Remarkable progress in Chipwe and Panwa, Chipwenge Hydropower Project run parallel to each other

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb — Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence started his inspection tour of Chipwe Township by overseeing the condition of downtown roads and development of Chipwe in a motorcade on 26 February morning.

After hearing reports on progress of the township presented by an official, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Soe Win and Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Lt-Gen Tha Aye elaborated on regional development tasks and presented cash to the funds of Chipwe and Sawlaw Township People’s Hospitals in meeting with departmental officials, town elders and members of social organizations at the Chipwe Town Hall.

The commander, the minister and officials also presented foodstuff, medicines and publications.

At Chipwe Township People’s Hospital, Lt-Gen Tha Aye looked into operation theatre and patient wards, and comforted patients who were undergoing treatment at the hospital. (See page 8)

From commercial hub to archaeological centre
a special tourist train will run

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb — From the port city to the archaeological centre, a special tourist train will run for every convenience of globetrotters eager to dig history while enjoying the service of modern facilities.

The programme to operate a special train from Yangon to Bagan was discussed at Yangon railway station this morning.

At the meeting, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min discussed arrangements for globetrotters to travel by train from the commercial hub to Bagan, the showcase of historical heritage. The minister also quoted the Head of State as saying “In order to further enhance tourism industry and to facilitate passenger and freight transport, we will have to upgrade Yangon-Pyay-Mandalay railroad to meet the standard of Yangon-Mandalay line.”

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing view special coaches for tourists at Yangon Railway Station.

MNA
Let’s do our bit in national development tasks

With an area of 34,379.2 square miles, Kachin State is composed of four districts of 18 townships, and 2583 villages. In olden days, the state lagged behind other regions in development, in consequence of lack of stability and peace. Now, with a growing number of infrastructural buildings built by the government in the transport, education and health sectors along with stability and peace, the socio-economic life of local people has improved considerably.

In the past, for local people of Kachin State, the car was their main means of transport, and they relied on the train to travel to plains. So far, they relied on the train to travel to plains. So far, the state has 20 above-180-foot bridges. Ongoing such projects are Malikha River-crossing Kaungghmulon Suspension Bridge on Putao-Htiwadan-Nagmon Road, and Ayeyawady River-crossing Katha-Bhamo Railroad (Sinkhan Bridge) on Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo Road.

A university, a college, a technological university, and a university of computer studies and hospitals have been opened in Myitkyina, Bhamo and Mohnyin districts, which are covered by the 24 Special Regions Development Project. In addition, the government is improving the basic and higher education for human resource development.

Only with healthy, strong human resources, will it be possible to carry out national development tasks effectively. With this concept, the government has been building new hospitals and health centres and upgrading old ones, and appointing more teachers. Myanmar needs a lot of more technologies and human resources to exploit rich natural resources for its development. Therefore, the entire people of the Union have to do their bit in development undertakings, utilizing natural resources and technologies in combination for greater national development.

Maung Myanmar cycling contests held

YANGON, 28 Feb—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials attended the opening of Maung Myanmar Men’s and Women’s cycling contests, organized by Myanmar Cycling Federation, Ministry of Sports and Ministry of Industry-1, at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre here yesterday morning. The commander and officials presented the awards to winners. The commander and the mayor proceeded to Yankin Township Development Affairs Office and held the reports presented by officials concerned on preventive measures against DHF and diarrhea and sanitation tasks and better drainage system.

The commander and the mayor inspected preventive measures against DHF and diarrhea, sanitation tasks, giving educative talks and drainage system on Myanmar road and Aungchantha road at No.13 ward in Yankin Township and No.8 ward in Mayangon Township.

Industry-2 eyes quality rubber for tyre production

NAI PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein urged the workers of rubber plantation of the ministry to produce quality rubbers on arrival at the plantations in Kyaiakko Township in Mon State yesterday morning.

The minister proceeded to No (2) Tyre Factory (Bilin) and called the staff for production of radial tyres and for meeting the demand of the market. He inspected the machines for research works.
Foreign soldier killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 28 Feb — A foreign soldier has been killed fighting militants in Afghanistan, NATO said, though the death was not associated with major military operations in the south of the country.

In a brief announcement NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said the death was in western Afghanistan on Saturday. An ISAF service member died today as a result of small-arms fire in western Afghanistan,” it said, adding that the soldier’s nationality would not be revealed according to policy.

NATO and the United States have around 121,000 troops stationed in Afghanistan to battle a Taliban-led insurgency.

SeaWorld resumes whale shows after trainer’s death

ST PETERSBURG, 28 Feb — SeaWorld resumed its killer whale shows on Saturday, three days after a trainer was killed by a whale at the Orlando, Florida, theme park.

Trainer Dawn Brancheau, 40, died on Wednesday after Tilikum, a 12,000-pound (5,400-kg) Orca whale, pulled her into the water by her hair.

Several hundred people watched the Saturday morning show at the park’s outdoor stadium in rainy weather. The performance began with a video tribute to Brancheau.

Tilikum — who killed another trainer at a water park in British Columbia, Canada, in 1991 before he was brought to SeaWorld — was not part of the show.

SeaWorld said trainers will not be allowed into the water to swim and ride on the whales until an investigation into Brancheau’s death is completed to see if changes in procedures are needed.

SeaWorld also has parks in San Diego, California, and San Antonio, Texas. It is owned by the Blackstone Group, a private equity company that also owns part of the Universal Orlando theme park.

Thousands still lack power after Northeast storm

CONCORD, 28 Feb — Frustration turned to resignation on Saturday for hundreds of thousands of people in the Northeast struggling to survive another day waiting for utility crews to restore electricity after powerful storms socked the region with heavy snow, rain and hurricane-force winds.

The region was left to deal with the fallout of gusting winds that created near-blizzard conditions this week in what was the third strong storm this month for some areas. Parts of New York got more than 2 feet of snow while some areas of coastal New England were drenched with flooding rains.

One man was killed by a falling snow-laden tree branch in Central Park in New York City, and two people in Candia, NH, died in a house fire caused by improperly using a propane heater to stay warm, fire officials said.

The highest wind reported from the storm was 91 mph off the coast of Portland, NH — well above hurricane force of 74 mph. Gusts also hit 60 mph or more from the mountains of West Virginia to New York’s Long Island and Massachusetts.

Frustration was beginning to show on Charlotte Letteney’s face Saturday at Concord High School, one of 24 shelters in New Hampshire. Letteney, 64, of Allenstown, arrived Friday night with her 66-year-old husband, who is a paraplegic, two granddaughters, her grandson-in-law and 6-month-old great-grandson.

Strong earthquake shakes Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 28 Feb — An earthquake measuring 6.1 degrees at Richter scale shook Argentina on Saturday at midday local time in the province of Salta, some 1,600 kilometres northwest to Buenos Aires, without report of victims.

The National Institute of Seismic Prevention (Inpres) said that the earthquake occurred at 12:48 pm local time (1548 GMT), affecting the province of Salta, however it was also felt in Jujuy and Tucuman, in the northwest of the country.

The Inpres said that the earthquake has an intensity of V degrees at the Mercalli Scale in the cities of San Juan and Mendoza, west of the country.

