Industrial development lies at core of transforming nation into peaceful, modern, developed one

Government Technical Institute (Putao) and Government Technical High School (Putao) opened

Prime Minister General Thein Sein addressed the opening ceremony of Government Technical Institute (Putao) and Government Technical High School (Putao) under the Ministry of Science and Technology at the basic education high school in Doktan Ward, Putao, Kachin State, yesterday morning.

(See page 8)

Only with technologies and human resources will it be possible to harness the natural resources for regional and national development.
**PERSPECTIVES**

Thursday, 7 May, 2009

**Make concerted efforts for emergence of an industrial nation**

Special Projects Implementation Committee held the coordination meeting 1/2009 at the meeting hall of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) in Nay Pyi Taw on 4 May and Chairman of Special Projects Implementation Committee Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe attended it and gave necessary guidance.

Regarding the industrial sector, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe stressed that development of the electric power and energy sectors were very important for all industries, that the education sector was being promoted for producing skilled technicians needed for these sectors and that the industrial sector would enjoy speedy and substantial development if all the requirements were accordingly fulfilled.

Development of the industrial sector plays a major role in our drive to develop and modernize the nation. Therefore, the government has established eighteen industrial zones where necessary for development of the private industrial sector. Now these industrial zones are producing various kinds of import substitutes.

In the State-owned industrial sector also, measures are being taken for improving the capacity of heavy industries and new factories and workshops are being built to produce import substitutes. The boiler production project is going to be implemented in Thagara industrial zone, the project for industry-used advanced equipment workshop in Paungdaung industrial zone and the project for automotive parts manufacturing plant in Magway industrial region.

Nowadays, ashi-tech factories and workshops are being built in industrial zones and regions, job opportunities will open up to people and they will have a chance to learn new production technologies. Concerted efforts will have to be made for speedy implementation of industrial projects, full-capacity operation of already-built factories and increased production of quality products. Only then will the industrial sector really enjoy speedy and substantial development.

**Drugs seized in Yangon, Shan State (North), Taninthayi**

YANGON, 6 May — Yangon (East) Special Anti-drug Squad seized a block of heroin weighing 350 g packed in a plastic bag inside a car with number plate of nya/6447 on Seikkantha Road in Kyayukthada Township on 27 April.

After the special

**Talks at MFF**

YANGON, 6 May — With the sponsorship of Info Myanmar Computer Service & Training Centre, educative talks, jointly organized by Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Myanmar Prawn Entrepreneurs Association, will be held at Thir Aminawa hall of the federation here at 2 p.m. on 9 May.

Professor Dr Aung Tun that will give talks on “Followship.” — MNA

**Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing inspects measures taken for smooth transportation in Pinlaung Tsp, Shan State (South)**

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May — Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of Ministry of Defence inspected extension of Pyinnmana-Pinlaung Road in Shan State (South) yesterday.

On his tour of inspection, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, called for completion of the extension of the road meeting the set standard. Afterwards, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing went to the worksite of the construction of Leinli Bridge and inspected works on construction of the approach road and the box culvert of the bridge which is under construction by the Bridge Construction Special Group-9 of the Public Works.

At the briefing hall of the work site, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing heard reports on the progress of work and future plans presented by a senior engineer of the Bridge Construction Special Group-9.

Afterwards, he visited the work site and health care clinic for workers and inspected stock piling of construction materials, construction works including approach structures.

He also visited Pekhon Station and met with officers, other ranks and their families and presented gifts to them.— MNA

**Leinli bridge construction project in progress.**— MNA

**Tobacco Kills**

**People’s Desires**

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose those trying to impair the unity of the State
* Oppose all interference of external elements in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

**THSE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Thursday, 7 May, 2009
**11 dead in Baghdad bombing**

BAGHDAD, 6 May — A car bomb exploded on Wednesday at the entrance to a fruit and vegetable market in south Baghdad, killing 11 people and wounding about 30, police and hospital officials said.

The blast occurred about 7 am at the Rasheed market in the city’s southern Dora area, which had been one of the most dangerous during the Sunni-Shiite fighting of two years ago. It follows a sharp rise in attacks in Iraq last month.

Police and hospital officials confirmed the attack and the casualty toll but spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not supposed to release the information.

Despite the rise in attacks, the Iraqi government has ruled out asking US combat troops to remain in Iraq cities after the 30 June deadline for their withdrawal.

The US-Iraq security agreement that took effect this year calls for American forces to leave the country by the end of 2011.

The departure of heavily armed American soldiers from bases inside the cities is important psychologically to many Iraqis, who are eager to regain control of their country after six years of war and US military occupation.

**Australian troops kills senior Taleban leader in Afghanistan**

CANBERRA, 6 May — Australian defence force said on Wednesday that Australian troops killed a senior Taleban commander in Afghanistan in an operation to disrupt insurgent activity.

The latest operation has been expected to disrupt the effectiveness of insurgent activity in the Deh Rafshkan region for a number of months to come, defence said in a statement.

Chief of joint operations, Lieutenant-General Mark Evans, said the counter-insurgency strategy being employed by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization-led (NATO) coalition has been having a degrading effect on Taleban leadership and their ability to conduct coherent operations.

“Coalition forces have been disrupting the insurgents’ ability to command and control operations,” Chief of joint operations, Lieutenant-General Mark Evans said. According to Evans, the result of this constant targeting was that the Taleban were not able to readily coordinate attacks on coalition forces until replacement leaders were recruited and they can rebuild their knowledge and skills.

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has announced last month that Australia’s troop commitment in Afghanistan will increase from 1,100 to 1,550.

**Iraq condemns Iranian bombardment**

BAGHDAD, 6 May — Iraq’s Foreign Ministry summoned Iranian ambassador to condemn Iranian shelling of border villages in northern Kurdistan region, the Iraqi government said on Tuesday.

A ministry statement said that the Iranian ambassador to Baghdad Hassan Kazemi Qomi received on Monday a letter of protest over Iranian violations using aircraft, helicopter and artillery bombardment that caused damages to properties and wounded many inhabitants in the Iraqi villages.

The ministry requested immediate halt of such violations, warning of “severe negative impact on overall relations between the two countries,” the statement said. It said that Iraq “understands the motives of the Iranian authorities controlling their border but emphasized repeatedly that it should not be a unilateral action.”

Iranian forces frequently bombard Iraqi villages near the Iran-Iraq border while chasing Iranian Kurdish rebels who use Iraq’s Kurdistan as safe haven and a launch pad for their attacks against authorities in Iran.

**Afghan President orders probe into US action**

KABUL, 6 May — President Hamid Karzai has ordered a probe into allegations that more than 30 civilians died in a US-led bombing in western Afghanistan.

Karzai said in a statement that Afghan and US-led coalition officials headed to Farah Province on Wednesday to investigate the incident.

Local officials say civilians died during bombing runs ordered by US forces late Monday in Farah.

Civilians deaths have caused increasing friction between the Afghan and US governments, and Karzai has long pleaded with American officials to reduce the number of civilian casualties in their operations.

Karzai says he will raise the issue again with President Barack Obama during their planned meeting on Wednesday.

**Heavy floods kill nearly 30 in Afghanistan**

KABUL, 6 May — Floods caused by heavy rains have killed nearly 30 people and damaged more than 1,200 houses in Afghanistan in the past two weeks, the United Nations said.

The floods had affected 10 of the country’s 34 provinces and left hundreds without shelter, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in a statement late on Tuesday.

OCHA, the Afghan government and aid groups are coordinating aid efforts to help those affected.

An injured Afghan woman from the Bala Baluk, district of Afghanistan, is seen on a bed at the hospital in Farah Province of Afghanistan on 5 May, 2009. (OCHA) said in a statement late on Tuesday, OCHA, the Afghan government and aid groups are coordinating aid efforts to help those affected.
China rejects US criticism over military strength

BEIJING, 6 May—Chinese military officials have rejected criticism by Washington that China’s rising military power is focused on countering the United States and said US pressure was behind Australia’s bid to boost its defense spending.

US officials have increasingly spoken out about China’s military spending and the country’s lack of transparency. Australia announced last Saturday that it would buy 100 state-of-the-art US fighter jets and double the size of its modest submarine fleet to keep pace with military spending in Asia.

