocks and the deepening Ukraine crisis hurt global market sentiment.

Twitter (TWTR.N) shares tumbled 17.8 percent to \$31.85 after the expiration of a six-month lock-up period that had restricted the sale of about 82 percent of the firm's outstanding stock.

Ukraine is experiencing its deadliest week since a separatist uprising began in its mainly Russian-speaking eastern region, leaving less room for peace efforts.

European shares .FTEU3 fell 0.35 percent



A man looks at an electronic board displaying Japan's Nikkei average (top C) and various countries' stock indices, as passers-by walk past outside a brokerage in Tokyo on 16 April, 2014.—REUTERS

and European tech stocks .SX8P also fell 0.35 percent towards three-month lows, heading for their first five-day losing streak in seven months.

France's No 2 listed bank Societe Generale

(SOGN.PA) booked a 525 million euro (\$731 million) writedown on the value of its Russian unit Rosbank, blaming heightened uncertainty and a decline in the Russian rouble. Its shares fell 2 percent.

Danish brewer Carlsberg (CARLB.CO), one of Europe's blue-chips with the highest exposure to Russia, fell 2.2 percent as it partly blamed currency volatility in Russia for a fall in its first-quarter operating profit.

The dollar, which has lost about 0.5 percent against the yen so far this week, weakened to 101.40 yen, its lowest since 14 April. In Asia, MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan .MIAPJ0000PUS fell 0.7 percent on Wednesday after touching its lowest point since 2 April.

The Nasdaq Composite .IXIC index fell 1.4 percent to a one-week low on Tuesday. The S&P 500 .SPX

fell 0.9 percent but remains within striking distance of a record high hit a month ago.

Easy monetary policy in the developed world is causing market imbalances, analysts said.

"It looks like we're mirroring the past cycles - addressing over-indebtedness problems with more debt, printing money and pushing up asset prices," said Iain Stewart, investment manager at Newton Investment Management.

"Almost certainly we will see bubbles."

The US currency lost ground against the euro as well as the yen. The common currency was boosted on Tuesday by upbeat PMI readings in Spain and Italy.

The euro was at

\$1.3925 on Wednesday, hovering within distance of an eight-week high of \$1.3952 hit on Tuesday.

The US dollar index .DXY, which measures the greenback against six major currencies, stood at 79.13 after falling on Tuesday to 79.06, its lowest in more than six months.

Immediate focus for the dollar was on US Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen's congressional testimony later in Wednesday's session.

Yellen is widely expected to maintain a dovish policy stance, doing little to arrest the recent fall of the dollar, which has shown a limited response to positive economic data.

Reuters

US backslides in maternal deaths, bucking global trend

GENEVA, 7 May — American women are more likely to die in childbirth than they were two decades ago, making the United States one of the few countries where the risks from childbirth have risen in the past generation, World Health Organization data showed on Tuesday.

The WHO tracks maternal mortality as one of the "Millennium Development Goals" that the United Nations set for 2015. Death rates have fallen by 45 percent globally since 1990, to an estimated 289,000 women in 2013.

Giving birth in the United States remains far safer than in most countries, with only 28 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2013. But that is 136 percent higher than the 1990 mortality rate, when only 12 mothers died for every 100,000 births, the data showed.

No other country recorded such a large percentage increase, although a few other rich countries also failed to keep maternal mortality in check. In Canada, deaths rose from 6 to 11 per 100,000 births between 1990 and 2013. Many European countries and Japan have mortality rates in single figures.

China has cut its rate by two-thirds since 1990, with 32 women dying for every 100,000 live births in 2013.

WHO experts said the increase in the US mortality rate may be a statistical blip. Or it might be due to increased risks from obesity, diabetes and older women giving birth.

Marleen Temmerman, the director of reproductive health and research at WHO, said more analysis was needed.

"It's difficult to say how many deaths are really related to increasing age, but what we know is older age in pregnant women is contributing more to the risk for diabetes and more hypertension related problems," she told a news conference. WHO death-rates expert Colin Mathers said improved data collection could also affect the figures.

"There's also a situation in the US where there are a considerable proportion of the population without health insurance. That may also be affecting things," he said.

Globally, most maternal deaths are caused by severe bleeding, high blood pressure, infections and obstructed labour. More than one in four is caused by malaria, HIV/AIDS, obesity or diabetes. Abortion complications account for 8 percent of deaths.

Although the world will miss the UN target of a 75 percent decline from 1990, many countries have made big improvements, according to the data, published jointly by the WHO, UNICEF, the UN Population Fund and the World Bank.

In 1990, 23 countries had at least 1,000 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births. By 2013, only Sierra Leone remained above that threshold, but it had still managed to more than halve its death rate over the period.

Reuters

Disney beats forecasts as 'Frozen' fuels earnings

BURBANK, (California), 7 May — Media company Walt Disney Co (DIS.N) on Tuesday reported higher profit that beat Wall Street expectations for the quarter ended in March, boosted by the continued strength of its blockbuster animated film "Frozen."

The company said it posted adjusted earnings of \$1.11 a share, beating the 96 cent average forecast of analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S. A year ago, Disney reported adjusted earnings of 79 cents a share.

Disney shares rose 1.3 percent in after-hours trading, to \$82.05 a share.

Net income for the quarter increased to \$1.9

billion from \$1.5 billion a year earlier, lifted by growth at its movie studio.

The animated blockbuster "Frozen," about two royal sisters in an icy kingdom, continued to propel the studio, which saw its operating income quadruple to \$475 million from \$118 million a year earlier, partially on the strength of "Frozen" sales on home video. To further cash in on the film's popularity, Disney will increase the presence of "Frozen" characters at theme parks and could use them in its publishing and interactive gaming businesses, Chief Executive Bob Iger said on a conference call.

"The passion for this



The signage at the main gate of The Walt Disney Co is pictured in Burbank, California, on 7 May, 2012.

REUTERS

film and these characters is so extraordinary, so well beyond what we've ever imagined, that it would be hard to believe that it wouldn't sustain itself over a fairly long period of time," Iger said.

The film had worldwide ticket sales of \$1.2 billion, including \$400.3 million during its five-month run in

US and Canadian theaters.

"The real surprise was the studio," Wunderlich Securities analyst Matthew Harrigan said. He said he had expected expecting operating income of around \$300 million for the unit. "They have importantly managed to revitalize Disney Animation as a full peer to Pixar."

Reuters

Fiat Chrysler bets on Jeep, Alfa revamp to go global



The front grill of a 2014 Chrysler Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk is seen on display outside Chrysler World Headquarters during the FCA Investors Day in Auburn Hills, Michigan on 6 May, 2014.—REUTERS

DETROIT, 7 May — Fiat Chrysler (FIA.MI) is launching a breakneck global growth effort built around its upmarket Alfa Romeo, Jeep and Maserati brands, and CEO Sergio Marchionne pledged to stay five years — two more than

previously disclosed — to see the plan through.

In a 10-hour, marathon presentation to financial analysts on Tuesday, Marchionne outlined a long-awaited business plan aimed at reviving the company's historic carmak-

ing names and persuading investors it can overcome high debt, an uncertain market and past missteps to close in on industry leaders such as Volkswagen AG (VOWG_p.DE) and Toyota Motor Corp (7203.T).

"Today is much more than a new chapter. We are writing an entire new book," Marchionne said in his opening remarks. Amid sometimes skeptical questioning about the goal of boosting sales by 60 percent and increasing net profit five-fold by 2018, Marchionne shifted between quoting philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche and spouting financial ratios at the company's US regional headquarters.

Besides an aggressive, belated push into Asia, Marchionne promised to increase North American sales by half as Chrysler broadens its lineup and the embattled Dodge brand digs in.

The carmaker kept its options open to finance the plan, but ruled out a share issue or divestments. One of the options was a mandatory convertible bond, but no decision has been made.