While in the city of San Carlos de Bariloche in Rio Negro Province the intensity was of V to VI.

Moderate earthquake jolts Afghan capital

KABUL, 28 Feb — A moderate earthquake struck Afghan capital Kabul and adjoining areas Sunday morning, causing no casualty, a private TV channel reported.

“The quake was magnitude 5.5 on the Richter scale, and the epicentre is on the Hindu Kush Mountains,” Tolo television reported in its news bulletin.

The earthquake took place at around 3:50 am local time. No immediate report of casualties or damages to properties has so far been reached, said the TV channel. Some Kabul residents rushed from their houses in their nightclothes when the houses were shaking.
Sierra Leone takes steps to save mangroves

FREETOWN, 28 Feb—Sierra Leone’s fragile mangrove ecosystem risks being depleted if steps are not taken, the country’s forestry director said on Saturday after African countries adopted a plan to save coastal mangrove forests.

“There is a need to formulate and implement a sustainable policy, and for an integrated approach for the safeguard of the environmental and economic benefits of mangrove resources,” Ahmed Mansaray said in a statement broadcast on national radio.

Mansaray spoke a day after Sierra Leone and five other West African countries—Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia and Guinea—signed onto an action plan for sustainable mangrove management in Freetown.

Trees and shrubs that grow in saline areas of the tropics and sub-tropics, mangroves play a key role as nursery areas for fish and shrimp and in stabilising shorelines, environmentalists say.

Mangroves cover about 760,000 hectares (1.9 million acres) of Sierra Leone—on par with the country’s forest cover, according to government statistics.

Pakistan eyes billions in foreign investment

ISLAMABAD, 28 Feb—Pakistan aims to attract foreign investment worth five billion dollars this year, but needs to tackle reform, maximize economic growth and stem rampant violence to clinch its ambitious target.

Last fiscal year, Pakistan recorded its worst economic growth in more than a decade, at two percent, and attracted only 3.7 billion dollars in investment.

Yet Board of Investment chairman Saleem Mandviwalla is optimistic despite Pakistan’s immense challenges.

“Traditionally the investment pace that we had kept — which was an average of five billion dollars a year — I think we should be able to go back to it very soon depending on if the global situation improves,” he said.

“Pakistan faces the global crisis which is going on, the financial crisis, the war on Al-Qaeda,” Mandviwalla added.

Foreign investment in Russia plunges 21 percent in 2009

MOSCOW, 28 Feb—Foreign investment in Russia slumped 21 percent in 2009 to 89.1 billion US dollars, the Federal Statistics Service (Rosstat) said on Saturday.

In the same period, foreign direct investment dropped 41 percent to 15.9 billion dollars, portfolio investment fell 37.7 percent to 882 million dollars, and other investment was down 13.5 percent to 65.14 billion dollars, Rosstat said.

Accumulated foreign investment in the Russian economy increased 1.4 percent to 268.2 billion dollars in 2009.

The wholesale and retail trade and services sector garnered the most foreign investment in 2009 with an injection of 22.79 billion dollars. The manufacturing industry followed with 22.21 billion dollars.

Russia’s largest investor countries last year included Cyprus, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Britain, Germany, China, Ireland, France, and Japan.

Palm comeback falling short

New York, 28 Feb—A year ago, handheld devices pioneer Palm seemed poised for a comeback.

Its new smartphone, the Palm Pre, had just won “Best in Show” at the annual gadget fair in Las Vegas and the company had high hopes that the Pre would help it recapture some of its former glory.

Pre sales have been disappointing and shares in the Sunnyvale, California, firm took a beating last week falling 34.5 percent to close at 6.09 dollars on Friday.

“Export commitments are going to be honored,” Gonzalez told Reuters, adding that Codelco’s Caletones smelter had also been halted.

Anglo-American’s (AAL.L) Los Bronces and El Soldado mines, which together produce about 280,000 metric tons of copper annually, also halted operations, but other major mines were running as usual.

Palm shares were pummelled after the company forecast third-quarter revenue of between 300 million dollars and 320 million dollars, far short of the 420 million dollars expected by Wall Street analysts.

As a result, Palm said it would be “well below” its annual revenue target of between 1.6 billion dollars and 1.8 billion dollars.

Palm came out with some of the first personal digital assistants in the 1990s, but in recent years it has been lagging behind its digital assistants in the 1990s, but in recent years it has been lagging behind rivals Nokia, Apple and Research in Motion (RIM), maker of the Blackberry.

SANTIAGO, 28 Feb—A powerful earthquake that hit Chile on Saturday halted production at two oil refineries and two major mines in the world’s top copper supplier, but exports of the metal will not be affected, officials said.

The 8.8-magnitude quake forced state mining company Codelco to halt operations at its El Teniente and Andina mines, and Mining Minister Santiago Gonzalez said it could take two days for production to resume.

Other Codelco operations were unaffected.

Gonzalez said Codelco had enough stocks to be able to meet its export commitments, and a union leader said the key copper ports of Antofagasta and Mejillon were operating normally, although the smaller copper port of San Antonio was closed.

A township in Freetown is pictured in 2009. Sierra Leone’s fragile mangrove ecosystem risks being depleted if steps are not taken, the country’s forestry director said on Saturday.—INTERNET

Young men play online games at an internet cafe in Beijing. In 2009 the industry raked in nearly 26 billion yuan (3.8 billion dollars), up 39.5 percent over the previous year, according to government data.—INTERNET

inese growth and stem rampant violence to clinch its ambitious target. Last fiscal year, Pakistan recorded its worst economic growth in more than a decade, at two percent, and attracted only 3.7 billion dollars in investment.

Yet Board of Investment chairman Saleem Mandviwalla is optimistic despite Pakistan’s immense challenges.

“Traditionally the investment pace that we had kept — which was an average of five billion dollars a year — I think we should be able to go back to it very soon depending on if the global situation improves,” he said.

“Pakistan faces the global crisis which is going on, the financial cri-
Emergence office says Chile quake death toll over 300

SANTIAGO, 28 Feb—More than 300 people have been reportedly killed in Chile after a 8.8-magnitude megah_quake hit the country on Saturday, the national emergency office said.

The Chilean National Emergency Office (Onemi) said earlier on Saturday that the death toll from the massive earthquake in the morning was 214. The country’s national emergency office said the latest figure has risen to more than 300. The tremor, one of the world’s most powerful quakes in decades, rocked Chile at 3:34 am local time (0634 GMT) on Saturday, knocking down homes and hospitals and triggering a tsunami that rolled menacingly across the Pacific.

The epicentre was only 115 km from Concepcion, Chile’s second largest city with a population of 670,000.

According to Sergio Barrientos, science chief of the Seismology Institute of the University of Chile, the quake was “50 times bigger than the one of Haiti.”

A rescue team on Saturday saved at least 22 people from an apartment building of 15 floors in Concepcion, where millions of people were affected by the quake. Meanwhile, countries and regions across the Pacific Ocean are on alert against tsunami triggered by the earthquake. The Japan Meteorological Agency issued a major tsunami alert on Sunday for its Pacific coast after the powerful earthquake struck Chile.

