4th political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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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Prime Minister General Thein Sein congratulates Kuwaiti counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah on his reappointment as the Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait on 20 May 2009.—MNA

7th AGM of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences commences

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—The 7th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Sciences was held at the hall of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, here, this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo said that the agriculture, forestry and livestock breeding sectors play important roles in economic development of the State and the people. He said that the government is placing emphasis on long-term use of agriculture, forestry and livestock breeding resources. In this regard, the capability of the academy formed with scholars is also an important factor, he added. He noted that a total of 42 per cent of GDP were contributed by the agriculture, meat and fish and forestry sectors. He said that Myanmar, being a food sufficient country, is partially supplying food demand of the world.

The minister continued to say that the climate change influences over the income and economic opportunities of the agriculture, livestock breeding and forestry sectors. Cyclonic storm Nargis that (See page 8)

Fish is really ‘brain food’

MANCHESTER, 22 May — Eating fish – long considered ‘brain food’ – may really be good for the old grey matter, as is a healthy dose of sunshine, new research suggests.

University of Manchester scientists in collaboration with colleagues from other European centres have shown that higher levels of vitamin D – primarily synthesised in the skin following sun exposure but also found in certain foods such as oily fish – are associated with improved cognitive function in middle-aged and older men.

The study, published in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry, compared the cognitive performance of more than 3,000 men aged 40 to 79 years at eight test centres across Europe.—Internet

Face protection effective in preventing spread of influenza

PALO ALTO, 22 May — A new article in the journal Risk Analysis assessed various ways in which aerosol transmission of the flu, a central mode of diffusion which involves breathing droplets in the air, can be reduced. Results show that face protection is a key infection control measure for influenza and can thus affect how people should try to protect themselves from the swine flu.

Lawrence M. Wein, Ph.D., and Michael P. Atkinson of Stanford University constructed a mathematical model of aerosol transmission of the flu to explore infection control measures in the home.
For transition to peaceful, modern and developed nation

Now, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are harmoniously pursuing the ultimate goal of building a modern, developed nation, thus fortifying amicable relations and unity among national brethren.

As a result, even the regions, which once faced destabilization triggered by localism, racism and dogmatism, have seen stability, peace and development. Lashio and Kengtung are making progress in parallel with Taunggyi, the capital of Shan State. In addition, the development of such border towns as Muse, Laukkai, Taichilek and Mongla is now on a par with that of cities.

Lashio-Tangyan and Lashio-Laukkai roads are as fine as Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway. Shan State (North) is now easily accessible from interior regions, and the commodity flow between the two parts is getting swifter and economic growth is picking up momentum.

In like manner, there have been a lot of positive changes in education and health care in the region. The youth of Shan State are now in a position to pursue higher education in their own regions and local people have access to better health care thanks to the higher educational institutions such as universities and colleges and fine hospitals.

Today, the government is stepping up a gear to improve the economic, education, health, social and transport infrastructures and at the same time implementing the democratic transition steps one after another with the aim of generating the development of the nation. In order to achieve the fifth step, elections will be held in 2010 in line with the State constitution which has been approved by the vast majority of the voters.

The entire people are therefore required to keep on making collaborative efforts to achieve the transforming of the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed one and to ensure perpetual existence of the Union.

**Basic Diplomatic Skills Course opens**

**Yangon, 22 May**—The opening ceremony of the Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (BDS-21/2009) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at the Ministry, here, today, with an address by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win.

The 12-week course attended by 190 trainees and comprises contemporary international affairs, holding of international conferences, negotiation skills, international law, international economic relations, international etiquette, diplomatic and official correspondence and communication skills.

**Fisheries Department meets**

**Yangon, 22 May**—A coordination meeting of the Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries took place at the department on Sinmin street in Ahlon Township here yesterday morning.

Acting Director-General of Fisheries Department U Khin Ko Lay gave an opening speech and heads of state/division and district fisheries departments, those in-charge of livestock breeding farms and the fishery training school discussed the tasks carried out and efforts to exceed the target. Then in-charge directors gave supplementary reports.

At the second day session of the meeting, the acting director general gave an opening speech and awarded the staff for their outstanding performance.

The third day session continues on 23 May.

**Premier Coffee vocalist selection, Ginsetin beauty contest**

**Yangon, 22 May**—Vocalist selection of Premier Coffee and beauty contest of Ginsetin, jointly organized by Premier Coffee Company and Korean Ginseng tonic Ginsetin, were held in Bago on 18 May.

The vocalist selection and beauty contest will also be held in Nyaunglaybin, Taungoo, Pyinmana, Yamehin, Meiktila, Kyauk-pandaung, Chauk, Ye-nangyoung, Minbu, Anglan and Paya. The winners of the selection and the contest will be awarded handsome prizes and entertainment programmes will be held.

Vocalist J Nyi Nyi and Khine Shwe Wai, Ko Ko Maung and July Moe from Melody World will judge the contest. First, second and third prize winners from the cities will be chosen at Capital Hyper Market. Those interested may participate in the contests free of charge. The second tour of the contest will be organized soon as a token of gratitude to customers of Premier Coffee.

**Aphaung Village primary school opened**

**Yangon, 22 May**—The inauguration of No. 104 Basic Education Primary School of Aphaung Village, Pyapon Township, Ayeyawady Division, was held at the school on 19 May.

Director U Kyaw Win Oo from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the Pyapon Township education officer, and wellwisher Mr Laurence formally opened the facility.

The wellwisher and party handed over school furniture, school uniforms, textbooks, exercise books, raincoats and cloth sling bags to the students, and school uniforms to the teachers. Wellwishers presented K 1 million for digging a lake for drinking water.

The building is 120 feet long and 30 feet wide. Pyae Phyo Kyaw Construction Co donated 30 sets of desks and benches.—NLM
Three US soldiers killed in Baghdad

Baghdad, 22 May—The US military said on Thursday that three of its soldiers were killed in a bomb attack in southern Baghdad.

“Three Multi-national Division Baghdad soldiers died when an improvised explosive device detonated near their patrol in Baghdad at approximately 10:40 am (0740 GMT) on 21 May,” a military statement said. It said the incident is under investigation.

Earlier in the day, an Iraqi police source said that three US soldiers were killed and five others wounded when a suicide bomber blew himself near a US patrol at the entrance of a marketplace in Baghdad’s Doura district.

The attack also killed 12 civilians and wounded 25 others in the popular market of Athooriyn, the source said. The military statement did not say whether the roadside bombing is the same of Doura suicide attack reported by the Iraq police earlier.—Internet

Iraqi police and civilians gather up belongings of victims of a suicide bombing in Baghdad. Iraq was engulfed in a wave of violence, with suicide attackers and bombings killing 26 people including three US soldiers, a day after huge blast in a Baghdad Shiite area left 40 dead.—Internet

Ongoing military operation kills 14 Taliban militants in S Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, 22 May—Afghan army backed by international troops during an ongoing clean-up operation in southern Afghan province of Helmand eliminated 14 Taliban rebels on Thursday, an official said.

Daud Ahmadi, spokesperson for the provincial administration, told Xinhua that the joint operation launched two days ago kept mounting pressure on Taliban militants in Marja area and slowly extended to the neighbouring Nawad district.

“During today’s combat, 14 Taliban militants were killed in Marja, but no casualty was inflicted on the joint force,” Ahmadi said. He added that some 24,000 kg explosive material and 15,000 kg drug have been found during three days’ operation.—Internet

Turkey condemns deadly attacks in Iraq

ANKARA, 22 May—Turkish Foreign Ministry Thursday condemned two separate suicide attacks and a car bomb attack in Baghdad and Kirkuk of Iraq. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that “we have learned with deep sorrow that two separate suicide attacks and a car bomb attack that took place in Baghdad and Kirkuk.”