Fiat Chrysler said it would invest billions of dollars to build new models and ramp up output, predicting sales would surge to almost 7 million vehicles by 2018 from 4.4 million last year - a target some analysts thought highly ambitious.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 8 May, 2014

Change, the name of the game

By Kyaw Thura

The painful days of the education system in Myanmar are expected to come to an end as the catchy phrase education reform has become household words since the country started life as a democracy three years ago.

Since then, people from different social strata, different religious backgrounds and different age groups have come to express their long-awaited thirst for change in the approach to the educational system, which most teachers believe no longer fit the track the country is

now on.

Nevertheless, current changes, though small in number, in the political, social and economic settings are found to be encouraging given the length of time in which the newly installed democratic government has shouldered its responsibilities.

There is no rich country in the international community that lacks educated human resources. What's more, a wealth of natural resources is nothing special to boast about. How to make best use of them for all-round development of the country is of great importance. In this respect, human resources are vital in managing natural resources.

It is safe to assume that access to education is a human right as well as a basis for lifelong learning. It is through education that individuals, families and communities can improve their quality

of life. In addition, education can help fight poverty and crime, minimize infant mortality, and curb population growth.

In today's rapidly-changing world, where economic, social and political participation has gone global, acquisition of basic education as well as the advancement and employment of this skill throughout life is crucial. All in all, lack of human resources is due to lack of education. If all are into education, the curse of illiteracy will become a thing of the past. Otherwise, education for all will remain but a remote dream.

Write for us

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

The Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

We all Buddhists throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar know that the First, the Second, the Third and the Fourth Congregations of the Sangha of All Orders for the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana were successfully held in 1980, 1985, 1990 and 1995 respectively. According to the Fundamental Rules and regulations of the Sangha Organization, after duration of the limited term, the next congregation shall be held. The new members of the Sangha Organizations at different levels shall be elected again according to the will of majority of the members of the Sangha throughout the country. At present, the organizations of the Sangha of All Orders at different levels are four stages. They are; (1) the ward/village-tract Sangha organizations (2) the township Sangha organizations (3) the State, Region Sangha Organizations and the State Sanghamahanayaka Committee.

In order to convene the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar effectively for more carrying out the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana, the principles and guidelines for convening the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders and other necessary ar-

rangements have been already submitted to the Extra-ordinary meeting of the Seventh State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders which was held at the Mahapasana (Great) Cave on Siri Mingala Kaba Aye Hillock, Yangon, from January 20 to 21, 2014 and they were unanimously approved by the meeting.

According to the approved principles and guidelines, the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders for more effectively carrying out the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana, will be held at the Mahapasana (Great) Cave on Siri Mingala Kaba Aye Hillock, Yangon from May 12 to 13, 2014. All necessary arrangements and requirements for convening the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders have been already conducted by the authorities concerned throughout the country.

According to the principles of the election, the sub-election commissions comprising the members of the Sangha, at different levels were formed throughout the country. The Sangha Sammuti representatives at different levels were elected to attend the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders for the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana. Altogether Sangha Sammuti representatives of the members

commemorating 2558 Sasana Era, were elected throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to attend the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders.

In order to accomplish various matters for convening the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders were assisted and supported by the authorities concerned across the whole country. The necessary directives and programmes regarding the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders had already been sent to the authorities concerned for preparations.

All the Buddhists know that the very first Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders for the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana was successfully held in 1980. The elected 1218 Sangha Sammuti representatives throughout the country eagerly attended the very First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders. A need was felt that without the unity of the Sangha, it was impossible to execute the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana. As different schools and sets of the Sangha of All Orders appeared separately, they were not able to unitedly to implement the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana. In fact, all the members of the Sangha and devotees really want the everlasting unity of the Sangha of All Orders.

They firmly believe that it only can be done to purify, perpetuate and propagate the Sangha by the unity of the Sangha. It is known that the Buddha, Himself, urged the members of the Sangha to unite to carry out His teachings.

All Buddhists know that holding the First Buddhist Council through the Sixth Buddhist Council after the demise of the Omniscient Buddha is really to purify, perpetuate and propagate the Buddha Sasana in the universe. Although altogether six Buddhist Councils were held, it was found that different sets and schools still appeared. They were not united. They parted from each other. Because of these different sects and schools, many unlawful views (adhammavadas) which were appeared. In reality, these unlawful contradictory to and incompatible with the Pitakas of Theravada Buddha Sasana views endangered true Buddhism.

Therefore, all the Buddhists throughout the country worried about this. They really want to purify, perpetuate and propagate the Theravada Buddha Sasana. It was natural that in the History of Buddhism, schism and split of schools and sects occurred among the Monastic Orders whenever some members of the Sangha of Orders were in trouble through dispute and mutual misunderstanding.

To reconstruct the unity and mutual under-

standing within the sects and schools is deeply needed for the welfare and interest of the nation as well as for the Buddha Sasana. Altogether six Buddhist Councils throughout our age were held to establish the unity of the Sangha of All Orders so long as the Buddha Sasana exists. The Sixth Buddhist Council was held in Myanmar in order to purify, perpetuate and propagate the Theravada Buddha Sasana throughout the world. Without the unity of the Sangha, it is impossible to promote the Buddha Sasana. An old saying goes "Whenever religion is pure, the society prosper". The situation of the nation is well-developed and prosperous in these golden days when the members of the Sasana All Orders unanimously practice the law and fulfill their religious duties.

Thus, the First, the Second, the Third and the Fourth Congregations of the Sangha of All Orders were successfully held with the support of all Buddhists and the Government. The First, the Second, the Third and the Fourth Congregations of the Sangha of All Orders unanimously approved and adopted many rules and disciplines in accordance with the unity of the Sangha. Furthermore, only one Sangha Organization could be formed in Myanmar for the first time during one-hundred year. This Sangha Organization represents different schools and sects throughout the country. The dif-

ferent levels of the Sangha Organizations could also be formed in accordance with the Fundamental Rules of the Sangha Organizations.

And now it is further learnt that two thousand five hundred and fifty eight representatives of the Sangha Sammuti from different parts of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar were successfully elected to attend the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders which will be held at the Mahapasana (Great) Cave on Kaba Aye Hillock, Yangon, from May 12 to 13, 2014. These representatives of the Sangha Sammuti represent over five hundred thousand members of the Sangha who are residing in the whole country.

In reality, the First, the Second, the Third and the Fourth Successful Congregations of the Sangha of All Orders for the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana laid down the guidelines and the principles for convening successfully the Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders for the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana. Therefore, we all the Buddhists throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar deeply pay respect to the members of the Sangha of All Orders who are attending this Fifth Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Ba Sein (Religious Affairs)

LOCAL NEWS

Myanmar migrant workers affairs discussed in Thailand



BANGKOK, 7 May—Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security and Director-General U Myo Aung of the ministry met employees of Myanmar Association in

ment agencies and activists of labour affairs at the hall of Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok of Thailand on Tuesday, according to the Myanmar Association in

Thailand.

The deputy minister said that he was there to give a helping hand to the Myanmar workers for solving their labour problems effectively.

The activists of labour affairs explained labour affairs between Myanmar workers and Thai authorities and issues of MoU labour problems.

The deputy minister will hold a meeting in Maha Chiang of Thailand on Myanmar migrant workers at a workshop that produce seafood, passports issues, and labour affairs.

Soe Win-MLA

Preventive measures taken against landslides, erosion in Ayeyawady River



MANDALAY, 7 May—Mandalay Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Hsan on Tuesday made a trip and inspected prevention of landslides along Ayeyawady River.

The Region government spent K 1400 million on prevention of

landslides in Hsethe Village, Htigon-Thayawady village, Hinthama village, Thaphandaunt village, Nyaungbintha village, Rekkhadipa village, Hsim-eekhon village, Sakyu village, Lintgyi North village from December 2013 to April 2014.

Moreover, efforts were made for development of water way in the river.

The region government has allotted fund on construction of the retaining walls to prevent bank erosion.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Daily newspapers distributed to 50 villages of Singaing Tsp

SINGAING, 7 May—Mandalay Sub-printing House arranges delivery of 250 copies of Myanma Alinn and Kyemon dailies to 50 villages in Singaing Township with the sponsorship of wellwishers.

