Upper Thanlwin (Kunlong) Hydropower Project gets green light

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—To implement Upper Thanlwin (Kunlong) Hydropower Project, the Department of Hydropower Planning under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and Hanergy Holding Group Limited (Hanergy) and Goldwater Resources Limited (GRL) of the People’s Republic of China signed a Memorandum of Agreement at the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1, here, yesterday evening.

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min delivered an address on the occasion.

Board Chairman & CEO of Hanergy Holding Group Limited (Hanergy) Mr. Li Hejun spoke words of thanks for the Memorandum of Agreement signing ceremony.

In the presence of Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, deputy ministers and departmental heads, Chinese Ambassador Mr. Ye Dabo, Economic and Commercial Counsellor Mr. Jin Honggen and Director of Goldwater Resources Limited (GRL) Mr. Chua Chay Jin, (See page 8)
**Ensure stability and peace for regional development**

Myanmar is a multicultural country where all national races adhere to the spirit of traditional nuclear family. So, national unity and amicable relations between national races prevail everywhere across the Union.

The government is working hard to ensure equitable progress of all regions of the Union. As part of the drive, it has been implementing a variety of plans it has laid down to scale up the development of the regions that are far away from transport routes, such as Myitkyina, Bhamo, Putao, Nagmon, and Machanbaw townships.

Being blessed with huge quantities of water sources, fertile soil and temperate climate patterns, Myanmar is a land of crops. The delta and plains, for instance, grow paddy, beans and pulses, edible oils and seasonal crops on a commercial scale. In addition, they are growing such perennial crops as tea, rubber, avocado and mango extensively.

In general, tea thrives in the regions at an altitude of over 3000 feet. So, in Myanmar, tea is grown on a large scale in Chin State, Shan State and Sagaing Division. Now, Chin State is also growing tea on a broader scale year by year. A special tea farming zone has been established in Homalin Township, Sagaing Division. The tea farms in Namhsan Township account for 80 per cent of the total acreage of tea farms of the whole country.

Now, Putao District is in pursuit of becoming a tea garden. In order to achieve the goal, departments concerned are carrying out research on hybrid tea strains in cooperation with local farmers. The regions can enjoy greater economic development if they establish tea farms of the whole country.

Development of a region is interrelated with stability and peace. So, the entire people have to work together for regional security and development. Therefore, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are to preserve the fine tradition of working hard in concert in order that the people can enjoy the taste of further development.

---

**People's Desire**

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

---

**Ministry of Culture measures artistic influence**

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint delivers speech at research paper reading session. **MINA**

---

**University students ready for first aids**

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Students of Myitkyina University have got basic first aid skills after a training course conducted by the Red Cross Society of the university.

---

**New products of Rinnai Gas Cookers launched**

Yangon, 25 Feb—Rinnai Corporation of Japan on 21 February introduced new products at Traders Hotel here.

---

**Thakayta gets township**

**Music Asiayon**

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Music Asiayon (Central) set up Thakayta Township Music Asiayon. A ceremony to put up the signboard and open the office took place at No 631, Shwepyitha Street, Tamway Township here on 22 February.

Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Kan Saw Hlaing and responsible persons formally opened the office and donors presented cash to the Asiayon. The Thakayta Township Music Asiayon will perform such tasks as promotion of national music and development of music beneficial to the public. —MINA
US missile strike kills eight militants in Pakistan

MIRANSHAH, 25 Feb — A US drone aircraft fired three missiles into Pakistan’s North Waziristan region on the Afghan border on Wednesday, killing eight militants, Pakistani intelligence officials and residents said.

The strike targeted a stronghold of the Haqqani network, a major Taleban faction attacking Western forces across the border in Afghanistan. A similar strike last week in the same area killed son of Jalaluddin Haqqani, the leader of the group.

Fire broke out after the missiles exploded in Dargi Mandi village, four kilometres (2.5 miles) north of North Waziristan’s main town of Miranshah.

“Thick clouds of smoke are still coming from the area,” said a Reuters reporter in Miranshah.

Pakistani intelligence agency officials said eight militants were killed, including three foreigners, but they had no information about their identity.

MNA/ Reuters

Afghan wounded tell of more left behind in Marjah

LASHKAR GAH, 25 Feb — Taxis turned into ambulances ferried wounded civilians out of the combat zone in southern Afghanistan, but one man’s long trip to a hospital began with a two-hour wheelchair ride.

Mohammad’s legs were peppered with shrapnel when a bomb exploded nearby. His brother found him unconscious and lifted him into the only thing he could find, pushing him in the wheelchair before he flagged a taxi.

Mohammad, who is from the Nad Ali District around Marjah, is one of 40 civilians treated at Emergency Hospital in Lashkar Gah since the Afghan-NATO offensive in Marjah began on 13 Feb. Both of his legs were in casts. Steel pins protruded from his right leg.

Most of the wounded civilians recuperating at the white-washed Italian-run hospital said their injuries were caused by “the foreign soldiers” — a claim that does not bode well for international and Afghan forces who are trying to get residents to renounce the Taleban and embrace the Afghan government.

Xinhua

Argentina seeks UN help to settle dispute over Malvinas islands

UNITED NATIONS, 25 Feb — Argentine Foreign Minister Jorge Taiana urged UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Wednesday to kickstart negotiations over the ownership of the Malvinas islands after Britain announced plans for oil exploration.

“The Secretary-General knows about this issue,” Jorge Taiana told reporters after his meeting with Ban at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

“He is not happy to learn that the situation is worsening and that’s why I came here. He is willing to continue his good offices mission,” he said.

Latin America launches new bloc excluding US, Canada

CANCUN, 25 Feb — Latin American and Caribbean countries on Tuesday agreed to launch a new regional group excluding the United States and Canada.

The new bloc, seen as an alternative to the US-weighted Organization of American States (OAS), is intended to weaken US influence in the region. It also reflected the common wishes of the Latin American and Caribbean nations of seeking a louder voice and greater role on the global stage.

Mexican President Felipe Calderon, who proposed the new group, said that the provisional name for the body would be the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Argentina says quake off Nicaragua coast

MANAGUA, 25 Feb — A moderate 5.9-magnitude earthquake has struck off Nicaragua’s southern Pacific coast. The US Geological Survey says on Wednesday’s quake occurred around 9:15 pm (0315 GMT). It says the temblor was centered about 65 miles (100 kilometers) south of Managua, the Nicaraguan capital.

Magnitude 5.1 earthquake jolts southwest China

BEIJING, 25 Feb — A 5.1-magnitude earthquake struck the Chuxiong Yi Autonomous Prefecture of southwest China’s Yunnan Province on Thursday noon, according to the China Earthquake Administration (CEA).

The earthquake occurred at 12:56 pm. Its epicenter was 25.4 degrees north latitude and 101.9 degrees east longitude, with a depth of 16 kilometres. There is no instant report of casualties.