A spate of deadly bombings struck Baghdad and the northern city of Kirkuk within 24 hours on Wednesday evening and Thursday, leaving up to 65 people killed and some 145 others injured.

“We observe with great regret and concern that there has been a recent upsurge in the acts of terrorism in Iraq... We condemn these latest abhorrent terrorist attacks in the strongest terms and we call on all the parties in Iraq to put an end to violence and contribute to peace and security in the country,” the statement added.—Internet

Damage and blood-stained vehicles are seen at the site of bomb attack in Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad on 21 May, 2009. A suicide bomber killed at least three people and wounded seven others in the northern city of Kirkuk on Thursday, in an attack on Sunni anti-Al Qaeda militia members queuing to collect their pay, the Iraqi army said.—Internet

A US soldier from the US-led international coalition inspect the wreckage of a vehicle after a blast on the way to Bagram, a US airbase in north Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, on 20 May, 2009.—Internet

Residents gather to inspect the debris and destruction following last night’s car bomb in the mainly Shiite Shula quarter of Baghdad.—Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,299

WASHINGTON, 22 May—As of Thursday, 21 May, 2009, at least 4,299 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,443 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—Internet

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 614

WASHINGTON, 22 May—As of Thursday, 21 May, 2009, at least 614 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Thursday at 10 am EDT. Of those, the military reports 453 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 67 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Krygyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen. Internet
Ahmadinejad criticizes past nuclear freeze

TEHRAN, 22 May— Iran’s hard-line president criticized as “disgraceful” a 2003 deal his predecessor reached with Europe to freeze the country’s nuclear programme, saying it was not worth the West re- storing Iran’s dignity.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has beenouting Iran’s nuclear achievements ahead of the June presidential election, hoping to offset criticism from his opponents that he has spent too much time slamming the West and not enough focused on the country’s faltering economy.

Former President Mohammad Khatami, a reformist who favours improving ties with the West, struck a deal with Britain, France and Germany in October 2003 to suspend Iran’s uranium enrichment programme and give the UN nuclear watchdog unrestricted access to the country’s nuclear facilities.

The deal, which was signed at Sa’dabad Palace in Teheran, was aimed at easing Western fears that Iran was seeking to build nuclear weapons — a charge Teheran has denied.

Uranium enrichment can produce fuel for a nuclear reactor or material for a bomb.

Heavy fighting breaks out in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU, 22 May — Heavy fighting broke out between the Somali government forces and militant fighters on Friday in the capital, Mogadishu.

The government forces reclaimed some of the positions they lost to the militant in last week’s clashes, officials said.

There is no report of any casualties yet.

Lebanon spy cases highlight Mideast espionage

BEIRUT, 22 May — The Middle East’s espionage wars are heating up after Lebanon’s arrest of more than a dozen alleged Israeli spies, and dire warnings from Jerusalem that Arab groups are trying to use the Internet to infiltrate the Jewish state.

Officials in Beirut say they struck a strategic blow against Israel with the recent arrests of 15 people who they contend were gathering intelligence on Hezbollah positions, leaders’ movements and infrastructure targets. Iranian-backed Hezbollah militants and Israeli forces fought an inconclusive war in 2006 along the Lebanese-Israeli border and both sides have since been preparing for the possibility of another.

Although Israel and its Arab neighbours have for years spied on each other, the recent announcements have highlighted the se- cret war of espionage and the depth of the infiltration. Lebanese officials say the spies arrested there included a math teacher and housewife, and that they were equipped with sophisticated electronics.

Mexico captures drug suspect on most-wanted list

MEXICO CITY, 22 May — Soldiers have arrested a suspected drug cartel member listed among Mexico’s 37 most-wanted traffickers, the Defence Department said on Thursday.

Raymundo Almanza Morales was captured on Wednesday in the north- ern city of Monterrey along with three other suspects after soldiers received an tip, the department said in a statement.

Almanza is named as a top lieutenant of the Gulf drug cartel on the list of most-wanted traffickers that the government published in March.

His brother, Octavio Almanza, was arrested in February on suspicion of masterminding the killing of an army general in Cancun. The Defence Department said Octavio Almanza told authorities that his brother had been deployed to oversee drug trafficking operations in Guatemala and Belize.

The statement did not say whether that claim turned out to be true, and it gave no further details on Raymundo Almanza’s alleged drug trafficking activities. Defence Department officials said there would be no immediate comment beyond the statement.

One pilot killed in military jet crash in California

LOS ANGELES, 22 May — A military jet crashed on a training mission north of Edwards Air Force base in Southern California on Thursday, killing one of the two pilots on board, authorities said.

Rescue teams found the body at the crash site, according to an official source at the Kern County Fire Department.

The second pilot was injured and rushed to a nearby hospital but his condition remained unknown, said the source, who refused to be named.

The names of the pilots were withheld pending an investigation. The F-22A Raptor crashed about 35 miles (about 56 kilometres) north of the base, the Air Force said. The cause of the crash was not immediately known.

It was the second crash of an aircraft from Edwards in less than two months: 23 On March, an Air Force P-38 Talon went down on Thursday afternoon nine miles (14.4 kilometres) north of the base, the Air Force said. The cause of the crash was not immediately known.

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Israeli troops kill two militants in Gaza clash

JERUSALEM, 22 May — The Israeli military says troops have killed two armed Palestinians in a pre-dawn clash on the Gaza-Israel border.

The military says soldiers spotted the two men planting a bomb near the border fence and crossed into Gaza to engage them. The gunmen were killed in the ensuing firefight.

The military says the men were carrying rifles, grenades and an improvised explosive device.

The Gaza-Israel border has been relatively quiet in recent months, following the Israeli offensive against Hamas that ended in mid-January. But sporadic border violence and rocket fire continue.— Internet

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China’s first special economic zone aims to be five times bigger

HANOI, 22 May—Vietnam’s Ministry of Science and Technology said it will cooperate with the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to build a space legal framework and its first space technology research and development centre, the local newspaper Vietnam Nation reported on Friday.

According to Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Nguyen Van Lang, who led Vietnam’s first delegation to NASA in April, the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology and NASA will soon come to a cooperation agreement on space technology development and application when a NASA’s delegation is on a visit to Vietnam this week.

Lang said the first cooperation agreement would lay a foundation for a new space agency and the construction of a space technology development centre in Hoa Lac Hi-Tech Zone in Hanoi, said Lang.

The nine-hectare centre will be the site for the manufacturing, testing and control of satellites. Construction of the centre is expected to start this year with an investment of 350 million US dollars, which will come from Japan’s official development assistance, said the newspaper.—Xinhua

Automaker Volvo to recall 908 vehicles in S Korea

SEOUL, 22 May—Global automaker Volvo will recall 908 vehicles sold in South Korea due to malfunction in windshield wipers, the government said on Thursday.

Three Volvo models, S80 D5, S80 4.4 and S80 3.2, produced between 31 Aug, 2006 and 18 May, 2007 in Germany, are subject to the recall, according to the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs. The recall was decided as defects in the electrical systems of the vehicles may hamper the operation of windshield wipers, the ministry said, adding that owners of subject vehicles can receive free repairs from Friday.—Xinhua

Sony Corp to cut materials suppliers

BEIJING, 22 May—Sony Corp said Thursday it is considering cutting in half the number of parts suppliers in the next two years to slash procurement costs by 20 percent this financial year.