As of 1 May, U Tun Naing-Daw Moe Moe Khaing (Shwe Myay Aung) donated 125 copies each of Myanma Alinn daily and Kyemon daily costing K5.5 million to the villages.

“Wellwishers donate five copies each of news-

papers to 50 villages, especially to village libraries, monasteries, schools and social organizations. It is aimed at broadening horizon of the local people,” said Daw Tin Tin Htwe, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department.

“We thank the wellwishers and officials for their efforts to arrange donation of newspapers to the villages,” said U Than, Hse Village administrator.

Tun Tun Naing (Kyaukse)



Buddhist culture course given to students in Magway

MAGWAY, 7 May—The Buddhist culture course 23/2014 kicked off at the town hall in Magway on Monday. Trainers will give lectures to the students from 5 to 9 May. Chief Minister of Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe urged the trainers to turn out the students to understand culture and Buddhism and to become polite ones.

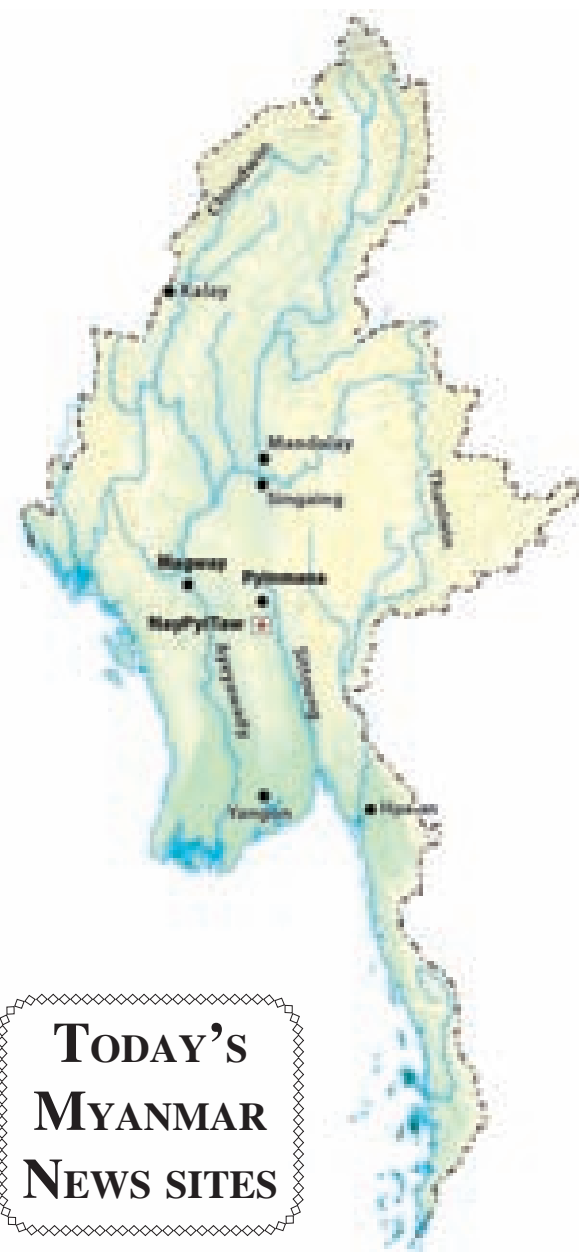
Over 1000 students of basic education schools are attending the course.—Khin Than Oo (Phankhamyay)

Citizen leadership and capacity development training conducted

PYINMANA, 7 May—A talk on citizen leadership and capacity development training, jointly organized by Youth Social Force and Pioneer Citizen Group, was held at Aungdagun monastery near the traffic light of Bawgathiri highway bus terminal in Pyinmana of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Sunday.

Chief of Police Staff Police Brig-Gen Win Khaing of Myanmar Police Force (writer Htet Khaung) gave talks on human trafficking and victims, tactics of human traffickers and others.

“The talk was better for the youth in widening their scope of knowledge to become outstanding youths in leadership in the future,” said journalist Ye Ye (Pyinmana). The training course last from 1 to 4 May at the monastery.—Min Min Latt (Mann Tekkatho)



TODAY'S
MYANMAR
NEWS SITES

Sagaing Region loses over K190 million in fire in decade

KALAY, 7 May—A total of 106 times of fire broke out on average in Sagaing Region every year from 2004 to 2013, losing K 196.82 million for property, said Police Lt-Col Thein Win, Commander of Kalay District Police Force, at the ceremony to mark the Myanmar Fire Brigade Day.

On Monday, he stressed the need to take preventive measures of fire in the district. Sagaing Region

formed 37 township fire stations, 37 region fire stations and five district fire stations.

In 2013-14 fiscal year, the region facilitated 25 fire trucks and one 5000-gallon water tanker for its fire stations. Kalay Township has built a five-unit fire station and Kyunhla Township, a four-apartment staff quarter.—Linlet Kyel Sin

Gambling declines in Kayin State

HPA-AN, 7 May—In the time of the present government, gambling is declining in Kayin State thanks to concerted efforts of local authorities and departmental personnel.

Gambling pulled down the life of the local people in the past and their livelihoods went down to the bottom line, said Daw Lone Pu of Ward in Hpa-an.

Now, local people mostly discard malpractice of their life, said a local people.

Tun Tun Htwe (Hpa-an)

Five nuke states sign Central Asia nuclear weapons free zone at UN

NEW YORK, 7 May — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — five major nuclear weapon states — on Tuesday signed the protocol to the treaty to establish a nuclear free zone in Central Asia at a ceremony held at the United Nations.

“Today, we are witnessing a historical event,” said Kazakhstan’s UN Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov, who spoke on behalf of the five central Asian countries. “Here, in this room, we have signed the protocol that is an integral part of the treaty providing to the Central Asian states security assurances against the use, or the threat of use, of nuclear weapons.”

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have long lobbied for the establishment of such of zone in their region.

In 1997, a conference to establish such a zone was held in Tashkent and a signing ceremony of the treaty and its adoption took place in Semipalatinsk, where a major Soviet nuclear site was closed in 1991.

When the treaty entered into force in March 2009, it became the world’s first nuclear free zone located entirely in the Northern Hemisphere.

Abdrakhmanov also pointed out that the signing of the protocol has become “one of the most significant events of the global non-proliferation regime in the last decade.”

Calling the move by the five permanent Security Council members a “significant” step, Thomas Countryman, the US Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Non-proliferation, explained the significance of the five



Attendees applaud for the signing of the protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia at the UN headquarters in New York, the United States, on 6 May, 2014.—XINHUA

jointly signing it.

“That we are signing together signifies our collective support of the NPT (Nuclear Nonproliferation

Treaty) and our readiness to offer assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against states in the legally binding

framework of protocols to nuclear free zone treaties,” he said.

The signing occurred on the sidelines of the two-

week preparatory meeting for the 2015 Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty review conference.

Kyodo News



The opening ceremony of the 5th China-US Civil Society Peace Forum is held in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 6 May, 2014. The forum will last till 7 May. XINHUA

Jordan kicks off arms exhibition eyeing modern armies

AMMAN, 7 May — The 10th Special Operations Forces Exhibition (SOFEX) 2014 started in Jordan on Tuesday with the participation of a wide array of exhibitors in the defense industry.

The exhibition brings together 371 world-renowned exhibitors in the fields of defence, homeland security and counter-terrorism from about 41 countries.

On display were defense solutions, armored vehicles, aircraft, weapons and equipment from across the world.

The event is much more than a conference and an exhibition, said SOFEX

Managing Director Amer Tabbaa at the opening ceremony.

“It is a melting pot where the world’s foremost experts and developers from the global defence industry and governmental decision-makers from the international community share perspective, gain insight on the latest trends and innovation,” Tabbaa said.

The exhibition, first held in 1996, is also a platform for discussing the emerging technologies that will serve as the foundation for the modern armies of tomorrow, added Tabbaa.