Onlookers watch firefighters extinguish a burning NATO supply truck outside Peshawar in January. Suspected Islamist militants on Thursday blew up a tanker in northwest Pakistan carrying fuel for NATO troops across the border in Afghanistan. —INTERNET

Militants blow up NATO tanker in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, 25 Feb — Suspected Islamist militants on Thursday blew up a tanker in northwest Pakistan carrying fuel for NATO troops across the border in Afghanistan.

The driver escaped unhurt while his helper was wounded after a time bomb planted on the tanker exploded outside Peshawar, police official Hazrat Ali told AFP, setting the vehicle ablaze.

Bomb disposal official Tanvir Ahmed said that the timed bomb was attached to the tanker with a magnet.

Nobody claimed responsibility, Ali said, but Taleban and members of local militant group Lashkar-e-Islam (Army of Islam) have regularly attacked NATO supply vehicles on the main route through northwest Pakistan.

About 80 percent of supplies destined for the 121,000 US and NATO troops in landlocked Afghanistan pass through Pakistan.
China, Cambodia sign Consular Treaty to further strengthen cooperation ties

Pinom Pena, 25 Feb—China and Cambodia on Thursday signed here the Consular Treaty, aimed to further strengthen the cooperation relations between the two friendly countries.

Long Visalo, secretary of state of Cambodia’s Foreign Ministry and Zhang Jinfeng, Chinese ambassador to the Kingdom, signed the treaty on behalf of their respective countries at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong and other government officials presented at the signing ceremony. “Along with around development of the friendship relations between our two countries, personnel exchanges between the two countries are also increasing.” Long Visalo said, and expressed his belief that the Consular Treaty will effectively protect the legitimate interest of citizens of the two countries.

Zhang Jinfeng said that China and Cambodia are good neighbours and have a good cooperation on many fields including consular, such as jointly combat illegal immigrant and transnational crimes.

General Motors shutting down Hummer

Chicago, 25 Feb—General Motors Co has started shutting down Hummer, after a proposed deal to sell the rugged brand to a Chinese company collapsed, a senior company official said on Wednesday in Detroit.

The decision is the latest setback in GM’s attempts to unload unwanted brands and alleviate slumping sales as it focuses on Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac.

In October, Sichuan Tengzhong Heavy Industrial Machinery Co Ltd agreed to buy the brand, trademark, trade names and intellectual property license rights to build Hummer vehicles.

The company also was going to assume existing dealer agreements.

“We are disappointed that the deal with Tengzhong could not be completed,” said John Smith, GM’s vice president of corporate planning and alliances. “GM will now work closely with Hummer employees, dealers and suppliers to wind down the business in an orderly and responsible manner.”

Hyundai Motor Co unveils first concept car with hybrid diesel engine

Seoul, 25 Feb—South Korea’s top automaker Hyundai Motor Co unveiled on Thursday the design of its first concept car with a hybrid diesel engine, which will debut at the Geneva Motor Show next month.

The style of the new model called “i-flow” was developed at Hyundai’s design centre in Europe, incorporating the company’s new design philosophy of “fluidic sculpture,” the company said in a statement.

Hyundai added the “i-flow” applied a number of eco-friendly technologies to enhance its energy efficiency, as BASF, the world’s largest chemical company, worked in partnership to develop the vehicle.

The company said more details will be released at the Geneva auto fair.

S Korea’s POSCO bids for Daewoo International

Seoul, 25 Feb—South Korea’s top steel maker POSCO on Wednesday submitted a letter of intent to buy a controlling stake in Daewoo International Corp, the company said.

POSCO showed interest in the purchase, explaining it would have a synergy effect on its existing business.

“The acquisition of Daewoo International could generate synergy with our business as the M&A market, seeking a more concrete status among its peer conglomerates, local media here said.

According to a media report, POSCO’s acquisition of Daewoo International and Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering, if realized, will put the nation’s No. 5 conglomerate into a more advantageous position.

Honda’s sporty CR-Z hybrid going on sale in Japan

Tokyo, 25 Feb—Honda says its affordable, sporty hybrid CR-Z will go on sale in Japan, hoping the car will appeal to the younger set or empty-nesters who want a “green” car with a bit of pizzazz.

Honda Motor Co CEO Takanobu Ito bows as he takes part in a photo session with Honda’s new model CR-Z, unveiled in Tokyo, on 25 Feb, 2010.—INTERNET

Internet

Peru expects 40,000 new jobs from FTAs with US, China, EU

Lima, 25 Feb—At least 40,000 Peruvians or one in every 730 people will find jobs thanks to the implementation of their country’s free trade agreements with the world’s major economic entities.

The news was broken on Wednesday by the Peruvian labour minister, who was quoting a study done by the Inter-American Development Bank.

The bank study said that the Peru-US free trade agreement will boost employment in the manufacturing and textile sectors while its free trade accords with China and the European Union will benefit job creation in agriculture and agro-processing.
G20 tourism ministers’ meeting to be held in South Korea

SEOUL, 25 Feb—South Korea has been selected as the host country for the “T-20” forum, a meeting of tourism ministers from the G20 member countries, the Culture Ministry said on Thursday.

The second T-20 forum will take place before November’s G20 summit in Seoul, as South Korea was picked as the host at the inaugural meeting of the tourism conference in South Africa that was held from on Monday through Thursday.

Tourism ministers from the G20 member countries, tourism ministers from the country is also slated to have a meeting of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) next year.

The launch of the T-20 forum was first announced at the meeting of the UNWTO last year to emphasize the importance of tourism’s role in boosting global economic growth. The UNWTO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues with more than 390 members from 161 countries and territories.—Xinhua

Tongan cyclone damage worse than first assessed

WELLINGTON, 25 Feb—The number of houses known to have been destroyed or damaged by Cyclone Rene in Tonga last week continued to rise.

Tonga’s disaster management office said on Thursday that after assessments on the outer islands of Vava’u, 95 homes were found to be destroyed or damaged and 370 damaged by the cyclone, Radio New Zealand International reported.

That was in addition to more than 250 houses destroyed or damaged on the islands of Tongatapu and Eua and in the Ha’apai group.

The office’s deputy director, Malu Takai, said they will need more tents and tarpaulins, as there were not enough in Tonga.—Xinhua

Canadian flight delayed by suspicious man

OTTAWA, 25 Feb—A Canada’s WestJet flight bound for Toronto was delayed on Wednesday for more than four hours due to a man who started behaving suspiciously moments before takeoff in Montreal. Authorities at the Montreal Trudeau Airport, quoted by local media, said the man was escorted off the plane by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers at 10:15 am local time, All remaining some 90 passengers were asked to get off the plane and were placed in a closed room to undergo security screening when the police boarded the plane, a 136-seat 737-700 series, with dogs.—Xinhua

Air China adds more flights from Beijing to Vancouver

VANCOUVER, 25 Feb—Air China said on Wednesday it would add three flights a week from Beijing to Vancouver, boosting the total number of non-stop flights from China to Canada to 10 a week.

The additional flights will start operating in June, the national carrier said.

David Solloway, Air China’s senior advisor in Canada, told a Press conference that the additions made thanks to an annual average load factor of 85 percent on the route. “Our goal is to stimulate both business and leisure travel to open up opportunities for Canadian companies to increase business in China and vice versa,” said the advisor.