The Japanese electronics and entertainment company said the move is aimed at seeking return to profit under a turnaround plan by Chief Executive Howard Stringer—a Welsh-born American who became the first foreigner to head Sony in 2005.

Sony Corp plans to cut purchasing costs by 500 billion yen ($5.3 billion), or 20 percent of the 2.5 trillion yen spent during the fiscal year ended March, company spokeswoman Mami Imada said.—Xinhua

Deaths of children under five drop 27%

GENEVA, 22 May—The deaths of children under five years old have dropped by 27 percent globally since 1990, according to the latest estimates released by the World Health Organization (WHO) on Thursday.

Some 9 million children under five years old died in 2007, significantly fewer than the 12.5 million estimated to have died in 1990, said the WHO’s first progress report on the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

This decline “illustrates what can be achieved by strengthening health systems and scaling up interventions, such as insecticide-treated mosquito nets for malaria and oral rehydration therapy for diarrhea, increased access to vaccines and improved water and sanitation in developing countries,” said Dr Ties Boerma, director of WHO’s Department of Health Statistics and Informatics.—Xinhua

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China raw materials industry reports 5.3% growth in 1st four months

BEIJING, 22 May—China’s raw material industries reported a 5.3-per cent growth in industrial output over the past four months, buoyed by the government’s stimulus package and growing domestic demand, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) said here Friday.

In April alone, the industrial output grew 7 percent, MIIT statistics showed. The nonferrous metal industry began to make profits because market prices were rising. From January to April, 71 major manufacturers reported a net loss of 490 million yuan (about 70 million US dollars). But they registered profits of 1.73 billion yuan in March and 1.65 billion yuan in April.—Xinhua

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This decline “illustrates what can be achieved by strengthening health systems and scaling up interventions, such as insecticide-treated mosquito nets for malaria and oral rehydration therapy for diarrhoea, increased access to vaccines and improved water and sanitation in developing countries,” said Dr Ties Boerma, director of WHO’s Department of Health Statistics and Informatics.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Vietnam to cooperate with NASA to develop space technology

HANOI, 22 May—Vietnam’s Ministry of Science and Technology said it will cooperate with the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to build a space legal framework and its first space technology research and development centre, the local newspaper Vietnam Nation reported on Friday.

According to Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Nguyen Van Lang, who led Vietnam’s first delegation to NASA in April, the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology and NASA will soon come to a cooperation agreement on space technology development and application when a NASA’s delegation is sent to Vietnam in November.

Under the expected agreement, NASA will offer the country consultancy related to the construction of the Space Law in line with international laws, and the space centre in Hoa Lac Hi-Tech Zone in Hanoi, said Lang.

The nine-hectare centre will be the site for the manufacturing, testing and control of satellites. Construction of the centre is expected to start this year with an investment of 350 million US dollars, which will come from Japan’s official development assistance, said the newspaper.—Xinhua
British Airways has reported that it slumped to an annual loss of 375 million pounds (590 million dollars, 425 million euros) for the year to March 2009, from a year-earlier profit of 712 million pounds. —INTERNET

**Town has ‘unwelcome visitor’ — a flood**

LISMORE, 22 May — Officials in Lismore, an Australian town bisected by a river, said Friday they expect residents to take the worst flooding in 20 years in stride. New South Wales Premier Nathan Rees declared a disaster Thursday in the Northern Rivers area. In Lismore, with the Wilson River rising fast, about 5,000 people left their homes overnight.

Lismore, with a population of about 27,000, is the largest city and market centre for the region. Mayor Jenny Dowell said the residents were well prepared. “They just understand what floods are all about,” she said. “You can hear them say: ‘Remember the flood of ’54, remember the flood of ’74’ — they talk about the floods in terms of an unwanted visitor.”

Dowell, who has lived in the city for 18 years, said the flooding this year is the most severe she has seen. If the water rises as high as expected, Lismore will also get a chance to test its levees. They were designed to let the water in downtown when it rises to a certain height, funneling it through parking lots and major streets to a low point where it can drain out. —INTERNET

**Bird songs change with the landscape**

DURHAM, 22 May — A US biologist says she has discovered bird songs can change as a bird’s habitat changes. Elizabeth Derryberry said she made her discovery while conducting her dissertation research at Duke University. She said as vegetation cleared formerly reclaimed land in California, Oregon and Washington during the last 35 years, male white-crowned sparrows lowered their pitch and slowed their singing so that their love songs would carry better through heavier foliage.

This is the first time that anyone has shown that bird songs can shift with rapid changes in habitat,” she said.

She compared recordings of individual birds in 15 different areas with some nearly forgotten recordings made at the same spots in the 1970s by a California Academy of Sciences researcher. Internet

**Bicycle burglar leaves ID outside victim’s house**

An electric bicycle burglar was nabbed after he left his identification card outside the home of one of his victims in Shandong province.

Lao Sun, a villager in Linqui county, returned home one morning last month and realized his new electric bicycle, which he had parked in the courtyard, had vanished.

Police found an ID card outside Sun’s home and traced it back to the thief who apparently stole 20 bicycles.

The suspect surnamed Wang said he became addicted to the Internet and needed money to support his addiction. He targeted farmers because they seldom locked up their bicycles.

**Computer virus strikes US Marshals, FBI affected**

WASHINGTON, 22 May — Law enforcement computers were struck by a Mystery computer virus Thursday, forcing the FBI and the US Marshals to shut down part of their networks as a precaution.

The US Marshals confirmed it disconnected from the Justice Department’s computers as a protective measure after being hit by the virus; an FBI official said only that that agency was experiencing similar issues and was working on the problem. “We are evaluating a network issue on our external, unclassified network that’s affecting several government agencies,” said FBI spokesman Mike Kortan. He did not elaborate or identify the other agencies. —INTERNET

**Indian PM to visit Russia next month for BRIC Summit**

NEW DELHI, 22 May — In his first trip abroad during the second tenure, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will travel to Russia next month for the Brazil-Russia-India-China (BRIC) Summit.

Singh will undertake a two-day visit from June 15 to Yakutenaburg for the day-long Summit the next day, sources said here Thursday.

Global financial crisis is expected to be high on the agenda of the meeting during which the four countries will look at ways to tackle through collective efforts.

Considering that all the four BRIC nations favour immediate reform of the international financial institutions, the Summit will provide an opportunity for the leaders to synergise their views and present a collective voice. Underlining that decision-making of global financial institutions should be democratized to reflect present-day realities, India feels globalization, development and economic process cannot be left solely at the mercy of an unregulated free market. —MNA/PTI

**Golden frogs, like the one seen here at the El Nispero del Valle de Anton Zoo outside Panama City in April 2009, are in danger from a deadly fungus. Chytrid fungus, which has wiped out hundreds of amphibian species in the Americas, is now devastating the populations of five frog species in the Philippines, experts said Wednesday.**

**World’s tallest dog loses leg to bone cancer**

The world’s tallest dog is battling bone cancer that forced the amputation of one of his front legs. Gibson stands 3 1/2-feet tall at the shoulder and is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records.

The black and white great Dane from Grass Valley, Calif., stretches more than 7 feet tall when he stands on his hind legs. Veterinarians found a tumor on Gibson’s right front leg and had to amputate. The dog will also undergo chemotherapy. He was recuperating this week at his home in Grass Valley, a Gold Rush-era town 60 miles east of Sacramento.

**S Korean firm claims world’s thinnest LCD-TV panel**

South Korea’s LG Display said it has developed a liquid crystal display (LCD) television panel that is thinner than a pencil, describing it as the world’s thinnest.

The panel, which can be 42 or 47 inches wide, uses an edge-lit light emitting diode (LED) backlight system that allows it to achieve a thickness of just 5.9mm (0.2 inches), LG Display said in a statement.

The world’s second biggest LCD maker said the product weighs 6.1 kg (13.4 pounds) and 7.3 kg, about half as much as a conventional panel.

“The displays can reproduce a rich range of natural-looking colours with a colour saturation level of 80 percent,” it said, adding the televisions can eliminate motion blur and boast full high-definition resolution.

Executive vice president Chung In-Jae said the new products demonstrate “our leading edge-lit LED backlight technology that enables thinner designs.”

**‘Nicotine Ninja’ Prefers Brand-name Cigs**

Jefferson County authorities are looking a man they’ve dubbed the “Nicotine Ninja” believed to be responsible for stealing $120,000 worth of cigarettes.

Authorities said the suspect is completely clad in dark clothing and covers half his face with a black cloth when he breaks into liquor stores in the middle of the night.

The man is believed to be responsible for 118 burglaries across the metro area during the last two years. Authorities said he usually only takes brand-name cigarettes and ignores the generic brands.

**Paragliders fly over the city of Vlore during an annual Balkan competition, some 150 km (94 miles) from the capital Tirana.**

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Trial against American citizen
Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma
continues for fifth day

NAV Pyi Taw, 22 May — The case against American citizen Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma continued at the court of Yangon North District for fifth day today.

Yangon North District Court continued the trial at 10 a.m. and heard the statement of prosecution witness Head of Kyauk-Taw Township Immigration and Population Department U Myat Thwin in connection with the Criminal Case No.48/2009 filed against Mr. John William Yettaw under section 13 (1) of the 1947 Immigration Act (Emergency Provisions).

Prosecution witness U Myat Thwin said that he had to question Mr. John William Yettaw in person; that according to his interrogations and Mr. John William Yettaw’s written statement, Mr. John William Yettaw was an American citizen and he arrived in Yangon, Myanmar, from Bangkok, Thailand, on 7 November, 2008 for the first time; that he entered the residence of Daw Aung San Suu on 2 May for the second time and entered the house compound of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi from the backyard, swimming across the Inya Lake on 4 May; that he met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi; that he did not meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi when he entered the residence the first time; that he left the house compound swimming at midnight on 5 May and came across the police at about 5 a.m.; that Mr. John William Yettaw gave written statement; that in applying for a visa, a foreigner had to sign the visa application form with the pledges that he (or she) would not enter the prohibited places; that the entering of Mr. John William Yettaw into the prohibited area is against the disciplines of the visa; that swimming in the prohibited area of Inya Lake violated the existing law and disciplines; and that the passport number of Mr. John William Yettaw is 439767722; that he arrived in Yangon by taking the tourist visa from the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok on the first time; that he arrived in Mandalay by obtaining the tourist visa from the Mandalay Immigration and Population Department on 27 October 2008 and left for Bangkok of Thailand in the first time on 3 December 2008; that in the second time, he took the tourist visa EVT (FTI) No. 847 from the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok of Thailand on 27 April with the above passport and entered Yangon on 2 May by flight No. PG 701 of Bangkok Airway; and that due to his violating the disciplines of visa and section 4 (1) of 1947 Immigration Act (Emergency Provisions), Mr. John William Yettaw committed the crime according to section 13 (1) (a) of above act.

In questioning another prosecution witness IP Myint Aye of the Special Investigation Department, he said that he was assigned duty at the SIP Airport Unit; that the unit has to record arrival and departure of foreigners and to submit the surveillance reports; that while he was discharging duty, American citizen Mr. John William Yettaw holding passport No. 439767722 entered the airport by flight No. 702 of Bangkok Airway on 3 December 2008; that the foreigner replied to the questions verbally as well as on paper; that he carried out the interpretation at the MSB’s external affairs department; that as he was assigned duties to act as an interpreter, he questioned Mr. John William Yettaw about 8 am on 6 May; that the foreigner replied to the questions verbally as well as on paper; that he carried out the interpretation together with Police Lt-Col Maung Maung Khin; and that Mr. John William Yettaw answered the questions freely and of his own accord.

In the afternoon, prosecution witness U Myat Thwin in connection with Criminal Case No.47/2009 filed against Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma was examined. U Myat Thwin said that he is the head of Kyauk-Taw Township Immigration and Population Department; that according to Mr. John William Yettaw’s written statement [evidence (c-2)], he entered Myanmar two times; that he arrived via Bangkok, Thailand, on 7 November 2008 and left for Bangkok on 3 December 2008; that this time he entered Myanmar from Bangkok on 2 May and he was permitted to stay up to 30 May; and that he Mr. John William Yettaw answered his questions freely and of his own accord.

In his statement, prosecution witness MSB’s inspector Phone Khaw Khaing from Criminal Case No.49/2009 filed under section 28 of Yangon City Municipal Act against Mr. John William Yettaw said that he was serving at the translation section of MSB’s external affairs department; that as he was assigned duties to act as an interpreter, he questioned Mr. John William Yettaw at about 8 am on 6 May; that the foreigner replied to the questions verbally as well as on paper; that he carried out the interpretation together with Police Lt-Col Maung Maung Khin; and that Mr. John William Yettaw answered the questions freely and of his own accord.

In his statement, Deputy Commander of Myanmar Special Branch Police Col Win Naing Tun said that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi under section 13 (1) of Law to Safeguard the State Against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts, restriction order and prohibition order; that as for the restriction order, out of the fundamental rights prescribed in the constitution, the ones prescribed in the sections 148 (c), 157, 158, 159 (A) (B) and 160 had been restricted; that according to those restrictions, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was not allowed to receive, contact and talk to anyone and to give permission to anyone to stay at her house; health and social needs were provided for her in accord with the directives; that in the matter of the prohibition order, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was not allowed to stay at her house; that the prohibition order was issued on the fifth floor of Beauty Land (2) Hotel and hotel manager U Kyaw Thu made his statement on the stay of Mr. John William Yettaw in the hotel and handing over of the seized items to Police Capt Sa Kyaw Win as stated in Criminal Case No.47/2009.

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Cosmology’s best standard candles get even better
Paris, 22 May—Members of the international Nearby Supernova Factory (SNfactory), a collaboration among the U.S. Department of Energy’s Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, a consortium of French laboratories and Yale University, have found a new technique that establishes the intrinsic brightness of Type Ia supernovae more accurately than ever before.

These exploding stars are the best standard candles for measuring cosmic distances, the tools that made the discovery of dark energy possible. SNfactory member Stephen Bailey, formerly at Berkeley Lab and now at the Laboratory of Nuclear and High-Energy Physics (LPNHE) in Paris, France, searched the spectra of 58 Type Ia supernovae in the SNfactory’s dataset and found a key spectroscopic correction appears to hold no matter the ratio of the flux (visible power, or brightness) between two specific regions in the spectrum of a Type Ia supernova taken on a single night, that supernova’s distance can be determined to better than 6 percent uncertainty.

The new brightness-ratio correction appears to hold no matter what the supernova’s age or metallicity (mix of elements), its type of host galaxy, or how much it has been dimmed by intervening dust. Internet

Corrigendum
Please read 5.30 am on 6 May on the third line in the fourth paragraph of the news ‘Trial against...’ featured on page-7 of this daily issued on 20 May 2009.—Ed
Ministers on tour of Sagaing Division

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended the ceremony to give the medical treatment to people with eye complaints in Sagaing on 19 May. They then gave lunch boxes to them.

Next, the ministers arrived at Sagaing People Hospital at which they gave necessary instructions. Afterwards, the ministers met with the local people at Kyaukkar Village, Sagaing Township. Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint presented the 100 bags of cement to repair the lake, 100 bags of cement to construct the village primary school. Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented sports gear, stationery, calendars and batteries for the village library.

After hearing the reports submitted by division electrical engineers at the offices of Sagaing District Electric and Mandalay Division Electric, Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint gave necessary instructions.—MNA

Sanitation, proper flow of water supervised

YANGON, 22 May—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected construction of a 60-feet by 32-feet box culvert for Thamaing Creek across Baho Road between Hline and Mayangon Townships.

Basic golf course 2009 concludes

YANGON, 22 May—Under the supervision of the Ministry of Sports, the basic new generation golf course 2009 jointly conducted by the Myanmar Golf Federation and Royal Mingaladon Golf and Country Club concluded at the training range of the club, here, this morning. Chairman of the Club Dr Khin Shwe and Secretary of MGFU Aung Kyi made speeches. Chief Coach U Ko Ko Lay of Myanmar Selected Golf Team presented prizes to the outstanding trainees. Chairman Dr Khin Shwe awarded the special prize to Maung Min Khanti Phone and Secretary U Aung Kyi to Ma Aye Nyein Myat. Chief Instructor U Chan Han gave completion certificates to the trainees. Altogether 40 trainees attended the 10-day course.—NLM

Kayin State observes Fire Brigade Day

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Chairman of the Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min attended the ceremony to mark 63rd Anniversary of Fire Brigade Day held in the Pyidaungsu Thiri Shwe Gaung on 5 May.

The chairman made an opening speech and viewed the practical fire extinguishing demonstration of the brigade members. The chairman attended the coordination meeting of commander of Kayin Police State. —NLM

PTT lubricants introduced

YANGON, 22 May—Organized by PTT Public Company Limited (Thailand) and Tunn Star Company Limited of Myanmar Sole Distribution, a ceremony to introduce PTT lubricant was held in conjunction with a dinner in honour of sales agents in Upper Myanmar at Oriental House Restaurant in Mandalay on 14 May.

First, Managing Director U Aung Naing Tun of Tunn Star Co Ltd and Executive Vice President Mr Arasath Pothiapinyovisuth of PTT Public Co Ltd, Commercial & International Marketing and Oil Business Group extended greetings.

At the lucky draw programme, responsible persons presented prizes to lucky draw winners. Sole agent Tunn Star Co Ltd(Tel: 294701, 294702, 294704, 298103 and 298124) distributes a variety of lubricants produced from PTT Public Co Ltd. —NLM

7th AGM of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, …

from page 1

occurred in early May 2008 was the worst climate change in Myanmar, he added. He said that the scholars of the academy were urged to take disaster preparedness measures and to carry out the rehabilitation work in a short time by making assessment on the possible dangers of climate change. The Ministry of Forestry is taking preventive measures against deforestation and is maintaining eco-system, and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries is placing emphasis on distribution of pedigree animals, development of livestock breeding technology, systematic processing of products, safeguarding of aquatic products in Myanmar, he said.

Next, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Aung Aung, Deputy Minister for Electric Power Brig-Gen Ngwe Ngwe and Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Aung Ngwe said.

Minister Maung Maung Thein said that the ministry is giving attention to the distribution of bio-energy with special emphasis on rural development at University of Agriculture in Nay Pyi Taw Yein, Director Dr Nyi Nyi Nyi and Staff Officer U Zaw Min Oo of Forest Research Department.

Minister Aung Aung said that the Ministry of Forestry is taking preventive measures against deforestation and is carrying out the rehabilitation work in a short time by making assessment on the possible dangers of climate change at University of Veterinary Science. They then replied to the queries raised by those present.

The Annual General Meeting of the academy continues tomorrow. —MNA
L&F Ministry, FAO jointly conduct laboratory course on examination of pig disease

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Influenza A/H1N1 has spread to 42 countries since 17 April to date. The virus infected 11,168 persons and killed 86. A total of 330 persons suffered the influenza in China, India, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand in Asia and the Pacific region.

The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and FAO jointly conducted the laboratory course on examination of pig disease at the bio-security grade-2 laboratory in Insein Township yesterday, attended by 20 officials of the labs in States and Divisions.

Senior Adviser Dr Murray Maclean to FAO and scholars from the LBVD gave lectures on ordinary pig diseases and keeping new pig diseases under surveillance, taking sample items of disease, techniques on conducting tests at the lab.

To reduce the danger of infectious diseases between humans and animals including influenza, the workers of livestock breeding farms, veterinarians and those engaged in pig business should take medical treatment at home without going to the farms when they are ill with the symptoms of respiratory pain and influenza.

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries released the news that so far there has been no case of influenza A/H1N1 infected to pigs in Myanmar; that the virus cannot survive at pork and pig products cooked well at 70 degree centigrade/160 degree Fahrenheit; and that if food is cooked cleanly, the virus cannot be infectious.

Myanmar still free from influenza A/H1N1

Health Ministry performs prevention of influenza, dissemination of health knowledge in time

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Influenza A/H1N1 has broken out since 17 April. The World Health Organization today approved that the influenza had so far infected 11,168 people and the death toll has reached 86. The pandemic has spread to 42 countries including Mexico.

The virus A/H1N1 may be transformed into the global human pandemic disease. Therefore, the Ministry of Health commenced the necessary preparedness task on 25 April.

Not to break out the influenza A/H1N1 in the territory of Myanmar, the Ministry of Health is carrying out preparedness measures such as daily virus screening, preparations for medical treatment, providing of medicines and medical equipment and laboratory apparatuses to the hospitals and making ready for use of the special patient wards.

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

Since 29 April, passengers have been under medical checks at international airports, international seaports and exits of borders.

Up to now, the Ministry of Health released information that there is no case of influenza A/H1N1 in Myanmar.

Sanitation tasks inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han inspected dredging of drains and clearing of garbage by the staff of sanitation department at ZayCho Taw Complex and around the eastern wing of the complex on 16 May. Later he inspected dredging of Yekyi ditch in Aungmyethazan Township.

Pinchaung bridge under renovation

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 May—Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe looked into tasks of repairing Pinchaung bridge on Magway-Yenangyoung-Mandalay Road on 14 May.

After his inspection, the chairman gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements.

On 15 May, he viewed regional development tasks in Yesagyo, Myaing and Pauk Townships, gave instructions and fulfilled the needs.
Kanyin Dam in Ingapu Township to help provide impetus for development of the delta

Article: Kyaw Sein: Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

In 1977, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) launched Dykes 2, 3 and 4 of Kanyin Dam Project in Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Division.

Feasibility study to implement Kanyin Dam Project in Ingapu Township to irrigate some 25,000 acres of farmlands for bringing on regional development. Hydrological study was launched in 1979. Meeting No (2/2002) of the Special Projects Implementation Committee on 23 July 2002 gave green light to the project.

Construction (9) of the Irrigation department is undertaking Kanyin Dam Project across Tatkon Village in Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Division, 150 miles from Yangon and four miles from Pathein-Monywa Road.

Pre-engineering work for the project began in 2002-2003. Now, the concrete separation wall of the project has been constructed 100 percent. According to the findings from the feasibility study carried out by the hydrological team to test the ground’s compactness capacity, the earth will have to be removed to gravel layer in the left side of the creek and to bed rock in the right side as deep as 40 feet a year. On completion, the main earth dam will be 194 feet high and 375,000 feet long and the dyke will be 2,850 feet long. And the maximum water storage capacity will be 148,800 acre feet, the dead water storage capacity, 13,700 acre feet, and the water spread area, 1,960 acres.

So far, the Irrigation Department has constructed eight dams on the ground as deep as 40 feet on average accounting for 25 million cubic feet of earth.

Staff Officer (Mechanical) U Myint Khaing said that they were working all-day round to carry out ground work with 100 workers and 46 units of heavy machinery and tip-lorries; that they had to provide constant supervision to avert unnecessary interruption of the west bank of the Ayeyawady River to supply more irrigation and safe water.

In an interview, Staff Officer U Ko Ko Naing, In-Charge (Dyke), said that the bed of the dam was composed of sand and gravel layers; that so a separation wall with a length of 571 feet long and an average depth of 31.17 feet was constructed as the foundation; that they installed foreign-made steel plates to strengthen the compactness of the ground; and that they were carrying out a programme to dig the ground as deep as 40 feet on average accounting for 25 million cubic feet of earth.

Staff Officer (Civil) U Aung Kyaw Tin, In-Charge of the Spillway, said that they had completed clearing wild plants by 33 percent, groundwork, by 43 percent, and concrete work, by 49 percent; that he was sure that the project would be completed on schedule in 2010-2011.

The pre-engineering work was launched in 2002-2003, and groundwork, in 2007-2008. Completion of the project in 2010-2011 is on target. On completion, the facility will be able to benefit about 25,000 acres of farmlands.

Now, the government is constructing many dams spending huge funds for development of the delta and boosting agricultural production, coping with the natural barriers. The development of Ayeyawady Division will pick up greater momentum when Kanyin Dam Project is completed.
Asia’s largest aluminium exhibition to open in Shanghai

BEIJING, 22 May — Asia’s largest aluminium exhibition, Aluminium China 2009, will open on June 30 at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre.

The exhibition, which runs until 2 July, is expected to draw 10,000 industry buyers and more than 300 aluminium companies from 30 countries.

Breakthroughs were expected in both the size of the exhibition and the number of exhibitors and visitors, said Liu Guoliang, vice president of the event’s sponsor, Reed Exhibitions China.

China produced 1.36 million tonnes of aluminium products in March 2009. The output in the first quarter reached 3.44 million tonnes, down 3.5 percent year on year, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.

China reports sixth case of swine flu

BEIJING, 22 May — A Chinese man who recently returned from Canada has become the sixth person in China to be diagnosed with swine flu, the ministry of health reported on Friday.

The 69-year-old man surnamed Zhang returned with his wife on Saturday and came down with flu-like symptoms on Monday, the ministry said in a statement on its website. He tested positive for the A(H1N1) virus on Thursday.

Zhang is the sixth case of swine flu to be discovered on the Chinese mainland and the third to be diagnosed in Beijing, it said.

The man was in stable condition while four people who had been in close contact with him were under medical observation but had so far not shown any symptoms of the disease, the ministry said.

More than 11,000 infections and 86 deaths have been confirmed worldwide, the World Health Organisation reported Friday.

NASA delays shuttle Atlantis’ landing due to bad weather

WASHINGTON, 22 May — The US space shuttle Atlantis’ landing to Earth has been delayed to Saturday due to bad weather at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, NASA said Friday.

Russia, Jordan sign civil nuclear cooperation agreement

MOSCOW, 22 May — Russia and Jordan signed here on Friday a nuclear cooperation deal, which lays a legal foundation for the two countries’ cooperation on civil nuclear projects.

Under the document, power plants, research facilities and training centres will be built in the Middle East country.

The document was signed by Sergei Kiriyenko, head of Russia’s state nuclear corporation Rosatom, and Jordanian Atomic Energy Commission chief Khaled Toukan.

“We intend to cooperate in building nuclear power plants... and plan to build four plants in Jordan in the coming decades,” Kiriyenko was quoted as saying by the RIA Novosti news agency.

“We have started negotiations on various areas of cooperation, but the most important of them is the construction of a nuclear power plant for production of electric power, and of a desalination station,” Toukan said.

Jordan has recently announced two tenders concerning nuclear power projects. Russian nuclear power plant constructor Atomstroyexport is taking part in both tenders.

UK pilot arrested “over alcohol limit” before flight

LONDON, 22 May — A 57-year old pilot has been arrested at London’s Heathrow Airport for failing a breathalyser test just before he was due to fly an American Airlines jet to Chicago with 204 passenger aboard.

A spokeswoman for the airline said on Thursday the pilot was stopped on Wednesday morning before boarding flight AA87. Police had been alerted by concerned airport security staff. “An American Airlines pilot was arrested at London Heathrow Airport yesterday having failed a breathalyser test,” the airline said in a statement.

“American Airlines’ primary concern is for the safety and comfort of our passengers and crews,” it added. The company has strict policies on alcohol and substance abuse and holds its employees to the highest standards. “The unnamed pilot has been bailed to appear at a UK police station in July.

MNA/Reuters

People crowd a mini bus driving on a flooded road after torrential rains in southern Mogadishu, on 21 May, 2009. —INTERNET

Thai police nab Briton over $150m embezzlement

BANGKOK, 22 May — A British man wanted by Interpol for allegedly embezzling around 150 million US dollars from his employer in Dubai has been arrested in Bangkok, Thai police said on Thursday.

Michael Bryan Smith, 43, fled the United Arab Emirates eight months ago after his employer discovered company money was missing and said Smith had put it into his own account. Police Colone Somprasong Yen-tum told Reuters on Thursday.

“He did not resist arrest. We will start his extradition process as soon as possible,” Somprasong said, adding Smith was arrested late on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters

Japanese children wear protective masks as they visit the National Diet in Tokyo. Japan has eased its measures aimed at controlling the spread of swine flu, saying the virus was not as virulent as feared, even as the number of confirmed cases nationwide topped 300.

INTERNET
Two kids inside California home as parents killed

VENTURA, 22 May—An intruder dressed in black and wearing a motorcycle helmet barged into a Southern California beach home and stabbed a pregnant woman and her husband to death as their two children were in other rooms, authorities said on Thursday. The two children were not injured in the attack late on Tuesday. The 9-year-old boy ran to another part of the house after he first saw the intruder, and later found his parents’ bodies. His 11-year-old sister was asleep in another room, authorities said.

Davina Husted, 42, was in the kitchen, the father, Brock Husted, 42, was in a bedroom and the boy was watching television when the intruder entered the expensive house in an incorporated Faria Beach through a sliding-glass door, sheriff’s Capt Ross Bonfiglio said.—Internet

Some Nutro-brand dry cat food is recalled

WASHINGTON, 22 May—The US Food and Drug Administration announced the recall of various Nutro-brand dry cat foods due to incorrect levels of zinc and potassium. The FDA said Nutro Products Inc. initiated the voluntary recall of certain varieties of Nutro Natural Choice and Nutro Max dry cat foods with “best if used by” dates from 12 May, 2010, to 22 Aug, 2010. The company said two mineral premixes were affected. One premix contained excessive levels of zinc and under-supplemented potassium. The second premix under-supplemented potassium. Both zinc and potassium are essential nutrients for cats and are added as nutritional supplements.—Internet

Two die when small plane crashes in Michigan

PLAINWELL, 22 May—A small experimental airplane crashed near Plainwell, Mich, on Thursday, killing the two men on board, authorities said. Family members identified one victim as Jerry Thornton, 77, Elkhart, Ind, and the other as an elderly man from northern Indiana. Witnesses told the TV station the plane exploded when it hit the ground on its second attempt to land. The National Transportation Safety Board was investigating the accident.—Internet

The ASEAN secretariat invites ASEAN nationals to apply for the following vacancies

1. Assistant Director (ADR) finance & budget
2. ADR security cooperation
3. ADR legal services & agreements
4. Senior Officer (SO) political cooperation
5. SO security cooperation
6. SO external relations
7. SO customs
8. SO standards & conformance
9. SO investment
10. SO enterprise
11. SO infrastructure
12. SO public outreach & media
13. SO environment
14. SO health & communicable diseases

For more information about the specific positions, please refer to www.asean.org/jobs.htm. Closing date is 3 June, 2009.

Invitation to Tender

Sr No Description Qty Issuing Date Closing Date
5. Test Kiln 1 No 22.5.2009 29.6.2009
7. Electrical Accessories For Kiln 1 Lot 22.5.2009 29.6.2009
9. Filter Pressure 3.5 Ton 1 No 22.5.2009 29.6.2009
10. Ball Mill (0.5) Ton 1 No 22.5.2009 29.6.2009
11. Pug Mill (0.5) Ton 1 Set 22.5.2009 29.6.2009

Brick Factories
Hot Air Generator for Dryer 2 Sets 22.5.2009 7.7.2009
Diaphragm Pump for Transfering of 1 Set 22.5.2009 7.7.2009
Ship In Sanitary Ware
Hydraulic Oil Pump With Tank and Motor 1 Set 22.5.2009 7.7.2009
Water Supply Pump (22-KW) 1 Set 22.5.2009 7.7.2009
Refractory Brick, Heat Setting 1 Lot 22.5.2009 7.7.2009
Mortor And ISO Wool

Tender forms and documents are available at the Procurement Department, Myanmar Ceramic Enterprise, Ministry of Industry (1), Office No. 41, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who purchased Tender Documents officially.

(For further details, contact telephone number: 067.408298)
**Claims Day Notice**

MV Lampunchai Voy No (02/09)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV LAMPUCHAI VOY NO (02/09) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.5.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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.

**Shipping Agency Department**

Myanmar Port Authority

Agent for: KM Intertrans Co., Ltd

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**Mexico City drops emergency state over flu**

Mexico City, 22 May — The Mexico City government announced early on Thursday its decision to drop the emergency state in the city, issued on 23 April, as the number of deaths and confirmed cases of the A/H1N1 influenza has declined.

The city’s infectious disease and health supervision committee on the same day lowered the alert level from yellow to a lower green, which means the comprehensive re-assessment of all kinds of normal economic and social activities in the city.

The committee said the last case of A/H1N1 in Mexico City was confirmed seven days ago.

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**Internet**

Last case of A/H1N1 Mexico, especially in the A/H1N1 had decreased in confirmed cases of death and convalescence state in the city, is issued as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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**Vitamin D boosts brain power in middle-aged men**

**Washington**, 22 May — Higher levels of vitamin D, synthesized in the skin after being exposed to the sun and found in oily fish, are associated with increased brain power among middle-aged men, according to a new British study.

The link between increased vitamin D and faster information processing “was more significant in men aged over 60 years old, although the biological reasons for this remain unclear,” read the report, to appear in the Journal of Neurology.

**Neurosciences and Psychiatry.** The study, conducted by researchers from the University of Manchester, in collaboration with other European specialists, compared the cognitive performance of more than 3,000 men between the ages of 40 and 79 years. Men with higher levels of vitamin D “performed consistently better in a simple and sensitive neuropsychological test that assesses an individual’s attention and speed of information processing,” the study showed.

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**Mass face transplant patient wants ‘normal life’**

Boston, 22 May — The Massachusetts man who received the nation’s second face transplant asked for a mirror four days after the operation.

“I just wanted to see what the new Jim looked like,” James Maki said in an interview with The Boston Globe published Thursday, his first public statement since the 9 April procedure. Maki stared in wonder and told the doctor who performed the operation, Bohdan Pomahac (POE-mah-hawk), that he couldn’t believe he looked so much like he used to.

Pomahac asked what he thought. “I’m happy,” Maki said. His daughter, who just graduated from college, cried with joy when she first saw her father.

Maki, 59, still is at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston recovering, but is scheduled to go home in about a week. He said he’d like to finish his degree and may work with fellow Vietnam veterans.

Maki’s face was disfigured in June 2005 when he fell onto the electrified third rail at a Boston subway station. He lost his nose, upper lip, cheeks, the roof of his mouth, as well as muscle, bone, and nerves.

For years he rarely went out because people would recoil when they saw him. —Internet

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**Triglycerides tied to diabetes nerve loss**

Ann Arbor, 22 May — Monitoring blood fat levels as closely as blood sugar may help stem diabetic neuropathy, US researchers suggest.

Researchers at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University in Michigan analyzed data from 427 diabetes patients with neuropathy — tingling, numbness, burning and pain — and found those with higher blood triglycerides were more likely to develop a worsening of nerve loss symptoms within the year.

“These results set the stage for clinicians to be able to address lowering lipid counts with their diabetes patients with neuropathy as vigilantly as they pursue glucose control,” Dr Eva Feldman of the University of Michigan Medical School, who was the study’s senior author, said in a statement.—Internet

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**China’s 4th confirmed A/H1N1 flu patient discharged from hospital**

Guangzhou, 22 May — China’s fourth confirmed A/H1N1 influenza patient was discharged was discharged from hospital on Friday after seven days of treatment in south China’s Guangdong Province.—Internet

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**Honduras confirms first A/H1N1 flu case**

Tegucigalpa, 22 May — Honduras confirmed its first case of the A/H1N1 influenza on Thursday.

The case was in a nine-year-old girl who lives in a north town, San Pedro Sula, the Honduran government said.

Honduran President Manuel Zelaya, Health Minister Carlos Aguilar and the girl’s parents confirmed the case at a press conference, after receiving the testing result from a laboratory in US Atlanta.

The infected girl was diagnosed as possible case on 11 May and was self-quarantined and received treatment at home.

The girl’s father Jonathan Cruz said he was not clear where and how his daughter had been infected.—Internet

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**Philippines confirms first A/H1N1 flu case**

Manila, 22 May — The Philippine health department said late Thursday that there has been one A/H1N1 flu case confirmed in the Southeast Asian country. The patient is a ten-year-old Filipino girl who arrived on 18 May from the United States, the Philippine Daily Inquirer reported, quoting Dr Eric Tayag, director of the country’s National Epidemiology Center. The patient had also visited Canada when she was in the United States.

Philippine Health Secretary Francisco Duque said the patient’s specimen was tested positive based on results from the country’s Research Institute for Tropical Medicine. The patient is currently being treated at an undisclosed medical facility while her family were advised to follow quarantine and social distancing procedures from the Department of Health. Health officials said the girl no longer has fever and cough but still has sore throat.—Internet
Barcelona put hopes in out-playing the champions

**Madrid, 22 May** — Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola believes that Manchester United are the best team in the world but he is confident that if his team are able to dominate possession then they can pass their way to success. Guardiola’s side reached the final in Rome by the skin of their teeth after beating Chelsea through an injury-time strike by Andres Iniesta, and he expects a similar battle against United.

“We are a top side and we showed that when we went to Real Madrid and won 6-2 when some people said it didn’t matter if we win or not with the lead we had in the table, but that is not the way I think and it showed the ambition of the team,” Guardiola told a press conference at the Nou Camp. —Internet

Seppi keeps Italy’s hopes alive

**Dusseldorf, 22 May** — Italy are still in with a chance of reaching the final of the World Team Cup here after Andreas Seppi upset Serbia’s Viktor Troicki 6-1, 6-4 on Friday to keep his team’s hopes alive.