Xinhua

Warlord Kony hiding in disputed South Sudan enclave

UNITED NATIONS, 7 May — Warlord Joseph Kony and some of his Lord’s Resistance Army commanders are hiding in Sudanese-controlled areas of a disputed enclave in South Sudan bordering Central African Republic and Sudan, the United Nations said on Tuesday.

In a report to the UN Security Council on the activities of Kony’s LRA, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said Sudan’s government had indicated there were no elements of the group in the disputed Kafia Kingi enclave. “However, credible sources suggest LRA leader Joseph Kony and senior LRA commanders have recently returned

to seek safe haven in Sudanese-controlled areas of the enclave,” Ban said.

Kony, who has been indicted for war crimes by the International

Criminal Court in The Hague, waged a brutal guerrilla war against Ugandan government in the north of the country for nearly two decades, before

fleeing with his fighters into the jungles of central Africa around 2005.

A 5,000-strong African Union Regional Task Force — supported by 100 US Special Forces — has been hunting Kony and commanders, who are accused of abducting thousands of children for use as fighters in a rebel army that earned a reputation for chopping off limbs as a form of discipline.

“The LRA is currently believed to have split into several highly mobile groups operating with a significant degree of autonomy in the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo,” Ban reported.—Reuters



Leader of the Lord’s Resistance Army Joseph Kony speaks to journalists after a meeting with UN humanitarian chief Jan Egeland at Ri-Kwamba in southern Sudan on 12 Nov, 2006.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Conference hopes to put Miami on America's tech startup map



Manny Medina, founder of eMerge Americas, addresses attendees during the opening session of the first eMerge Americas conference at the Miami Beach Convention Centre in Miami, Florida on 5 May, 2014.—REUTERS

MIAMI, 7 May—Silicon Valley need have no fear, but look out for the latest upstart to enter the tech arena: Miami.

A south Florida millionaire investor is seeking to turn the city into a science and technology startup hub with a focus on the Americas, leveraging the region's better-known assets—beach condos, low taxes and capital flight from all over Latin America — to attract a new generation of Hispanic entrepreneurs.

More than 5,000 people have been lured to a pitch this week by Manny Medina, attending a five-day tech conference he founded titled eMerge Americas. More than 150 speakers discuss-

ing everything from serial entrepreneurship in Latin America to groundbreaking medical technologies, organizers said.

Medina, who left Cuba in 1965, sold Miami-based info-tech company Terremark to Verizon in 2011 for \$1.4 billion. He hopes the conference will boost the profile of the city's nascent startup scene and position it as a place for Latin American entrepreneurs looking to get a foothold in the United States. "If you're a Latin American company and you go to Boston or New York, there's a prejudice," said Medina, who now heads his own private equity firm, Medina Capital. "In Miami you feel more at home, you have your same

culture."

A long way from rivaling California's high-tech corridor, the "Silicon Beach" concept, as some have dubbed it, faces big challenges. "We continue to have the problem that our best and brightest leave and don't come back," said Jerry Haar, associate dean at Florida International University's business school, noting the brain drain caused by a lack of local opportunities for technology graduates.

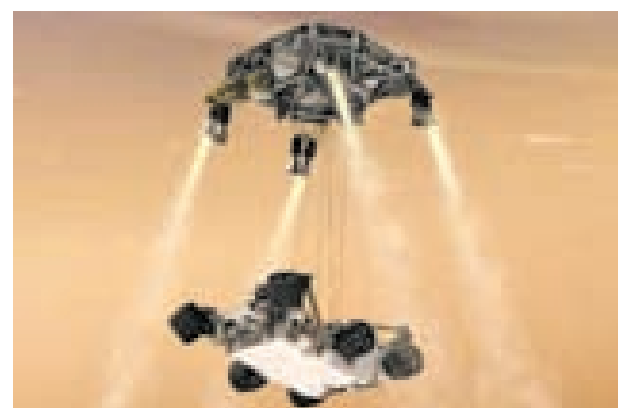
Despite the enthusiasm, experts say Miami still lacks essential tech ingredients, such as top-tier universities, Fortune 500 technology companies, and a robust group of investors, all of which helped propel California into the

spotlight for startups over the past two decades.

"We're moving in the right direction, but we shouldn't flatter ourselves into thinking we're there," Haar said. Some signs suggest things are already changing. Microsoft last week announced it would open its first US innovation center in Miami in partnership with a startup incubator, Venture Hive. The company has more than 100 similar centers around the world that offer everything from mentorship to new companies to public classes for coding and computer science. "The work that's relevant in Miami can have an impact around the world, and Miami is really a launching point for Latin America," said Sanket Akerkar, vice president for developer experience and evangelism for Microsoft.

The city is hoping to tie its future to an ongoing technology boom in Latin America, where throngs of new Internet users are coming online via smartphones.

"There are 600 million people (in Latin America) all coming online in the next three to five years," said Arturo Galvan, chief executive officer of Mexico City-based mobile commerce company Naranya. Microsoft's center opens alongside other prominent startup programs including Endeavor, a global non-profit that each year selects a handful of companies to mentor and fund.—Reuters



NASA's Curiosity drills sandstone rock on Mars

WASHINGTON, 7 May—US space agency NASA said on Tuesday its Curiosity rover has completed its third drilling into a Martian rock and is now preparing to use its internal instruments to study the collected powdered sample.

Images sent back by Curiosity early on Tuesday showed a fresh hole next to a shallow test hole the rover made a week ago in the target sandstone rock, dubbed "Windjana."

The new hole is 0.63 inch (about 1.6 centimeters) in diameter and about 2.6 inches (about 6.6 cm) deep, NASA said.

"The drill tailings from this rock are darker-toned and less red than we saw at the two previous drill sites," Jim Bell of Arizona State University, deputy principal investigator for Curiosity's Mast Camera (Mastcam), said in a NASA statement. "This suggests

that the detailed chemical and mineral analysis that will be coming from Curiosity's other instruments could reveal different materials than we've seen before."

The mission's two previous rock-drilling sites, at mudstone targets in the Yellowknife Bay area, yielded evidence last year of an ancient lakebed environment favourable for microbial life billions of years ago.

The rover is currently at a location called "The Kimberley," about four kilometers southwest of Yellowknife Bay, and along the route toward the mission's long-term destination on lower slopes of Mount Sharp.

NASA said sample material collected from Windjana will be sieved, then delivered in coming days to onboard laboratories for determining the mineral and chemical composition.

Xinhua

Tesco to launch own-brand smartphone this year



A store sign is seen outside a Tesco supermarket in London on 15 April, 2014.—REUTERS

LONDON, (Tesco), 7 May — Britain's biggest retailer, will launch its first own-brand smartphone by the end of the year, building on the success of the Hudl tablet it launched last year, it said on Tuesday. A spokesman for the firm said the Tesco smartphone would run on Google's Android software and would

be pre-installed with Tesco services. Tesco has sold over 500,000 Hudl tablets and plans to launch a second version later this year.

Last month the firm's chief executive Philip Clarke vowed to win back shoppers with millions of pounds of price cuts after posting a second year of falling profits.

Reuters

LinkedIn to let companies target members by language, location

MOUNTAIN VIEW, (California), 7 May—LinkedIn Corp on Tuesday rolled out a new feature that allows companies to target audiences by language preference and geographical location as it seeks to grow and retain members across the world.

"Before we would show you everything the company was saying even if it wasn't right for your geography or service level," said David Thacker, LinkedIn vice president of products.

"The entire experience is now customized by geography and language preference." Additionally, the professional social media platform will help members with personal page feeds adding filters for geography and job function.

Helping members weed out information that may not be relevant is important to LinkedIn since it needs its members to keep visiting the site, even when they are not actively looking for jobs.

Almost 60 percent of

LinkedIn's 300 million members are located outside of the United States and the site is available in 22 different languages including Polish, Korean, Thai and Russian. About 3.5 million companies representing 140

industries use LinkedIn as a communication platform. Companies can maintain a page for free though LinkedIn sells specialized services, including sponsored updates.