“If you look at the capital costs, to operate three additional flights a week, you need about 2.1 airplanes. That’s 220 million dollars (US) an airplane, and then the operating costs. We will also have to hire more pilots,” he added. According to Tourism British Columbia figures, 99,405 Chinese visitors entered Canada via Vancouver in 2008 and the number of Chinese visitors is expected to increase after China added Canada to its approved-destination-of-tourism list in 2009.—Xinhua

Russia to spend over $1 bln building nuclear power plant

MOSCOW, 25 Feb—Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday that the government would spend 53 billion roubles (1.76 billion US dollars) on construction of new nuclear power plants, Russian news agencies reported.

“I have signed a resolution today to allocate 53 billion roubles for the construction of nuclear power plants,” Putin was quoted as saying at a meeting on energy investment in Siberia.

The Premier criticized Russian electric power companies for ineffectively spending 66 billion roubles (2.2 billion dollars) out of 450 billion roubles (14.9 billion dollars) allocated from state coffers for investment projects in the electric power sector.

Xinhua

Two Philippine Air Force personnel die as plane crashes in training flight

MANILA, 25 Feb—Two Philippine Air Force (PAF) personnel died on Wednesday after the aircraft used for flight training crashed, a military spokesman said.

Lt Col Romeo Brawner Jr, spokesman of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said the OV-10 bomber crashed around 2:55 pm in Crow Valley, Tarlac, northern Philippines, the local online media site Inquirer.net reported.

Brawner said they will still investigate on what caused the crash.

Maj Gen Lino Horacio Lapinid, commander of the 1st Air Division, said they will still investigate on what caused the crash.

The aircraft was one of the Philippine military aircraft participating in the ongoing Teak Piston, a joint military exercise with the US that started early this month.

Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

People view orchid on an exhibition held in Canglangting in Suzhou, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 24 Feb, 2010. A 5-day-long orchid exhibition was held here with over 100 rare orchid of more than 50 varies on shown.—Xinhua

A policeman disposes the suspected bomb in Vila Mariana, south of Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 24 Feb, 2010. No further information about the veracity of the artifact is available by Press time.—Xinhua

Russia to spend over $1 bln building nuclear power plant

MOSCOW, 25 Feb—Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday that the government would spend 53 billion roubles (1.76 billion US dollars) on construction of new nuclear power plants, Russian news agencies reported.

“I have signed a resolution today to allocate 53 billion roubles for the construction of nuclear power plants,” Putin was quoted as saying at a meeting on energy investment in Siberia.

The Premier criticized Russian electric power companies for ineffectively spending 66 billion roubles (2.2 billion dollars) out of 450 billion roubles (14.9 billion dollars) allocated from state coffers for investment projects in the electric power sector.

Xinhua

Two Philippine Air Force personnel die as plane crashes in training flight

MANILA, 25 Feb—Two Philippine Air Force (PAF) personnel died on Wednesday after the aircraft used for flight training crashed, a military spokesman said.

Lt Col Romeo Brawner Jr, spokesman of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said the OV-10 bomber crashed around 2:55 pm in Crow Valley, Tarlac, northern Philippines, the local online media site Inquirer.net reported.

Brawner said they will still investigate on what caused the crash.

Maj Gen Lino Horacio Lapinid, commander of the 1st Air Division, said they will still investigate on what caused the crash.

The aircraft was one of the Philippine military aircraft participating in the ongoing Teak Piston, a joint military exercise with the US that started early this month.

Xinhua
**Ethiopian Airlines attacks Lebanon crash comments**

Addis Ababa, 25 Feb—Ethiopian Airlines chief Girma Wake on Wednesday accused Lebanese authorities of making “misleading” comments on the cause of a crash that killed 90 people off Beirut last month.

“I am not happy with the way they are handling it,” Girma told journalists here.

There have been conflicting reports as to whether the passenger jet exploded in the air or hit the water.

Lebanon’s transport and information ministers have both repeatedly ruled out sabotage, but the African airliner has refused to reject any factor, including foul play.

“My main concern is not with the investigators as long as they follow International Civil Aviation Organization rules, my concern is with the authorities who come out with guesses every morning,” Girma said.

**Brazillian President says Castro seems recovered**

Havana, 25 Feb—Fi-del Castro is “exception- ally well” and appears recovered from a health cri-sis that has kept him out of the public eye for more than 3 1/2 years, Brazil’s private Cubana, but information about it was carried in Cuban state media and by Brazil’s private Agencia Estado news agency.

Fidel Castro has not been seen in public since falling seriously ill, and his exact ailment has re-mained a state secret, though he has appeared healthier in photos re-leased periodically by Cuba’s government.

The meeting was closed to international media based in Han-va, but information about it was carried in Cuban state media and by Brazil’s private Agencia Estado news agency.

Fidel Castro has not been seen in public since falling seriously ill, and his exact ailment has re-mained a state secret, though he has appeared healthier in photos released periodically by Cuba’s government.

**Gunmen kill 13 people in southern Mexican town**

OAXACA, 25 Feb—The US government warned its citizens on Wednesday against travelling to a northern Mexican border state where shootings killed 13 people the previous three days.

The alert came a day after assailants stormed a rural town in southern Mexico and killed 13 people. President Felipe Calderon addressed the upsurge in violence, using a rare news conference with local news media to hotly deny accusations that his government is favoring one drug cartel over another.

Calderon called the accusations “incredible... false and ill-intentioned, and I don’t know what motives lie behind them.” In Nuevo Laredo, across the border from Laredo, Texas, reports of violence and impending vio-

**New sauropod dinosaur find reported**

US scientists say they’ve found the remains of a new herbivorous sauropod dinosaur that may help explain the evo-

**Chicken lays 4.5-ounce egg**

The British owners of a young chicken said the hen’s fourth-ever egg weighs in at more than six times the average weight.

**Qatar, Iran ink defence cooperation agreement**

Doha, 25 Feb—Qatar and Iran signed an agree-

**Lebanese civil defence workers recover debris from the Ethiopian airliner that crashed off Lebanon’s coast in the Beirut southern coastal suburb of Khaldeh in January 2010.** Internet

**New sauropod dinosaur find reported**

US scientists say they’ve found the remains of a new herbivorous sauropod dinosaur that may help explain the evolution of Earth’s largest land animals.

The fossils were discovered near the Carnegie Quarry in Dinosaur National Monument, along the border between Colorado and Utah.

