**Four political objectives**

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

**Four economic objectives**

- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

**Four social objectives**

- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

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**Factories in Bago Division (West) focus on boosting production**

*Nay Pyi Taw, 3 May—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein viewed assembling of automobiles and production procedures at Press Shop with the use of Press Machines at Assembly Line and Painting Booth of Myanmar Double Cab Assembling Factory at No. 2 Automobile Factory (Htonbo) on 1 May.*

In his instruction, the minister said that as necessary assistance has been provided to the factory for gaining production momentum, it is necessary to manufacture the quality products meeting the target.

Yesterday, the minister inspected production process at Battery Factory and looked into operating of Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The minister also inspected production of hydropower turbines at No. 1 Machine and Machine Tools Factory (Nyaungchedauk) and machinery for the industrial training schools. Later, he viewed production process of the factory.—MNA

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**Houses, buildings emerge in better shape than past in Bogale Township within one year**

*Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lanmadaw)*

*A Cyclone Shelter built near Taungthale Village of Bogale Township to accommodate local people.* (See page 7)
Better transport for progress of local trading

The government has been building infrastructures in transport and communications, economic, education and health sectors in states and divisions including border areas for equitable development.

Ensuring secure and smooth transport contributes towards the speedy flow of commodities and development of trading in the respective regions. That is why the government is building a road and bridge network nationwide.

Despite heights and gorges in Shan State, new motor roads and railways are being built overcoming all difficulties. At the same time airports, runways and bridges across the rivers are being upgraded for better transport in the region.

The 600-foot Shweli Bridge (Namhkam) built on Mandalay-Lashio-Namhkm-Bhamo Road was inaugurated in Namhkam Township, Shan State (North) last month. It is a reinforced concrete Bailey Bridge, the 222nd one which is 180 feet and above built by the Ministry of Construction. It is also the 15th such facility in Shan State.

With the completion of the bridge, transport of Mandalay-Lashio-Namhkam-Bhamo Road will become smooth and secure and local products can be transported easily and speedily.

Better transport means development of trade in the respective regions. Inauguration of a lot of roads and bridges in the country will bring about improvement of economic, education, health and social aspects of local people.

CPT Deputy Minister inspects regional development

NAY PYI TAW, 3 May—CPT Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Maj-Gen Thein Tun on 29 April met with local people in Nyaunggon Village of Myaing Township.

The deputy minister and party attended the ceremony to donate cash to the funds for construction of Kyigian-Guangkwe-Gombanli-Ledi-Nyaunggon-Htanyingon-Magigian-Seikchay-Thanatyin Road in Myaing Township.

Next, the deputy minister presented exercise books and stationery to the villages through officials. At Myaing Auto-exchange, the deputy minister inspected installation of trunk call phone lines and extended lines.—MNA

Foreign Affairs Minister attends Ministerial Meeting of Coordinating Bureau of NAM

NAY PYI TAW, 3 May—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back here via Bangkok by air yesterday evening after attending the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Movement held in Havana of Cuba from 27 to 30 April.

At the opening ceremony on 29 April morning, Cuban President Mr. Raul Castro Ruz delivered an address. Over 700 delegates from 119 NAM member countries, 14 observer states, six international organizations and 29 invited countries attended the meeting.

Minister U Nyan Win attended the meeting on 29 and 30 April in his capacity as one of the Vice-Chairmen elected from the Asian group.

On 30 April, Minister U Nyan Win delivered an address that the rapid pace of globalization and the global economic uncertainty were posing daunting challenges to the developing countries.

Measures taken by the developed countries in reviving their economy should not be at the expense of the developing countries. As a result of current financial and economic crises, domestic production and exports have dramatically declined. The crisis also caused trade imbalances between developed and developing countries due to protectionism and restrictive measures applied by the developed countries on the developing ones.

Therefore, it is necessary to increase trade and investment among the member countries of NAM.

The minister said that taking advantage of the financial crisis and in the name of democracy and human rights, some industrialized countries have been imposing economic restrictions on third world countries with the aim of exerting political pressures. Democracy is a universal value based on the will of the people to determine their own future. There is no single model of democracy. He stressed the need to lift unilateral sanctions imposed on developing countries as they were against the international law and counterproductive to the promotion of democracy and human rights of the country concerned.

The minister also urged developed countries to provide urgently needed medicines, financial and technical assistance to the developing countries in prevention and fight against recent outbreak of swine flu epidemic originated in Mexico. Minister U Nyan Win appraised the meeting with positive developments achieved in the implementation of Seven-step Road Map to democratization in Myanmar and the status of reconstruction works undertaken for the victims of Cyclone Nargis.

On 27 April afternoon, Minister U Nyan Win met with Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cuba Mr. Marcos Rodriguez Costa and exchanged views on strengthening of bilateral relations and mutual cooperation in the international fora.

He attended a welcoming reception hosted by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cuba Mr. Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla on 29 April evening.

The Ministerial Meeting was held in conjunction with the 15th Non-Aligned Summit to be held in Egypt in July 2009. The Ministerial Meeting adopted a Final Document to be submitted to the 15th NAM Summit as well as declarations on the current financial and economic crisis, solidarity with Swine Flu Affected Mexico and on Palestine and on Zimbabwe.

The Myanmar delegation also attended the Senior Officials Meeting of the NAM Coordinating Bureau held on 27 and 28 April. The Senior Officials Meeting had discussed global issues, regional and sub-regional issues, and development, social and human rights issues contained in the draft Final Declaration to be submitted to the 15th Summit of the NAM to be held in Egypt in July 2009.—MNA
**Iraqi soldier kills two US soldiers, wounds three**

**Baghdad, 3 May** — An Iraqi soldier opened fire on a US military team on Saturday, killing two American soldiers and wounding three, the US military said, in an attack that could sharpen worries about the extent of militant infiltration in Iraq’s security forces.

Iraqi officials described the attacker — who was killed in the gunbattle — as a soldier who also served as a Sunni Muslim preacher for his unit near Mosul, which is one of the last urban strongholds for Sunni militants.

Such an ambush could increase pressure on the Shiite-led government to try to root out possible turncoats and slow efforts to bring Sunni militants into the police and military as rewards for helping battle al-Qaeda in Iraq and other insurgent factions.

But any possible slowdown of the Sunni outreach will meet resistance from Washington, which sees the sectarian reconciliation as essential for Iraq’s stabil-

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**Roadside bomb kills two**

**Kabul, 3 May** — Two police officer were killed and seven others sustained injuries as a roadside bomb struck their van in Herat Province west of Afghanistan on Saturday.

“The incident took place at 9:00 am local time next to the headquarters of Gereshk district, as a result four innocent civilians were killed and seven others including five con-combatants and two police guards sustained injuries,” Ahamdi told Xinhua.

He put the attack on the enemies of peace a term used against Taleban militants.

Taleban militants have vowed to intensify attacks and launch Spring Offensive mostly in the shape of suicide and roadside bombings this year in the country. —Internet

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**Roadside bombing damages police vehicle in N Afghanistan**

**Kabul, 3 May** — A roadside bomb blasted in Afghan Northern Province of Kunduz on Friday evening, damaging a police vehicle, provincial police chief said on Saturday.

“The incident took place in Sehdara district, but fortunately no police were killed or wounded in the explosion,” Abdul Rahman Haqtash told Xinhua.

He also denied Taleban’s claim that six policemen were killed in the incident.

Moreover, the director of public health of Kunduz Homayon Khamosh told Xinhua that they received one civilian who was wounded in the incident.

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**Doctors treat a man injured in an incident on the outskirts of Kirkuk, 290 kilometres (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, recently, 2009.** — Internet

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**Iraq says captured Syrian suicide bomber, close to Qaeda leader**

**Baghdad, 3 May** — An Iraqi police chief said Saturday that a suicide bomber captured on Friday near a Shiite mosque in the northern city of Kirkuk is a Syrian and close to the head of the al-Qaeda in Iraq.