Thacker said most companies use the pages to highlight new products, promote new initiatives, and as a career page meant for perspective employees.

The platform is expanding into an array of employment services including marketing solutions and mobile advertising and has been trying to replicate its success in the US internationally.

Earlier this year, it launched a Chinese language test version of its main website.—Reuters



The logo for LinkedIn Corporation, a social networking website for people in professional occupations, is pictured in Mountain View, California on 6 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

Obama pledges to help Nigeria find kidnapped schoolgirls



Protesters hold signs during a march in support of the girls kidnapped by members of Boko Haram in front of the Nigerian Embassy in Washington on 6 May, 2014.—REUTERS

of two teenage daughters, in an interview with NBC's "Today" programme.

He said the long-term goal is to deal with groups like Boko Haram, which claimed responsibility on Monday for the abduction of 234 teenage schoolgirls in Nigeria's northeastern state of Borno and threatened to sell them as brides. At least eight more girls were kidnapped in the region, press reports said on Tuesday.

"Boko Haram, this terrorist organization that's been operating in Nigeria, has been killing people and innocent civilians for a very long time," Obama said. "I can only imagine what the parents are going through."

Washington slapped sanctions on the group in November, including denied access to US financial institutions and a freezing on its assets under US jurisdiction.

"We're going to do everything we can to provide assistance to them," Obama said, adding the

Nigerian government had accepted an American offer of assistance from a team of US military and law enforcement officials.

US Secretary of State John Kerry made the offer in his phone talks with President Goodluck Jonathan earlier in the day, White House spokesman Jay Carney said at a daily press briefing.

The proposed team "would include US military personnel, law enforcement officials with expertise in investigations and hostage negotiations, as well as officials with expertise in other areas that may be helpful to the Nigerian government in its response," Carney noted.

Jonathan had said his government had no knowledge of where the girls were being held.

But Carney ruled out using American forces in Africa in the search and rescue effort, saying "We're not considering at this point military resources."—Xinhua

More teenage girls kidnapped in Nigeria

ABUJA, 7 May — More girls have been kidnapped in northeast Nigeria's Borno State, a security source and residents said on Tuesday, some 24 hours after Boko Haram claimed responsibility for the mid-April abduction of more than 234 teenage schoolgirls in the same region.

At least eight girls were kidnapped after gunmen suspected to be Boko Haram fighters stormed Warabe Village in southern Gwoza local government area of the Borno province on Sunday night, said the security source. Residents said the gunmen also carted away foodstuff and livestock belonging to the villagers before fleeing into a nearby bush.

The attackers, numbering 20 or more, were armed with sophisticated rifles, according to residents of the Warabe Village, a serene community located about 160 km away from Maiduguri, capital of Borno State. The residents blamed Boko Haram for the attack, although there was no immediate claim by the group for the attack and abduction.—Xinhua

WASHINGTON, 7 May — US President Barack Obama said on Tuesday that his administration will do its utmost to help Nigeria find more than 200 schoolgirls kidnapped by an extremist group in mid-April.

"In the short term our goal is obviously to help the international community, and the Nigerian gov-

ernment, as a team to do everything we can to recover these young ladies," said the president, a father

British FM slams abduction of school girls in Nigeria

LONDON, 7 May — British Foreign Secretary William Hague on Tuesday condemned the kidnapping of school girls in Nigeria, urging the Nigerian authorities to take actions to save the abducted girls.

About 200 girls from Chibok community in northeastern Nigeria's Borno State were abducted in April. On Monday, militant group Boko Haram

claimed responsibility for the abduction and threatened to sell the girls.

"Using girls as the spoils of war and the spoils of terrorism is disgusting and immoral," Hague said in a statement, adding that everybody across the world "should not give any support for such a vile organization."

He said Britain is offering assistance but the primary responsibility will rest with the Ni-

gerians, calling on the Nigerians to "do what is necessary to reunite these girls with their families."

The foreign secretary said he will host a global summit in London in June to help countries including Nigeria "improve the way they tackle the consequences of sexual violence in conflict and make sure that those responsible are called to justice."

"It is another exam-

ple of why we have set up the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative," he noted, adding that Britain recently persuaded Nigeria to join that campaign.

Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, is grappling with security challenges arising from the insurgency of Boko Haram, a sect which seeks to enshrine the Islamic Sharia law in the constitution.

Xinhua

Swedish woman informed by mistake of her own death

STOCKHOLM, 7 May — Due to doctor's mistake, a Swedish woman was informed by her insurance company telling her that she had been dead for over a week, local media reported on Tuesday.

"I was shocked. It was not nice at all. I understood nothing about it," the woman named Suanne Hemphala from eastern Sweden was quoted as saying by a Swedish regional newspaper called Arbetarbladet.

The insurance company said that they had received information of the woman's death from the Swedish Tax Agency and the woman's information had been removed from several national registries.

The mistake was made by a local doctor who had accidentally mixed up patients' details when another Swede had died in an elderly home.

The story is nothing new for Swedish doctors, with two to three Swedes reportedly "dying" each year by mistake, said the Swedish on-line daily the Local.—Xinhua



Romanian Prime Minister Victor Ponta (R) awards 11-year-old boy, Madalin Geabelea (C), at Victoria Palace, the Government HQ, in Bucharest, capital of Romania, on 6 May, 2014. A 2-year-old child fell in a very narrow 6 M depth well and was rescued by brave Madalin Geabelea who climbed into the well on 2 May, in the Tufeni, Olt County. XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**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 6th 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
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NO (51)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC VIGOROUS VOY NO (51) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.5.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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For: Alisor Inc.
Myanmar Global
Law Firm
Ph: 0973220023
Dated: 8 May 2014

Chinese Premier

Li Keqiang (R front) and

his wife Cheng Hong

(2nd R) arrive at the

airport for a visit in

Abuja, Nigeria, on 6

May, 2014.

XINHUA



**Fire destroys 230 hectares
of woodland in
western Cuba**

HAVANA, 7 May— A forest fire raging in Cuba's western Pinar del Rio province since Saturday has destroyed more than 230 hectares of woodland, state media reported on Tuesday. The fire, probably sparked by a poacher early Saturday in the area of San Juany Martinez, 170 km west of Havana, has been brought under control.

Cuba's corps of forest rangers said several specialized groups of firefighters remain in the area to fully extinguish the fire and prevent its spread.

A drought, coupled

with high temperatures and strong winds, helped spread the fire through the area's pine forests, rangers said, adding the blaze posed no threat to residential communities nor tobacco plantations.

San Juany Martinez is located in the Vueltabajo region, famed for its top-tier tobacco crops, which are used to manufacture Cuba's quality Habano cigars. Pinar del Rio is Cuba's greenest province, with more than 44 percent of its territory being woodland.

Xinhua

Costa Rica's President, Laura Chinchilla (R) and Costa Rica's elected President, Luis Guillermo Solis participate in a press conference at Presidential House in San Jose, capital of Costa Rica, on 6 May, 2014. Costa Rica's elected President, Luis Guillermo Solis, will receive the presidential sash from the hands of Laura Chinchilla on 8 May for the term 2014-2018. —XINHUA

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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 COMET SHIPPING CO LTD.
Phone No: 2301186**

**US warns of plot to attack
churches in
Ugandan capital**

KAMPALA, 7 May— The United States has received intelligence of a "specific terrorist threat" against churches and other places of worship in the Ugandan capital, its embassy there said.

A security message on the embassy's website did not say who was planning the attack, but Somali Islamist militants have previously threatened, and struck, Uganda and other east African countries that have sent troops into Somalia.

"The threat information indicates a group of attackers may be preparing to strike places of worship in Kampala, particularly churches, including some that may be frequented by expatriates, in May or June," said the notice dated 6 May.