Indian submarine fire triggered by battery explosion

MUMBAI, 28 Feb—The Indian submarine fire in an eastern port base on Friday was caused by its battery explosion, the Indian newspaper Hindustan Times reported on Sunday.

“It was due to a defective battery, while the Russia-made Kilo class submarine in the eastern port of Visakhapatnam was performing a routine maintenance,” a Navy official was quoted as saying. The submarine fire on Friday evening killed a 24-year-old technician and two others suffered from burn injuries.

The diesel-electric submarine, acquired in the 1980s and commissioned in 1997, would be succeeded by a more advanced one in the future, said the Navy official. This was the second fatal accident in the Indian navy’s submarine fleet since 2008. In January 2008, another one of the same class, participating in a naval exercise, collided with a merchant ship off Mumbai, had to repair in the dockyard for a month.

Hamas slams Palestinian document

GAZA, 28 Feb—Hamas on Saturday slammed a document prepared by a senior Palestinian negotiator which outlines a grim situation due to the suspension of peace talks with Israel.

“The document reflects the Palestinian negotiator’s frustration,” said Ismail Radwan, a Hamas spokesman.

The suspension of peace talks is not in favour of the Palestinian people, said the document prepared by chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat.

As the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) had desperately negotiated for years to have an independent Palestinian statehood against Israel, the interruption of the talks would serve Israel’s idea that one state with two nationalities is better than the two-state solution, Erekat said.

Radwan stressed that the PNA and President Mahmoud Abbas’ Fatah movement “are not entitled to make any fateful decisions related to the Palestinian people.”

He also criticized Erekat for considering Hamas an obstacle to peace.

“This means the negotiator (Erekat) sees the Israeli occupation as a partner,” Radwan said.

Chinese ship escorts released Greek ship

BEIJING, 28 Feb—A Chinese naval vessel early Sunday morning conducted a successful mission of a released Greek merchant ship off the Somali coast, at the request of the Greek side, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said.

The merchant ship Navios Apollon, hijacked by Somali pirates in December 2009, is now on its way to the safe waters under the escort of the Chinese vessel, the ministry said in a statement.

Navios Apollon has one Greek and 18 Philippine sailors aboard.

A Chinese naval ship escorted Singapore-flagged tanker Pramoni, hijacked off the Somali coast last month, to the safe waters on Friday.

All Items From Xinhua News Agency

Performers carrying children wait to start a folk art performance celebrating the Lantern Festival, on the last day of Chinese Lunar New Year celebrations, in Xuyuan County, Hebei Province on 28 Feb, 2010.—INTERNET

Yemen declares state of emergency in southern province

SANAA, 28 Feb—Yemen declared on Saturday the state of emergency in the southern province of al-Dhale, a security official said.

The emergency state started on early Saturday and will last until further notification. It acts as a precautionary measure to prevent possible violence and riots, said the official in the Yemeni Interior Ministry. The official told Xinhua on condition of anonymity that “the security situation in the southern provinces, particularly al-Dhale, is getting worse. Security authorities are now on alert to face the mounting tension.”

Hijacked Greek ship

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A Chinese naval ship escorted Singapore-flagged tanker Pramoni, hijacked off the Somali coast last month, to the safe waters on Friday.

Chickens near their coop. Belgian families accused of posing a health hazard with bins overflowing with food waste are to be offered chickens to clean up their mess, a town official said on Friday.—INTERNET
Egypt adopts organ transplant bill to curb trafficking

CAIRO, 28 Feb—Egypt’s parliament voted by an overwhelming majority on Saturday to regulate organ transplants in a bid to curb illegal trafficking and tourism over the issue.

The law bans commercial trade in organs as well as transplants between Egyptians and foreigners, except in cases of husband and wife.

Operations in government hospitals are to be financed by the state. According to the United Nations, hundreds of poor Egyptians sell their kidneys and livers every year to buy food or pay off debts.

In January, the UN World Health Organisation welcomed the preliminary approval of the law as a significant step towards ending illegal trafficking.

“The approval of this law is a wonderful step that creates hope for thousands of patients who have been waiting a long time for live-saving transplant operations,” Hassen A Gezairy, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean, said at the time.

Mexico arrests 3rd Juarez massacre suspect

CIUDAD JUAREZ, 28 Feb—Mexico has arrested a third suspect in last month’s massacre of 15 people in the border city of Ciudad Juarez.

Chihuahua state prosecutors say he is a former police officer believed to have worked as a hit man for the Juarez cartel.

A statement Saturday says he confessed to killing at least one victim.

On 30 Jan, armed men blocked off a dead-end street in a working class neighborhood and shot up five houses. Many of the victims were teens with no known cartel ties, and the attack outraged even hardened residents of the violent city across from El Paso, Texas.

Investigators say the gunman may have been acting on mistaken information. Drug violence has killed over 2,300 people last year in Ciudad Juarez.

Rat found on aircraft prompts deplaning

An Air Canada spokeswoman said an airplane was taken out of service and 205 passengers left the aircraft at the gate after a rat was found on board.

The deplaning of passengers from what would have been Air Canada Flight AC888— an airline spokesman said there was no evacuation— came after the rodent was spotted in one of the aircraft’s overhead lockers, The Daily Telegraph said.

The aircraft, scheduled for a flight from Ottawa to London, was taken out of service after a pest control team was unable to locate the elusive rodent. London resident Richard Jones, whose girlfriend had been expected to arrive in Toronto on what would have been Air Canada Flight AC888— an airline spokesman said there was no evacuation— came after the rodent was spotted in one of the aircraft’s overhead lockers, The Daily Telegraph said.

Six malaria cases reported for US soldiers in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 28 Feb—A US military spokesman in Haiti says six American soldiers involved in the aid mission have come down with malaria.

US Army Col Billy J Buckner says one of the soldiers was evacuated for treatment. Buckner says, “At last update, the soldier was improving.”

The spokesman says the other five soldiers are recovering and all are scheduled to return to their duties.——Internet

Young Haitian lost leg to save his sister’s life

It’s just after 6 am, and Petersen Hilan is waking from a dream where he was rollerblading and playing soccer. The morning sun jolts him back to reality— he no longer has a right leg.

The high school senior looks up at the tangerine light streaming through the canvas tent. Mornings remind him of the feeling just before his leg was amputated three weeks ago. “The serum went in the arm and all I thought was that death probably feels just as sweet,” Hilan says.

He looks under his cot to find the grey and a child killed when a rain-swollen river.

It’s still several weeks until Haiti’s rainy season typically starts. It also has been raining, but not as hard, in parts of the capital, where hundreds of thousands of people are living outside after their homes were destroyed in the earthquake.——Internet

Egyptians are planting crops on their backs

In this picture taken on 18 Feb, 2010, Petersen Hilan, right, walks with a girl identified as Dasline, at a field hospital in Port-au-Prince. Both lost limbs during last month’s magnitude 7.0 earthquake.

In Haiti’s apocalyptic landscape of tilted and flattened houses, smiling schoolchildren in smart uniforms and colourful hair bows have been replaced by legions of young amputees. More than 4,000 Haitians have gone through amputations since the quake, hundreds of them without anesthesia. Some lost more of their limbs than necessary because of the lack of equipment and medicine during a crushing influx of broken people.