China said the US was behind Canberra’s move. “The US has successfully coaxed Australia into approving a military budget of $70 billion to boost its defence over the next 20 years,” the Global Times quoted Zhang Zhaozhong, a rear admiral in the People’s Liberation Army Navy, as saying on Wednesday.

An unidentified Chinese Defence Ministry official, meanwhile, told the newspaper that recent remarks by Adm Michael Mullen, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, “irresponsible and worked to the disadvantage of the development of Sino-US military relations.”

Earlier this week, Mullen said China’s increasing military strength seemed to be focused on counterbalancing America’s presence in Asia.

Hamas, Gaza militants agree to halt rockets firing on Israel

GAZA, 6 May—Islamic Hamas movement and Gaza militant groups had secretly agreed to halt firing homemade rockets from the Strip at Israel, a senior well-informed source told Xinhua late Tuesday night.

The source, which spoke in condition of anonymity, revealed that a meeting was secretly held in Gaza city, and was attended by leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad movements as well as leaders of other minor militant groups.

“It was agreed during the meeting to avoid the Israeli provocations and not to carry out actions by the Palestinian factions and armed groups that bring back a violent Israeli reaction,” said the source.

Earlier on Tuesday, the local Palestinian media quoted eyewitnesses as saying that they saw Hamas militants searching into cars in northern Gaza Strip and looking for rockets that other militants fire at Israel. Hamas hasn’t commented on the report.—Internet

Bank of America to need $34 billion in capital

WASHINGTON, 6 May—Bank of America Corp has been deemed to need as much as $34 billion in additional capital, according to the results of a government stress test, a source familiar with the results told Reuters late on Tuesday.

Bank of America spokesman Scott Silvestri declined comment. A possible $34 billion capital shortfall is certain to increase pressure on CEO Kenneth Lewis, who was last week ousted by shareholders as chairman of the biggest US bank.

That ouster could lay the groundwork for Lewis’s eventual departure from the company he worked at for 40 years, including the last eight as chief executive.—Internet

Russian FM drops NATO talks over expulsions

MOSCOW, 6 May—Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has dropped plans to attend a meeting of the NATO-Russia Council this month in protest at NATO’s expulsion of Russian diplomats, a diplomatic source said on Tuesday. “It’s not the right time for such meetings,” said the diplomatic source. “There will not be any (Russian ministerial) visit or participation at events in Brussels in the nearest future.”

The source said Lavrov had never formally confirmed his attendance at the talks, which were pencilled in for either May 18 or 19. Diplomatic sources told Reuters the planned expulsion of two Russian diplomats from NATO’s Brussels-based headquarters changed the climate and talks could not now go ahead. Russia had already pulled out of a planned meeting among senior military staff on 7 May in protest at NATO war games that are due to start in Georgia on 6 May.

The Russia-NATO council was suspended after August’s Georgia war but the ministerial meeting was to have been the culmination of a gradual restoration in contacts over recent months. The Belgian Government has asked Russia when two diplomats expelled by NATO over a spy scandal will be leaving their posts, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said.—MNA/Reuters

Gunmen kill Mexican journalist in northern state

MEXICO CITY, 6 May—Gunmen killed a columnist for a newspaper in a northern Mexican state plagued by kidnappings and drug violence, authorities said on Tuesday. A motive hadn’t been determined.

At least four gunmen confronted Carlos Ortega on Sunday when he got out of his car in front of his home in the small town of Santa Maria del Oro, the Durango state prosecutor’s office said in statement. Ortega was shot in the head after struggling with the attackers, it said.

There was no evidence that Ortega, 52, was targeted for his newspaper work, said Victor Garza, director of the newspaper Tiempo. He noted that Durango has been plagued with drug violence and kidnappings and that Ortega was also a lawyer who defended criminal suspects.

“As a newspaper, and as journalists, we want the motive to be established first of all — so that it isn’t linked to freedom of expression if that’s not the case, or it isn’t kept quiet or covered up if it is,” Garza said.

Garza said Ortega recently argued with the town’s mayor, Martin Silvestre Herrera, over an article on sanitation at a local slaughterhouse, and then wrote a column saying he would hold the mayor responsible if anything happened to him.

But Garza stressed that the mayor never threatened Ortega. He said Ortega also had been targeted in the past: In separate incidents, gunmen shot at his home and his car was set on fire.—Internet
Regional cooperation vital to Asia’s recovery

Bali, 6 May—During the four-day annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), delegates, despite their various backgrounds, held one idea firmly in mind: only when Asian nations unite, can they survive the deepening crisis and recover to prosperity.

During the meeting, finance ministers of the ten-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), China, Japan and South Korea (ASEAN+3) agreed “on all main components” of the so-called “Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization” (CMIM) and pledged to implement it by the end of this year.

The agreement reached on Sunday sent a strong message to the world that Asia is willing to act cooperatively and responsibly in face of the daunting tasks ahead. It also pushed regional financial cooperation a big step forward.

Before the Angkor Dynasty, there were two dynasties governing Cambodia, respectively called Funan and Chenla.

Visitors visit the Vestas Wind Systems pavilion during the Wind Power 2009 Conference and Exhibition in Chicago, Illinois, the United States on 5 May, 2009.—Xinhua

Cambodia puts 3,000-year-old pre-Angkor relics on show

Phnom Penh, 6 May—The National Museum here on Wednesday opened an exhibition to demonstrate some archeological findings prior to the Angkor Era (802-1432), which was the most glorious period in the history of Cambodia.

The “Angkor Ancestors” show mainly features a recreation of an excavation site at the Angkor Wat area in Siem Reap Province, complete with pottery shards and a 3,000-year-old skeleton.

Organized by a French research institution and the museum itself, the exhibition is the first ever held in the kingdom on the pre-Angkor period, said museum director Hab Touch.

“This is an opportunity for scholars as well as the public to understand prehistory. We know so little about it,” he said. The artifacts on display were found at two sites within the Angkor Wat area, a 2,000-year-old village location and a 3,000-year-old burial place.

Currently, the Angkor Wat is the most welcomed tourist destination in Cambodia.

Before the Angkor Dynasty, there were two dynasties governing Cambodia, respectively called Funan and Chenla.

Xinhua

Mexico asks WTO to help lift pork import ban

Mexico City, 6 May—Mexico’s Economy Ministry said on Tuesday the government had asked the World Trade Organization (WTO) to help lift import restrictions placed on Mexican pork following a deadly A/H1N1 flu outbreak.

In a letter to the 153 members of the WTO’s Sanitary and Hytosanitary Measures Committee, Mexican Economy Ministry added that scientific evidence suggests there is no justification to restrict meat imports. Gerardo Ruiz Mateos, the minister, told a press conference.

Xinhua

Walt Disney reports drop in second-quarter profit

Los Angeles, 6 May—The Walt Disney Co in Burbank near Los Angeles suffered a 46-percent drop in second-quarter profit, compared to the same quarter a year ago, the company announced on Tuesday.

The company attributed the drop to the economic crisis and financial restructuring charges. The company reported diluted earnings of 33 cents per share for the quarter that ended 28 March, a 43-percent drop from the 58 cents per share in the prior year’s second quarter. Net income for the quarter fell to 613 million dollars, down from 1.13 billion in the quarter a year ago.—Xinhua

Men dressed up as pigs take a break during a campaign by Peru’s Agriculture Ministry to promote the consumption of pork in Lima on 5 May, 2009.—Xinhua

China’s auto sales expected to blossom in April

Beijing, 6 May—April sales numbers released by leading carmakers in China indicated the country’s automobile market has walked out of the shadow of the global financial crisis as the government’s stimulus measures began to pay off, Wednesday’s China Daily reported.

General Motors said on Tuesday its vehicle sales in China soared 50 percent year on year in April to 151,084 units, a new monthly high.

Its German rival Volkswagen was also expecting monthly sales record for April. The company’s China CEO Winfried Vahland predicted Volkswagen’s sales in April were likely to surpass March figures, which hit 112,466 units, presenting the company’s historical high.