Regional economies have been on a heightened state of alert since militants killed at least 67 people, including children, when they rampaged through an upscale Kenyan shopping

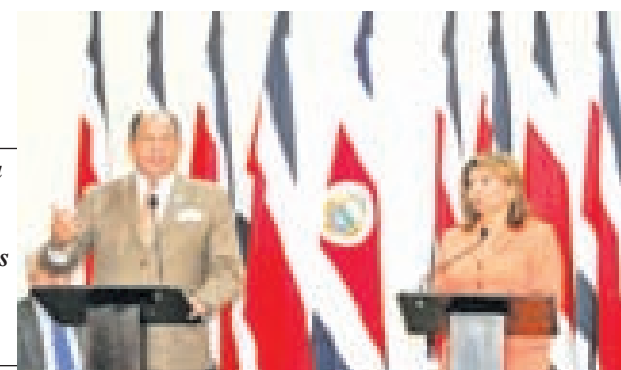
mall in September. Somalia's al Qaeda-linked al Shabaab group claimed responsibility.

Kenya has also suffered a string of gun and bomb attacks, most recently over the weekend in Nairobi and the port city of Mombasa. The government blamed them on al Shabaab and its sympathisers.

In 2010, al Shabaab bombers killed 77 people watching the World Cup soccer final in a bar and restaurant in Kampala. In March, the Ugandan authorities warned of a militant plot to strike petrol tankers and fuel depots.

Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Burundi as well as Djibouti and Sierra Leone have all sent troops into Somalia to crush al Shabaab. The group, bent on imposing its version of Islamic law across Somalia, has turned increasingly to al Qaeda-inspired suicide attacks as a military offensive weakens it as a conventional fighting force.

Reuters



Why Priyanka Chopra is both flattered and disturbed by planned biopic

MUMBAI, 7 May — Actress Priyanka Chopra says that she does not mind if there is a biopic on her life, but wants it to be made at the right time.

Aseem Merchant, rumoured to be Priyanka's friend during her modelling days, is reportedly planning to make a movie on her. Aseem, who was last seen in a small role in *Wanted* featuring Salman Khan, is turning producer with this biopic on Priyanka.

"It is mind-blowing to hear that I have become so big that people are making a film on my life. Jokes apart, I don't think I have become so big that people would make a film on me," Priyanka, 31, said last night at an event here.

"I really haven't heard about if someone is doing it. There are a lot of things that I still need

to achieve. Maybe when I turn 40, people can decide to make a film because I am sure I will achieve whatever I want to by that age," she added.

There is buzz that the film will focus on Priyanka's days as a model and also talk

about her legal bat-

tle with her ex-manager Prakash Jau. (Also read: "Priyanka Chopra Has Her Heart Broken In I Can't Make You Love Me Video")

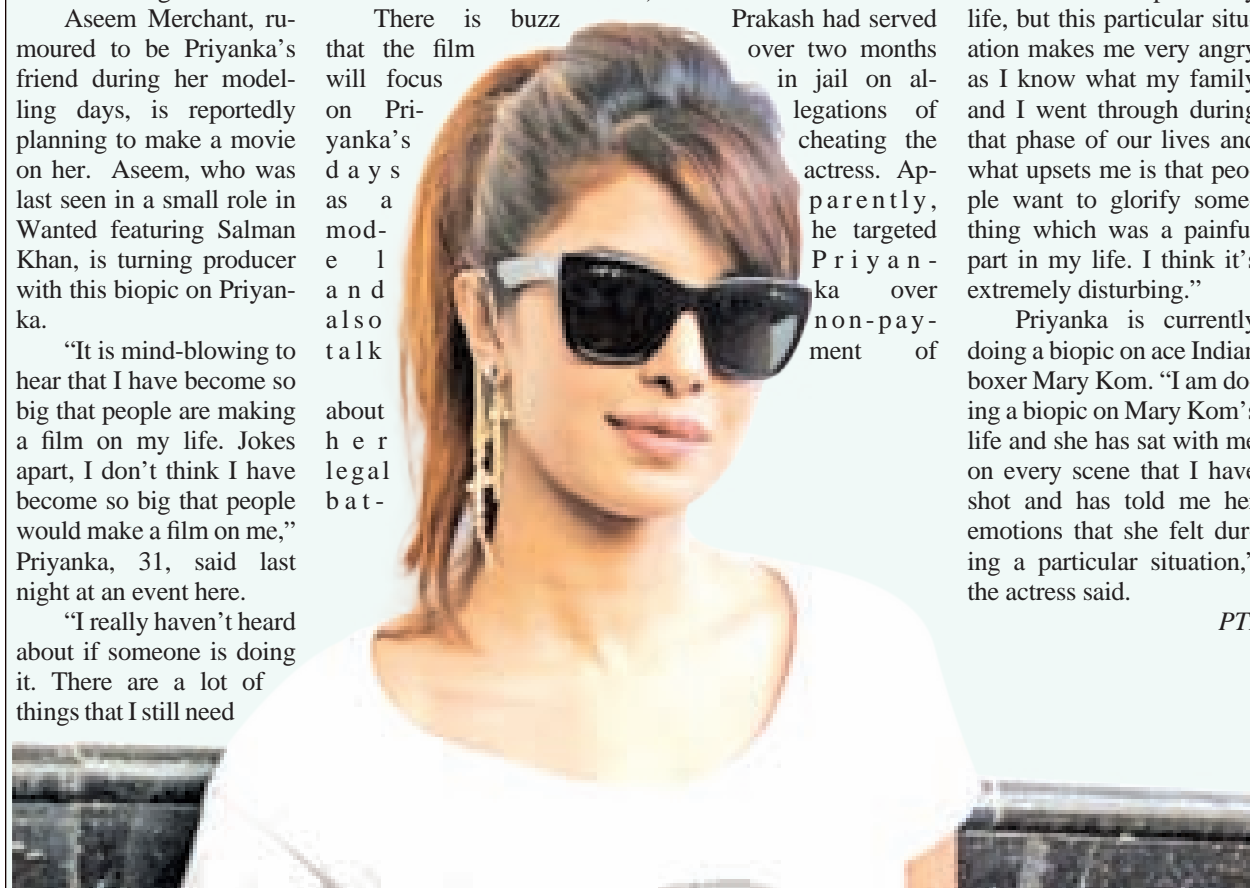
Prakash had served over two months in jail on allegations of cheating the actress. Apparently, he targeted Priyanka over non-payment of

dues and insisted that the actress owed him money.

On this, Priyanka says, "It would be extremely flattering for me if someone would make a biopic on my life, but this particular situation makes me very angry as I know what my family and I went through during that phase of our lives and what upsets me is that people want to glorify something which was a painful part in my life. I think it's extremely disturbing."

Priyanka is currently doing a biopic on ace Indian boxer Mary Kom. "I am doing a biopic on Mary Kom's life and she has sat with me on every scene that I have shot and has told me her emotions that she felt during a particular situation," the actress said.

PTI



Actress Priyanka Chopra

China Philharmonic Orchestra to debut at BBC Proms

BEIJING, 7 May — The China Philharmonic Orchestra (CPO) will debut at the annual Henry Wood Promenade Concerts (BBC Proms) in July in London, the CPO told *Xinhua* on Tuesday.

The CPO will stage a concert on the evening of 19 July at the Royal Albert Hall in London, marking the second concert of the series.

The programme will include the "Pomp and Circumstance Marches" by British composer Edward Elgar, Liszt's First Piano Concerto and the "Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture" by Tchaikovsky, among other works. The concert will also feature a trumpet concerto written by Chinese composer Chen Qigang for the event. The concerto will be performed by Alison Balsom, one of the world's finest trumpet players, and the CPO.

Xinhua

ABC extends Jimmy Kimmel late-night show for two more years

NEW YORK, 7 May — Jimmy Kimmel's late night show "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" has been extended for two more years, ABC said on Tuesday, sealing the late-night line-ups across the main US networks for the next few years.

Kimmel, 46, has presided over the show for 11 seasons. He moved to an earlier, high-visibility 11:35 pm time slot in January 2013, where ratings increased despite head-to-head competition from

veteran David Letterman on CBS and NBC's "Tonight Show," which Jay Leno left earlier this year.