The pilot decided to kick everyone off the plane because stewardesses were fighting,” fellow passenger Corey Minton told news Web site YNN Rochester.

Elderly brothers carry mother on handcart to tour around country

The two brothers, who are both nearly 60 years old, pulled the “touring car” made of a handcart and carried their 81-year-old mother to Taipei from Heilongjiang. On 23 February, they arrived in Fuzhou. The “touring car” was named “Thanksgiving Road.” The younger brother Wang Rui said, “It is not only our love of our mother but also people’s loving hearts that support us and made us see this through until the end.” They insisted on finishing the trip and made us see this through until the end.

They found the “Thanksgiving Road” sight of Minjiang River by the window. Two dark men were pulling a handcart, leisurely enjoying the sight. An old lady was sitting in the cart, leisurely enjoying the sight. An old lady was sitting in the cart, leisurely enjoying the sight.

An elderly brother is divd into three levels and an in-

eulation board has been installed in it. Elderly brothers carry mother on a handcart and car

ried their heads lowed. An old lady was

ing solely on their physical power. Elderly brothers carry mother on a handcart and car

is divided into three levels and an in-

Elderly brothers carry mother on a handcart to tour around the country.

Pilots and crew members of the taxi were not injured. The pilot decided to kick everyone off the plane because stewardesses were fighting,” fellow passenger Corey Minton told news Web site YNN Rochester.

Elderly brothers carry mother on a handcart to tour around the country.
Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Pagoda

Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

On a rocky islet in the Hmaw Wun Creek in Kyaik Tan town in Thanhlyin, Yangon Division, is Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Pagoda. It is nearest to Yangon, of the three Yei Lei Pagodas in Lower Myanmar.

You can make a day trip to it by taking a bus, running between Yangon, Thanhlyin and Kyaik Tan. Than Hlyin and Kyaik Tan are among the favourite destinations of the Yangonites, especially for day trippers, just as Twantay, Dalla, Danoke, Hmawbi, Taik Kyi and Bago are. Kyaik Khauk Pagoda in Thanhlyin and Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Pagoda in Kyaik Tan are the two “musts” which pilgrims and tourists should not miss to visit. Thanks to the Thanhlyin Bridge which was built over two decades ago, we can drive straight to Kyaik Tan from where we take a small ferry boat to get to the Yey Lei Pagoda in a few minutes. There was a triple decker ferry ship named “Thida” that plied between Yangon and Than Hlyin before the Bridge was built. There are many watercrafts of different types and sizes providing 24 hours ferry service.

The archaeology and history of Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Pagoda are associated with those of the entire delta region. Though no serious study has yet been made in these fields, a preliminary survey had been carried out since the early days of the British colonial regime. In Syriam (Thanhlyin) District Gazetteer, Volume A, compiled by J.S Furnivall, I.C.S, Assistant Commissioner, Assistant Settlement Officer and completed by W.S Morrison, I.C.S, Assistant Commissioner, Assistant Settlement Officer, published Yangon in 1914, Government Stationery Office reads, "In the Buddhist year 238 the King built a pagoda named “Kyaik Hmaw Kadaw” measuring seven cubits high on a site chosen by his guru hermit. In it the king enshrined one sacred hair of the Buddha and other relics presented to him by the guru hermit.”

"The tenth successor King Tutta Naga received from the King of Sri Lanka religious gifts—one sacred hair of the Buddha and 27 other relics. At the request of the eight Arahats (Saint monks) who arrived from Sri Lanka the King placed the sacred hair and relics in gold and silver caskets and enshrined them in Kyaik Hmaw Kadaw Pagoda which he repaired and renovated. In paying homage to the Pagoda the King solemnly made the following three wishes—

(1) May the water never flood this sacred edifice and (2) May the precinct of this sacred edifice accommodate all pilgrims and visitors and (3) May those who maintain and renovate this sacred edifice gain material benefit in the present life."

In the sakarit year 1271 (MYanmar Era) equivalent to 1909 AD a ruined ancient pagoda was discovered on an islet in the middle of Kyaik Hmaw Wun Creek. It was seven cubits high. A new pagoda enclosing the ruined pagoda was built, measuring 34 inches high, with four arched entrances at four cardinal points, arranged like a terrace. The name of the ruined pagoda was Kyaik Hmaw Kadaw. The enclosure pagoda was named Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Zedti Taw.

In the Sakarit year 1310 (1948 AD) the year in which Myanmar regained independence, the decorative diamond bau and the hti (crown like umbrella) on the top of the Pagoda fell down due to old age. On the full moon day of Kason (May) in the Sakarit year 1311 (1949 AD) the new hti was hoisted on top of the Pagoda. Since then successive Pagoda Trustees have renovated the hti.

In the Buddhist year 2533, Myanmar Sakarit year 1351 (1989 AD) began the nation-wide repair and renovation of old Buddhist pagodas and monuments in the country. Under the guidance of the Government, the Buddhist people throughout the country have been participating in this noble work. Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Zedti Taw Pagoda Trustees Board and All-round Development Committee of Kyaik Tan Township jointly carried out gilding of the Pagoda, extending of the precinct for 15 feet on the east, west and south sides, re-enforcing the platform with cement concrete and stone, renovating old buildings and constructing new devotional hall and covering the platform floors with heat resistant Sagiyn marble slabs. During the period 1989-1998 kyats 250 millions had been used for all-round development of the Pagoda.

Although renovated and built in modern times, the architecture and decorative arts of the buildings both old and new, on the Pagoda platform are of genuinely traditional design executed by Myanmar traditional architecture and artists. Among many objects of religious, historic and artistic interests at and around Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Zedti Taw, a few may be mentioned here.

Nga Set Su Taung Pyi Phaya is a marble Image in seated posture. This Image is composed of five parts (nga set) pieced together by five sculptors. The Image is adorned with royal regalia and gilt. It was a masterpiece of Myanmar stone sculpture. Apart from its artistic beauty, the Image seems to hold the air of religious sublimity and spiritual peace to the viewers. Devotees believe that the Image can fulfill their good wishes through prayer.

Among many objects of religious, historic and artistic interests at and around Kyaik Hmaw Wun Yey Lei Zedti Taw, a few may be mentioned here. Nga Set Su Taung Pyi Phaya is a marble Image in seated posture. This Image is composed of five parts (nga set) pieced together by five sculptors. The Image is adorned with royal regalia and gilt. It was a masterpiece of Myanmar stone sculpture. Apart from its artistic beauty, the Image seems to hold the air of religious sublimity and spiritual peace to the viewers. Devotees believe that the Image can fulfill their good wishes through prayer.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 1 March, 2010
Remarkable progress in Chipwe, Panwa and Chipwenge Hydropower...

(from page 1)

After inspecting development of Panwa, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and party visited Basic Education High School in Panwa.

In meeting with teachers, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and the minister presented gifts to the teachers and a set of computer to the school.