“It is a clear signal that the domestic automobile market is back on track and will keep growing this year,” Zhong Shi, an independent auto analyst told the paper. The China Association of Automobile Manufacturers is expected to release its official sales figures this Friday or next Monday.—Xinhua

Men dressed up as pigs take a break during a campaign by Peru’s Agriculture Ministry to promote the consumption of pork in Lima on 5 May, 2009.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Chinese ambassador to Mexico Yin Hengmin (R) says good-bye to Chinese citizens waiting for boarding at Benito Juarez international airport in Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 5 May, 2009.—Xinhua

Walt Disney reports drop in second-quarter profit

Los Angeles, 6 May—The Walt Disney Co in Burbank near Los Angeles suffered a 46-percent drop in second-quarter profit, compared to the same quarter a year ago, the company announced on Tuesday.

The company attributed the drop to the economic crisis and financial restructuring charges. The company reported diluted earnings of 33 cents per share for the quarter that ended 28 March, a 43-percent drop from the 58 cents per share in the prior year’s second quarter. Net income for the quarter fell to 613 million dollars, down from 1.13 billion in the quarter a year ago.—Xinhua

China’s auto sales expected to blossom in April

Beijing, 6 May—April sales numbers released by leading carmakers in China indicated the country’s automobile market has walked out of the shadow of the global financial crisis as the government’s stimulus measures began to pay off, Wednesday’s China Daily reported.

General Motors said on Tuesday its vehicle sales in China soared 50 percent year on year in April to 151,084 units, a new monthly high.

Its German rival Volkswagen was also expecting monthly sales record for April. The company’s China CEO Winfried Vahland predicted Volkswagen’s sales in April were likely to surpass March figures, which hit 112,466 units, presenting the company’s historical high.

“It is a clear signal that the domestic automobile market is back on track and will keep growing this year,” Zhong Shi, an independent auto analyst told the paper. The China Association of Automobile Manufacturers is expected to release its official sales figures this Friday or next Monday.—Xinhua

Men dressed up as pigs take a break during a campaign by Peru’s Agriculture Ministry to promote the consumption of pork in Lima on 5 May, 2009.—Xinhua

Walt Disney reports drop in second-quarter profit

Los Angeles, 6 May—The Walt Disney Co in Burbank near Los Angeles suffered a 46-percent drop in second-quarter profit, compared to the same quarter a year ago, the company announced on Tuesday.

The company attributed the drop to the economic crisis and financial restructuring charges. The company reported diluted earnings of 33 cents per share for the quarter that ended 28 March, a 43-percent drop from the 58 cents per share in the prior year’s second quarter. Net income for the quarter fell to 613 million dollars, down from 1.13 billion in the quarter a year ago.—Xinhua

China’s auto sales expected to blossom in April

Beijing, 6 May—April sales numbers released by leading carmakers in China indicated the country’s automobile market has walked out of the shadow of the global financial crisis as the government’s stimulus measures began to pay off, Wednesday’s China Daily reported.

General Motors said on Tuesday its vehicle sales in China soared 50 percent year on year in April to 151,084 units, a new monthly high.

Its German rival Volkswagen was also expecting monthly sales record for April. The company’s China CEO Winfried Vahland predicted Volkswagen’s sales in April were likely to surpass March figures, which hit 112,466 units, presenting the company’s historical high.

“It is a clear signal that the domestic automobile market is back on track and will keep growing this year,” Zhong Shi, an independent auto analyst told the paper. The China Association of Automobile Manufacturers is expected to release its official sales figures this Friday or next Monday.—Xinhua

Men dressed up as pigs take a break during a campaign by Peru’s Agriculture Ministry to promote the consumption of pork in Lima on 5 May, 2009.—Xinhua

Walt Disney reports drop in second-quarter profit

Los Angeles, 6 May—The Walt Disney Co in Burbank near Los Angeles suffered a 46-percent drop in second-quarter profit, compared to the same quarter a year ago, the company announced on Tuesday.

The company attributed the drop to the economic crisis and financial restructuring charges. The company reported diluted earnings of 33 cents per share for the quarter that ended 28 March, a 43-percent drop from the 58 cents per share in the prior year’s second quarter. Net income for the quarter fell to 613 million dollars, down from 1.13 billion in the quarter a year ago.—Xinhua

China’s auto sales expected to blossom in April

Beijing, 6 May—April sales numbers released by leading carmakers in China indicated the country’s automobile market has walked out of the shadow of the global financial crisis as the government’s stimulus measures began to pay off, Wednesday’s China Daily reported.

General Motors said on Tuesday its vehicle sales in China soared 50 percent year on year in April to 151,084 units, a new monthly high.

Its German rival Volkswagen was also expecting monthly sales record for April. The company’s China CEO Winfried Vahland predicted Volkswagen’s sales in April were likely to surpass March figures, which hit 112,466 units, presenting the company’s historical high.

“It is a clear signal that the domestic automobile market is back on track and will keep growing this year,” Zhong Shi, an independent auto analyst told the paper. The China Association of Automobile Manufacturers is expected to release its official sales figures this Friday or next Monday.—Xinhua
15 killed, 180,000 homeless in Brazil floods

RIO DE JANEIRO, 6 May — Recent floods and mudslides in northern Brazil have killed at least 15 people and left 180,000 homeless, the country’s National Civil Defence said on Tuesday. About 70,000 of the homeless are currently residing in public shelters. Heavy rains have already affected more than 190 cities in seven states, according to the Civil Defence. In some regions, heavy rains have caused collapse of dams.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva visited the most affected states of Piaui and Maranhao on Tuesday. He accused Brazil’s former administrations of failing to invest in infrastructure for the past 30 years, which he said could have reduced the impact of floods.

Meanwhile, Lula also noted that other parts of Brazil is suffering from draught that can not be ignored. “We have problems with floods and draught in the same country,” he said. Santa Catarina state, which underwent massive floods in late 2008, is now suffering from a draught.

Vienna most livable city, Baghdad least

Vienna has the highest all-round quality of life among the world’s cities and Baghdad the lowest, a Canadian human resources consulting firm said on Friday. Mercer, a subsidiary of Marsh & McLennon, ranked Singapore as having the best urban infrastructure.

The company’s annual Quality of Living Survey is aimed at helping international companies decide on overseas operations and assignments. The infrastructure ranking is new this year.

Slagin Parakatil, a Mercer researcher, said companies need to provide additional benefits for employees in cities with poor infrastructure.

Better educated people choose better diets

People with higher education levels have higher quality diets but the better diets are most costly, US researchers said. Researchers from the University of Washington compared the eating habits and food costs of a sample of 164 adults in the Seattle area.

Pablo Monsivais and Adam Drewnowski, both of the University of Washington, Seattle, said energy density of the diet — ie, available energy per unit weight — is one indicator of diet quality. Lean meats, fish, low-fat dairy products and fresh vegetables and fruit provide fewer calories per unit weight than do fast foods, sweets, candy and desserts.

Energy dense foods provide more calories per unit weight but tend to be nutrient-poor.

The study, published in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association, said that for both men and women, higher dietary energy density was associated with higher intakes of total fat and saturated fat and with lower intakes of dietary fiber, potassium and vitamins A and C. Daily diet cost was slightly higher for men at $6.72/day than women at $6.21/day — reflecting the fact that men ate more than women.

Philippines Typhoon toll hits 27, new storm builds

MANILA, 6 May — The death toll from a typhoon that lashed the Philippines rose to 27, with over 54,000 people left homeless, the government said on Wednesday, as they warned of a new storm gathering in the South China Sea.

State weather forecasts said Typhoon Kujira has now blown out of the Philippines after dumping heavy rains and causing floods and landslides in the eastern Bicol region at the weekend.

Twenty-one of the casualties were recorded in the town of Magallanes in Sorsogon Province, where a landslide buried a coastal village, the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) said.

Six others were either drowned or electrocuted by fallen power lines, it said. Eight other people are still missing.

Over 54,000 people remained home-

resists about 80 percent of economic activity in the United States.

The ISM is a trade association representing approximately 40,000 supply management professionals. Its service sector index reflects the opinions of purchasing and supply executives at non-manufacturing industries.

US service sector shrinks for seventh straight month

WASHINGTON, 6 May — Business activity in the US service sector contracted for the seventh consecutive month in April, the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) reported Tuesday in its latest non-manufacturing survey.

The Tempe, Arizona-based research group said its index of business activity in the non-manufacturing sector declined to 43.7 last month from March’s reading of 40.8.

A reading at or above 50 indicates expansion, while one below indicates contraction. The service sector — everything from restaurants and hotels to banks and airlines — represents approximately 80 percent of economic activity in the United States.