Walt Disney Co-owned ABC confirmed Kimmel's extension and will formally announce it later on Tuesday, an important endorsement of Kimmel's late-night formula as competing networks swap out veterans for younger hosts.

Jimmy Fallon took over the "Tonight Show" from long-serving host Leno in February and has

been well received, while Letterman is due to step down from CBS' "Late Show" in 2015. He will be replaced by Comedy Central star Stephen Colbert.

Reuters

Television host Jimmy Kimmel poses at the second annual "Rebels With a Cause" gala at Paramount Pictures Studios in Los Angeles, California on 20 March, 2014.



Gurlitt, reclusive German who hoarded Nazi-looted art, has died

BERLIN, 7 May — The elderly German recluse whose Munich apartment contained a secret art hoard, including masterpieces looted by the Nazis from their Jewish owners in World War Two, has died after a heart operation, his spokesman said on Tuesday.

Authorities stumbled upon Cornelius Gurlitt's trove of paintings and drawings by the likes of Marc Chagall, Toulouse-Lautrec and Picasso in 2012 after a routine check on a train from Switzerland turned up wads of cash, triggering a tax inquiry.

His spokesman, Stephan Holzinger, said the 81-year-old Gurlitt had decided to return home, looked after by his doctor and a nurse after a complicated heart operation, and spend his final days in the Munich flat that once housed part of his beloved collection. Gurlitt's collection of 1,280 artworks was assembled by his father Hildebrand, an art dealer put in charge of selling what Adolf Hitler called "degenerate" art, and ordered to be removed from state museums to help fund the Nazis' war effort.

Now worth an estimated 1 billion euros (\$1.4 billion), the hoard remained undetected for decades in the Munich flat and a house over the Austrian border in Salzburg. Gurlitt sold pieces occasionally to finance his quiet lifestyle and his healthcare. "I haven't loved anything more than my pictures in my life. But hopefully it will all be cleared up soon and I will finally get my pictures back," he told German magazine *Der Spiegel* in a rare interview last November, when he was already very frail. — *Reuters*



General view of an apartment building in Munich on 10 Nov, 2013, where it is believed that German customs discovered missing artworks.

REUTERS

Christie's NY has its best Impressionist, modern sale since 2010



Christie's employees stand in front of an artwork titled 'Portrait de femme (Dora Maar)' by artist Pablo Picasso during a Christie's auction in New York on 6 May, 2014. — *REUTERS*

NEW YORK, 7 May — The spring art auctions got off to a solid start on Tuesday as Christie's sold \$286 million worth of Impressionist and modern art, its best New York result in the category in four years.

Led by Monet's "Nymphéas," one of the artist's seminal water lilies paintings which sold for \$27 million (16 million pounds), the auction saw 89 percent of the 53 works on offer finding buyers and beat its low estimate total

of about \$245 million.

While works at all levels sold well, bidding was measured and the salesroom atmosphere somewhat muted, with most of the top lots selling for below the pre-sale estimates.

Like the Monet, Picasso's "Portrait de femme (Dora Maar)," the evening's second-highest priced work, fell short of expectations, fetching \$22,565,000 including commission.

Christie's had estimated both works to sell for \$25 million to \$35 million. Estimates do not include commission of just over 12 percent.

A noteworthy exception was Modigliani's "Jeune homme roux assis," which fetched \$17,637,000 after determined bidding drove the portrait to half again the \$8 million to \$12 million estimate.

Christie's officials said the price illustrated that attractive, or conservative, estimates can often be expected to drive a bidding war.

Reuters

GENERAL

16 hurt in powerful blast in Philippine Army headquarters

MANILA, 7 May —An estimated 16 people including soldiers and firemen were wounded after a powerful explosion rocked the Philippine Army's Explosives and Ordnance Division (EOD) building on Wednesday morning, a military official said.

Colonel Noel Detoyato, spokesman of the Philippine Army, was quoted by local media as saying that some of the injured have already been rushed to various hospitals while those with minor injuries were treated on site.

Detoyato said the

Philippine Red Cross have set up a tent in the Philippine Army's headquarters in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City in the Philippine capital region of Metro Manila to help treat the wounded.

Prior to the powerful explosion, a fire broke out in the EOD building

at around 10:40 am local time on Wednesday.

Authorities are still investigating the cause of the blaze.

Military officials said the blast caused the building of the armory to collapse.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(8-5-2014, Thursday)

- 6:00 am**
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:40 am**
2. Documentary
- 7:00 am**
3. News
- 7:20 am**
4. People Talks
- 8:00 am**
5. News/ International News
- 8:30 am**
6. India Drama Series
- 9:00 am**
7. News/ International News
- 9:30 am**
8. Shwe Yin Chone Than
- 10:00 am**
9. News
- 10:20 am**
10. TV Drama Series
- 11:00 am**
11. Documentary
- 12:00 pm**
12. News/International News/Weather Report
- 12:35 pm**
13. Teleplay
- 1:25 pm**
14. Documentary
- 2:30 pm**
15. Musical programme
- 3:00 pm**
16. News
- 3:50 pm**
17. Teleplay (Traffic)
- 5:00 pm**
18. News
- 5:30 pm**
19. India Drama Series
- 7:00 pm**
20. News
- 7:20 pm**
21. TV Drama Series
- 8:35 pm**
22. Documentary
- 9:00 pm**
23. News
- 24. CLEVER**

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(8-5-14 07:00am~
9-5-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Large Parasol: A Souvenir of Patheingyi
- * World News
- * Tea
- * Local News
- * Sagaing Hills & Nostalgic Panorama
- * World News
- * Nang
- * Local News
- * Sagaing: Gold Leaf
- * World News
- * Next Weekend
- * Local News
- * Me N My Travel (Wonderful Pagodas On The Mount Akauk)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review "Family Feud"
- * Local News
- * Product Of Myanmar - Myanmar Circular Stone Slab
- * World News
- * The Beauty of Stylish Myanmar Dress
- * Local News
- * Beauties Of Makyee Island - Island of Tamarind Tree
- * World News
- * My Life & My Art
- * Local News
- * Jeyyanandi (A Day in the Life of a Nun)
- * World News
- * Inspiration
- * Local News
- * Ruili City With Mon Yee
- * World News
- * Crocodile Keeper



Argentine President, Cristina Fernandez (C) poses for a selfie while taking part in the inauguration of the new office of the social network Facebook, at the Republica Building, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 6 May, 2014.

XINHUA

HK democracy campaigners pick three proposals for public voting

HONG KONG, 7 May—Campaigners of a civil movement threatening to occupy Hong Kong's business district to force the government to embrace genuine democracy drew criticism on Wednesday for weeding out all but three political reform proposals for the public to vote on next month.

The three proposals, out of a total of 15, were chosen late Tuesday by about 2,500 people who have declared their intention to join the "Occupy

Central" protest should the government fail to provide a democratic reform package for the 2017 leadership election.

Law professor and campaigner Benny Tai said in a radio program that all eligible voters can vote June 22 on which of the three proposals will be the ultimate pick.

"People who do not support our chosen proposals can abstain from voting," he added.

But people who called in the phone-in radio

programme criticized Tai's group for allowing only their followers to vote, calling it an undemocratic form of pre-screening.

Barrister and legislator Ronny Tong, whose own proposal were among the 12 discarded ones, said he had expected the outcome but was disappointed with the way of voting. "It is most shocking that when we are fighting for an election without pre-screening, the Occupy Central organizers are endorsing the exact pre-screening mode (to

pick from the proposals)," Tong said, adding that the three proposals that endorse civil nomination have low chances of achieving consensus.

All three top pick proposals include the element of civil nomination, which Beijing has claimed unconstitutional as it is considered weakening the power of the Nominating Committee or rendering it a rubberstamp body in naming eligible candidates for the one-person-one-vote election.

Kyodo News

Guangzhou Evergrande thrash Osaka 5-1

BEIJING, 7 May — China's Guangzhou Evergrande was in Japan tonight, to take on Cerezo Osaka for leg one of their round of 16 tie. And defending champions Evergrande, would put on a goal scoring fiesta and have all but booked their place for the round of 8, after a brilliant display on the road.