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min inspects unloading of six RBEs with the use of heavy machinery at Sale No. 5 Port. (News on page 1)—MNA

Cement from Mandalay to become concrete road in Yangon

YANGON, 28 Feb—City Cement Plant (Pyinnyaung) project was inspected by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin yesterday.
The plant, near Pyinnyaung village in Thazi Township of Mandalay Division, is being implemented by YCDC in order to supply cement for upgrading of road and construction in Yangon. It is now in its test run and is arranged to be opened soon.

Today, the mayor inspected the concrete pavement of Laydauntkan road of Thingangyun Township in Yangon. The address of Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd is No. 40, 67th Street, Botahtaung Township, Yangon (Ph: 294045, 290170 and 291318) and Email: grandwynn@mptmail.net.mm.—MNA

Blood donated at 2MH

YANGON, 28 Feb—Collective blood donation of 70 members of Thiriminglar Kaba Aye Pagoda Pathana Association took place at No. 2 Military Hospital (500-bed) today.
The Vice-Chairman of the association explained purpose of blood donation and the head of pathology Department at No. 2 Military Hospital (500-bed), knowledge on blood. Official viewed the blood donation. —MNA

Buthidaung, Yanbye townships gaining development momentum

YANGON, 28 Feb—Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd organized prize presentation ceremony for best seller award of Lolane and Rico & Rina cosmetics, and Mother’s Choice Margarine and bakery equipment in conjunction with a ceremony to introduce Lolane’s new product at Chatrium Hotel, here, on 27 February. Managing Director U Hla Win made an opening speech.

General Manager U L Lamain Dain gave away best seller awards to sale representatives and businesspersons for 2009. He then elaborated on quality products of best seller awards to sale representatives and businesspersons for 2009. He then elaborated on quality products of Lolane and Rico & Rina brands, and Mother’s Choice Margarine and bakery equipment.

The address of Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd is No. 40, 67th Street, Botataung Township, Yangon (Ph: 294045, 290170 and 291318) and Email: grandwynn@mptmail.net.mm.—MNA

Objectives of 65th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

1. To uphold Our Three Main National Causes at risk to life as the national policy
2. To work hard with national people for successful completion of elections due to be held in accordance with the new constitution
3. To crush internal and external subversive elements through the strength and consolidated unity of the people
4. To build a strong, patriotic modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation

Infrastructures for development of Sagaing Division in bloom

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe attended opening of 40-bed Thilagu Byamayu Aryudana hospital in Hsarbaung model village, Sagaing Division on 26 February.

The commander also attended opening of village library in Kyawzeya Village. He then presented publications and looked around the library.

The commander then proceeded to construction project of Belin-Ohndaw-Nyaungbingyi 230 KV national power grid tower across Chindwin River built by Myanma Electric Power Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power No (2). The project is located in Monywa. He inspected building tower and left necessary instructions.—MNA

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Buthidaung, Yanbye townships gaining development momentum

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Director U Tun Oo of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and Development Affairs inspected work being undertaken by the department in Sittway, Buthidaung, and Yanbye Townships in Rakhine State from 15 to 21 February. In his visit to Buthidaung and Yanbye townships, he inspected construction of roads and bridges.—MNA

Managing Director U Hla Win of Grand Wynn Enterprises Ltd speaking at introduction to new Lolane brands.—MNA
YANGON, 28 Feb — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended the prize presentation ceremony of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award, Scholarship Award and Pakokku Library Award at Chatrium Hotel in Bahan Township here this morning and presented prizes.

Patron of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Fund Supervisory Committee Managing Director U Aung Nyein of Printing and Publishing Enterprise made an opening address at the ceremony.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented prizes to those who won the Pakokku U Ohn Pe Lifetime Achievement Award and who stood first, second and third in collective poem and novel genres.

Managing Director U Aung Nyein presented prizes to those who won the first, second and third prizes in short stories, treatise and research literature genres.

Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) presented prizes to those who won the Pakokku Library Award.

Director-General U Bo Win of Education Planning and Training Department and Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise presented prizes to those who won the Pakokku U Ohn Pe Scholarship Award.

Next, Chairman of Pakokku Library Committee U Tint Swe explained the purpose of presenting prizes.

Then Lifetime Achievement Award winner Dr. Thein Nyunt (Nyunt Wai-Katha) spoke words of thanks.

After the ceremony, the minister, departmental heads and members of award selecting and scrutinizing committee posed for a documentary photo together with the winners.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, departmental heads, award selection committee members and prize winners pose for documentary photo.—MNA

Paukkaung on track for greater...

When we entered Paungtale, we saw brick buildings, restaurants, changing Paungtale were replaced by sugarcane plantations, paddy plantations and Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton plantations. Beyond these scenes, a signboard saying “Welcome to Paukkaung” greeted us.

In an interview with Chairman of township PDC U Tun Kyaw, he briefed us on success in agricultural sector and establishment of auto-exchange in the township. Monsoon paddy, summer paddy, beans and pulses and edible oil crops are thriving in Paukkaung Township.

So far, 70,482 acres of monsoon paddy have been grown for 2010, and efforts to meet the target of putting 15,110 acres under summer paddy is underway in the township. Thanks to success in growing summer and monsoon paddy, the township has enjoyed rice sufficiency. In future, its environment will remain green.

A significant characteristic of Paukkaung Township is that it is a township that grows sugarcane the most in Myanmar. The township was presented a FAO award for 2009 for putting 14,471 acres under sugarcane during the previous sugarcane cultivation season. Emphasis is placed on extended cultivation of sugarcane for the coming season.

Under the development of communications sector project, the government set up a digital auto-exchange in the downtown Paukkaung-Pyay road. It was opened on 4 September, 2009 with capacity of 600 lines, and 450 lines have been installed.

Thus Paukkaung has developed in all sectors including agricultural, transport and telecommunication sectors.

Translation: YM Myanma Alinn:
16-2-2010
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Storm lashes Spain, Portugal and France

LONDON, 28 Feb — Powerful winds have hit parts of Spain, Portugal and France, causing serious damage, officials said. As winds of up to 140km/h (87mph) lashed parts of Spain, the interior minister warned people to stay inside, avoid driving and postpone walks. The weather was blamed for three deaths — one in each of the countries.

Portugal’s Madeira Island, which is reeling from downpours which killed dozens of people last week, was also hit by the fresh storm. All of Portugal was placed on orange alert — the second highest — by civil protection authorities. A falling tree killed a boy in northern Portugal, authorities said, according to AFP. Spain’s Canary Islands, particularly La Palma, Gran Canaria and Tenerife, were hit by the storm, although there was not much damage. Some lampposts were blown over and flights cancelled on Friday. “This is not the weekend to go walking in the woods, watching the waves or repairing the tiles on your roof-tops,” Interior Minister Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba said.

Severe allergic reaction to meat may not be rare

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb — Eating meat may be a much more common trigger for anaphylaxis — a severe and potentially deadly allergic reaction — than previously thought, US researchers said on Sunday. A study of 60 patients who had unexplained severe allergic reactions suggests that a compound in meat known as alpha-galactose may be the culprit, according to research presented at a meeting of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology in New Orleans. They found immune system proteins called IgE antibodies in 25 out of 60 patients who had unexplained allergic reactions. “We believe that the presence of IgE antibody to this sugar is wider spread in the human population as a whole than we had initially expected,” Dr Scott Commins of the University of Virginia, who led the research, said in a telephone interview.