“The suicide bomber who failed to blow himself up at a Shiite mosque in Kirkuk is a Syrian national, his name is Ammar Afif Hamada,” said Maj Gen Abdul-Rahman, the city police chief, told Xinhua.

Hamada is close to Abu Omer al-Baghdadi, head of self-styled Islamic State of Iraq, who was captured by Iraqi security forces last week in Baghdad, Hamada said without providing further details about the ongoing interrogation of Hamada.

On Friday, the Iraqi police said that it captured a suicide bomber wearing an explosive belt as he entered a prayer service at a Shiite mosque in Kirkuk, but he was wrestled to the ground before he blew himself among worshipers.

Two of the mosque’s guards were injured when the attacker opened fire from his pistol during his attempt to break through the crowded mosque, they said. — Internet

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**Four killed, seven wounded in motorbike bomb in Afghanistan**

**Kabul, 3 May** — A bomb strapped to a motorbike in Helmand Province south of Afghanistan went off Sunday killing four civilians and injured seven others including two policemen, provincial spokesman Dawd Ahmadzai said.

“It occurred at 09:00 am local time next to the headquarters of Gereshk district, as a result four innocent civilians were killed and seven others including five con-combatants and two police guards sustained injuries,” Ahamdi told Xinhua.

He put the attack on the enemies of peace a term used against Taleban militants.

Taleban militants have vowed to intensify attacks and launch Spring Offensive mostly in the shape of suicide and roadside bombings this year in the country. —Internet

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**Iraqi restrains an unconscious man, centre, believed to be an attempted suicide bomber outside a mosque in Kirkuk, 290 kilometres (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, on May, 2009.** — Internet

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**A child cries as a man injured in a car bomb explosion lies in a hospital in Baghdad’s Shiite enclave of Sadr City, Iraq, Thursday, 30 April, 2009.** — Internet

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**Venezuela’s Chavez courts Iran as US shows concern**

CARACAS, 3 May—President Hugo Chavez met with a delegation from Iran on Saturday to prepare for an upcoming visit from President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad — an alliance that has provoked concern in Washington.

Venezuela’s ambassador to Iran, David Velasquez, said following the meeting that Ahmadinejad’s visit will deepen ties between the countries and “allow us to move ahead in the transfer of technology and industry,” according to Venezuela’s state-run Bolivarian News Agency.

**Latin America’s leftist leaders have in recent years strengthened relations with countries including China and Iran — inroads that US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Friday termed “quite disturbing.”**

“They are building very strong economic and political connections with a lot of these leaders. I don’t think that’s in our interest,” Clinton said.

She said President Barack Obama’s administration aims to improve deteriorating relations with Latin American nations including Bolivia, Nicaragua and Venezuela to counter the growing influence of China, Iran and Russia in the region. Chavez and Ahmadinejad — both well-known for their anti-US rhetoric — have forged ties in everything from finance to factories. Iran now manufactures cars, tractors and bicycles in Venezuela.

Iranian Defence Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar met with Chavez on Wednesday to discuss military cooperation, though a statement from Venezuela’s Information Ministry did not divulge details.

**At least 60K homeless, 14 dead from floods**

SAO PAULO, 3 May—Officials say floods and mudslides from heavy rains in northeastern Brazil have killed at least 14 people in the last month and driven tens of thousands from their homes.

Regional Civil Defence departments report that at least 62,600 people are homeless in five northeastern states.

Maranhao has been the hardest hit, with some 40,700 people living in shelters and six dead.

State Civil Defence official Abner Ferreira said on Saturday that meteorologists forecast at least two more weeks of heavy downpours.

**Anatomy of an ‘inside’ ambush in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, 3 May—US soldiers and Iraqi police had just sat down for lunch inside a police building in Mosul. Flak vests and other protective gear were removed.

A door to the room was left ajar — just wide enough for the barrels of Iraqi police AK-47s to be poked inside. The attackers fired. Then again.

The suspected gunmen — an Iraqi police officer still in his teens and a young sergeant — ran toward a waiting car with return fire kicking up dust around them. The car swerved around a checkpoint and the attackers were gone. They are still missing.

The 24 Feb shooting — which killed a US soldier and an interpreter and wounded five others — was an alarming inside job that reinforced what many fear: insurgents and sympathizers possibly infiltrating the ranks of Iraq’s security forces.

The US military called it an “isolated incident.”

This is true in one regard: The shooting was one of the few irrefutable examples of deadly turncoats inside the Iraqi forces.

**Militants blast clinic, school in E Afghanistan**

KABUL, 3 May—Anti-government militants separately exploded a health clinic and a high school on Friday night in Afghan Eastern Province of Khost, but no casualty was reported, a government official said on Saturday.

“The health clinic was exploded by unknown armed men in Lakan area on the outskirts of Khost city, provincial capital of Khastust, the Keeps on Friday night,” director of public health Amir Padshah Mangal told Xinhua.

He added that four rooms of the largest clinic in the area were completely destroyed.

In the other incident, a high school was also dynamited in Nadir Shah Kot district of the same Province.

“Unknown armed men exploded Shambor Wot high school late Friday night,” spokesman for education department in the province Syed Musa Majroh told Xinhua.

Majroh also said that seven out of 18 classroom were destroyed in the incident.

**Swine flu scare doesn’t stop Mexico’s drug war**

MEXICO CITY, 3 May—It seemed an odd precaution, given its risky way of life: A man targeted by drug traffickers was wearing a germ-blocking surgical mask when his bullet-riddled body was found.

Even people caught in Mexico’s murderous drug war are heeding advice to use face masks as protection against swine flu.

Soldiers and police battling the cartels are donning masks too — and putting on them those they arrest: Gregorio Saucedo Gamboa, the alleged leader of the fearsome Zeta gang of cartel hit men, had a blue mask dangling around his neck when federal police — also wearing surgical masks — hauled him before photographers. The battle against the virus has strangled normal life in Mexico, closing most businesses, government offices and public events.

Drug traffickers are evidently not joining the shutdown.

In the past week, more than 28 people have been killed in Mexico’s deadliest city, Ciudad Juarez, across from El Paso, Texas. Seven police officers were gunned down in Tijuana after weeks of relative calm in that city, next to San Diego.

**Pirates raise their hands after being detained aboard a vessel in the Gulf of Aden on 1 May, 2009. Portuguese warship Corte-Real captured, disarmed and briefly detained 19 pirates armed with high-explosives after they attempted to attack a Norwegian-owned oil tanker in the Gulf of Aden, NATO officials said on Saturday.**

**A Palestinian girl fetches drinking water with plastic barrels in the war-battered southern Gaza Strip town of Rafah, near the border with Egypt, on 2 May, 2009.**
China railways carry record 6.54 million passengers on 1 May

BEIJING, 3 May—Chinese railways carried a record 6.54 million passengers on 1 May, the first day of the three-day May Day holiday, as the country boosted capacity with faster trains and more seats, the Ministry of Railways said on Sunday.

The number of passengers was 641,000 more than on the same day last year, up 10.9 percent, thanks to a capacity boost the country launched a new railway schedule on 1 April featuring faster trips and more seats.

The ministry said an average 66.5 new passenger trains were put into use every day on the new schedule, with an increase of 238,000 more seats every day.

The number of passengers on Friday has topped the previous daily passenger record. The ministry said 5 million of the total had made medium- or short-distance trips, as people switched to shorter-distance trips to cope with the shorter holiday. Chinese workers had seven days off, instead of the current three days, during the May Day holiday, before a new holiday system kicked in last year. Passenger flow surged to 5.73 million on 30 April, a day ahead of the May Day holiday running from Friday to Sunday, up 8.5 percent from a year ago.—Xinhua

Nepal recommends seven more for World Heritage Sites

KATHMANDU, 3 May—The Department of Archaeology of Nepal recently has forwarded names of additional seven sites in Nepal for inclusion in the list of World Heritage Sites to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), according to local media report on Sunday.