Chinese supporters would have a night to celebrate at Osaka. With a team boasting the strong Brazilian frontline duo of Elkeson and Muriqui, Marcello Lippi was looking for a strong showing from his boys. Osaka... looking to their Uruguayan star Diego Forlan who had four goals in his last four games to lead the way.



Guangzhou Evergrande thrash Osaka 5-1— Xinhua

Visiting Evergrande opened the scoring after 22 minutes. Alessandro Diamanti sends Muriqui clear for a low shot. It was 1-0. Muriqui, rounding into form after a slow start

to the season. But Osaka pulled level on the half hour mark. Diego Forlan finds Aria Hasegawa for a goal in the area. It was 1-1.

Evergrande would be awarded penalty only four

minutes later when Elkeson was brought down in the box. The Brazilian forward then steps up from the spot and buries, to restore the one-goal lead for Guangzhou.

The holders showed no signs of holding back and extended the lead in the 37th. Elkeson heads in the free-kick from Diamanti for his second to make it 3-1.

Osaka couldn't match Guangzhou and were beaten again in the 78th, Gao Lin easily taps in from close range to make it 4-1. The Chinese veteran, sharing the moment with the fans traveling to Japan.

Muriqui then sealed a dominant 5-1 victory six minutes from time. Evergrande will now take their huge advantage back home for the second leg at the Tianhe stadium next week.

Pohang take leg one 2-1 on the road

Also tonight, the Korean Round of 16 derby

between Jeonbuk Motors and the Pohang Steelers began. Jeonbuk, at home for leg one.

After a scoreless first half, the match came to life in the 54th minute when Jeonbuk's Lee Jae-sung scores with a power header to give the hosts a 1-0 lead.

But the visiting side equalized only four minutes later. Son Jun-ho blasting from a tight angle to make it 1-1. Son's effort, too much for the keeper to handle.

Pohang would then complete the comeback 16 minutes from time. Go Moo-yul slips one inside the far post to seal the 2-1 victory to the Steelers who return home as big favorites ahead of leg two.

Xinhua



Hanthawady sails into semifinal in Ooredoo Cup

YANGON, 7 May— In the second round of the MFF Ooredoo Cup, Former champion in MFF Cup Hanthawady United stepped up to the semifinal after playing against Mawrawady with a 2-0 win at Padonma Ground in Yangon on Wednesday.

Hanthawady deployed its star players including two foreigners. In the 6th minutes of the first half, a foreigner player of Hanthawady scored an opening goal. Although

strikers of Mawrawady tried hard to equalize the match, they could not penetrate the defensive zone of the Hanthawady. In 73rd minute, Aung Htay Oo of Mawrawady presented an owned goal as a gift to Hanthawady.

In Salin Ground, Myawady beat GFA with 2-1. Thurein Soe Naing and Thet Soe Naing scored one goal each for Myawady by Maung Lwin kicked one goal into the net of Myawady.

Ye Yint Shine

Strikers of Hanthawady and Mawrawady tussling the ball.—PO THAW ZIN

Kagawa down over lost season, debuts in defensive midfield

MANCHESTER, 7 May — Japanese international Shinji Kagawa admitted after Manchester United's final home game of the campaign on Tuesday that the season has been his toughest since moving to Europe four years ago.

Kagawa made his debut in defensive midfield in United's 3-1 win over Hull City, an assignment he

wasn't expecting from interim manager Ryan Giggs.

Kagawa played the entire 90 minutes but again failed to score, leaving him without a single goal in the season ahead of Sunday's finale at Southampton.

If he doesn't score this weekend, it will be the first time in his career in both Japan and Europe for Kagawa to finish a season

without scoring.

"I was surprised myself," Kagawa said. "I was trying to get involved in the attack as much as possible. If we were more efficient, we could have won by an even bigger margin."

Kagawa will likely be named to Alberto Zaccheroni's World Cup 23 on Monday, and sounded determined to put the

disappointing year behind him in Brazil this summer.

"I had nothing to show for," Kagawa said. "It's been a very difficult, trying season for me. But my career goes on. It's on me to get something out of this experience. I've got the World Cup, and it really is up to me to make the most of this situation."

Kyodo News

Wawrinka ousted by young pretender Thiem in Madrid



Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland shakes hands with Dominic Thiem of Austria after he was defeated at the end of their match at the Madrid Open tennis tournament on 6 May, 2014.—REUTERS

MADRID, 7 May — Australian Open champion Stanislas Wawrinka crashed to a shock second-round defeat at the Madrid Open on Tuesday when he was upset 1-6,

6-2, 6-4 by qualifier Dominic Thiem.

Third-seeded Swiss Wawrinka, who followed up his title in Melbourne with victory at last month's Monte Carlo Masters,

started strongly against the 70th-ranked Austrian, who at 20 years and eight months is the youngest player in the top 100.

However, he lost his way in the second set and

was unable to recover in the third as Thiem pulled off his first ever win over a top 10 player to secure passage to the third round and a meeting with 15th seed Mikhail Youzhny of Russia or unseeded Spaniard Feliciano Lopez.

Wawrinka told a news conference he had found trouble adjusting to the conditions in the Spanish capital, where the thinner air at altitude helps the balls fly faster than a clay court at sea level.

"It's never easy to (adjust), especially here, it's flying a little bit," added the 29-year-old, who lost to Nadal in last year's Madrid final. "He was finding his game and I was hesitating with my game and wasn't playing my best game."

"He's a good player. We all know that. We all see that, especially since the beginning of the year."

Reuters

PSG, Man City face squad caps, fines over FFP

LONDON, 7 May — Paris St Germain and Manchester City face fines of 60 million euros (49.2 million pounds) and limits on their Champions League squads for next season for breaching UEFA's Financial Fair Play rules, a source close to the process told Reuters on Tuesday. UEFA said last week that nine unnamed clubs faced punishment under new rules designed to force teams to limit their financial losses and make football more economically stable. Confirmation of the sanctions could come

English club is disputing the terms.

"PSG are close to agreement but it's fair to say that City are haggling a lot harder," the source said.

A club that fails to agree a settlement with UEFA will have their case referred to an adjudicatory panel which could decide to impose tougher sanctions. UEFA has the power to ban teams from European competition if their losses exceed its limits but the governing body is expected to shy away from imposing that ultimate punishment.



Pablo Zabaleta of Manchester City reacts after missing a chance to score against Everton in their English Premier League soccer match at Goodison Park in Liverpool, on 3 May, 2014.—REUTERS

by the end of this week.

French sports daily L'Equipe reported on Tuesday that Qatari-owned PSG would be fined and have their Champions League squad capped at 21 players instead of 25 next season under a proposed settlement. The club's wage bill would also be capped and the fine spread over three years. A similar settlement is believed to have been offered to City but the

UEFA and PSG declined to comment on the reports, while Manchester City could not immediately be reached for comment.

If the sanctions are not tough enough, rival clubs are likely to complain that UEFA has failed the first serious test of its new FFP regime while many observers question the logic of fining mega-rich clubs for spending too much money.

Reuters

Nishikori cruises into 3rd round of Madrid Open

MADRID, 7 May — Kei Nishikori needed little more than an hour to roll into the third round of the Madrid Open with a straight sets victory over Guillermo Garcia-Lopez on Tuesday.

Tenth seed Nishikori knocked out the Spanish

wild card 6-3, 6-1 in 1 hour, 4 minutes and will face Milos Raonic for a place in the quarterfinals. Nishikori won the 2012 Japan Open by beating Raonic in the final.

"He took control at the start and I was on the defensive," said Nishikori, who is coming off his fifth title on the ATP tour at the Barcelona Open.

"I made some mistakes early on, but I found my rhythm and got back in the match. I managed to put a lot of pressure on him with my returns."

Nishikori lost serve in the fifth game of the first set, but rattled off the next eight games to dominate. The Barcelona Open was his first win on clay.

Kyodo News



Japan's Kei Nishikori