A man looks at a sand sculpture at ‘Dinostory’, the theme for this year’s annual Sand Sculpting Australia exhibition, at Frankston Waterfront in Melbourne, Australia.

Police: burglar took jellybeans, but nothing else

Police in northwestern Pennsylvania say a burglar took some jellybeans from a home — but nothing else. Police said Thursday that they are stumped by the burglary in North East Township.

Sgt Mark Zaleski said it remains unclear whether the suspect wanted only jellybeans. Or maybe that’s all the thief had time to grab.

Police say the burglar broke a front door window Friday night and took the jellybeans from a dining room table. The homeowner reported that nothing else was missing or even moved.

A baby kangaroo named Tijana is seen in the incubator in Belgrade Zoo in Belgrade, Serbia. Her mother, after being scared by an emu, a large Australian bird, ran away and the 6-month-old fell out from her pouch.

Now, the young kangaroo, which normally would feed on her mother’s milk inside the pouch, is being fed in an incubator with special milk.

News Album

A baby kangaroo named Tijana is seen in the incubator in Belgrade Zoo in Belgrade, Serbia. Her mother, after being scared by an emu, a large Australian bird, ran away and the 6-month-old fell out from her pouch.

Now, the young kangaroo, which normally would feed on her mother’s milk inside the pouch, is being fed in an incubator with special milk.

Philippines Typhoon toll hits 27, new storm builds

MANILA, 6 May — The death toll from a typhoon that lashed the Philippines rose to 27, with over 54,000 people left homeless, the government said on Wednesday, as they warned of a new storm gathering in the South China Sea.

State weather forecasts said Typhoon Kujira has now blown out of the Philippines after dumping heavy rains and causing floods and landslides in the eastern Bicol region at the weekend.

Twenty-one of the casualties were recorded in the town of Magallanes in Sorsogon Province, where a landslide buried a coastal village, the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) said.

Six others were either drowned or electrocuted by fallen power lines, it said. Eight other people are still missing.

Over 54,000 people remained home-

resists about 80 percent of economic activity in the United States.

The ISM is a trade association representing approximately 40,000 supply management professionals. Its service sector index reflects the opinions of purchasing and supply executives at non-manufacturing industries.

US service sector shrinks for seventh straight month

WASHINGTON, 6 May — Business activity in the US service sector contracted for the seventh consecutive month in April, the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) reported Tuesday in its latest non-manufacturing survey.

The Tempe, Arizona-based research group said its index of business activity in the non-manufacturing sector declined to 43.7 last month from March’s reading of 40.8.

A reading at or above 50 indicates expansion, while one below indicates contraction. The service sector — everything from restaurants and hotels to banks and airlines — represents approximately 80 percent of economic activity in the United States.

A man looks at a sand sculpture at ‘Dinostory’, the theme for this year’s annual Sand Sculpting Australia exhibition, at Frankston Waterfront in Melbourne, Australia.

Police: burglar took jellybeans, but nothing else

Police in northwestern Pennsylvania say a burglar took some jellybeans from a home — but nothing else. Police said Thursday that they are stumped by the burglary in North East Township.

Sgt Mark Zaleski said it remains unclear whether the suspect wanted only jellybeans. Or maybe that’s all the thief had time to grab.

Police say the burglar broke a front door window Friday night and took the jellybeans from a dining room table. The homeowner reported that nothing else was missing or even moved.

A baby kangaroo named Tijana is seen in the incubator in Belgrade Zoo in Belgrade, Serbia. Her mother, after being scared by an emu, a large Australian bird, ran away and the 6-month-old fell out from her pouch.

Now, the young kangaroo, which normally would feed on her mother’s milk inside the pouch, is being fed in an incubator with special milk.
Myebon Township gaining momentum in agriculture, livestock breeding

At 6 a.m. on 28 March, together with Deputy Head of Rakhine State Information and Public Relations Department U Mya Maung Gyi, I went to Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Office in Sittway.

Under the arrangement of Head of Rakhine State General Administration Rakhine State General Office in Sittway. Rakhine State Peace and Maung Gyi, I went to Department U Mya Public Relations State Information and Deputy Head of Rakhine March, together with explained progress of the Win. At the port, they Township IPRD U Htay Township Fisheries San Aung, Head of Agriculture Service U Ba Manager of Myanma Township GAD U Ye Deputy Head of Chairman of Township the jetty of Myebon, we River, Zeechohmaw Sittway River, Pauktaw route, the boat ran at 8.25 am. Along the Kaung Tun Lin.

We left Sittway Local people reading at the library of Township IPRD. 107 raining days. In 2008- Myebon Township has 9,754 million.”

Myebon Township has 208.57 acres of monsoon paddy against the target of 67,000 acres. In 2008-2009, the township cultivated 67,020 acres of monsoon paddy and produced 19,616 baskets of paddy. On average, paddy yield was 98.08 baskets per acre. At 200 acres of model farmlands at the exit of the town, the farmers produced 8339 baskets.

I learned that the local farmers will use folio fertilizer at their farmlands for increasing the per acre yield of paddy. As such, Myebon Township will gain the boosting per acre yield of monsoon paddy soon under the supervision of departments concerned and authorities.

Myebon Township is surrounded by Kyetsein River and Bay of Hantar. Due to inflow of seawater, the region cannot be put under summer paddy. In cold season, the local growers cultivate cold season crops.

They grew 310 acres of sunflower, 2648 acres of oil mustard and 12 acres of niger and produced 36,002 baskets of cold season crops.

The local farmers are also engaged in growing of beans and pulses and other vegetables. Therefore, they achieve successful business to a certain degree.

The Township Power Supply Committee is joining hands with Township Electricity Department in operating the diesel generator for power supply from 7 pm to 10 pm daily. The electricity is being supplied to the local people with the use of 583 electric meters and 73 lamp posts. The committee installed two feet long fluorescent lamps at the township jetty.

In the transport sector, 23 miles and 2 furlongs long and 12 feet wide gravel Myebon-Minbya road is under construction. In this regard, 7 miles and 2 furlongs long section from Gaungbyu Village to Wetgaung Village has been completed. At present, heavy machinery of Myebon-Minbya Road Special Construction Group (2) arrived at the worksite for construction of the remaining road section.

Myebon-Minbya Road is the artery of the local people. In the past, they relied on the water way only. Due to unfavourable weather, the transportation was very poor along the water way. On completion of Myebon-Minbya Road, the local people will enjoy fruits of economic, social, health and regional development sectors. At present, the village people travel to Myebon by various types of vehicles daily along the earth road.

The departmental officials took us to the glaze pottery industry of the township. At the industry owned by U Maung Wai Tin, we saw beautiful earthen and glaze pots. They used clay for pottery industry near the worksite. About 20 workers earn K 20,000 to K 50,000 each per month and the owner, K 500,000 per month.

Myebon Town- is located on 942.12 square miles of land and it is set up with nine wards and 140 villages of 51 village-tracts. Despite being surrounded by seawater, the township produces monsoon paddy, fish and prawn more than the local food sufficiency under the supervision of Rakhine State, District and Township level officials. Up to now, the township is continuously trying to achieve more and more success in the economic sector.

Translation: TTA
Myanmar Alin: 2-5-2009
Industrial development lies at core of transforming...

(from page 1)

Also present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win, ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, service personnel, teachers, students and local people.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye, the commander and Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung formally opened the educational institutions.

The Prime Minister formally unveiled the signboard of Government Technical Institute (Putao).

The Prime Minister and party, teachers and national race people posed for a documentary photo.

The Prime Minister and party grew commemorative gangaw (mesua ferrea) trees in front of the institute.

The Prime Minister inspected Internet & video conferencing room, teaching aids, solar system iPstar satellite receiver, and generation of electricity with the use of gasifier.

The second session of the opening ceremony was held at Malikhu Hall.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that the opening of the Government Technical Institute and Government Technical High School represents a watershed in the education sector of Kachin State for its development.

In retrospect, Kachin State lagged behind other regions in development due to the armed conflicts between national brethren following the practice of racism, dogmatism and localism triggered by the colonialists’ divide-and-rule policy in addition to poor transport resulting from a large number of heights and mountain ranges, he said.

Since its assumption of State duties, the Tatmadaw government has been working hard to achieve national reconsolidation. As a result, all regions including border areas have enjoyed security, peace, stability and the rule of law. In compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, development projects are being implemented for development of regions including Putao, he said.