“We’re finding now that this traditional notion of allergy to meat being very rare may, in fact, not be true,” Commins added. Alpha-galactose is produced in most mammals, but humans and great apes make an antibody to the sugar, Commins said.

Stomach bugs up risk of heartburn woes years later

NEW YORK, 28 Feb — A serious bout with a tummy bug may mean heartburn years later, new research shows.

Serious bacterial or viral infections of the digestive system known medically as infectious gastroenteritis may lead to some cases of irritable bowel syndrome, possibly by causing low-grade inflammation in the intestine, Dr Alex Ford of McMaster University Medical Centre in Hamilton, Ontario and his colleagues note.

Studies have suggested that such infections could also be linked with functional dyspepsia—basically, symptoms of heartburn, fullness and indigestion with no known cause—but the evidence isn’t as strong.

To investigate, Ford and his team looked at a group of people who had been living in the small rural town of Walkerton, Ontario, during a 2000 outbreak of bacterial gastroenteritis after the municipal water supply became contaminated with cow manure.

At least 2,300 people were sickened, and seven died.

Two years after the outbreak, in 2002, the researchers enrolled a representative sample of the town’s population in an ongoing study. In 2008, they followed up with 1,088 of the study participants, about two-thirds of whom reported having gotten sick during the outbreak. About 40 percent of the entire group reported dyspepsia symptoms, such as heartburn and unpleasant sensations of fullness after a meal.

Among those who’d been sickened in the outbreak, half had dyspepsia symptoms, compared to 30 percent of the people who hadn’t gotten sick during the outbreak. The risk was more than twice as high for the outbreak victims, and this remained true even when the researchers used a stricter definition for dyspepsia.

The findings suggest, the researchers conclude, that gut infections “have the ability to trigger symptoms that affect the upper, as well as the lower gastrointestinal tract, with long-lasting consequences.”

Stemming arm blood protects heart during attack

LONDON, 28 Feb — Temporarily stopping blood flow in the arm prevents damage in people having a heart attack, a Danish study has shown. It is thought the procedure “kicks-starts” natural mechanisms in the heart to counter the lack of oxygen.

In a study of around 150 patients, those who were treated this way in the ambulance on the way to hospital sustained less damage to heart tissue. The British Heart Foundation said the Lancet study was “interesting” but more research was needed.

The Danish researchers said they had carried out the experiment in patients who were having a large heart attack because their coronary artery was blocked, preventing blood reaching the heart.

These patients are transferred directly to large specialist hospitals where a balloon can be quickly inserted into the artery to clear the blockage and restore blood flow. In the study, paramedics used a standard blood pressure cuff to cut off the blood supply in a patient’s arm for five minutes.

Somali militants ‘block UN food aid’

MOGADISHU, 28 Feb — Militants in Somalia are stopping convoys of food reaching more than 360,000 displaced people, the UN’s World Food Programme (WFP) says. The agency says trucks travelling from the capital Mogadishu to camps in Afgoye, just west of the capital, have the largest concentration of refugees in the whole of Somalia. In January the WFP pulled out of large parts of southern Somalia because of threats from rebel groups.

Hundreds of thousands of displaced Somalis rely on food aid from the WFP.— INTERNET
17 bodies of militants found in Pakistan’s tribal region

ISLAMABAD, 28 Feb — The bullet-riddled bodies of 17 suspected militants were found Sunday in a Pakistani tribal region, witnesses and officials said. The dead bodies were found in Darra Adam Khel, near Peshawar, the capital of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), and the local tribesmen informed the authorities.

Locals said that the bodies were laying in Tur Chaper area, where the security forces launched operation against the militants on Saturday. Clashes between the security forces and militants have forced the local population to migrate to other areas, according to locals.

Darra Adam Khel, the area famous for arms manufacturing, has once been the stronghold of the Taleban militants. The security forces expelled them from the area and then the militants took shelter in the nearby mountains.

Armed men gun down five civilians in Afghan capital

KABUL, 28 Feb — Unknown armed men gunned down five members of a family in Afghanistan’s capital Kabul Saturday night, a private television channel reported on Sunday. “A group of unidentified armed men sneaked into a house in Qalai Zaman Khan District last night and spread bullets leaving five members of the ill-fated family dead,” Tolo television said in its news bulletin.

No one has been arrested in this regard, the television further said. The gruesome incident took place just day after a bloody Taleban attack in central Kabul on Friday which left 22 people including 15 civilians, two policemen and five attackers dead.

New Red Cross blood donation Web site

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb — The American Red Cross in Washington has created a single Web site to make it easier for people to donate blood.

The Web site replaces the individual Blood Region donation Web site with a single, user-friendly site that makes it easier for people to donate blood.

Redcrossblood.org allows visitors to easily find local blood donation opportunities and view local Red Cross news by simply entering their ZIP code.

Donors may also search for blood drives by date range, distance, city, state or sponsor code and schedule a donation online. The Web site lists blood drive volunteer openings and enables visitors to register their interest to host a blood drive.

There is also a “Share your story” feature available for donors to share testimonials about blood donation, free e-cards and direct access to Red Cross social networking sites.

“This site has been designed to be user-friendly and informative,” Chris Hrouda, executive vice president, American Red Cross Biomedical Services, said in a statement.

“We wanted to make it as easy as possible for people to find a blood drive, schedule a donation and get any information they may need about giving blood.”

Waves passes French Polynesia with no reports of damage

WELLINGTON, 28 Feb — Several waves have reached French Polynesia on Sunday following a magnitude 8.8 earthquake in Chile. There were no reports of damage.

At least four big waves have been reported at Hiva Oa pushing in and the sea again retreating.

A scientist has told RFO radio that the difference between the lowest and high watermark in the Marquesas had been measured at four metres.

The waves are reported to have been strengthening. Several waves have passed other islands in French Polynesia without causing any major damage, Radio New Zealand reported.

70,000 evacuated as tsunami reaches Japan

SENDAI, 28 Feb — More than 70,000 people fled vulnerable coastal areas of Japan Sunday as a tsunami churned up by the huge earthquake in Chile slammed into the country’s long Pacific coastline.

“The please do not approach the coast at any cost,” Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama said in nationally televised comments as Japan, one of the world’s most quake-prone nations, went on its first major tsunami alert in 15 years.

The first tsunami wave, 30 centimetres (one foot) high, hit Nenmuro on the northern island of Hokkaido in the early afternoon, the Meteorological Agency said.

All New South Wales beaches closed for tsunami threat

CANBERRA, 28 Feb — All New South Wales (NSW) beaches have been closed and people hoping to view tsunami conditions have been ushered off the sand.

Surf Life Saving NSW has ordered all beaches closed from Sunday morning after an 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of central Chile on Saturday.

The Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre has issued tsunami warnings for four Australian states on the eastern coast from Sunday morning.

Dangers waves, strong ocean currents and fore-shore flooding may hit coastal areas stretching south from Rockhampton, in Queensland, to Victoria and Tasmania.