University of Michigan Assistant Professor Jeffrey Wilson and graduate student John Whitlock said the discovery represents a rare look at a sauropod skull. “At first glance, sauropods don’t seem to have done much to adapt to a life of eating plants,” said Wilson, who is also an assistant curator at the university’s Museum of Paleontology. But together with paleontologists Brooks Britt of Brigham Young Univer-

**Internet**

**Artist Sayaka Ganz has made good use of plastic scrap to construct lots of lively animal sculptures. The largest creatures take nine months to make and sell for over 12,000 US dollars.** The photo shows an Indian boy with three arms and four legs. They are actually strange conjoined twins according to doctors.
Sand Pagoda Festival of Tabaung

Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

The twelveth and the last month of Myanmar lunar calendar year is Tabaung which usually falls in March but this year it comes towards the end of February. Tabaung is a transition month between Myanmar winter and summer, as such its first half—March but this year it comes towards the end of lunar calendar year is Tabaung which usually falls in blooms of all hues. But Tharaphee ushers in springtime and all flora burst forth buds and asterism of two stars in Leo resembling the hind leg of month so unruly” (aelvdkUncsrf;? waygif;vo&rf;).

In Tabaung, water in river, streams and lakes diminishes and sand bars such as maize, corn, peanut, peas, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, and a variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables. After their farm products are sold out, cultivators grow seasonal crops on these fertile sand bars, such as maize, corn, peanut, peas, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, and a variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables. After their farm products are sold out, the cultivators have cash and enough rest time until next rain comes. With money and leisure they turn to religious and social activities. Myanmar kings made sand pagoda festival the monthly festival of Tabaung.

Sand pagodas are made of graduated five tiers tapering to the top. Each tier of white sand is flanked by bamboo matting and posts. The five tiers represent five layers of Mt. Meru, the legendary Mountain in Buddhist cosmology. After all five tiers are filled with clean and pure white sand, taking the shape of a sand pagoda to worship all previously extinct Buddha or who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddhas who had entered Parinivana. Grains of sand in the sacred Ganges River are countless. So also Buddh

In Tabaung, water in river, streams and lakes diminishes and sand bars appear in them. Myanmar cultivators grow seasonal crops on these fertile sand bars, such as maize, corn, peanut, peas, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, and a variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables. After their farm products are sold out, the cultivators have cash and enough rest time until next rain comes. With money and leisure they turn to religious and social activities. Myanmar kings made sand pagoda festival the monthly festival of Tabaung.

In Tabaung, water in river, streams and lakes diminishes and sand bars appear in them. Myanmar cultivators grow seasonal crops on these fertile sand bars, such as maize, corn, peanut, peas, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, and a variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables. After their farm products are sold out, the cultivators have cash and enough rest time until next rain comes. With money and leisure they turn to religious and social activities. Myanmar kings made sand pagoda festival the monthly festival of Tabaung.

In Tabaung, water in river, streams and lakes diminishes and sand bars appear in them. Myanmar cultivators grow seasonal crops on these fertile sand bars, such as maize, corn, peanut, peas, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, and a variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables. After their farm products are sold out, the cultivators have cash and enough rest time until next rain comes. With money and leisure they turn to religious and social activities. Myanmar kings made sand pagoda festival the monthly festival of Tabaung.

In Tabaung, water in river, streams and lakes diminishes and sand bars appear in them. Myanmar cultivators grow seasonal crops on these fertile sand bars, such as maize, corn, peanut, peas, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, and a variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables. After their farm products are sold out, the cultivators have cash and enough rest time until next rain comes. With money and leisure they turn to religious and social activities. Myanmar kings made sand pagoda festival the monthly festival of Tabaung.

In Tabaung, water in river, streams and lakes diminishes and sand bars appear in them. Myanmar cultivators grow seasonal crops on these fertile sand bars, such as maize, corn, peanut, peas, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, and a variety of fruits, flowers and vegetables. After their farm products are sold out, the cultivators have cash and enough rest time until next rain comes. With money and leisure they turn to religious and social activities. Myanmar kings made sand pagoda festival the monthly festival of Tabaung.
Memorandum of Agreement on implementation of Upper Thanlwin (Kunlong) Hydropower Project inked

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min and those present at the signing ceremony for implementation of Upper Thanlwin (Kunlong) Hydropower Project pose for documentary photo.

YCDC brings vision to eye patients

Yangon, 25 Feb — As part of drive for uplift of health standard of the entire nation, City clinic is being kept open by Yangon City Development Committee for the people to receive free health care services at the corner of Kyaiikwaing Pagoda Road and Insein Road in Mayangon Township here.

Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin encouraged patients with eye complaints who were given eye surgeries by an eye specialist team led by Dr Daw Nilar Thein at the clinic this morning.

Apart from giving eye care, the clinic provides free dental care and other health care services to every one daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Mayor also inspected upgrading of roads in Dawbon and Thakayta Townships.

MNA

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min cordially greets those who attend the signing ceremony of Memorandum of Agreement for implementation of Upper Thanlwin (Kunlong) Hydropower Project—MNA

Director-General U Kyee Soe of Department of Hydropower Planning and Board Chairman & CEO of Hanergy Holding Group Limited (Hanergy) Mr. Li Hejun signed the agreement and exchanged notes.

MNA
Industry-2 highlights enhancement of heavy industries

The last work of the late Maung Hsu Shin comes out today to teach people how to pursue a healthy and happy life. It's all about exercises you can do to keep yourself fit and enjoy longevity. The late writer translated a very popular book “Stretching” by Bob Anderson, which has been translated into 19 languages and up to now over three million copies have been sold. It's a book to be read and kept in houses, gyms and fitness centres. Another book is “The Doctor's Book of Home Remedies” which will be like a physician in your own home, giving you knowledge about the ways to prevent and cure common diseases every one is familiar with. Translated by the same author in two volumes, it is a Sayawun Tin Shwe award winner ever household should keep to get health advice round the clock.

A doctor in every home

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Industry-2, held a discussion with Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Aloke Sen at his office this afternoon.

Their discussions emphasized further strengthening of bilateral relations between Myanmar and India and enhancement of heavy industries.

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — The last work of the late Maung Hsu Shin comes out today to teach people how to pursue a healthy and happy life. It's all about exercises you can do to keep yourself fit and enjoy longevity. The late writer translated a very popular book “Stretching” by Bob Anderson, which has been translated into 19 languages and up to now over three million copies have been sold. It's a book to be read and kept in houses, gyms and fitness centres. Another book is “The Doctor's Book of Home Remedies” which will be like a physician in your own home, giving you knowledge about the ways to prevent and cure common diseases every one is familiar with. Translated by the same author in two volumes, it is a Sayawun Tin Shwe award winner ever household should keep to get health advice round the clock.

A doctor in every home

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Industry-2, held a discussion with Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Aloke Sen at his office this afternoon.

Their discussions emphasized further strengthening of bilateral relations between Myanmar and India and enhancement of heavy industries.

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — The last work of the late Maung Hsu Shin comes out today to teach people how to pursue a healthy and happy life. It's all about exercises you can do to keep yourself fit and enjoy longevity. The late writer translated a very popular book “Stretching” by Bob Anderson, which has been translated into 19 languages and up to now over three million copies have been sold. It's a book to be read and kept in houses, gyms and fitness centres. Another book is “The Doctor's Book of Home Remedies” which will be like a physician in your own home, giving you knowledge about the ways to prevent and cure common diseases every one is familiar with. Translated by the same author in two volumes, it is a Sayawun Tin Shwe award winner ever household should keep to get health advice round the clock.