Among the sites recommended to be considered as World Heritage Sites are Medieval Earthen Walled City of Lo Manthang, Vajrayogini and early settlement of Sankhu, the Medieval Town of Tansen, Rishikesh Complex of Ruru Khsetra, Ram Janaki Temple, Medieval village of Bandipur and Nuwakot Palace, local news website Nepal-news.com reported.

UNESCO will take a call on the recommendations after necessary investigations, according to the report. Currently, ten places of Nepal are considered World Heritage Sites for their religious, historical or ecological importance.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Three Palestinians wounded in Israeli air strikes on S Gaza

GAZA, 3 May—Israeli F16 warplanes on Saturday struck the borders between southern Gaza Strip and Egypt by air-to-ground missiles, wounding at least three Palestinians, medics and security sources said.

Sources with the Palestinian Islamic Hamas movement, which rules Gaza, said Israeli F16 warplanes carried out a series of airstrikes at the borderline between Rafah town in southern Gaza and Egypt, adding three civilians were wounded. An Israeli army spokesman confirmed the airstrikes on Rafah tunnels, adding that Israeli war jets struck three smuggling tunnels under the borders between the Gaza Strip and Egypt.

Meanwhile, Gaza emergency chief Mo’aweya Hassanin confirmed that three Rafah residents were injured after Israeli warplanes attacked the border area between Rafah town and Egypt.

Eyewitnesses said that Palestinian medical teams arrived to pick up the three wounded, adding that there are still two people missing under one of the tunnels that were bombarded. The Israeli airstrike on the borderline came shortly after two homemade rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip at southern Israel. The rockets landed on an empty area, causing no damages or injuries.—Xinhua

Greek-owned ship seized by Somali pirates

ATHENS, 3 May—A Malta-registered Greek-owned ship was attacked and seized by Somali pirates in the sea region between Madagascar and the Seychelles islands on Saturday, according to Athens News Agency.

The report said that the ship, the MT Ariana, with a 24-member crew of Ukrainian nationals, is safe. MT Ariana loaded with soya departed from Brazil heading for Iran.

Australian Govt to subsidize breast, bowel and kidney cancer

CANBERRA, 3 May—Australian federal government said on Sunday it will allocate 600 million Australian dollars (432 million US dollars) in the upcoming budget to subsidize expensive bowel, breast and kidney cancer drugs.

“I think it’s a sign that while we are in tough economic times, we still are determined to do the things that are needed to help people in very vulnerable circumstances,” Health Minister Nicola Roxon told local media Ten Network.

Roxon said that from July, the bowel cancer drug Avastin will be subsidised under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, which will cost the government about 311 million Aust dollars (223.9 million US dollars) over the next four years. “These drugs are expensive. We’ve made room for them to be able to be funded. Sutent, Avastin and Herceptin deal with some of the most severe forms of cancer... bowel cancer and breast cancer,” Roxon said. Listing the drugs will mean new patients suffering advanced bowel cancer will pay about 33 Aust dollars (23.75 US dollars) for Avastin instead of more than 2,000 Aust dollars (1440 US dollars). Sufferers of metastatic breast cancer will also receive a boost with the free Herceptin programme at a cost of 166 million Aust dollars (119.5 million US dollars).—Xinhua

Four-year-old Edgar Hernandez (L), who has recovered from the A/H1N1 flu influenza recently, and his mother rest in a free dining room at his hometown in Veracruz state in Mexico on 2 May, 2009. Hernandez is the first patient who was infected by the A/H1N1 flu influenza in Mexico.—Xinhua

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Photo taken on 2 May, 2009 shows Beijing Ditan Hospital in Beijing, capital of China. Beijing Ditan Hospital has been designated to treat influenza A/H1N1 by Beijing Health Bureau since 28 April.—Xinhua

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Meanwhile, Gaza emergency chief Mo’aweya Hassanin confirmed that three Rafah residents were injured after Israeli warplanes attacked the border area between Rafah town and Egypt.

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Egyptians urge truce on Hamas

CAIRO, 3 May — The Egyptian government has urged Hamas and other Palestinian groups to consider a truce with Israel, Ynetnews reports. Cairo suggests that could open the way for talks between Egypt and Israel about allowing more movement across Gaza’s borders. A source told Ynet Hamas and Islamic Jihad have already held a meeting to discuss the Egyptian proposal and are leaning toward agreement. “We understand that the people in Gaza need rest and calm, and we hope that alongside this our Egyptian brothers will be able to deliver an Israeli agreement to cease the siege and open the crossings,” he said.

If the truce succeeds in easing tension, discussions about the release of captured Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit could start, the source added.

Long-range missiles in Australia’s future

CANBERRA, 3 May — The Australian government announced plans on Friday for a major military buildup focusing on long-distance cruise missiles. Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said the country cannot count on the United States for its protection in the future. The Sydney Morning Herald reported on Friday a government document — Defending Australia in the Asia Pacific Century: Force 2030 — considers the possibility of a regional war. “Australia has been a very secure country for many decades, in large measure because the wider Asia-Pacific region has enjoyed an unprecedented era of peace and stability underwritten by US strategic primacy,” the document said. “That order is being transformed as economic changes start to bring about changes in the distribution of strategic power. Risks resulting from escalating strategic competition could emerge quite unpredictably.”

Under the plan, Australia would build up an arsenal of missiles capable of striking at a distance of hundreds of miles. The Navy would be the big gainer with additional submarines, destroyers and frigates.

Police dog attacked handler

PRESTON, 3 May — A British police dog handler was bitten by her own canine said she does not blame the dog and the animal is still with her. Police Constable Katie Johnson said she and her police dog, Chaos, responded to an emergency call about an armed robbery at a Preston, England, pub and one of the suspects, identified as Wayne McDonald, 47, shot her in the leg with a shotgun, The Daily Telegraph reported on Friday. Johnson said she ordered Chaos to go after McDonald and his accomplice, David Tyrell, 39, but the dog instead bit his handler on the arm. “I don’t blame Chaos at all, dogs are dogs and not robots,” said Johnson, who had been working with Chaos for three weeks at the time of the 1 Jan, 2007, incident. “They react to things they’re trained to deal with. We train police dogs to attack offenders who are holding a gun but when we train dogs, the offenders are offering verbal aggression.”

McDonald and Tyrell later turned themselves in to police. They were convicted of wounding with intent to resist, robbery and firearms offenses but were cleared of an attempted murder charge. Police said Chaos and Johnson are back working together.

Man tries to attack cops with ax, knife, sword

Authorities said a motel guest tried to scare off deputies with a medieval battle ax, a knife and a long sword. The Bay County Sheriff’s Office reported that deputies responded to the Sting Ray Motel after management called 911 to complain that a guest was acting strange.

When a deputy stepped out of his patrol car, officials said a 33-year-old man threw a battle ax and then a 6-inch knife through the window of the motel room.

Deputies said the man then pulled out a broad sword and locked himself in the bathroom. When deputies finally got into the bathroom, they said he was unconscious. The man was taken to a nearby hospital.

Officials said the man will be charged with aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer.

Sword-waving ninja accused of attempted robbery

Police said a man dressed liked a ninja used a sword in an attempt to rob a Weymouth dry cleaner. A convenience store clerk called police on Monday after she noticed a man walking into the store wearing a ski mask and a sword in a sheath on his belt. Police said when the man noticed her, he pulled his mask off and asked if she was calling about him. When she said she was, police said the man left the store and walked into nearby Galaxy Cleaners.

There, police said he pointed a sword at the register and asked a clerk to give him all of the money inside. Police said he left after she told him she couldn’t open the drawer.

Police are still searching for the man, who witnesses said appeared to be in his late 20s.