Beachgoers attended NSW beaches on Sunday morning until they were ushered out of the water and off the beach by surf life savers.
**Detectives fear US serial killer is ‘new Ted Bundy’**

Los Angeles, 28 Feb—Detectives in America fear a serial killer with a genius-level IQ may be a “new Ted Bundy”, responsible for up to 30 more murders.

Roderick Alcala (66), known as the ‘Dating Game killer’ because he once appeared on the American version of ‘Blind Date’, was found guilty of five murders in Los Angeles.

The photographer, who has an IQ of more than 160, killed schoolgirl Robin Samsone (12) in 1979, and four women whose deaths had gone unsolved for decades. But police believe Alcala, who has been in custody since 1979 and twice had previous convictions overturned, could be responsible for dozens more deaths in New York and Los Angeles in the 1970s.

One victim was attacked with a claw hammer and others were repeatedly strangled and suspended to prolong their agony before they were finally killed. Alcala, who is likely to be sentenced to death for each of the five killings, represented himself in a bizarre court performance in which he posed questions and then answered them himself.

**Ice, glass fall into NYC building atrium**

New York, 28 Feb—Fire officials say ice has broken through a glass atrium at the Sony Building in New York City and 10 people have sustained minor injuries. A spokesman for the New York City Fire Department says ice and glass fell into the lobby area of the Madison Avenue building on Saturday night.

The spokesman said no one was seriously hurt, and that the injured were taken to area hospitals. A spokeswoman at Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan says four of the injured were taken there with minor injuries. No other information about the incident was immediately available.

**Troops clear last pockets of resistance in Marjah**

Marjah, 28 Feb—Marines and Afghan troops cleared the last major pocket of resistance in the former Taliban-rulled town of Marjah on Saturday — part of an offensive that is the run-up to a larger showdown this year in the most strategic part of Afghanistan’s dangerous south. Although Marines say their work in Marjah didn’t go well, Afghans are bracing for a bigger, more comprehensive assault in neighbouring Kandahar Province, the birthplace of the Taliban where officials are talking to aid organizations about how to handle up to 10,000 people who could be displaced by fighting.

“I was in Kabul, and we were talking that Kandahar will be next, but we don’t know when,” said Tooryalai Wesa, the governor of Kandahar. He’s begun work in neighbouring Kandahar Province, the part of Afghanistan’s dangerous south. Afghans have tents, water containers, medicine, food, blankets, lamps and stoves. “Hopefully things will go smoothly, that people have learned lessons from the Marjah operation,” he said.

**Iris scans may prevent mistaken release of inmates**

Des Moines, 28 Feb—A Baltimore inmate who bluffed his way out of prison probably wouldn’t have tricked guards if they had eye-scanners such as those being installed at dozens of jails nationwide. The federal government is paying for the scanners as part of an effort to build a nearly foolproof identification system to put a stop to such escapes.

“After this occurrence, we will be studying whatever we can do to make sure this kind of thing doesn’t happen again,” including iris scanners, said Mark Vernarelli, a spokesman for the Maryland Division of Corrections, which oversees the facility that mistakenly released Raymond Taylor.

Taylor was serving three life sentences for shooting his ex-girlfriend and her two teenage daughters. He impersonated his cellmate Thursday and was released. He was arrested the following day in West Virginia.

**Pow! $1.07m Batman sale beats Superman**

Dallas, 28 Feb—A 1939 comic book in which Batman made his debut sold at auction for more than $1m, breaking a record set just three days earlier by a Superman comic.

The arrival of a giant US aircraft carrier here on Friday with F/A-18 jet fighters aboard is a step in Washington’s offensive to win a multi-billion-dollar contract to supply Brazil’s air force with modern jet fighters.

Three US F/A-18 Hornets jet fighters, based on the USS Enterprise aircraft carrier, fly together in 1999. The arrival of a giant US aircraft carrier here on Friday with F/A-18 jet fighters aboard is a step in Washington’s offensive to win a multi-billion-dollar contract to supply Brazil’s air force with modern jet fighters.
Child abuse can cause brain changes

DUBLIN, 28 Feb — Childhood abuse or emotional neglect can result in structural brain changes, say researchers at Ireland’s Trinity College Dublin.

Thomas Frodl at the School of Medicine and Trinity Institute for Neuroscience said the finding was based on a study of 24 patients 18-65, who were being treated for major depression.

The researchers used high-resolution structural magnetic resonance imaging scans of the brain and childhood stress assessments. Special analysis programmes were used to measure brain regions and the results were compared with 27 healthy control subjects matched for age and gender. “These structural alterations of the brain are associated with a higher vulnerability to depression and a more chronic course of the depression might be associated with further structural changes,” Frodl said. “Therefore, early intervention in the case of major depression is necessary to increase the chance of a good disease outcome.”—Internet

Advisers alter aspirin recommendations

ROCKVILLE, 28 Feb— US health advisers have altered their advice on using low-dose aspirin to reduce cardiovascular risk, officials said.

The US Preventive Services Task Force is urging physicians to factor in the age, gender and other risk factors before prescribing an aspirin regimen, CBS News reported.

For people who have had a heart attack or stroke, the new guidelines don’t apply and they should continue following their doctor’s recommendation when it comes to aspirin. The federal advisers said the more risk factors people have, the more likely they are to benefit from aspirin, but the potential benefits have to outweigh the potential harm of aspirin.

Aspirin is not recommended for people 80 and older because the risk of gastrointestinal bleeding increases with age, the guidelines said.

In addition, aspirin is not recommended for men age 45 and under and women age 55 and under, because their incidence of heart attack and stroke is considered too low.

Specifically, an aspirin is recommended for men ages 45-79 with increased heart-attack risk and for women ages 55-79 at risk of having a stroke caused by blood clot.—Internet

Sea turtles aiding robotics

JEKYLL ISLAND, 28 Feb—Studying the locomotion of baby loggerhead sea turtles is providing clues for the development of robots over varying terrain, scientists in Georgia said.

Scientists at the Georgia Institute of Technology are studying how the newly hatched turtles move quickly from underdground nests across sand, rigid surfaces and dune grass to reach the ocean. The results will help roboticists determine the type of appendages necessary to move effectively, said physicist Daniel Goldman, noting the turtles have just a flat mitt and a claw.

On hard surfaces, the turtles push forward by digging a claw on their flipper into the ground so they won’t slip and on loose sand they advance by pushing off against a solid region of sand that forms behind their flippers. Goldman wrote in a recent issue of the journal Biology Letters.

Goldman and associate Nicole Mazouchova joined with colleagues at the Georgia Sea Turtle Center to study hatchlings at Jekyll Island on the coast of Georgia.

‘Interval training’ good for older people

TRONDHEIM, 28 Feb— Short and intense bursts of exercise known as interval training are twice as effective as regular exercise, researchers in Norway said.

“This is like finding a new pill that works twice as well ... we should immediately throw out the old way of exercising,” said Jan Helgerud, a researcher at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

Interval training was developed for Olympic athletes, but recent studies show older people and those with health problems could benefit as well, Helgerud told The Daily Telegraph in a story published on Friday.