A doctor in every home

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Industry-2, held a discussion with Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Aloke Sen at his office this afternoon.

Their discussions emphasized further strengthening of bilateral relations between Myanmar and India and enhancement of heavy industries.

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb — The last work of the late Maung Hsu Shin comes out today to teach people how to pursue a healthy and happy life. It's all about exercises you can do to keep yourself fit and enjoy longevity. The late writer translated a very popular book “Stretching” by Bob Anderson, which has been translated into 19 languages and up to now over three million copies have been sold. It's a book to be read and kept in houses, gyms and fitness centres. Another book is “The Doctor's Book of Home Remedies” which will be like a physician in your own home, giving you knowledge about the ways to prevent and cure common diseases every one is familiar with. Translated by the same author in two volumes, it is a Sayawun Tin Shwe award winner ever household should keep to get health advice round the clock.
**S African Tourism Minister probes World Cup prices**

**JOHANNESBURG, 25 Feb—**South Africa’s Tourism Ministry has ordered an investigation into allegations World Cup hotel prices are unreasonably high, the second official probe into possible price gouging linked to the first African edition of soccer’s most prestigious tournament.

The allegations have worried hotel operators and others in South Africa’s tourism business, who called a news conference on Tuesday to deny them a day after Tourism Minister Marthinus Van Schalkwyk announced an official investigation.

Members of the Tourism Business Council of South Africa, an industry group, said they were sure an independent investigation would prove most of them aren’t gouging.

Business leaders have urged South Africans not to take advantage of World Cup visitors, saying gouging will keep tourists from returning.

Jabi Mabuza, chairman of the board of South Africa’s state-owned tourism development company and chief executive of a national hotel and casino chain, said South Africa has sophisticated hotels, restaurants and attractions that rival those anywhere in the world. He said the strategy has been not to market the country as cheap, but as a place where a traveller can get value for money.—Internet

---

**Marina Bay Sands in Singapore to open in April**

**SINGAPORE, 25 Feb—**The 5.5-billion-US-dollar Marina Bay Sands, Singapore’s second casino, will open its doors to the public on 27 April this year.

The integrated resort plans to open its 963 hotel rooms, part of the shopping mall and convention centre, as well as dining outlets and casino on 27 April, a statement by Las Vegas Sands said on Wednesday.

The second phase will open on 23 June, as part of the grand opening, and this will include the opening of the SkyPark and Event Plaza.

The Marina Bay Sands museum is expected to open by December. On 14 Feb, the 4.6-billion-US-dollar Resorts World Sentosa, Singapore’s first casino, was opened as the city state has been doing its best to woo more foreign tourists in the coming years.—Xinhua

---

**Hyundai halts US sales of 2011 Sonata; shares drop**

**SEOUL, 25 Feb—**South Korea’s Hyundai Motor has stopped US sales of its 2011 Sonata sedan due to door lock issues, sending its shares down more than 4 percent on concerns it could become snared in a damaging recall crisis like Japanese rival Toyota Motor Corp.

Hyundai notified dealers late on Monday of potential faults in the front-door latches of the new model that could affect 5,000 vehicles, and the stop-sale order was put into effect at US dealers on Tuesday, a spokesman said.

But analysts drew a line between Toyota’s recall woes and Hyundai’s decision to suspend sales of the revamped Sonata, contrasting their handling of the problems.

“We were startled by news that the new Sonata, which people have pinned high hopes on, also had flaws,” said Lee Seong-jae, a Kimwoo Securities analyst in Seoul.

“But investor reaction is emotional. Hyundai has already found the defect and has started to ship replacement parts, unlike Toyota which appears to have been unclear about the causes of its defects since late last year.”

Toyota has recalled more than 8.5 million vehicles globally in recent months for problems including sticky accelerators, loose floor mats and a braking glitch across its model range. The mass recall had prompted analysts to say consumers may shift from Toyota cars to more affordable Hyundai models.

---

**Key consumer group urges car safety reform**

**WASHINGTON, 25 Feb—**Consumers Union, the nonprofit publisher of Consumer Reports, issued a call on Tuesday for urgent changes to strengthen US auto safety regulation in the wake of a massive recall by Toyota Motor Corp.

Consumers Union said that the US safety regulatory system should be reformed to become more transparent and that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration should have more funding and the ability to impose tougher sanctions. The influential consumer advocacy group also urged a number of safety mandates it said should be imposed on all automakers to address the risk of unintended acceleration of the kind now under investigation for Toyota.

US safety regulators should require that all cars have brake override systems, simple controls that turn off the engine in an emergency, clear and simple labels on transmission shifters and a minimum clearance between floor panels and accelerator pedals, Consumers Union said.

Toyota has faced criticism on all of those points in the run-up to a sweeping recall for accelerator-related problems that totals over 8 million vehicles globally.

NHTSA says five deaths have been linked to the risk of loose floor mats trapping accelerator pedals in Toyota vehicles. Another 29 fatality reports are under investigation.—Internet
US scientists study
Haitian earthquake

Seattle, 25 Feb — A five-person US team evaluating the magnitude-7 earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 Jan says much of the massive loss of life might have been prevented.

The team, led by University of Washington structural engineering Professor Marc Eberhard, said its main conclusion was that much of the loss of life could have been prevented by using earthquake-resistant designs and construction, as well as improved quality control in concrete and masonry work.

The researchers recommended simple and cost-effective earthquake engineering be emphasized in Haiti’s rebuilding effort.

“A lot of the damaged structures will have to be destroyed,” Eberhard said.

“It’s not just 100 buildings or 1,000 buildings. It’s a huge number of buildings, which I can’t even estimate. ‘Usually when I go to earthquakes I find that the amount of damage is less than what appears on the television,’ Eberhard said. ‘In this case it was much more.”

Electronic waste a growing problem

Ball, 25 Feb — Developing countries, particularly India and China, could be faced with mountains of waste from electronic products says a UN report which calls for new recycling technologies and regulations to safeguard both public health and the environment.

The study — “Recycling — from E-Waste to Resources” — launched on Monday at a Bali, Indonesia, meeting of hazardous wastes experts, predicts that by 2020 e-waste from old computers in China will have jumped by 400 percent from 2007 levels and by 500 percent in India. By that same year in India, e-waste from discarded mobile phones will be about 18 times higher than 2007 levels. In China it will be seven times higher. Globally, e-waste is growing by 40 million tons a year, the report said.

China produces about 2.3 million tons of e-waste domestically each year, second only to the United States with about 3 million tons. Even though China has banned e-waste imports, it remains a major e-waste dumping ground for developed countries.

The report is of considerable significance to the host country of the United Nations-sponsored conference. Indonesian Environment Minister Gusti Muhammad Hatta noted that as a vast island nation, Indonesia was vulnerable to illegal trafficking of hazardous substances and wastes. Hatta estimates that 2,000 locations in the country were potential entry points for such materials.