He said that the government is attending to the needs in a systematic way in the transport, education and health sectors which are crucial for regional development.

With smooth transport, people can travel from one region to another with comfort and national races come to deal with each other more than ever. So, the amicable friendship between national brethren is deepening and the economic, education and health sectors are improving, he said.

With that concept in view, the government upgraded Putao-Myitkyina Road with the aim of generating the development of Putao. Previously, it took two or three days for a person to travel between the two regions, but now people can make a one-day round trip, and the road has become an all-weather facility, he added.

The runway of Putao Airport, the main transport facility for local people, will be upgraded in order that it will be available for passenger planes, he disclosed.

Moreover, the government opened and upgraded schools as part of the ‘education for all’ programme, and opened universities in order that the youth of the region can pursue higher education in their region, he said.

He said that in line with the national health goal, new hospitals and health care centres are being opened, old hospitals are being upgraded with more hospital equipment, and doctors and nurses are being sent to foreign countries for further studies in order to improve the health standard of the people.

(See page 9)
Industrial development lies at core of transforming... (from page 8) Putao in Kachin State is blessed with beautiful geographical features and seer rare species of biodiversity, beauties, it is rich in natural resources, he said. Only with technologies and human resources will it be possible to harness the natural resources for regional and national development, he noted. The government assumes that industrial development lies at the core of the drive for transforming the nation into a peaceful, modern, developed one, he said. In its bid to constantly produce human resources necessary for industrial development, the government established the Ministry of Science and Technology along with technological universities, colleges and technical institutes, he added. Apart from the technological universities and colleges, the government opened technical institutes and government technical high schools for scaling up development of human resources, he disclosed. The teachers in service at the technical institutes have to sharpen the abilities of their students, try to become competent teachers, and stay in touch with international changes, he pointed out. In conclusion, he urged all those responsible to work hard, making good use of the basic foundations the government has built, to improve the socioeconomic life of local people, and service personnel to demonstrate goodwill in their work for regional development. The minister explained the purpose of the two educational institutions, and the attendance of the students in them. U Ma Phan Hsin Ho, on behalf of local people, spoke words of thanks for the institute and school.

The two education institutions are designed to help increase the number of intellectuals and intelligentsia necessary for economic growth of the nation, and to enable local young people to pursue higher education in their own regions. Altogether 98 students are attending the Government Technical Institute (Putao), and 367 students, the Government Technical High School (Putao).—MNA

Disseminate knowledge on healthy... (from page 16) The Prime Minister and Lt-Gen Tha Aye presented cash assistance, and the Commander and ministers school uniforms and exercise books for the students. The Prime Minister signed the school visitors’ book and said that teachers are not only to nurture well-educated students, but to train them to become disciplined and well-behaved citizens with strong Union Spirit.

The Prime Minister then inspected trainees learning in carpentry, mason and iron fixing workshop and called for application of practice to practical work.

On arrival at Women’s Vocational Training School under Education and Training Department of PBANRDA Ministry, the Prime Minister inspected sewing practise and display of various kinds of snacks by the trainees and encouraged them. The Prime Minister then proceeded to Putao People’s Hospital where he met with doctors and nurses and said that health staff play a pivotal role in promotion of public health. If only the health standard of rural people is high then the whole nation will enjoy better life styles and that it is necessary to make field trips to rural areas to disseminate knowledge on healthy lifestyle and diseases prevention methods in rural areas.

The Prime Minister then viewed Kachin State-level specialists rendering healthcare assistance to patients with eye-sight complaints, cleft lip, cleft palate, goiter under free mobile treatment programme and comforted the patients. The Prime Minister presented spectacles to eye patients who had undergone surgery. Lt-Gen Tha Aye, the Commander and ministers also presented spectacles to them. MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Swine flu A/H1N1 has broken out in the world since 17 April. So far, the swine flu has infected 1490 people and killed 31 and the virus has spread to 21 countries including Mexico, said the announcements released by WHO on 5 May.

The Ministry of Health has been taking preventive measures against the swine flu since 25 April as it may be transformed into global human flu.

The Ministry of Health has carried out preventive measures against the outbreak of the swine influenza (A/H1N1) in Myanmar, made preparations for keeping a constant watch on the virus and medical treatment, provided medicines and medical equipment and laboratory apparatus to the hospital and prepared the special care units wards at the hospitals for emergency use.

With regard to the situations of outbreak of swine flu, the preventive measures and dissemination of health knowledge are being released to the people through TV, radio and dailies in time.

Since 19 April, the visitors have been screened at airports, seaports and borders. Up to now, there has been no case of swine flu in Myanmar, according to the Ministry of Health.—MNA

Precautionary measures being taken against A/H1N1 virus

Up to 5 May, A/H1N1 virus had not been found in pig farms in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries today announced that A/H1N1 virus spread to 21 countries from 17 April to 5 May. So far, the number of suspicious victims around the world is 5368, that of infected people is 1490 and the disease has claimed 31 lives. In Asia-Pacific region, three people in the Republic of Korea and Hong Kong were infected with the virus.

Regarding the infection of A/H1N1 virus from human to pigs in Canada, Veterinary Head Dr Joseph Domenech of WHO on 4 May said that flu virus by nature could infect animals from humans, so it was not surprising; that there had been many human-to-animal cases, so it was needed to watch the cases with animal health awareness; that he suggested that if respiratory syndromes were found in pigs, the pigs should be kept in quarantine and restricted from going away and the case should be informed immediately to the nearest veterinary clinic; that culling pigs for prevention of the virus would not contribute towards the health of the people and animals; and that seeking root cause of virus infection and raising the bio security were the most effective preventive measures.

FAO, WHO, Codex Alimentarius and OIE insisted that there would be no infection of the virus if pork and pig products were handled and cooked in a systematic way.

Now, state/division, district and township level branches of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries are working together with local authorities, development affairs committees, the Myanmar Livestock and Fisheries Federation and livestock breeding entrepreneurs in raising the public awareness about the swine flu, distributing pamphlets, taking surveillance measures, and raising bio safety.

In Yangon on 28 April, Dr Murray Maclean of FAO to Myanmar, Deputy Director-General of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Aung Gyi, veterinarians from states and divisions, the Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation and more than 60 pig breeders held a workshop on prevention of swine flu, bio-security and diagnosis and sought ways and means to prevent the disease. In that regard, those from foreign countries visiting Myanmar will not be allowed to go to pig farms directly, and they will be allowed to do so only after taking bio-security measures.

Up to 5 May, A/H1N1 virus had not been found in pig farms in Myanmar. MNA
Greening of 30-mile radius of Yangon discussed

YANGON, 6 May—Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the Minister of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint arrived at the briefing hall of Shwenagamin Company Limited in the modern mechanized farming special zone-2 in Dagon Myothit (South), here this morning.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Myint Swe made a speech on agricultural matters at the meeting of supervisory committee for greening of 30-mile radius of Yangon. Next, Chairman of the committee Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint gave a supplementary report. Afterwards, officials from respective zones briefed Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint on accomplishment of the tasks of the respective zones and the secretary of the committee on measures for greening tasks of 30-mile radius of Yangon.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint inspects preventive measures against swine flu taken at Mandalay International Airport (Tada-U).—MNA

Forum on Effective Utilization of ICT in Business on 9 May

YANGON, 6 May—Forum on Effective Utilization of ICT in Business conducted by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will be held at UMFFCCI Office Tower on Minyekyawzwa Road in Lanmadaw Township on 9 May. President of Myanmar Computer Federation U Thein Oo, Vice President U Tin Win Aung and General Secretary-1 U Thaung Tin and General Secretary-2 U Aung Zaw Myint will give talks at the monthly forum.—MNA

Preventive measures against swine flu taken at M.V Crystal Symphony vessel on 5 May.—MNA

Service of medical care provided in townships in Mandalay Div

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, accompanied by Director-General Dr Win Myint of Department of Health, Director-General Dr Tin Nyunt of Traditional Medicine Department and officials inspected progress on construction tasks of the Health Department in Chanayethasan township in Mandalay Division on 1 May.

The following day, the minister and party viewed medical care services being provided to the patients at the dispensary, traditional medicine intensive care unit, skin intensive care unit, sexually transmitted disease ward, malaria and TB intensive care unit, surgical room, paediatric ward and dental clinic and comforted the patients.

The next day, the minister and party looked into eye treatment being provided to the patients in collaboration with Myanmar eye specialists and Japanese eye specialists led by Dr Yoshifumi Fujita at Eye, Nose, Ear and Throat Hospital in Mandalay.

For the tourists were arranged and health care provided to the passengers.

In the afternoon, tourists from the vessel were tested with clinical thermometer. The vessel has carried 394 passengers and 546 crews from the US-based Crystal Cruises. No one on board was infected with swine flu.—MNA
EU takes aim at Canada, bans seal products

STRASBOURG, 6 May—The European Parliament voted overwhelmingly on Tuesday to ban imports of seal products, including fur coats and even some omega-3 pills, in an effort to force Canada to end its annual seal hunt, the world’s largest.

The Canadian government reacted sharply to the move, with Trade Minister Stockwell Day promising that Ottawa will challenge the ban and take the 27-nation bloc to the world trade body if the new law does not exempt Canada.

The strain in relations came on the eve of a key summit between Canada and the European Union in Prague where they are expected to launch negotiations on a wide-ranging free trade agreement.

The European Parliament voted to endorse a bill that said commercial seal hunting, notably in Canada, is “inherently inhumane.” EU governments still need to back the law, but officials called that a formality and said the ban is expected to take effect in October.

The EU ban will apply to all products and proc-essed goods derived from seals, including their skins and said the ban is expected to take effect in October. Damaged cargo will be discharged daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up 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.

EU takes aim at Canada, bans seal products

Almost 3 in 10 US homeowners underwater in Q1

NEW YORK, 6 May—Home values in the United States extended their fall in the first quarter, with almost three in ten homeowners now owing more on their mortgages than their homes are worth, real estate website Zillow.com said on Wednesday.

US home values posted a year-over-year decline of 14.2 percent to a Zillow Home Value Index of $182,378, resulting in a total 21.8 percent drop since the market peaked in 2006, according to Zillow’s first-quarter Real Estate Market Reports, which encompass 161 metropolitan areas and cover the value changes in all homes, not just homes that have recently sold.

Declining home values left 28.9 percent of all American homeowners with negative equity by the end of the first quarter, Zillow said.

By comparison, 17.6 percent of all homeowners owed more on their mortgage than their property was worth in the fourth quarter of 2008, and 14.3 percent were underwater in the third quarter of last year, the reports showed.

Why caffeine abstinence causes headaches

BURLINGTON, 6 May—Acute caffeine abstinence increases brain blood flow, an effect that may account for commonly reported withdrawal symptoms of headache, drowsiness and decreased alertness, according to researchers.

Acute caffeine abstinence in-creases brain blood flow, an effect that may account for commonly reported withdrawal symptoms of headache, drowsiness and decreased alertness, according to researchers.

Almost 3 in 10 US homeowners underwater in Q1

EU takes aim at Canada, bans seal products

Why caffeine abstinence causes headaches
Scientists unveil chocolate-fueled race car

LONDON, 6 May — Scientists unveiled on Tuesday what they hope will be one of the world’s fastest biofuel vehicles, powered by waste from chocolate factories and made partly from plant fibers. Its makers hope the racer will go 145 mph and give manufacturers ideas about how to build more ecologically friendly vehicles.

The car runs on vegetable oils and chocolate waste that has been turned into biofuel. The steering wheel is made out of plant-based fibers derived from carrots and other root vegetables, and the seat is built of flax fiber and soybean oil foam. The body is also made of plant fibers.

Scientists at the University of Warwick say their car is the fastest to run on biofuels and also be made from biodegradable materials. It has been built to Formula 3 specifications about the car’s size, weight, and performance. Their claims cannot be independently verified. They hope it can reach speeds of over 145 mph when it is tested on a racetrack in a few weeks’ time. They have driven it at around 60 mph and are now making final adjustments to the engine before driving it at top speed.

Warwick’s project manager James Meredith said their model shows that it is possible to build a fast, efficient, environmentally friendly car. The car, named the “WorldFirst Formula 3 racing car,” will go on display at several races including the European Grand Prix and Britain’s Goodwood Festival of Speed.—Internet

Indonesia declares malaria elimination

JAKARTA, 6 May — The Indonesian Health Minister Siti Fadillah Supari declared malaria elimination in the country at the commemoration of the 2nd World Malaria Day in Jakarta on Wednesday.

In a statement, Fadillah said malaria elimination was a policy to combat the disease gradually at various regions in Indonesia from 2010 to 2030. According to Siti Fadillah, Indonesia as a tropical country and malaria endemic since November 12th, 1959 had stated ‘the Malaria Combat Commando’, marked by houses logging to eliminate malaria mosquito by the Indonesian first President Soekarno in Yogyakarta Province.—Internet

US cancer cases to rise 45% by 2030

HOUSTON, 6 May — The number of new cancer cases in the United States will rise 45 percent by the year 2027, as a result of an aging and more diverse population, according to a latest study by US scientists.

The study, conducted by the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre and published online in the Journal of Clinical Oncology, predicts that the number of new cancer cases in the United States will surge to 2.3 million in 2030 from 1.6 million in 2010.

Cancer cases among minorities will double and among seniors will rise 67 percent, the study said.

Among racial or ethnic groups, Hispanics will see the largest rise, with 142 percent more cases. The increase will be 64 percent in blacks, 76 percent in American Indians and Native Alaskans, 101 percent in multiracial people and 132 percent in Asian-Pacific Islanders.

The study is the first to project specific long-term cancer incidence, which was expected to increase as US baby boomers reach their senior years because cancer is a disease of aging, according to newspaper Houston Chronicle.—Internet

2nd swine flu death in Texas; Mexico set to reopen

MEXICO CITY, 6 May — Mexico emerged from its swine flu isolation Tuesday as thousands of newspaper vendors, salesmen hawking trinkets and even panhandlers dropped their protective masks and joined the familiar din of traffic horns and blaring music on the streets of the capital.

There were still signs, however, of the virus that set off world health alarms. A Texas woman who lived near a popular border crossing was confirmed as the second outside Mexico and the first US resident to die near a popular border crossing was confirmed as the second outside Mexico and the first US resident to die after contracting the virus. Mexico’s Health Department later announced three more confirmed deaths, raising the country’s total to 29. Across Mexico, people were eagerly anticipating this week’s reopening of businesses, restaurants and schools and parks, after a claustrophobic five-day furlough.—Internet

Recovered A/H1N1 flu patients discharged from hospital in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 6 May — At least 16 A/H1N1 flu patients have been discharged from hospital in Mexico after they recovered from the epidemic, Mexican officials said on Tuesday. “What we have achieved in a week of unprecedented action is to reduce the speed at which virus can spread and avoid deaths,” Mexico City Mayor Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon told media.

Twenty nine people have died with symptoms consistent with the flu including breathing difficulties, but only five have been confirmed killed by A/H1N1 flu virus. Some 913 people are infected with the flu as 68 of them are currently being treated in health centres in Mexico.—Internet

Guatemala reports first confirmed A/H1N1 flu case

GUATEMALA CITY, 6 May— Guatemala’s Health Ministry on Tuesday reported the nation’s first confirmed case of A/H1N1 flu, according to a news report reaching here from Guatemala City.

“The first case of A/H1N1 flu virus has been confirmed, according to the report sent to us by the Centre for Disease Control (CDC), which is located in the US city of Atlanta,” the Ministry said on its website.

The patient is an 11-year-old girl, who has been in treatment for four days and has not been sick enough to be hospitalized, the nation’s health minister Celso Cerezo told media there. The girl’s two sisters have tested negative for the virus, which causes breathing difficulties, headaches, muscular pains and sharp increases in temperature.—Internet

Samples of 15 cases of H1N1 flu found negative in India

NEW DELHI, 6 May — The samples of 15 suspected cases of H1N1 flu were found to be negative even as the results of five more persons are awaited in India.

While the samples of three suspected persons from Delhi have tested negative, the results of two from Cochin are still awaited and two more suspected cases have been placed under isolation in Bangalore. Joint Secretary Ministry of Health Vincent Chaudhury told reporters here on Tuesday.

Another person in Delhi had come forward on his own to the Ram Manohar Lohia hospital and he is also been checked for the virus. Chaudhury said around 30,000-40,000 people were being screened regularly at the airports.—MNA/PTI

WHO confirms 1,490 A/H1N1 cases in 21 countries

GENEVA, 6 May — The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed on Tuesday a total of 1,490 laboratory tested A/H1N1 flu cases from 21 countries, including 30 deaths.

The largest numbers of cases continued to be reported from North American countries, including Mexico (922), the United States (403) and Canada (140), the UN agency said in a latest update.

Mexico’s cases included 29 deaths. The other deaths was reported from the United Other governments that have reported laboratory confirmed cases include Spain (57), Britain (27), Germany (9), New Zealand (6), France (4), Italy (5), Israel (4), El Salvador (2) and South Korea (2), Austria (1), Colombia (1), Costa Rica (1), Denmark (1), Ireland (1), Portugal (1), Netherlands (1), Switzerland (1), and Hong Kong, China (1).—Internet

Internet
United crush Arsenal, reach
Champions League final

London, 6 May—Manchester United swept back into the Champions League final as the holders produced a stunning 3-1 win over Arsenal in their semi-final second leg at the Emirates Stadium, North London.—Internet

Manchester United’s Portuguese midfielder Cristiano Ronaldo in action during their UEFA Champions League semi final second leg football match against Arsenal at the Emirates Stadium, North London.—Internet

All change at French rivals PSG and Marseille

Paris, 6 May—French giants Marseille and Paris St-Germain both announced managerial changes on Tuesday, adding further spice to one of the most intriguing seasons in recent French football history. Marseille, who lead Ligue 1 on goal difference from Paris, were first off the mark when they announced managerial changes on Tuesday mid-fielder’s career at the club. The announcement followed reports of a dressing-room confrontation with temporary manager Alan Shearer in the wake of Sunday’s 3-0 defeat by Liverpool at Anfield. Shearer had publicly accused Barton of letting himself and the club down by getting himself sent off in the closing stages of the match for a reckless challenge on Xabi Alonso.

The red card ensured Barton will miss Newcastle’s remaining three matches this season, which will determine whether or not the club keeps its place in the Premier League.—Internet

Serena stunned by Schnyder as rain hits matches

Rome, 6 May—World number two Serena Williams was stunned by Patty Schnyder as the American crashed out of the second round of the WTA Rome claycourt International 6-2, 6-1 on Tuesday. Apart from an improved second set, Australian Open champion Serena was lethargic throughout the match and at times moved uncomfortably.

The game did not finish until 1am local time and there was a strange and subdued atmosphere, although the Swiss world number 20 at least managed to lift herself enough to see off her poor opponent.—Internet

Newcastle suspend Barton

Newcastle, 6 May—Joey Barton was Tuesday suspended “until further notice” by Newcastle United in a move that looks set to signal the end to the controversial mid-fielder’s career at the club. The announcement followed reports of a dressing-room confrontation with temporary manager Alan Shearer in the wake of Sunday’s 3-0 defeat by Liverpool at Anfield. Shearer had publicly accused Barton of letting himself and the club down by getting himself sent off in the closing stages of the match for a reckless challenge on Xabi Alonso.

The red card ensured Barton will miss Newcastle’s remaining three matches this season, which will determine whether or not the club keeps its place in the Premier League.—Internet

World Cup 2010 enjoys ticket frenzy

Johannesburg, 6 May—The second phase of 2010 World Cup ticket sales reached 185,000 in eight hours as fans vied for seats in South Africa 2010, FIFA said on Tuesday. Some 100,000 tickets are available for the phase which ends in November, excluding the two semi-finals and the final, and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

More than 1.6 million requests for tickets were recorded in the first ticket sales phase between February 20 and March 31. FIFA said some 24,000 Confederations Cup tickets had sold in South Africa within the first 24 hours of direct sales for the tournament which begins next month.

With 340,000 tickets sold, some 300,000 remain available for the World Cup curtain raiser.—Internet

Pohang, Kashima into AFC Champions League knockouts

Kuala Lumpur, 6 May—South Korea’s Pohang Steelers and Japan’s Kashima Antlers took the battle to Russia to book their place in the knockout rounds of the AFC Champions League on Tuesday, where they were joined by Japan’s Kashima Antlers.

Pohang beat Australia’s Central Coast Mariners 3-2 to line up alongside Japan’s Kawasaki Frontale in the last 16 from Group H. Defending champions Gamba Osaka and Uzbek giants Pakhtakor are the other teams already through.

A Denilson hat-trick did the job for Pohang, with the winner coming a minute from time. —Internet

Federer to lead strong field for Wimbledon warm-up

Berlin, 6 May—Five-time champion Roger Federer is set to lead a strongest-ever field at Halle’s ATP tournament, one of the traditional warm-up events before Wimbledon, which starts on 8 June.

Both world number-two Federer and Novak Djokovic, who will lose his place as third in the world rankings to Briton Andy Murray next Monday, will be at Halle, near Bielefeld, while Spain’s Fernando Verdasco and France’s Jo-Wilfried Tsonga mean four of the world’s top ten will compete.

“This will be the strongest field we have had,” tournament director Ralph Weber told a press conference on Tuesday ahead of the grass-court event.—Internet

Armstrong downplays prospect in Giro cycling

Rome, 6 May—Former seven-time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong played down his outlook on Tuesday in this year’s centenary Giro d’Italia. Armstrong is coming back from a broken collarbone suffered in a crash during the Vuelta Castilla y Leon race in Spain on 25 March. His Giro participation had initially looked in doubt but now that he has been declared fit to ride in the race which begins on Saturday with a team time trial in Venice.

“I feel better than I did a month ago but I’m not feeling good like (Ivan) Basso or (Danilo) Di Luca,” Armstrong said at a press conference in Rome. —Internet

Reigning world champion Roger Federer is set to lead a strongest-ever field at Halle’s ATP tournament, one of the traditional warm-up events before Wimbledon, which starts on 8 June.

Both world number-two Federer and Novak Djokovic, who will lose his place as third in the world rankings to Briton Andy Murray next Monday, will be at Halle, near Bielefeld, while Spain’s Fernando Verdasco and France’s Jo-Wilfried Tsonga mean four of the world’s top ten will compete.

“This will be the strongest field we have had,” tournament director Ralph Weber told a press conference on Tuesday ahead of the grass-court event.—Internet

Newcastle United’s English midfielder Joey Barton (L) appeals to the referee as he is sent off for a foul on Liverpool’s Spanish midfielder Xabi Alonso (R) during their English Premier League football match at Anfield in Liverpool.—Internet

Japan’s Kashima Antlers’ midfielder Chukashi Masuda (R) fights for the ball with South Korea’s Suwon Samsung Bluewings’ defender and captain Kwak Hee-Ju (L) during their AFC Champions league match in Kashima. Kashima won the match 3-0. Internet

Nikolay Davydenko of Russia returns a backhand to Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan during their ATP Estoril Open tennis match at Januor Stadium in the outskirts of Lisbon. Davydenko won 6-1, 7-6.—Internet

Davydenko sees room for improvement

Estoril, 6 May—Former champion Nikolay Davydenko ran away with the opening set but was made to work harder in the second to record a 6-1, 7-6(7-4) victory on Tuesday against Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan at the Estoril Open.

The second-seeded Russian who claimed the trophy in 2003 and lost last year’s final to Roger Federer and the 2006 edition to David Nalbandian, feared a first-round exit after trailing 4-1 in the second set despite sweeping the first.

“I’m just happy to be out of the first round,” said the player who missed several months this season with a heel injury and only returned to action in April. “I was afraid at 4-1 down.—Internet

Federer is set to lead a strongest-ever field at Halle’s ATP tournament, one of the traditional warm-up events before Wimbledon, which starts on 8 June.

Both world number-two Federer and Novak Djokovic, who will lose his place as third in the world rankings to Briton Andy Murray next Monday, will be at Halle, near Bielefeld, while Spain’s Fernando Verdasco and France’s Jo-Wilfried Tsonga mean four of the world’s top ten will compete.

“This will be the strongest field we have had,” tournament director Ralph Weber told a press conference on Tuesday ahead of the grass-court event.—Internet

Reigning world champion Roger Federer is set to lead a strongest-ever field at Halle’s ATP tournament, one of the traditional warm-up events before Wimbledon, which starts on 8 June.

Both world number-two Federer and Novak Djokovic, who will lose his place as third in the world rankings to Briton Andy Murray next Monday, will be at Halle, near Bielefeld, while Spain’s Fernando Verdasco and France’s Jo-Wilfried Tsonga mean four of the world’s top ten will compete.

“This will be the strongest field we have had,” tournament director Ralph Weber told a press conference on Tuesday ahead of the grass-court event.—Internet

Former champion Nikolay Davydenko ran away with the opening set but was made to work harder in the second to record a 6-1, 7-6(7-4) victory on Tuesday against Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan at the Estoril Open. The second-seeded Russian who claimed the trophy in 2003 and lost last year’s final to Roger Federer and the 2006 edition to David Nalbandian, feared a first-round exit after trailing 4-1 in the second set despite sweeping the first.

“I’m just happy to be out of the first round,” said the player who missed several months this season with a heel injury and only returned to action in April. “I was afraid at 4-1 down.—Internet

Nikolay Davydenko of Russia returns a backhand to Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan during their ATP Estoril Open tennis match at Januor Stadium in the outskirts of Lisbon. Davydenko won 6-1, 7-6.—Internet

Davydenko sees room for improvement

Estoril, 6 May—Former champion Nikolay Davydenko ran away with the opening set but was made to work harder in the second to record a 6-1, 7-6(7-4) victory on Tuesday against Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan at the Estoril Open. The second-seeded Russian who claimed the trophy in 2003 and lost last year’s final to Roger Federer and the 2006 edition to David Nalbandian, feared a first-round exit after trailing 4-1 in the second set despite sweeping the first.

“I’m just happy to be out of the first round,” said the player who missed several months this season with a heel injury and only returned to action in April. “I was afraid at 4-1 down.—Internet

Nikolay Davydenko of Russia returns a backhand to Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan during their ATP Estoril Open tennis match at Januor Stadium in the outskirts of Lisbon. Davydenko won 6-1, 7-6.—Internet

Davydenko sees room for improvement

Estoril, 6 May—Former champion Nikolay Davydenko ran away with the opening set but was made to work harder in the second to record a 6-1, 7-6(7-4) victory on Tuesday against Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan at the Estoril Open. The second-seeded Russian who claimed the trophy in 2003 and lost last year’s final to Roger Federer and the 2006 edition to David Nalbandian, feared a first-round exit after trailing 4-1 in the second set despite sweeping the first.

“I’m just happy to be out of the first round,” said the player who missed several months this season with a heel injury and only returned to action in April. “I was afraid at 4-1 down.—Internet

Internet
Less education may mean poorer health

Wednesday, 6 May—American adults with the least education have the worst health, a new study finds. Almost half of US adults ages 25 to 74 reported being in less than very good health, and levels of health differ depending on level of education, according to a report released on Wednesday by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission to Build a Healthier America.

For example, adults who didn’t graduate from high school were more than 2.5 times as likely to be in less than very good health as college graduates. Those who graduated high school but didn’t go to college were nearly twice as likely to be in less than very good health as college graduates. The new report added to the commission’s growing body of evidence that factors outside of the medical system play an important role in determining how healthy people are and even how long they will live.—Internet

The Jesusita fire burns in the foothills above Santa Barbara Tuesday, on 5 May, 2009. Southern California authorities said early Wednesday the wildfire is threatening 2,000 Santa Barbara homes and has grown to 400 acres. Santa Barbara County spokeswoman Pat Westley says the fire has pulled within a half-mile of some neighborhoods. The fire began Tuesday afternoon in the foothills above San Roque Canyon and quickly grew.—Internet

### Weather

**WEATHER**

**Wednesday, 6 May, 2009**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in M'gway Division, isolated in Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago. Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in M'gway Division. Day temperatures were between 3°C to 4°C above M'gway average temperatures in Kachin State, M'gway, Bago, Ayeawaddy and Taninthayi Divisions and about M'gway average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were M'onywa (42°C), Shwebo, NyaungU, Chaung and M'gway (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were M'gway (2.16) inches, Taungu (A'viati) (1.26) inches, and M'hib (1.02) inches. Maximum temperature on 5-5-2009 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 5-5-2009 was 67°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 5-5-2009 was (7.6) hrs approx. Rainfall on 5-5-2009 was (0.0) inches at M'gwaladon. Kaba-Aye and Central M'gway. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (2.40) inches at M'gwaladon, (3.62) at Kaba-Aye and (5.28) inches at Central M'gway. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 5-5-2009.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 7th May 2009:** Rain or thunderstorms are likely to be scattered in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and M on States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, M'gway, Bago and Y'angon Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in M'gway waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of thunderous activity in the Southern M'gway areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 7-5-2009:** Possibility of isolated rain or thunderstorms.

**Degree of certainty is (40%).**

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-5-2009:** Possibility of isolated rain or thunderstorms.

**Degree of certainty is (40%).**

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-5-2009:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms.

**Degree of certainty is (60%).**
Disseminate knowledge on healthy lifestyle and diseases prevention methods in rural areas: PM

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Prime Minister General Thein Sein, together with Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads, visited Putao in Kachin State yesterday.

They were welcomed at Nambao Airport of Myitkyina by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win, senior military officers, and township-level departmental personnel.

The Prime Minister and party, accompanied by the Chairman of Kachin State PDC, proceeded to Putao and visited the research farm of Htoo Foundation in Mulashedi village-tract of Putao Township.

The Prime Minister then observed the weaving of traditional costumes and hand-made personal goods and gave instructions.

U Te Za, Chairman of Htoo Trading Co. Ltd reported on progress of development tasks, providing of health care, education and transportation services in Putao Township carried out by Htoo Foundation on which the Prime Minister called for cultivation of tea plants as priority which will benefit locals in the long-run.

The Prime Minister and party visited research farm where grapes, persimmon (Diospyrosrosbmnica), peach, pear, buck wheat are grown. The Prime Minister then presented traditional costumes to responsible persons.

The Prime Minister and party later visited Training School for Development of National Race Youths of Border Areas under Education and Training Department of Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Putao. The Prime Minister met with teachers and students and enjoyed the song “Stand with the Union For Ever” sung by the students. (See page 9)

Only if health standard of rural people is high will the whole nation enjoy better lifestyles.

ManU wait on referee’s report for Fletcher’s Champions League final fate

MANCHESTER, 6 May—Referee Roberto Rosetti deemed Darren Fletcher to have fouled Arsenal’s captain Francesc Fabregas in the box, and the midfielder was immediately given his marching orders.

However, replays indicated that the Scottish international won the ball and the nullification of the red card could mean that the player could feature in the Champions League final in Rome. The BBC have today reported that such an event can occur, providing Rosetti includes in his official report to UEFA that he made a mistake in sending Fletcher off. Such an act would be unprecedented, as usually red cards are only rescinded due to mistaken identity, but with a final appearance at stake, Manchester United are hopeful of an overturn.

Fletcher has featured intermittently during the current campaign, but has proved an influential figure in the important games. Sir Alex Ferguson said, “Rosetti’s competent and fair enough to look at it himself. Apparently, you can’t appeal and if that’s the case it’s disappointing for the boy.” Darren’s one of the most honest players in the game and to miss the final is a tragedy.” Arsene Wenger added that the decision was “very harsh”. The Champions League final will be competed on May 27.—Internet

Foreigner who secretly entered Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s house arrested

YANGON, 6 May — Security personnel found a suspicious-looking foreigner swimming with the help of a 5-litre drinking water bottle in the Inya Lake near International Business Centre on Pyay Road here at 5.30 a.m today and investigated him for security reasons.

During the preliminary interrogation by security personnel, the man confessed of his own accord that he was an American citizen, by the name of Mr John William Yeattaw, holding the American passport (PP.No - 439767222/28-4-2008), that he arrived on a tourist visa in Yangon on 2 May, that he stayed at Beauty Land Hotel (2), that he swam through the lake towards the compound of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s house on 3 May night, that he secretly entered the house and stayed there, and that he left the house at night of 5 May. He was found and arrested by the security force while he was swimming back out of the lake.

A passport, a black haversack, a torch, a pair of folding pliers, a Cannon camera, two 100-US dollar notes and ninety-three 1000-kyat notes were also confiscated.

Further investigation is being made to find out his motive for secretly entering the area that is out of bounds on security grounds.—MNA