Monkey, missing for 6 weeks, captured in Fla

He spent six weeks on the lam from the circus, but Reggie the spider monkey has been captured with the help of junk food. Reggie had performed for the Liebel Family Circus for years, but he escaped on 13 March when the troupe did a show at a central Florida flea market. A search for the monkey came up empty-handed.

He was spotted a few weeks ago in a nearby neighborhood, looking lonely and scared but otherwise healthy. But a dog frightened him away before residents there could attract him with some food.

Then on Monday, Reggie was seen hanging from a tree at a mobile home park. Neighbors fed him Coke, potato chips and Twinkies until the circus owner Tom Liebel came to grab him.

News Album

A new exhibit at the Kunstmuseum Bonn shows off the Russian artists Wassily Kandinsky’s printmaking skills. The museum has more than 200 woodcuts, etchings, lithographs and posters created by Kandinsky between 1902 and 1942. Some of the prints were made while the artist was living in Munich.

Ever dreamed of taking a stroll through the solar system? A new exhibit in the western German city of Oberhausen not only has giant reproductions of the planets, but also has images of the sun as well as astronomical instruments. The entire exhibit is housed in the Oberhausen Gasometer to mark the International Year of Astronomy and will run through on 10 January, 2010.
Houses, buildings emerge in better shape than past in Bogale Township within one year

**Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photos: Kyaw Myint Than (Lanmadaw)**

Photo shows newly-built houses in Kyeinchaunggyi Village.

Among them, some buildings were better than the old ones. Likewise, the reconstruction tasks had been undertaken in storm-ravaged Kyeinchaunggyi, Malawi, Kyunyo, Magu, Padamyagon, Chaunggyiwa, Thonhtet, Sethsam, Thazingon, Pyinboegyi, Gayan, Kyunthaya, Kadonkani and Ayeya village-tracts of the township.

Accompanied by Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Khin Saw, the news team left for Taungthale Village by boat to observe the construction of Cyclone Shelters. Along the route, we witnessed the runs of boats with loads of commodities and ferry boats reflecting the regular flow of commodities in the rural areas.

From the jetty, we saw a new building with modern design. It was a yellow building, and both stairs of the building are eight feet high each.

It was a wooden Cyclone Shelter with hexagon shape. The curtains upstairs can be installed and removed easily. Arrangements are being made to open the curtains when the storm hits. The building was roofed with 120 aluminc sheets.

The roof of the Cyclone Shelter was installed with a lightning conductor and the equipment of alarm system. A signal light was equipped at the tip of Cyclone Shelter for enabling the local people to find it if the storm hits at night. To supply power to endure over 100 mph wind speed of the storms. With regard to the Cyclone Shelter, we had an interview with a local villager. He said, “I am U Chit Lwin of Taungthale Village. Thanks to construction of Cyclone Shelter, we do not have to worry about the natural disasters. I thank the government very much.”

We proceeded to Thabaung Village by boat and observed construction of storm-resistant primary school. It was 120 feet long and 30 feet wide one-storey building. It was a school building to accommodate the villagers safely. In front of the school, a concrete water tank was constructed to store 10,000 gallons of rainwater.

A BEPS constructed in Thabaung Village of Bogale Township as accommodation for local people in the event of a storm.

We continued observation at repairing of the dyke at Dauntgyi Anaukkyn. We saw regular activities of the local people. The 31.6 miles long dyke was built to prevent the inflow of seawater and it can be used

We returned to Kyeinchaunggyi Village, we witnessed construction of better houses than those of the past. Moreover, vegetable patches were renovated, and the students can easily pursue education.

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The reason of painting the yellow colour is to enable the people to easily find the Cyclone Shelter at night and in darkness. The upstairs of the shelter will be used as the classroom for 180 students. During the natural disaster period, about 500 people from surrounding villages can be accommodated at the building. The educative talks about natural disaster and use of Cyclone Shelter had been given to the local people. As such, they can take shelter in a short time.

The Cyclone Shelter in Bogale Township can

established in the compounds and surroundings of the houses for enabling the local people to easily pluck them for consumption.

We witnessed completion of hillocks in Kyunsein, Kadonkani, Gwaychaung, Mayanchaung and Kyeinchaunggyi villages to accommodate the local people in the event of natural disasters.

Moreover, we observed upgrading of 21 miles long Thabaung-Kyeinchaunggyi Road. We saw smooth runs of motorbikes and other vehicles along the road. Construction of new Kyeinchaunggyi-Kadonkani Road is nearly completed. Thanks to construction of the road, the local people can overcome the transport barriers.

We returned to Bogale by boat. We learned that the Cyclone Shelters are under construction in Kadonkani, Ayeya, Kyeinchaunggyi and Apyin Padekawtan villages.

Nowadays, the villages in Bogale Township severely hit by the storm gained progress significantly during the one-year period, thanks to systematic rehabilitation activities of the government and assistance of the wellwishers. *****

Translation: TTA
1. Swine flu in humans: Swine flu has been detected in the people in Mexico, the US, Canada and New Zealand from 17 April to date. A total of 160 persons were killed in the infection of virus.

2. Symptoms in swine: The symptoms of the swine flu are sudden illness, mopping, coughing, runny nose, sneezing, difficult breathing, red eyes, inflammation, loss appetite. These symptoms can also be found in normal coughing and other sickness due to the weather changes.

3. Points to be followed in prevention against swine flu
   (a) If found symptoms of sickness in pigs, they are to be kept in quarantine, and inform the LBVD.
   (b) Take care of bio security in the farm where a large number of pigs are raised
   (c) Wash hands and legs clean after cleaning the pigsty
   (d) Use face masks and gloves when handling the unhealthy pigs
   (e) Ban the sale of unhealthy pigs in the markets.
   (f) Do not raise the pigs of unknown origin, especially those smuggled from other country
   (g) If pork is cooked at 70°C and above, there will be no infection.

4. Prevention of swine flu: There is no case of swine flu in Myanmar. It is necessary for pig breeders and those who keep pigs on commercial scale and seller to participate in the preventive measures against the disease in cooperation with Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation, Development Committees and local authorities.

Warning on global human flu

1. Swine flu in humans: Swine flu has been detected in the people in Mexico, the US, Canada and New Zealand from 17 April to date. A total of 160 persons were killed in infection of virus.

2. The flu is caused by a new virus. It is mixed with four genes and can spread quickly. Now there are cases of such flu in some countries. Regarding the disease, the World Health Organization announced that it is international public health State of emergency. The Ministry of Health is undertaking preventive measures against transmitting to humans through avian flu. In some countries there was an outbreak of swine flu among the people. The Ministry of Health is carrying out the tasks to fight against the disease.

3. The symptoms of swine flu are body heat, runny nose, coughing, aching, headache, lethargy, difficult breathing. They are like the symptoms of other diseases. If these symptoms appear, do not go to crowded public places such as worksites and schools. Take a rest at home. Make contact with the nearest health centres. Go to the hospital when one has high fever, long coughing, difficult breathing and lethargy. If the disease is serious, go to the hospital immediately. Wear surgical masks in order not to spread the disease.

4. It is found that the disease spread from people to people. Like SARS, it can become a pandemic. Therefore, the people are requested to keep the following points.
   (a) Using handkerchief when coughing
   (b) Washing the hands with soap properly
   (c) Carrying out personal hygiene measures
   (d) Sleeping well
   (e) Eating nutritious food
   (f) Taking exercises
   (g) Breathing fresh air

5. In order to prevent flu infection, those who take care of the people infected with flu, wear surgical masks.

6. The Ministry of Health has made arrangements for prevention of the spread of such flu from other countries. News and information will be announced in time and the people are requested to follow the notice of the ministry.

Ministry of Health

Prizes for winners in Overclocking technology demonstration

YANGON, 3 May — A prize presentation of demonstration on Overclocking technology competition was held at Myanmar ICT Exhibition for 2009, Tatmadaw Convention Hall here today.

It was organized by Myanmar Computer Professional Association. At the prize presentation ceremony, President of Myanmar Computer Professional Association U Khun Oo explained the purpose of the competition.

Next, U Khun Oo and Managing Director U Tun Aung of Golden Power presented prizes to winners.

MNA

Winners seen at demonstration on overclocking technology competition.

MCPA
NAY PYI TAW, 3 May—Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe visited Gawwein Port in Mandalay on 27 April.

The commander inspected construction of a two-storey building at No. 34 Basic Education Primary School in Mahaaungmye Township.

In Thayettabin Village-tract of Patheingyi Township, the commander viewed construction of bridge and met with local people at the rural health centre.

Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe visits Gawwein Port in Mandalay.—MNA

EP No. 2 Minister visits power stations in Mandalay Division

NAY PYI TAW 3 May—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Maung Lay accompanied by officials inspected control room and switchyard at Shwesaryan main power station in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division on 28 April.

At Tagundaing power station in Pyigyidagun Township, the minister and party looked into control room and switchyard and gave necessary instructions.

Next, they proceeded to Belin main power station at Taungying village-tract in Singaing Township of Kyaukse District, Mandalay Division. After hearing reports on facts about the station, service personnel matters and distribution of electricity from power stations presented by officials at the meeting hall of the station, the minister fulfilled the requirements.

Minister meets with department officials, members of social organizations and dwellers

YANGON, 3 May—Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung met with departmental officials at township level, members of social organizations and dwellers at the meeting hall of Bahan township Peace and Development Council Office, here, this afternoon.

Chairman of township PDC U Aung Mon Latt briefed the minister on development of the township, tasks being carried out, progress of work in health, education and social sectors of the township, requirement of the work.

After hearing the reports, the minister made arrangement to fulfill the requirements.—MNA

Rural development tasks undertaken in Padaung Township

YANGON, 3 May—Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay on 1 May attended the opening ceremony of the rural dispensary in Pegyi-in Village of Taungbwe Village-tract in Padaung Township.

After visiting the dispensary, the deputy minister met with local people at the Village Basic Education Post-Primary School.

In Thayettabin Village of Yaylekyun Village-tract, the deputy minister opened the Phu Pwint Wai village library and met with the local people.

In Yaytha Village-tract, the deputy minister cut the ribbon to inaugurate the bridge on the road linking Yaytha and Kaingywa villages.

After attending the opening ceremony of Ahnyaung village library in KyinO Village, the deputy minister met with local people.

The deputy minister inspected sinking of tube-well in Kwinhla Village for water supply program. In meeting with local people, the deputy minister discussed regional development tasks.—MNA

Visitors view MSI booth in Myanmar ICT Exhibition 2009 at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on 3 May, 2009.—MCIX

NAY PYI TAW, 3 May—Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe visited Gawwein Port in Mandalay on 27 April.

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MNA
Sonhon farm with thriving honey orange groves in Nanpaung of Lashio Township

Article: Tin Htwe (MNA); Photos: Than Oo (MNA)

Fresh and delicious honey orange on sale in front of Sonhon farm.

With regard to growing of orange trees, farm owner U Gon Khay said, “After visiting honey orange farms in Monghsat, I firmly believed that honey orange can also be grown here successfully. In Shan State (North), this is the first successful farm. On 12 August 2003, a total of 6,400 honey orange trees were grown. In early months, the trees were fed with natural fertilizers and chemical fertilizers. The chemical fertilizers produced from the Republic of Korea were bought at K 42,000 for one bag.”

Sonhon means the farm with good smell. Three years old honey orange trees start to bear fruits. At that time, the fruits are to be plucked. When flowers are in bloom, it is unnecessary to spray the plants, but to pour water at them. As the Sonhon farm is being supplied with water pumped out of a creek it saves the labour cost. A total of 16 workers appointed at the farm plucks oranges daily.

U Gon Khay explained, “I bred cows in the past. Now, honey orange farm gains achievements more than other businesses. In doing successful business, I invested K 160 million. I send honey orange to brokerages in Mandalay and Yangon regularly, and the products are popular due to fine taste.”

Each honey orange sapling was bought at K 2000. The orange saplings from Sonhon farm were imported from Thailand. Fruits can be picked in eight months a year. Up to 20 years, the fruits can be plucked. As such, it will be beneficial to the farm owner in the long term.

Everybody arriving at Shan State (North) should visit Sonhon honey orange farm near Kanlon Village of Nanpaung of Lashio Township and taste the delicious flavour of the honey orange fruits.

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African genetics study revealing origins, migration, ‘startling diversity’

A mother and daughter in Johannesburg, South Africa.

JOHANNESBURG, 3 May — African, American, and European researchers working in collaboration over a 10-year period have released the largest-ever study of African genetic data—more than four million genotypes—providing a library of new information on the continent which is thought to be the source of the oldest settlements of modern humans.

The study demonstrates startling diversity on the continent, shared ancestry among geographically diverse groups and traces the origins of Africans and African Americans.
Cambodia refutes US report on its antiterrorism capability

Phnom Penh, 3 May
The Cambodian Information Minister has refuted a US State Department report about the country’s capability of countering terrorism as “not 100 per cent correct,” national media said on Sunday.

The recently issued US report about the global anti-terrorism situation claimed that terrorists might take advantage of the weakness of Cambodia, such as corruption, poverty and lax management of the border, to carry out illegal acts in its territory, despite the government had made a clear promise to crack down on this type of crime, the newspaper Jiao Hua Daily quoted the minister as saying.

In addition, Cambodia lacked training and other resources to counter terrorism, it added. Khieu Kanharith, also spokesman for the Cambodian Government, said “there is no country in the world that can control its border with a 100 per cent accuracy, neither Cambodia”.

However, “the government has established strong and trustworthy relations with different communities in order to nip any social violence in bud”, the spokesman said.

Thailand to send 20,000 doses of antiviral medicine to Mexico

Bangkok, 3 May — Thailand decided to send 20,000 tablets of antiviral medicine to Mexico to help the treatment of the A/H1N1 flu patients there and to boost the morale of Mexicans suffering a widespread outbreak of the disease, Deputy Prime Minister Sanan Kajonprasart said on Saturday.

After meeting with senior public Health Ministry officials on preventing the influenza A/H1N1 from spreading to Thailand, Sanan told journalists the country decided to send their stockpiled antiviral medicine, Oseltamivir, to Mexico.

Sanan chairs a special panel that monitors the situation, supervises A/H1N1 flu prevention measures in the kingdom and coordinates with foreign health authorities in preventing the global pandemic.

Thai Public Health Ministry had announced a decision on Wednesday about sending 5,000 face masks to Mexico to help the Thais staying there as face masks in Mexico are in shortage.— MNA/Xinhua

Meanwhile, the newspaper also quoted a senior official of the Interior Minister as saying that there is minimum possibility that terrorists’ acts occur in Cambodia, and fighting against money laundering should be the kingdom’s priority in the anti-terrorism field. According to official reports, no major terrorism case with global connection has occurred in the country so far.

Feral pigeon confirmed positive for H5N1 virus in HK

Hong Kong, 3 May — A spokesman for the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department of Hong Kong said on Saturday that a dead feral pigeon found in Tuen Mun was confirmed to be H5N1 positive.

The feral pigeon carcass was collected on 27 April at Leung Tak Street, Tuen Mun and found positive for the virus after a series of laboratory tests.

The spokesman called for the public not to feed feral pigeons and prevent congregation of feral pigeons causing environmental hygiene problems. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department would continue to take stringent enforcement action against feral bird feeders making public areas and parks dirty, he added.— MNA/Xinhua

Taleban commander surrenders

Islamabad, 3 May — A senior Taleban commander Saturday surrendered to the authorities in the country’s tribal region, according to local TV reports. The state-run PTV quoted officials as saying that the security forces on Saturday surrounded the house of Iftikhar Ahmed Khan, head of Taleban in the Khyber agency, and asked him to surrender.

Khan was wanted for attacks on NATO supply trucks and security personnel, the officials said. Khan, 35, was also accused of sheltering foreign militants and kidnapping people for ransom.

Khan was appointed commander in the Khyber agency of the “Tehrik-e-Taleban” led by Baitullah Mehsood after the arrest of Mustafa Kamran last year.

Israeli forces open fire on Gaza farmers

Gaza, 3 May — Israeli Army Saturday opened fire on Palestinian farmers near the security fence in southeast Gaza Strip and sent ground troops into the northern area of the coastal enclave.

The Palestinian farmers were working in their fields in al-Faraheen area, east of Khan Younis City, when they came under machine gun fire from the Israeli Army posts on the border, witnesses said.

According to security sources, machine gun fire was also recorded on the border line in northeast Gaza Strip and the east of Jabaliya town. There were no casualties in the two shooting incidents.

Anti-seeping project approved for grottoes as World Heritage

Taiyuan, 3 May — A comprehensive conservation programme is well under way for Yungang Grottoes, a World Heritage site, in Datong of northern China’s Shanxi Province.

Of the programme, an anti-seeping project has been recently approved by provincial cultural relics protection authorities, Huang Jizhong, deputy head of the research institute of Yungang Grottoes, said Xinhua on Sunday.

The project embraces anti-infiltration efforts for cave roofs, seeping water control and arrangements against rain flushing at cave eaves, according to Huang.

Among the 45 major caves of Yungang, 21 had recorded seeping water, Huang said. To prevent rains from eroding the Buddhist statues in the caves, an improved drainage system has been established, Huang said.

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Keeping the waters free of disease...The Preventive Medicine Institute is currently working on anti-seeping proposals for the grottoes. — MNA/Xinhua

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C-sections overused in England

LONDON, 3 May — A British study finds that 25 percent of the babies delivered in English hospitals arrive by Caesarean section. A Caesarean section (surgical delivery) increases the risk for both the mother and the newborn, health officials say. The World Health Organization recommends that no more than 10 to 15 percent of deliveries be C-sections, limiting the operation to cases where it is medically necessary.

The National Health Service reported there were 153,406 C-sections in England, or 24.6 percent of all births. That was a slight increase over 2007. Under NHS guidelines, doctors are supposed to discuss the risks of C-sections with expectant mothers. The guidelines say that doctors can refuse to perform the surgery if they believe it is not necessary, but must offer women who insist on a C-section a second opinion. They smiled widely for the cameras and chatted with four baby Asian small-clawed otters, photographed on 30 March, 2009.—INTERNET

Magnetic therapy may help migraine

SEATTLE, 3 May—US researchers are studying animals to learn how magnetic therapy may provide some relief for migraine sufferers. The therapy — transcranial magnetic stimulation therapy — focuses a magnetic pulse through the skull. In a previous human study, TMS eased the pain of migraine with aura, a condition in which various, mostly visual, sensations come before or accompany the headache pain of a migraine attack.

In the study, conducted in rats, the University of California, San Francisco researchers found TMS therapy blocks the wave of neuronal excitation — the biological system through which neurons become stimulated to fire.

“The data demonstrate a biological rationale for the use of TMS to treat migraine aura,” study lead investigator Dr Peter Goadsby of the UCSF, said in a statement. “We found that cortical spreading depression and the animal correlate of migraine aura, was susceptible to TMS therapy, with the wave of neuronal excitation blocked on over 50 percent of occasions.”

FDA urges to stop using Hydroxy cut products

WASHINGTON, 3 May—US officials are warning consumers to immediately stop using Hydroxy cut products because they have been linked to a number of liver injuries.

“The Food and Drug Administration urges consumers to discontinue use of Hydroxy cut products in order to avoid any undue risk,” Dr Linda Katz, interim chief medical officer of the FDA’s Centre for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, said in a statement.

“Adverse events are rare, but exist. Consumers should consult a physician or other health care professional if they are experiencing symptoms possibly associated with these products.”

The dietary supplements, produced by Iovate Health Sciences Inc, of Oakville, Ontario, and distributed by Iovate Health Sciences USA Inc of Blasdell, NY, are associated with a number of serious liver injuries. Iovate has agreed to recall Hydroxy cut products from the market, the FDA said.—INTERNET

Chinese “land of twins” sees double as 1,000 sibling pairs converge

MOJIANG, 3 May—Nearly 1,000 pairs of twins gathered in China, the land of the only child on Friday to sing, dance and celebrate an annual festival of their own.

The twins attending this year’s three-day event came from China, the United States, Russia, India and Singapore. The youngest twins are eight months old, while the oldest are more than 80 years old, said organizers of the event in Mojiang, an autonomous county of the Hani ethnic group in the southwestern Yunnan Province.

Yulia and Victoria, two slim beautiful girls from Russia, stood out as they beamed and posed for photos. “It’s a delight to celebrate our own festival,” they said through an interpreter. “The Chinese are so hospitable and the traditional costumes here in Yunnan are so beautiful.”

Sisters Li Mengjiao and Li Mengkui, 10, from Yunnan Province were wearing their best: the scarlet dresses, white shirts and pearl-decorated hats favored by the Bai ethnic group. The Bai are known as good singers and dancers and the Li sisters were no exception. They smiled widely for the cameras and chatted like friends with twins from other Chinese provinces.

Two upstate NY men accused of stealing, eating calf

PALMYRA, 3 May—Two unemployed, hungry men stole a calf from a neighbour’s barn, shot it with an arrow and slit its throat before roasting its meat, police said. David Lochner, 21, and Timothy Welch, 18, were camping outside Palmyra, 20 miles southeast of Rochester, several weeks ago when a dairy farmer reported his calf missing, said State Police Investigator John Stubbe.—INTERNET

Diabetes drug linked to pancreatitis

LOS ANGELES, 3 May — A drug used to treat type 2 diabetes may have unintended effects on the pancreas that could increase pancreatic cancer risk, US researchers said.

The study, published in the online edition of the journal Diabetes, found that the drug Januvia, sold in pill form as Januvia, caused abnormalities in the pancreas that are recognized as risk factors for pancreatitis and, with time, pancreatic cancer in humans.

Researchers at the Larry Hillblom Islet Research Center at the University of California, Los Angeles, said Januvia is a member of a new class of drugs that enhance the actions of the gut hormone known as glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) — which has been shown to be effective in lowering blood sugar in people with type 2 diabetes.
**Brain activity linked with junk food cravings**

Los Angeles, 3 May—Level of willpower can be attributed to people’s cravings for junk food, a new study found.

Self-control to reject unhealthy foods is related with two areas of the brain, researchers at California Institute of Technology (Caltech) said in the study published in the May issue of Science.

The researchers used MRI to scan the brains of volunteers as they looked at photos of dozens of types of foods and decided which ones they’d like to eat. They found significant differences in the brain activity between people who had self-control in terms of making food choices and those with no self-control.

Previous research has shown that an area of the brain called the ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC) is involved in all value-based decisions. When vmPFC activity decreases, a person will probably reject an item, whereas increased activity means they’ll probably choose it.

In people with no self-control, the vmPFC seemed to take into consideration only the taste of a food, according to the study.—Internet

**White tea may fight obesity**

Beijing, 3 May—A study funded by a German health food company suggests Chinese white tea may fight obesity by reducing fat cells.

The study by Beiersdorf AG, published in the journal Nutrition and Metabolism, said extracts of white tea reduced fat levels on laboratory-grown human fat cells, The Daily Telegraph reported on Friday.

Nutritionist Marc Winnefeld said the white tea extract induced a decrease in the expression of genes associated with the growth of new fat cells and prompted existing adipocytes to break down the fat they contain, the British newspaper reported.

White tea is named for the white downy fur that covers the unopened bud of the tea leaf. During manufacturing, the buds are lightly steamed instead of being rolled and fermented, the report said.—Internet

**Folic acid may lessen allergies, asthma**

Baltimore, 3 May—Folic acid, known to reduce the risk of spinal birth defects, may also suppress allergic reactions, US researchers said.

Researchers at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Centre in Baltimore and colleagues said that they have found a link between folic acid levels and inflammation-mediated diseases, including heart disease.

The researcher reviewed the medical records of more than 8,000 people ages 2-85 to track the effect of folic acid on the immune system markers that rise in response to an allergen.—Internet

**Costa Rica confirms first swine flu case**

San Jose, 3 May—Costa Rica is reporting its first confirmed swine flu case — and the first flu case in Latin America outside Mexico.

Health Minister Maria Luisa Avila made the announcement after getting confirmation from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The government gave no details other than to say the patient is not in danger.—Internet

**Tokyo tests US baby but says influenza A unlikely**

Tokyo, 3 May—Japan tested a 4-month-old US baby who tested positive for a strain flu preliminary but said it is unlikely to have been infected with the influenza A/H1N1, Japanese government sources said Sunday.

The baby arrived at the Yokota Air Base in Tokyo from the United States on a US military-chartered plane on Friday and tested positive for the type A influenza virus in a preliminary examination. The baby and the mother were isolated after the first tests proved positive, the Foreign Ministry has said.—Internet

**Canada flu cases at 85, first human-to-animal infection reported**

Ottawa, 5 May—Canada on Saturday announced a surge of confirmed H1N1 flu cases to 85 while the country reported the globe’s first human-to-animal infections.

More than 200 pigs on a farm in the western province of Alberta have been infected with the new flu, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency said Saturday at a press conference in Ottawa.—Internet

**Latest developments on A/H1N1 flu worldwide**

Beijing, 3 May—The following are the latest developments of A/H1N1 flu outbreaks worldwide on Sunday, according to the World Health Organization and government data.

In a latest update, Mexico announced 19 confirmed deaths in the country. Another 21-month-old boy was confirmed dead in the United States, first death outside Mexico. The confirmed infection cases have reached 777 worldwide, mainly including 454 in Mexico and 184 in the US.

In addition, 16 countries and regions have reported laboratory confirmed cases with no deaths, including Austria (1), Hong Kong, China (1), Denmark (1), Netherlands (1), Ireland (1), France (1), Costa Rica (1), Italy (1), Switzerland (1), South Korea (1), Israel (2), New Zealand (4), Germany (6), Spain (15), Britain (15) and Canada (85).

Due to the high risk of a pandemic caused by the A/H1N1 virus, the World Health Organization (WHO) said there is still the possibility to raise the alert level to Phase 6 from the current Phase 5.

Also on Saturday, Canada confirmed the world’s first case of human-to-pig transmission of the A/H1N1 flu virus while urging against any ban of its products.—Internet

**New anti-cancer vaccine developed by Czech lab**

Prague, 3 May—A new vaccine which may be capable of halting cancer has been manufactured in the labs at the Prague Motol Hospital for a year, local daily Mlada Fronta Dnes reported on Sunday.

The vaccine is useful in the fight against a number of tumors, and it does not have any such side-effects as chemotherapy has, the daily cited a report published by prestigious medical journal Clinical Immunology.

“No we are drafting a request for clinical tests,” Jirina Bartunkova, a leading researcher, was quoted as saying.

The vaccine, which was developed by a unique method that the Czechs had worked for ten years, can be used in the treatment of melanoma, leukemia, bowel cancer, ovary cancer and recurring tumors, the paper wrote.

One vaccine is sufficient for one patient for a year, and the treatment costs about 100,000 crowns (5,000 US dollars) per year, Bartunkova said.

However, using the vaccine to cure patients is very demanding in terms of time and equipment, and only one vaccine a week can be manufactured in the super pure labs.—Internet

**Quarantine officers prepare to board a plane to check passengers at Narita International Airport. A four-month-old US baby, isolated after arriving in Tokyo from the United States with a fever, has tested negative, the Foreign Ministry has said.**

**Tour guides of the Slender West Lake present their costumes at a uniform show for working staff of tourist attractions in Yuzhou, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 30 April, 2009.**

**Baby meerkats Lia and Roo perch on the shoulder of zookeeper Saz Hyde at London Zoo, in central London, on 30 April, 2009. The two baby meerkats (no left - right available) are being hand reared by zookeepers at London Zoo after being abandoned by their mother, and seem to be doing well.**

**Folic acid, known to reduce the risk of spinal birth defects, may also suppress allergic reactions, US researchers said.***

**Researchers at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Centre in Baltimore and colleagues said that they have found a link between folic acid levels and inflammation mediated diseases, including heart disease.**

**The researcher reviewed the medical records of more than 8,000 people ages 2-85 to track the effect of folic acid on the immune system markers that rise in response to an allergen.**
Barcelona beat Real Madrid to all but clinch title

**Madrid, 3 May**—Barcelona opened up a seven-point lead at the top of the Spanish league table after humbling arch-rivals Real Madrid 6-2 in a one-sided ‘Clasico’ at Real’s Santiago Bernabeu stadium on Saturday. It was Real’s last shot at retaining their title but Barca outclassed their rivals with a footballing exhibition and, with just four games remaining, are now poised to win their first league title since 2006.

Real took a 14th-minute lead through Gonzalo Higuain but Barca went on to end Real’s 18-match unbeaten run with an emphatic win to clinch a league double over their foes having beaten them 2-0 at Camp Nou. Thierry Henry and Lionel Messi both grabbed a brace and centre-backs Carles Puyol and Gerard Pique were also on target as Barca ran riot in Madrid and brought up a century of goals in the league.—Internet

Defence key as Wenger plans for United showdown

**Portsmouth, 3 May**—Arsene Wenger believes Arsenal’s Champions League fate will be determined by their ability to shut out Manchester United’s galaxy of attacking stars. Nicklas Bendtner’s brace and Mexican youngster Carlos Vela’s first ever Premier League goal helped Arsenal cruise to a 3-0 win at Portsmouth on Saturday and provided the perfect boost ahead of Tuesday’s semi-final second-leg clash with Manchester United.

Arsenal must overturn a one-goal deficit and cannot afford to allow Cristiano Ronaldo, Wayne Rooney, Dimitar Berbatov and company to snatch a crucial away goal. But Wenger’s side have not conceded at the Brazil star shine more regularly next season. Robinho has often been criticised for failing to live up to his club record 32.75 million pounds price tag since his shock move from Real Madrid in August.

But, despite questions about his appetite for the more mundane fixtures in the Premier League, Robinho is still in contention to end as the division’s top scorer. The forward is finishing the campaign with a real flourish and took his tally to 15 goals for the season in the 3-1 win over Blackburn on Saturday that kept City in the hunt for a Europa League place.

Hughes concedes that his star player has not always lived up to his billing but feels Robinho can improve even further next season. He said: “Robbie’s an easy target. He’s a high profile player and he’s got a price tag that people will highlight and it’s understandable and predictable.

**Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a backhand to Roger Federer during their ATP match in Rome.**—Internet

**Nadal to face Djokovic in Rome ATP final**

**Rome, 3 May**—World number one Rafael Nadal will play Novak Djokovic in the final of the ATP Rome Masters after their respective victories against Fernando Gonzalez and Roger Federer on Saturday.

World number three Djokovic is the reigning champion here and needs to retain his title or Britain’s Andy Murray will overtake him in the world rankings, while Nadal claimed the crown in the three previous years. Serbian Djokovic made the most of a rain break to transform his play and beat Federer 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 in a thriller.

“It was really important. I mean, if you look at it, obviously everybody will say that the rain helped me, it’s a fact,” admitted Djokovic. “It’s a fact that I played much better after the break and that I started being more patient, moving much better, giving him more balls back and making him play more.—Internet

**Alan Smith of Newcastle United competes for the ball with Albert Riera of Liverpool.**—Internet

**Man City plans to get more from Robinho**

**Manchester, 3 May**—Manchester City manager Mark Hughes is determined to surround Robinho with enough world-class talent to help

**Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger**

“Everybody is surprised. Me too. I didn’t expect this would be so easy,” Pacquiao said. “But I have worked hard in training camp. Nothing personal. I was just doing my job.”

Pacquiao, who beat last year’s finalist Nadia Petrova and Elena Jankovic in route to the semi-final, tried badly, having made the last four of the doubles competition, and failed to offer much resistance.”I was a bit slow starting today,” said the 23-year-old Safina, who lost this year’s Australian Open final to Serena Williams.—Internet

Safina, who will play Russian compatriot Svetlana Kuznetsova on Sunday, turned her semi-final around in the second set after calling for her coach Zeljko Krajan, going on to recover from 3-1 down to win the second 7-5. In the third set plucky Pennetta, who beat last year’s finalist Nadia Petrova and Elena Jankovic en route to the semi-final, tried badly, having made the last four of the doubles competition, and failed to offer much resistance.”I was a bit slow starting today,” said the 23-year-old Safina, who lost this year’s Australian Open final to Serena Williams.—Internet

**Safina survives Italian scare to face Kuznetsova in final**

**Stuttgart, 3 May**—World number one Dinara Safina overcame a first set scare here Saturday to outclass unseeded Italian Flavia Pennetta 6-7, 6-5, 6-0 and book her place in the WTA Stuttgart final.

Barcelona’s Thierry Henry (R) celebrates with his teammate Samuel Eto’o (R) after scoring against Real Madrid during a Spanish league football match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid. Barcelona won 6-2.—Internet

**INTERNET**

**Answers to yesterday’s Crosswords Puzzle**

| L E D G E S | L A T E R |
| A N S W E R S | S E N S U R E |
| T A U N T | P I G T A I L |
| E B I T E M | S P A N |
| N A T U R A L | L I T T L E |
| T E E E L | T I D L E |
| I D O L | Y A K N A |
| L O K E | A C C U S E D |
| O U N T | P H T T |
| S O P R A N O | U N I T E |
| E E S K R N | M E A G R E |
Iran shells Kurdish rebel positions in N Iraq

SULAIMANIYA, 3 May—Iran shelled Kurdish rebel positions in a remote area of northern Iraq’s largely autonomous Kurdistan region on Saturday, a spokesman for the Kurdish Peshmerga border guards said.

“They fired shells at the mountain area of Choma Sar. There were no casualties because it is a mostly unpopulated area,” Jabbar Yawar said. The shelling started at around 8:30 a.m. (0530 GMT) and continued for more than an hour. Border guards also spotted Iranian military helicopters bombing an area just inside Iran. The aircraft did not cross into Iraq, he said.— MNA/Reuters

A whale can be seen in the sea of Mirissa, a beauty spot which is famous of whale watching in southern Sri Lanka, recently. Internet

W E A T H E R

Sunday, 3 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan and Kayin States, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Shan State, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above May average temperatures in Magway and Taninthayi Divisions,(4°C) below May average temperatures in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about May average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Chank (43°C), Minbu, Magway, Aunglan and Mandalay (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pyinoolwin (1.58) inches, Maungdaw (1.50) inches and Myawady (1.26) inches.

Maximum temperature on 2-5-2009 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 3-5-2009 was 74°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 3-5-2009 was 66%.

Total sunshine hours on 2-5-2009 was (10.5) hrs approx.

Rainfall on3-5-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (1.14) inches at Mingaladon, (2.01) inches at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (1.26) inches, Maungdaw (1.50) inches and Myawady (1.58) inches. Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pyinoolwin (1.58) inches, Maungdaw (1.50) inches and Myawady (1.26) inches.

State of the sea: seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Forecast for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-5 May 2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-5 May 2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-5 May 2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (4.5.2009) (Monday)

<table>
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<td>Signature Tune</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:15 AM</td>
<td>Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Yatanapron Teleport</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td>Upcountry Farmland abundant in paddy</td>
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<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Myanmar’s Harfy Raffman At Work</td>
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<td>10:45 AM</td>
<td>Future Stars (Loikaw, Kayah State)</td>
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In early months of 2009, I had an opportunity to make trips to various regions of the country. When I visited Shan State (North), it was the first week of February. Therefore, I daily wore sweaters because of the chilling cold.

At that time, there were honey oranges in Shan State in abundance. Starting my trips to Shan State (North), I had decided to have honey orange to my heart's content. Fortunately, my wish was fulfilled.

Having completed one-night trip to Tangyan from Lashio, I visited Sonhon honey orange farm near Kanlon Village of Nanpaung of Lashio Township at which I was offered many fresh and sweet honey oranges.

Farm owner U Gon Khay and family members allowed me to pluck the oranges and immediately eat them under the orange trees. I enjoyed the best taste of orange in my life.

The honey orange farm is located on 60 acres and orange trees on 40 acres of land. The remaining areas are put under maize. After four years, honey orange can be produced from 6,400 orange trees and there is high demand for the fruit in the domestic market.

**Dietary fats trigger long-term memory formation**

**Rome, 3 May** — UC Irvine researchers have found that eating fat-rich foods triggers the formation of long-term memories of that activity. The study adds to their recent work linking dietary fats to appetite control and may herald new approaches for treating obesity and other eating disorders.

Study results appear this week in the early online edition of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Daniele Piomelli, the Louise Turner Arnold Chair in Neurosciences, teamed with UCI's James McGaugh, one of the world's leading learning and memory researchers, to examine how dietary fats facilitate memory retention.—Internet

**Excessive cod bycatch undermines moratorium**

**Ottawa, 3 May** — Cod bycatch was at least 70 per cent higher than target levels on the southern Grand Banks near Canada, holding back recovery of one of the world’s best known fisheries following its spectacular collapse and closure in the early 1990s.—Internet

Information provided to WWF-Canada also said that European Union boats were responsible for the largest proportion of the overrun in bycatch.

Excessive bycatch of cod has undermined a moratorium imposed in 1994, peaking in 2003, when bycatch amounts were estimated to be over 80 per cent of the remaining cod stock. WWF pushed for a 2008 cod recovery strategy that included setting a bycatch reduction target of 40 per cent for southern Grand Banks cod at the September 2007 annual meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO).

The 40 per cent target was equivalent to a fishing mortality of 420 tonnes, estimated to be the maximum the population could withstand to still have some chance of recovery.—Internet

**Ferguson tips Chelsea to oust Barcelona**

**Manchester, 3 May** — Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has stated that he believes Chelsea will knock out Barcelona and book themselves a spot in the Champions League final.

The two clubs drew 0-0 in the Camp Nou in the first leg of their semi-final and will now go head-to-head at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday night in the return leg.

Whilst home advantage may favour Guus Hiddink's men, they will be fearful of Barcelona's stunning 6-2 demolition of Real Madrid on Saturday night, and the knowledge that a score draw will be enough to see the Catalan side through. However, speaking to *The Observer*, Ferguson insisted that he believed Chelsea would progress and pointed to the absence of Barcelona defenders Carlos Puyol and Rafael Marquez as a key factor in the tie.

"I think Chelsea will go through now, they are in the driving seat," he said.—Internet

**Having strong memories of that rich, delicious dessert you ate last night? If so, you shouldn't feel like a glutton. It's only natural**

Having strong memories of that rich, delicious dessert you ate last night? If so, you shouldn't feel like a glutton. It's only natural.

**Cech mate: the Chelsea goalkeeper was hailed as a hero by his manager, Guus Hiddink in the first semifinal.**—Internet

**Branchez of thriving honey orange trees bending with fruits.**