E-waste is often incinerated by backyard recyclers to recover valuable metals such as gold — practices that release deadly plumes of far-reaching toxic pollution and yield very low metal recovery rates compared to state-of-the-art industrial facilities, says the report.

Genetic link between misery and death

Los Angeles, 25 Feb — There is a genetic link between misery and death — the more misery the more likelihood of death — US researchers suggest.

Steven Cole of the Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology at the University of California, Los Angeles, and colleagues analyzed transcription factor binding sequences in a gene called IL6, a molecule that is known to cause inflammation in the body and contributes to cardiovascular disease, neurodegeneration and some types of cancer.

“The IL6 gene controls immune responses but can also serve as ‘fertilizer’ for cardiovascular disease and certain kinds of cancer,” Cole said in a statement. “Our studies were able to trace a biochemical pathway through which adverse life circumstances — fight-or-flight stress responses — can activate the IL6 gene.”

The researchers also identified the specific genetic sequence in this gene that serves as a target of that signaling pathway, and discovered a well-known variation in the sequence can block that and disconnect IL6 responses from the effects of stress, Cole said.

Woman has babies after ovary transplant

Copenhagen, 25 Feb — A woman in Denmark gave birth to two children following an ovary transplant in what doctors are calling a medical first.

Clau Yding Andersen of the University Hospital of Copenhagen said so far, nine children have been born worldwide as a result of transplanting frozen/shaven ovarian tissue — all in Europe.

Sanne Holm Bergholdt was diagnosed with Ewing’s sarcoma when she was 27 in 2004. Before she began chemotherapy, part of her right ovary was removed and frozen — her left ovary had been removed some years before because of a dermoid cyst, a type of benign ovarian tumor. Her cancer treatment was successful but, as expected, the drugs caused a menopause.

In December 2005 thin strips of ovarian tissue were transplanted back on to what remained of her right ovary. Her ovary began to function normally again and, after mild ovarian stimulation, she became pregnant and gave birth to her first daughter, Avija, in February 2007, and in 2008 she had conceived a second child naturally and gave birth to another girl in September 2008.

Memory in Alzheimer’s mouse model revived

San Antonio, 25 Feb — University of Texas Health Science Centre researchers say they have successfully reversed Alzheimer’s-like memory deficits in a mouse model of the disease.

The researchers, led by Assistant Professor Salvatore Oddo, said they used rapamycin — a drug that keeps the immune system from attacking transplanted organs — in rescuing the learning and memory deficits.

Oddo said the study offers the first evidence the drug might be valuable in treating Alzheimer’s patients. Oddo said rapamycin also reduced Alzheimer’s-like lesions in the brains of the mice.

“Our findings may have a profound clinical implication,” Oddo said.

“Rapamycin is a US Food and Drug Administration-approved drug, a clinical trial using it as an anti-Alzheimer’s disease therapy could be started fairly quickly.”

Last year three institutions, including the University of Texas’ Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies, announced rapamycin extended the lifespan of aged research mice.

Computerized picture from European aerospace giant EADS shows a KC-45 refuelling tanker, a militarized version of Airbus’ 330. The Pentagon unveiled final terms for a high-stakes competition to build new US aerial refuelling tankers, promising a fair contest for aviation rivals Boeing and Airbus parent EADS.

A carnival goer dressed in a costume representing a painting by Gustav Klimt walks past onlookers in San Marco square in Venice.
Iraq to sack 376 security officers for alleged Baath links

Baghdad, 25 Feb—An Iraqi body responsible for purging Saddam Hussein’s Baath party members from government jobs on Wednesday issued a list of 376 Iraqi police, army and intelligence officers to be fired over links to the outlawed Baath party.

Ali al-Lami, executive director of the Accountability and Justice Commission, said that the list included 193 officers from the Interior Ministry, including 10 high-ranking police officers.

It also included 58 officers from the Defence Ministry, 10 of whom held senior posts, including Aboud Qanber, former commander of the Baghdad Operations.

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 2nd March (Tuesday) 2010. Peasant’s Day being 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: M/S Wongsamut Ocean Shipping Co, Ltd

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

10 billionth song downloaded from Apple’s iTunes

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb—The 10 billionth song has been downloaded from Apple’s iTunes, seven years after the launch of the online store which provided a lifeline to the struggling music industry. — Internet

Apple’s iTunes website is reflected on an iPod music reader. The 10 billionth song has been downloaded from Apple’s iTunes, seven years after the launch of the online store which provided a lifeline to the struggling music industry. — Internet

Belgrade International Tourism Fair opens

BELGRADE, 25 Feb—Serbian Minister of Economy Mladen Dinkic opened the 32nd International Tourism Fair in Belgrade on Wednesday, calling particular attention to tourist organization from countries exhibiting for the first time: Spain, US, Brazil and Peru.

The largest annual tourism event in Serbia was this year extended to five days, from 24 to 28 February.

Along with the economic benefits of tourism, Dinkic characterized tourism as a way to broaden friendship among nations and learn about other countries.

Immediately prior to the opening of the fair, Dinkic presented six domestic tour operators with accreditations for organizing groups from China to visit Serbia.

The International Tourism Fair with 850 exhibitors from 41 countries will highlight Serbian rural tourism to both local and foreign tour operators and visitors.

The fair will also promote two tourist attractions of Serbia, including Aboud Qanber, former commander of the Baghdad Operations.

Debut of promising fuel-cell tech light on details

SAN JOSE, 25 Feb—A richly funded clean-energy startup is keeping critical parts of its business plan secret as it launches its first product amid fanfare.

The Silicon Valley company, Bloom Energy, didn’t offer many new details on Wednesday about how it plans to make its promising fuel-cell technology affordable enough for regular people to buy for their homes.

That’s an important question because the company’s product—a box of fuel cells that looks like a giant filing cabinet—currently costs $700,000. Corporations are the first customers, but Bloom Energy wants to cut the price to a few thousand dollars and put it in homes.

Apple’s iTunes website is reflected on an iPod music reader. The 10 billionth song has been downloaded from Apple’s iTunes, seven years after the launch of the online store which provided a lifeline to the struggling music industry. — Internet

Debuts of promising fuel-cell tech light on details

SAN JOSE, 25 Feb—A richly funded clean-energy startup is keeping critical parts of its business plan secret as it launches its first product amid fanfare.

The Silicon Valley company, Bloom Energy, didn’t offer many new details on Wednesday about how it plans to make its promising fuel-cell technology affordable enough for regular people to buy for their homes.

That’s an important question because the company’s product—a box of fuel cells that looks like a giant filing cabinet—currently costs $700,000. Corporations are the first customers, but Bloom Energy wants to cut the price to a few thousand dollars and put it in homes.

All CEO KR Sridhar would say was that the price cut could take a decade or more as the technology improves. By then, companies have already gotten more powerful and cheaper over the decades.

“We’re very confident we can make the economics work,” Sridhar said.

With around $400 million in venture funding, Bloom Energy is one of Silicon Valley’s most closely watched startups. Since its founding in 2001, it has been remarkably secretive about its technology. — Internet
Study shows what leads to a science career

EAST LANSING, 25 Feb — Michigan State University researchers say they’ve found parental influence and access to math courses likely to guide students into science careers.