If done properly, 2 1/2 hours each week of moderate exercise could be condensed into one, saving people many hours a year. The training involves working hard for a few minutes and then resting, usually while biking, rowing, swimming or running.

“You should be a little out of breath, but you shouldn’t have the obvious feeling of exhaustion,” Helgerud said.

More diagnosed with gestational diabetes

CHICAGO, 28 Feb— Blood-sugar levels once considered normal for pregnant women are not safe for baby or mother, researchers at Northwestern University in Illinois said.

Lead author Boyd Metzger and an international group of 50 experts concluded a fasting blood-sugar level of 92 or higher, a one-hour level of 180 or higher on a glucose tolerance test or a two-hour level of 153 or higher on a glucose tolerance test constitute serious risks to the mother and baby.

Previously, these levels had been considered in the safe, normal range, and two elevated levels were required for a diagnosis of gestational diabetes, Metzger said.

Metzger said the study is based on 23,000 women in nine countries.

Blood-sugar levels that were once considered in the normal range are now seen as causing a sharp increase in the occurrence of overweight babies with high insulin levels, early deliveries and other complications, the study said.

Previous guidelines to diagnose gestational diabetes were based on blood-sugar levels that identified women at high risk for developing diabetes in the future.

The guidelines weren’t related to risks to the baby or other risks to the mother.

The study is scheduled to be published in the March issue of Diabetes Care.

Micro-ear would listen to cells

OXFORD, 28 Feb— British scientists say they’re building a micro-ear that will let researchers listen to the inner workings of microorganisms.

The device could be used, for example, to explore how a drug disrupts E coli bacteria, said Jon Cooper of the University of Glasgow, lead researcher of the micro-ear project.

The micro-ear lets scientists listen to tiny events just as microscopes make such events visible, said Cooper and his associates from the University of Oxford and the National Institute of Medical Research at Mill Hill.

To create the micro-ear, tiny glass or plastic beads are suspended in a beam of laser light. Measuring movement of the beads as they are jostled within cells allows measurement of tiny forces that operate at molecular scale, the BBC reported on Friday.

“We can trap and hold the beads and can connect the output to a speaker so we can hear them vibrating,” researcher Miles Padgett said.

Cooper, Padgett and their colleagues said the device someday could become standard operating equipment in laboratories.
Chelsea 2 - 4 Man City

LONDON, 28 Feb—Manchester City inflicted Chelsea’s first home Premier League defeat this season in a game which began with Wayne Bridge refusing John Terry’s handshake. Frank Lampard’s low strike put Chelsea ahead but Carlos Tevez equalised after a long range effort. Tevez scored a penalty after Juliano Belletti saw red for a trip on Gareth Barry before a Bellamy finish at goal with a strike from a tight angle.—INTERNET

Capello rules out re-appointing Terry England captain

LONDON, 28 Feb—England coach Fabio Capello says John Terry will not regain the captaincy while he is in charge of the team. Terry was stripped of the role after allegations about his private life, with Rio Ferdinand set to take over.

—Until the World Cup, Terry will not be the captain again. After the World Cup? If I remain as England manager? I think not,” said Capello. “I ask the captain to set an example for young people. What did he want was not good. I told him this, he understood.”—INTERNET

Confident Snedeker leads by shot at Phoenix Open

SCOTTSDALE, 28 Feb—Brandt Snedeker is back to playing like the rising young PGA Tour star he was supposed to be. The 29-year-old Tennessean rolled in his sixth birdie of the day on No. 17 and finished at 14-under 199 for a one-shot lead over Scott Piercy in the Phoenix Open.

Snedeker shot a 66, while Perez had a pair of eagles en route to a 65 in the third round Saturday amid a loud, rowdy crowd estimated at just over 121,000. Many were on hand for the party as much, or more than, for the tournament.—INTERNET

Miyazato wins second straight event

SINGAPORE, 28 Feb—Ai Miyazato won the HSBC Champions on Sunday to become the first LPGA Tour player in 14 years to sweep the first two events of a season, closing with 3-under 69 for a two-stroke victory over Cristie Kerr.

Miyazato, the 24-year-old Japanese star who won the LPGA Thailand last week, took the lead with a birdie on the par-4 16th—a hole she played in 5 under for the week—and parred the final two holes to finish at 10 under on Tanah Merah’s Garden Course. A 15-time winner on the Japanese tour, Miyazato earned $195,000 for her third career LPGA Tour victory—all outside North America. She won the Evian Masters last year in France for her first LPGA Tour title. Marilyn Smith was last player to win the first two events in a season, accomplishing the feat in 1966.—INTERNET

Wenger sickened by Ramsey horror injury

STOKE, 28 Feb—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said he was left sickened by the horrific broken leg suffered by Aaron Ramsey that will rule the teenager out of the game for months. Wales international Ramsey was stretchered off in the second half of Arsenal’s 3-1 win at Stoke, which moves Wenger’s team to within three points of Premier League leaders Chelsea, after an ugly challenge by Ryan Shawcross.

Shawcross is facing a three-match suspension for the challenge in Saturday’s game, but the Frenchman called for the former Manchester United defender to be hit with a tougher punishment after an injury that left Arsenal’s players distraught.

Wenger has already seen Eduardo and Abou Diaby suffer career-threatening injuries during his time at Arsenal and he wants an example made of Shawcross, who learned just hours after the incident that he had been called up for England’s mid-week friendly against Egypt.—INTERNET

Venus Williams retains Mexico Open title

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—Venus Williams fought back from a set down to retain her Mexican Open title with a 2-6, 6-2, 6-3 victory in Acapulco on Saturday over Polona Hercog of Slovenia. It was Williams’ second consecutive WTA title after her successful defence of Dubai champion. She has won a total of 43 WTA titles in her career.—Xinhua
WEATHER

Sunday, 28th February, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr. M.S.T.
During the past 24 hours, light rain have been in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan and Rakhine States, Taninthayi Division and fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (6°C) below February average temperatures in chin State, (3°C) to (4C) below February average temperatures in Kachin State and Mandalay Division, (5°C) above February average temperatures in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division and about February average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (2°C).

Maximum temperature on 27-2-2010 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 28-2-2010 was 67°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-2-2010 was 83%. Total sun shine hours on 27-2-2010 was (9.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 28-2-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total Since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) m.p.h from South at (16:30) hours MST on 27-2-2010.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of P March 2010: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be 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 light rain in extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area: 1-3-2010: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area: 1-3-2010: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area: 1-3-2010: Generally fair weather.
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

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

Paukkaung on track for greater success in cultivation

Byline: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Myo Min Thein (Mayangon)

Paukkaung of Bago Division (West) is characterized by lush and green paddy plantations, the largest area of thriving sugarcane plantations in Myanmar and better communication facilities of digital auto-exchange. I arrived there unexpectedly. The reason for my arrival in Paukkaung was that I passed through it on my way to South Nawin Dam. We, Myanma Alin news crew, left Pyay for South Nawin Dam to make a study tour together with Staff Officer U Myint Swe of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, in-charge of South Nawin Dam (See page 9).

Thriving 50-acre model farmland of Ngwechi-6 near Thaphancho Village in Paukkaung Township.