The Italians need to up the pressure in the remaining singles and doubles game on Friday to secure a 3-0 victory over Serbia in the Blue Group, while Argentina must lose to Russia. Serbia lead the group. Seppi produced his strongest performance so far here at the Rochusclub and dominated Troicki particularly in the first set, before the Serbian newcomer raised his level, but could not turn the match.

In the Red Group, Germany suffered a huge setback in the battle to make it to the final when Sweden’s Robin Soderling destroyed Rainer Schuettler 6-0, 6-1 on just under an hour. Despite Schuettler’s strong performance against France’s Simon on Tuesday, the German could not find his rhythm this time and was sent off the court without capturing a single game. —Internet

Mourinho ‘99.9 percent’ sure of staying at Inter

**Rome, 22 May** — Inter Milan coach Jose Mourinho on Thursday dampened rumours linking him with a move to Real Madrid by saying that he was “99.9 percent” sure of remaining at the newly-crowned Italian champions.

Florentino Perez, favourite to win the race to become Real’s next president, is reportedly keen to lure Mourinho to the Bernabeu stadium next season. Perez has singled out the former Chelsea boss as his number one target to take over from Juande Ramos should he succeed in winning the June 14 presidential election, according to Thursday’s Gazzetta dello Sport. —Internet

Downing out for up to three months

**London, 22 May** — Middlesbrough and England winger Stewart Downing will be out of action for up to three months after being told he needs surgery on his injured right foot. The news means Downing will miss England’s World Cup qualifiers against Kazakhstan and Andorra next month and could scupper his chances of a close-season move to a bigger club.

The 24-year-old was widely expected to leave Middlesbrough this summer regardless of whether the club survives in the top flight, which looks unlikely. Boro go into their final match of the season at West Ham on Sunday, needing a win combined with defeats for both Newcastle and Hull if they are to survive.

Boro assistant boss Malcolm Crosby said: “I think Stewart is going to be out for two or three months at least. That’s not good news for him or the club.” Stewart has played every game for us this season and has made a big contribution. He hasn’t scored goals, but he has worked extremely hard.”

Tests on Downing’s foot have not revealed a fracture but he will definitely require an operation, according to Crosby. Liverpool are widely seen as the leading candidates to sign Downing, who was the subject of an offer from Tottenham last year that was turned down by his current club. —Internet
UEFA said Friday that Chelsea as well as Didier Drogba, seen here on May 6, and Jose Bosingwa will face European football's disciplinary body on June 17 following incidents in the Champions League tie against Barcelona.—INTERNET

Chelsea faces UEFA disciplinary on June 17

GENEVA, 22 May—UEFA said Friday that Chelsea as well as Didier Drogba and Jose Bosingwa will face European football's disciplinary body on June 17 following incidents in the Champions League tie against Barcelona.

The governing body said it had started disciplinary proceedings against the London club over the "improper conduct of players and the throwing of missiles by their supporters". Drogba and Bosingwa also face proceedings "for being in breach of the principles of sportsmanship".

"Drogba and Bosingwa also face proceedings "for insulting the referee by making offensive comments," "for improper conduct of players and the throwing of missiles by their supporters", "for being in breach of the principles of sportsmanship by investigating the referee by making offensive comments," UEFA added in a statement.

Drogba faces potentially severe sanctions over his action in the Champions League tie against Barcelona.—INTERNET

WEATHER

Friday, 22 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, isolated in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above May average temperatures in upper Sagaing Division and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Yangon U, Kyaukse, Chauk, Mubna and Pakokku (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were NayPyiTaw (0.31) inch, Coco Island (1.85) inches and Dawei (1.22) inches.

Maximum temperature on 21-5-2009 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 22-5-2009 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours on 22-5-2009 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 21-5-2009 was (5.4) hrs approx. Rainfall on 22-5-2009 was (0.40) inch at Mingaladon, (0.76) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.53) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (4.57) inches at Mingaladon, (5.43) inches at Kaba-Aye and (6.93) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from South at (14:30) hour MST on 21-5-2009.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hrs M.S.T today, a low pressure area has formed over the Southwest Bay and adjoining West Central Bay. Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23rd May 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon State, Taninthayi, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine and Kayin States, isolated to scattered in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in South Rakhine State, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at time off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph approx.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of advancement of Southwest monsoon into the Deltaic areas. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 23-5-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-5-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for last weekend of May 2009: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers are likely to be widespread in Yangon Division, isolated in NayPyiTaw and Mandalay Division.
Kanyin Dam in Ingapu Township to help provide impetus for development of the delta

Article: Kyaw Sein: Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

With a large number of rivers, creeks and lakes alongside a good rainfall, Ayeyawady Division is the granary of Myanmar. However, water is somewhat scarce in some of its parts in summer. The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State on national economic growth and regional development conducted feasibility study constantly to find out new water and land sources in the division, and that led to Kanyin Dam Project. (See page 10)

Tipper lorries, bulldozers and compactors operating for groundwork.

Heat-tolerant coral reefs discovered

SCIENCE DAILY, 22 May — Experts say that more than half of the world’s coral reefs could disappear in the next 50 years, in large part because of higher ocean temperatures caused by climate change. But now Stanford University scientists have found evidence that some coral reefs are adapting and may actually survive global warming.

“Corals are certainly threatened by environmental change, but this research has really sparked the notion that corals may be tougher than we thought,” said Stephen Palumbi, a professor of biology and a senior fellow at Stanford’s Woods Institute for the Environment.

Palumbi and his Stanford colleagues began studying the resiliency of coral reefs in the Pacific Ocean in 2006 with the support of a Woods Institute Environmental Venture Project grant. The project has expanded and is now being funded by Conservation International and the Bio-X program at Stanford.

Marine mammals’ brains exposed to hazardous pesticides cocktail

Woods Hole, 22 May — The most extensive study of pollutants in marine mammals’ brains reveals that these animals are exposed to a hazardous cocktail of pesticides such as DDTs and PCBs, as well as emerging contaminants such as brominated flame retardants.

Eric Montie, the lead author on the study currently in press and published online April 17 in Environmental Pollution, performed the research as a student in the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution-MIT Joint Graduate Program in Oceanography and Ocean Engineering and as a postdoctoral fellow at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI).

The final data analysis and writing were conducted at College of Marine Science, University of South Florida, where Montie now works in David Mann’s marine sensory biology lab.

Co-author Chris Reddy, an associate scientist in the WHOI Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry Department, describes the work as “groundbreaking because Eric measures a variety of different chemicals in animal tissues that had not been previously explored. It gives us greater insight into how these chemicals may behave in marine mammals.”

Small storm at Bay of Bengal not heading to Myanmar coast

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today issued that according to the observatory at 7.30 pm MST, a low pressure area centering at the southwest and central west Bay of Bengal has already developed to a small storm and it is centring at the sea, 480 miles southwest of Pathein.

Initially, it is forecast to move into the north and then will further intensify. The storm is at the yellow level, and it is forecast that the direction of the storm is not towards the coastal region of Myanmar. Because of the storm, there will be scattered rain with lightning in Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and Rakhine State from this evening to next 12 hours with occasional heavy rains. Sometimes, squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at delta region, southern coastal area of Rakhine State and offshore area. The wind speed in squalls may reach 40 mph.

Significant day temperature

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
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<tr>
<td>NyaungU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyaukse</td>
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<td>Mrauk</td>
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<td>Pakokku</td>
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Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw</td>
<td>0.31 inch</td>
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