Professor Jon Miller, who led the study, said the education of more people in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine is crucial for the nation. “Failure to build and maintain a competitive scientific workforce in the decades ahead,” Miller said, “will inevitably lead to a decline in the American standard of living.”

Miller used data from the Longitudinal Study of American Youth, which kept track of nearly 6,000 students from middle school through college, attempting to determine what led them to or away from science-based careers.

Miller said the research showed the path to a science career begins at home, and that is especially true in families in which children were strongly encouraged to go to college.—Internet

FDA concerned about HIV drug combination

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb — The US Food and Drug Administration says preliminary study data suggest Invirase used with Norvir in HIV therapy might have adverse effects on the heart.

The FDA said when used together, Invirase (saquinavir) and Norvir (ritonavir) might cause a reaction in the heart that can lead to an abnormal heart rhythm, which, in turn, can progress to a life-threatening irregular heart beat known as ventricular fibrillation.

Invirase, an antiretroviral medication first approved in 1995, is used in combination with Norvir and other antiretroviral medicines to treat the human immunodeficiency virus in adults, officials said.

Invirase is marketed by Gentechn, a subsidiary of the Roche Group. Norvir is marketed by Abbott Laboratories.—Internet

SMOS images better, earlier than expected

PARIS, 25 Feb — The European Space Agency says it is halfway through calibrating images being transmitted by its Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity satellite.

Launched on 2 Nov, the satellite is designed to improve our understanding of Earth’s water cycle by making global observations of soil moisture over land and salinity over oceans.

The satellite captures images that can produce information on soil moisture and ocean salinity, the space agency said. The images of what’s called “brightness temperature” are a measure of the radiation emitted from Earth’s surface.—Internet

When life is a grind, teeth suffer

CHICAGO, 25 Feb — A US survey indicates 65 percent of dentists report an increase in patients’ jaw clenching and teeth grinding.

The Chicago Dental Society survey in 2009 found nearly 75 percent of dentists reported their patients say the level of stress has increased in their lives.

Experts at the Dental Society say patients may sometimes take their stress out on their mouths. People with serious grinding and clenching — bruxism — need to talk to their dentist about wearing a mouth guard at night.

Severe bruxism can cause headaches or sleep problems and can lead to muscle inflammation, broken teeth or damaged dental work. Other steps these dentists recommend to ease tooth grinding include:

— Relieving stress and anxiety through exercising and using relaxation techniques such as meditation. Deep breathing before bedtime can be a big help.
— Avoiding caffeine, especially in the hours before going to bed.
— Increasing water consumption.
— Those with headaches or muscle soreness should avoid foods that require vigorous chewing and take an anti-inflammatory like Advil or Aleve shortly before bedtime. Massaging the muscles along the jaw line may help relieve soreness.—Internet

More images of Enceladus are released

PASADENA, 25 Feb — NASA says it has released new images of Saturn’s icy moon Enceladus that were taken by the Cassini spacecraft in November.

Space agency scientists said those images reveal a forest of new jets spraying from prominent fractures crossing Enceladus’ south polar region, yielding the most detailed temperature map to date of one fracture.

NASA said the images from the imaging science subsystem and the composite infrared spectrometer team also include the best 3D image ever obtained of a “tiger stripe” — a fissure that sprays icy particles, water vapour and organic compounds. There are also views of regions not well-mapped previously on Enceladus, including a southern area with crudely circular tectonic patterns.

“Enceladus continues to astound,” said Bob Pappalardo, Cassini project scientist at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. “With each Cassini flyby, we learn more about its extreme activity and what makes this strange moon tick.”—Internet

A man waits for a train to pass by near a sugar mill in the village of Sitiecito, Villa Clara Province, central Cuba, some 360 km (224 miles) from Havana, on 23 February, 2010.—INTERNET

Robotic kidney surgery has good outcomes

WINSTON-SALEM, 25 Feb — A Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Centre study shows robot-assisted kidney surgery is faster and has better outcomes.

Dr Ashok Hemal, a urologic surgeon, compared laparoscopic and robot-assisted surgery for repairing blockages that prevent urine from draining normally into the bladder. The researchers followed the patients for 18 months and determined both options were equally successful, but the robot-assisted technique had several advantages.—Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet
Mourinho takes first blood over Ancelotti in Champions League

MILAN, 25 Feb—Jose Mourinho got one over his former employers as Inter Milan beat Chelsea 2-1 in the Champions League last-16, first leg clash at the San Siro here on Wednesday.

It’s a slender advantage but a crucial one for Inter ahead of the second leg at Stamford Bridge on March 16th and also represented a milestone as it was Inter’s first goal against an English team since 2003 and a 3-0 win over Arsenal in London.—Internet

Gonzalez wonder goal earns CSKA draw against Sevilla

MOSCOW, 25 Feb—CSKA Moscow came from behind to draw 1-1 with Spanish side Sevilla in their Champions League last-16 clash on Wednesday, leaving the return leg in two weeks time delicately poised.

CSKA bore little resemblance to the side that had not played a competitive match since December, producing some electric counter-attacking play down the flanks.

Chilean winger Mark Gonzalez produced a spectacular equalizer on 65 minutes with a 35-yard free-kick. But Villa, who face Manchester United in the League Cup final at Wembley on Sunday, eased into a quarter-final date with "in bits" by the scandal surrounding his manager John Terry. He does not know whether he will even be able to shake hands with them when they play against each other this weekend.

Bridge is considering pulling out of England’s World Cup plans because he cannot bear the thought of spending so long with a man he now regards as a sworn enemy.

Bridge has been described as "in bits" by close acquaintances after the revelation of Terry’s affair with his former partner, Vanessa Perroncel, and the Manchester City left-back is sufficiently aggrieved to consider snubbing Terry in the official line-up before the teams meet at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

The former Chelsea player feels irreplaceable damage has been caused to his relationship with someone he once considered a trustworthy friend. His team-mates at City, as well as his reps and representatives and other friends, have urged him to put on a dignified front but Bridge has told them that he is not certain whether he will be able to in what promises to be a very tough nightclub environment.

The tensions have obvious ramifications for Fabio Capello ahead of a World Cup in which Bridge could conceivably line up alongside Terry in defence in the wake of Rory Delap’s huge threat and that gave Stoke a crucial advantage going into extra-time, during which they scored two quick goals to advance to the quarter-finals for the first time since 1972.

Stoke utilized their biggest asset in the shape of Rory Delap’s huge throw as he launched a flat in towards the six-yard box which allowed Shawcross to nod over Shay Given, and just four minutes later Tuncay dribbled past Pablo Zabala and Shaun Wright-Phillips to score Stoke’s third and send City out.—Internet

Mancini feels the heat as City silverware hopes crushed

STOKE ON TRENT, 25 Feb—Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini insists he is not under any pressure despite watching Stoke City end his side’s hopes of silverware this season by dumping them out of the FA Cup.

A Dave Kitson goal gave Stoke the lead with just over 10 minutes to go before Craig Bellamy equalized moments later as a hitherto quiet game suddenly ignited. Emmanuel Adebayor was dismissed two minutes after Bellamy’s equaliser for catching Ryan Shawcross in the throat and that gave Stoke a crucial advantage going into extra-time, during which they scored two quick goals to advance to the quarter-finals for the first time since 1972.

Stoke utilized their biggest asset in the shape of Rory Delap’s huge throw as he launched a flat in towards the six-yard box which allowed Shawcross to nod over Shay Given, and just four minutes later Tuncay dribbled past Pablo Zabala and Shaun Wright-Phillips to score Stoke’s third and send City out.—Internet

Ochoa shoots 68 for share of HSBC Champions lead

SINGAPORE, 25 Feb—Top-ranked Lorena Ochoa birdied two of the final three holes for a 4-under 68 and a share of the first-round lead on Thursday in the HSBC Champions.

Cristie Kerr, Angela Stanford and Hee Young Park also shot 68s. Kerr birdied five of the last six holes on Tanah Merah’s Garden Course, Stanford had a bogey-free round, and Park overcame three bogeys with seven birdies.

Ochoa won the 2008 HSBC Champions tournament by 11 strokes, but her round was much tighter and sweeter.

John Carew during their UEFA Champions League second round, first leg match at the San Siro football stadium in Milan. Internet

Alvaro Negredo(L) of Sevilla fights for the ball with goalkeeper Igor Akinfeev of CSKA in Moscow during their last-16 UEFA Champions League game. The match ended on a 1-1 draw. Internet

Lorena Ochoa of Mexico listens during a press conference, on 24 Feb, 2010 in Singapore a day before the first round of the HSBC Women’s Champions golf tournament. Internet

Murray, Davydenko join Dubai cull

DUBAI, 25 Feb—The cull of leading players at the Dubai Open continued in spectacular fashion as Australian Open finalist Andy Murray, Nikolay Davydenko, and Jorg Wilfried Tsonga all fell in the second round on Wednesday.

With Roger Federer having announced his withdrawal on Saturday, and Gilles Simon being beaten in the first round, it means that only three of the eight seeds have made it through to the quarter-finals of the two million dollar ATP event.

Serbia’s Novak Djokovic celebrates a point during his ATP Dubai Tennis Championships second round match against compatriot Viktor Troicki in the Gulf Emirate. Internet

World Cup-bound United States beat El Salvador 2-1

TAMP A, 25 Feb—The United States, lacking its Europe-based best, rallied to beat El Salvador 2-1 in a friendly soccer match with goals from Brian Ching and Sacha Kljestan.

Ching scored with a diving header in the 74-minute and Kljestan put away the go-ahead goal in 90-minute injury time to lift the World Cup-bound Americans to the victory.

Ching, a second half substitute, scored the equalizer from seven yards out after a cross from Heath Pearce that Salvadoran goalkeeper Miguel Montes spilled.

Rudy Corrales’ 59-minute strike had put El Salvador ahead, after a scoreless first half in chilly, rainy conditions at Raymond James stadium.

“I thought there were a lot of positives,” US coach Bob Bradley said. “Some good efforts. Some positive things on the field.” Ching, Kljestan and Pearce were among just a handful of players in the US squad who appear to have a real chance of being selected for the US squad for the World Cup finals in South Africa in June.

Ching was in the 2006 World Cup squad, but didn’t get into a match.—Internet

‘Devastated’ Wayne Bridge may snub World Cup to avoid John Terry

LONDON, 25 Feb—Wayne Bridge is so “devastated” by the scandal surrounding his former Chelsea teammate John Terry he does not know whether he will even be able to shake hands with them when they play against each other this weekend.

Bridge is considering pulling out of England’s World Cup plans because he cannot bear the thought of spending so long with a man he now regards as a sworn enemy.

Bridge has been described as “in bits” by close acquaintances after the revelation of Terry’s affair with his former partner, Vanessa Perroncel, and the Manchester City left-back is sufficiently aggrieved to consider snubbing Terry in the official line-up before the teams meet at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

The former Chelsea player feels irreplaceable damage has been caused to his relationship with someone he once considered a trustworthy friend.
How nerve cells grow: researcher decodes molecular process that controls growth of nerve cells

SCIENCE DAILY, 25 Feb—Brain researcher Hiroshi Kawabe has discovered the workings of a process that had been completely overlooked until now, and that allows nerve cells in the brain to grow and form complex networks.

The study, which has now been published in the journal Neuron, shows that a protein component in nerve cells has an unexpected function in the human brain. Using specially bred genetically engineered mice, the Japanese guest scientist, who conducts research at the Max Planck Institute for Experimental Medicine, discovered that the Nedd4-1 enzyme is essential for regular dendrite growth. Nedd4-1 is an enzyme that usually controls the degradation of protein components in cells by combining them with another protein called ubiquitin. — Internet

WEATHER

Thursday, 25th February, 2010
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan, Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperature in Chin and Kayin States, Bago Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Kachin, Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures was Namhsan (5°C). The note worthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.20) inch.

Maximum temperature on 24-2-2010 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 25-2-2010 was (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperature in Chin and Kayin States, Bago Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Kachin, Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

During the past 24 hours, light rain has been isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 26th February 2010: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated light rain in the extreme southern Myanmar waters.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-2-2010: Generally fair weather.
Attention judokas!

YANGON, 25 Feb—Now, judokas will have an excellent chance to improve their martial art skills and enter Dan test at Myanmar Judo Federation from 11 to 17 March.

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Sports, MJF and Kodokan Judo Institute of Japan with the aim of helping develop Myanmar Judo techniques will open Judo Seminar Technical Course inviting all interested persons to register at the federation by 3 March.—MNA

Hlawga Park to be kept open

YANGON, 25 Feb—Hlawga Park of Forest Department will be kept open on the fullmoon day of Taboung on 27 February and on Peasants’ Day on 2 March from 8 am to 5 pm for public relaxation and recreation.—MNA

Garden of a great gardener

Myanmar is like a flower garden, featuring golden paddy fields and silver bridges the length and breadth of the entire nation in the hands of a great gardener, the Tatmadaw government.

The government, in its bid to upgrade Pakokku as a western Ayeyawady City, is building over two miles long Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) which will emerge as a grand bridge crowning the title of the longest among the bridges over Ayeyawady, Chindwin, Thanlwin, Sittoung rivers.

Development of Pakokku started just after it was put into the list of 24 special development regions in Magway Division under the guidance of the Head of State. Railways and motorways appeared overnight and communication systems have developed to make the town modern. Industrial zone with the factories—cotton and garment factory, machine and machine tools factory, concrete sleeper factory, value-added wood product factory, fertilizer plant, power grid, gas factory, cigarette factory and private factories—is creating jobs for locals. Universities, colleges and (200-bed) hospital symbolize the all round development in Pakokku.

(See page 9)

People’s Desire

■ We favour peace and stability
■ We favour development
■ We oppose unrest and violence
■ Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution