Meeting discusses money laundering
and illegal property control measures

NAY Pyi Taw, 20 March—The meeting (1/2010) of the Central Control Board on Money Laundering was held at the Headquarters of Myanmar Police Force here yesterday.

It was attended by Chairman of the Board Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, the deputy chief justice, the deputy attorney-general, departmental heads and officials concerned totaling 39.

The meeting focused on continued cooperation with the International Cooperation Review Group-ICRG with the aim of encouraging global countries to protect the international monetary system and matters related to implementation of eleven tasks of the action plan of FATF and the remaining six tasks adopted by FATF plenary meeting to be carried out by Myanmar.

MNA

TV play “Alinyaung” to be on screen

The Myanma Radio and Television and the Myawady TV will soon broadcast a TV play “Alinyaung” (Right View) shot to mark the 65th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. TV play lovers are awaiting the work. So, I interviewed the performers who played their roles in the play.

Starring several film stars, the TV play was directed by Tin Aung Soe (Pannyaodaw). The screenplay was written by Mya Myinmo.

The exciting plot portrays love affairs, the life of servicemen, difference between peace and instability, evil consequences of battles, sympathetic events and heartening events.

In the setting, I first interviewed young actor Myint Myat. He said, “In this TV play, my role is KNU leader Saw Hse Wah. I have never acted such a role. They let me know in advance the role I would have to play, and I have grown my hair long since then. I cared about my costumes. Local people helped me a lot until I had no difficulties to act in the play.”

Myint Myat gave a brilliant performance and acting as the KNU leader in the play. The role he plays in the crucial scenes is so brilliant that he is like a KNU leader.

He said, “Forever is my first Armed Forces Day commemorative TV play. It was shot last year. The second is this play. Many other film stars have played their roles in films and plays like this one. So, in this play, I act my role as good as I can with a sense of duty.”

The dialogues between him and Pyay Ti Oo (Major Ye Yint) are realistic and the choice of words is excellent.

Then, I interviewed Actress Moe Hay Ko, who acts as Engineer Nu Myat Shwe Zin in the play.

She said, “In this play, I act as an elder sister of an army officer Major Khaing Win (Hein Wai Yan), and as the girlfriend of Major Ye Yint (Pyay Ti Oo). So far, I have acted my roles in Armed Forces Day commemorative plays: the play “Forever” in 2009, and this play. Why I act my roles in such plays is that the people can notice my art of acting, and I want to present a good sense to the viewers.”

She also gave a brilliant performance as an engineer who (See page 8)
PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 21 March, 2010

Forsustainable improvement of infrastructures

Today, the nation’s infrastructure has been improved to a certain degree in the economic, social, education and health care sectors as a result of the earnest efforts the government has been making for equitable development of all parts of the Union.

For instance, the Tatmadaw government has been working steadfastly in harmony with the people to construct infrastructural buildings in Rakhine State, which in the past lacked stability and peace due to natural barriers such as mountain ranges, watercourses, and the sea. So, Rakhine State has become an affluent area now.

Located in the west of Myanmar, the state is bounded by Chin State in the north, Magway Division and Bago Division in the east, Bay of Bengal in the west, and Bangladesh in the north.

Grapping with natural barriers, the government has constructed three highways linking Rakhine State and three divisions: western Bago Division, Magway Division, and Ayeyawady Division for smooth transport necessary for its development. It is not only constructing Sittway-An-Minbu Railroad in order that the state is accessible by train from Yangon, but also upgrading Sittway and Thandwe airports. Moreover, it has constructed 36 over-180-foot bridges in the state, spending 28,830,943 million kyats.

The government also has been constructing dams for irrigation, reclaiming more vacant lands, and boosting agricultural production. It developing human resources in the state to harness natural resources more expeditiously.

At a time when the nation is being shaped into a peaceful, modern and developed one, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw have to work more closely and adhere to Our Three Main National Causes for sustainable improvement of the infrastructures.

Buffet for bookworms

YANGON, 20 March — Just chose a bag at the fair, put in it books you like till it is filled and you get them at a special price. Books are displayed like food at a buffet, and there are two sizes of bags to collect them. The price for 12”x10”x3” bag is K 10000 and for 16”x10.5”x3.5” bag is K 20000. An advantage is that the total value of books you get there is higher than the money you pay for the bag!

Another way of buying books at the fair is the clearance sale where you can but at 90% discount. The festival will take place simultaneously at all MBC branches: MBC (1) at No (55), Baho Street, corner of Aihlon Street and Baho Street, Aihlon Township, Yangon (Ph: 01221271, 21409 and 214708); MBC (2) at No (561-567), Room No (3); Ground Floor, MAC Tower I, Merchant Street, corner of Merchant Street and Maha Bandoola Garden Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon (Ph: 01-670532 and 384508); and MBC (Mandalay) at Room No (429), Level 4, 78 Shopping Centre, Mandalay (Ph: 0271470 to 71476 Ext: 188 and 193). MNA

Information Minister receives DPRK Ambassador

NAWPYTAW, 20 March — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Ambassador of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Kim Sok Chol at the ministry office here yesterday evening.

Also present at the call were Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Htet, Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Aung Nyein, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise U Soe Win, Head of Office of the Ministry U Myint Htwe and Chief Editor of Myanma Alin Printing House U Tin Maung Than.

My Baby introduces its new products

YANGON, 20 March — Myanmar Care Products Ltd has been producing Eva branded women sanitary napkin since 1998. The DKSH Service Co Ltd is now distributing My Baby brand baby products.

The introduction ceremony of My Baby’s new products was held at Parkroyal Hotel here on 14 March. Responsible persons of the Myanmar Care Products Ltd gave away gifts to the guests and GM Mr. Preman of DKSH.

My Baby products are suitable for all children and mothers on account of quality pass by ATS laboratory in France.

Cricket promotion high on ACC’s agenda

YANGON, 20 March — Asia Cricket Council in its meeting today with Myanmar Cricket Federation sought means to promote the sports event in Myanmar.

The agenda of ACC officials’ visit to Myanmar also included the task of observing the spread and development of cricket in the Southeast Asia country that has introduced the sports not long ago.

Chief Executive Officer Mr Syed Ashraful Huq, Development Manager Mr Bandul Wornapura and Country Development Officer (Myanmar) Mr Aminul Islam of ACC and President of MCF U Nyunt Win and CEC members were at the roundtable meeting at MCF office here, discussing a wide array of sectors from promotion of cricket to the international level cricket pitch project in Dagon Myothit (North) a satellite town in the north of Yangon.

MCF has been striving to promote cricket to have a place in Myanmar where football is a dominant sport.

ACC officials arrived in Myanmar this morning.

ACC delegation at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

ISO courses help boom in businesses

YANGON, 20 March — The MAT Professional Training & Services and Guardian Independent Certification Ltd (UK) jointly conducted ISO 9001: 2008 Quality Management Standards Awareness courses at MAT training school. No. 355 of MAT, Theinbyu Road, here on 18 March. A total of over 60 trainees from factories, workshops and private offices attended the courses. After ending the courses, IRCA QMS 2008 Auditor Dr Tin Latt conferred completion certificates on the trainees.

The MAT Professional Training & Services has been conducting monthly courses—ISO 9001: 2008, HACCP, ISO 22000, Marketing and Auditing. It also offers companies to get ISO certificate in line with international standards and norms.—MNA

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World’s slums grow despite rapid economy growth

RIO DE JANEIRO, 20 March — Almost a quarter of a billion people moved out of slum conditions in the past decade, driven by rapid economic growth in emerging giants India and China, but the number of people living in them continues to rise, the United Nations housing agency said on Friday.

The number of people living in shantytowns increased by 55 million to 827.6 million as population growth and migration from the countryside outstripped the effect of upward mobility in cities, the UN’s biennial report on cities found.

“The situation has improved over 10 years, but alas over the same period, the net increase of the urban poor is 55 million,” Anna Tibaijuka, the executive director of the UN Habitat programme, said in Rio de Janeiro.

The Brazilian city will next week host the World Urban Forum, a five-day UN conference on the state of the world’s cities, where more than half the global population now lives.

Army, drug gangs battle in Mexico amid blockades

MONTERREY, 20 March — A shootout in the northern city of Monterrey killed two suspected drug cartel gunmen and wounded a soldier on Friday. Suspected gang members also blocked roads in the city for the second day, in a bold attempt to impede security patrols.

Gunmen opened fire on an army patrol outside the gates of a prestigious private university in Monterrey, Mexico’s third-largest city and a major industrial hub, the army said in a statement. Soldiers seized guns, ammunition and hand grenades at the scene.

The wounded soldier is in stable condition.

Gang members blocked more than 30 roads in the Monterrey metropolitan area over 24 hours, including several leading out of the city, said Nuevo Leon Public Safety Secretary Luis Carlos Treviño. He said the blockades were intended to keep the military from carrying out operations.

Most suspects fled after parking the trucks and other vehicles across the roads, but at least two were arrested, said Nuevo Leon Public Safety Secretary Luis Carlos Treviño.

Monterrey, Mexico on 19 March, 2010.—INTERNET

Heavy rains swamp camps holding Haiti’s homeless

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 20 March — One of the heaviest rainfalls since Haiti’s 12 Jan earthquake swamped homeless camps on Friday, sweeping screaming residents into eddies of water, overflowing latrines and panicking thousands.

The overnight downpour sent water coursing down the slopes of a former golf course that now serves as a temporary home for about 45,000 people.

There were no reports of deaths in the camp, a town-size maze of blue, orange and silver tarps located behind the country club used by the US Army 82nd Airborne as a forward-operating base.

But the deluge terrified families who just two months ago survived the collapse of their homes in the magnitude-7 earthquake and are now struggling to make do in tent-and-tarp camps that officials have repeatedly said must be relocated.

“I was on one side (of the tarp), the children were on the other side and I was trying to push the water out,” Jackline Exama, a 34-year-old mother of seven, said through tears.

“I’m not used to this,” she said.

Street kids stage their own World Cup in South Africa

DURBAN, 20 March — Wearing jerseys in national colours, football teams from eight countries face off on a South African pitch, in full World Cup fervour.

But in this tournament, the players are all street kids.

Child welfare groups from across the globe brought Durban teams from Brazil, England, India, Nicaragua, Philippines, South Africa, Tanzania and Ukraine.

It’s the first event of its kind, aiming to grab the football spotlight to give the children a platform to speak about the poverty and violence they face on the streets.

“I represent most of the kids who are on the streets. Because, us street kids, our voice is not heard amongst the people so, we are trying to do that,” said Ashley Vincent, on the South African team.

He ran away from his family in Johannesburg and made his way to Durban’s warm coast, where he begs on the sidewalks to survive.

In Durban, street kids complain that police regularly round them up and take them to a poorly equipped centre outside the city.

German high-speed train hits man to death

BERLIN, 20 March — A high-speed German train ran over a man on Thursday late-night when whooshing from Frankfurt to Cologne, causing the busy line to be closed for hours, operator Deutsche Bahn and police reported on Friday.

The accident happened at late night near Idstein, a northeastern town of Hesse state. Police said it is not known weather the man had commit a suicide.

The Inter City Express (ICE) train, which had 630 passengers at that time, had to disembark and waited in the dark until a group of buses arrived to transport passengers to Cologne.—Xinhua

Russia, US likely to clinch new arms deal in April

MOSCOW, 20 March — Russia and the United States are likely to sign new arms control deal in Europe in April, Russian news agencies reported on Friday, citing deputy head of the Russian government official.

“Most probably, the treaty will be signed in April. The signing ceremony will not take place in Washington DC. The most probable location is Europe,” Yuri Ushakov said after talks between Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Clinton, who is on a two-day visit to Moscow, said earlier Friday that the United States and Russia were “on the brink” of signing a new deal.—Xinhua
Gas more important than quarrels with Russia

WARSAW, 20 March—Gas supplies are more important than ideological quarrels with Russia, Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said on Friday in parliament replying to criticism of his government’s gas policy by oppositionist Law and Justice (PiS). PiS caucus leader Aleksandra Natalli-Swiat accused the Tusk team of protracting Poland’s dependence on Russian gas by sealing a long-term contract with Russia’s gas distributor Gazprom, according to the Polish news agency PAP. In his reply to the charges, Tusk stressed that “the top priority were not ideological quarrels with Russia but for gas to be in Polish homes in winter, when the temperature outside falls to minus 10 degrees.”

Tusk also reminded that Poland’s gas supplies from Russia were unhampered during last year’s gas crisis. Tusk admitted that buying gas from Russia presented a dilemma, but argued that “gas was there to give heat and government policy was there to see that this gas did not fall short in critical times.”—Xinhua

Regulators shut seven banks in five states

WASHINGTON, 20 March—Regulators on Friday shut down seven banks in five states, bringing to 37 the number of bank failures in the US so far this year.

The closings follow the 140 that succumbed in 2009 to mounting loan defaults and the recession. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp took over First Lowndes Bank, in Fort Deposit, Ala; Appalachian Community Bank in Ellijay, Ga; Bank of Hiawassee, in Hiawassee, Ga; and Century Security Bank in Duluth, Ga.

The agency also closed down State Bank of Aurora, in Aurora, Minn; Advanta Bank Corp, based in Draper, Utah; and American National Bank of Parma, Ohio.—Internet

Boeing accelerates production of 747, 777 models

NEW YORK, 20 March—Boeing Co will speed up production plans for its 777 and 747 models in anticipation of greater demand from commercial airlines. Both are wide-body planes capable of carrying more than 300 passengers and flying longer routes.

Several Asian airlines have ordered the planes, which are also more fuel-efficient than other aircraft models.

Asian and Latin American carriers have led the way for a surprisingly strong recovery, while improvement at US carriers has lagged. The industry’s leading trade group, the International Air Transport Association, cut its 2010 forecast in half for global airlines to $2.8 billion. The group also lowered its 2009 loss estimate to $9.4 billion from $11 billion because of the year-end rally.

Many airlines across the globe reported losses in 2009 as travel demand slumped. Boeing, the world’s second-largest aircraft maker behind Airbus, said on Friday that it sees the airline industry recovering this year, followed by a return to profitability in 2011. That should lead to demand for new aircraft in 2012 and beyond, the company said.—Internet

China speeds up offshore wind power construction

BEIJING, 20 March—China will give top priority to developing offshore wind power projects to boost its flourishing wind power industry in 2010, according to a senior energy official.

The government would put large-scale offshore wind power concession projects out to tender, said Shi Lishan, Deputy Director of the New Energy and Renewable Energy Department of the National Energy Bureau at a recent seminar sponsored by Chinese Renewable Energy Industry Association (CREIA).

“We have formulated basic ideas and formalities for the tenders,” said Shi, but he would not elaborate on the timetable and exact sites in the concession project list.

Han Wenke, Director of the Energy Research Institute of National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), said China had no choice, but to vigorously develop renewable energy, including wind power.—Xinhua

Chicago retail sales post biggest drop since 1985

CHICAGO, 20 March—A deep-seated shift in consumer behaviour — spending less and saving more — means the fall-out from 2009 will hover over the retail landscape in Chicago, US for years, according to a report due out next week from a local research company.

Retail sales in the Chicago metropolitan market fell 8.7 percent, to 92.9 billion US dollars, in 2009 from the year before, marking the biggest annual decline since at least 1985, when Chicago-based Melanphy & Associates Inc began tracking the figures. The dismal performance follows a 4.8 percent drop in 2008, a record decrease at the time, the report said.

15,000 employees dismissed due to earthquake in Chile

SANTIAGO, 20 March—Around 15,000 Chilean employees were dismissed due to the 27 Feb, earthquake in the country, with 9,000 of them without compensation, a leader of the workers’ union said on Friday.

The most affected are the employees of small and medium-sized enterprises, Arturo Martinez, president of the Chilean Central Union of Workers (CUT), said, noting that the worst is in the region of Bio Bio, one of the areas affected by the quake.
Chinese Vice President arrives in Russia to start four European nation tour

VLADIVOSTOK, 20 March—At the invitation of Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping arrived here on Saturday for an official visit to Russia. During his stay in Russia, Xi, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, will meet Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, and Putin, who is also chairman of the ruling United Russia party, and State Duma Chairman Boris Gryzlov.

They will exchange views on bilateral relations and other regional and international issues of common concern. Xi is also expected to attend the opening ceremony of the Year of Chinese Language in Russia as well as the opening of the second round of strategic dialogue between the Chinese and Russian ruling parties.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang earlier said that the Year of Chinese Language in Russia will promote mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and Russian people and enhance their cultural cooperation.—Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Explosion occurs at office of far-right group in Athens, Greek Govt condemns

ATHENS, 20 March — An explosion occurred at the office of “Golden Dawn” in the centre of Athens early on Friday morning.

No injuries were reported, but only minor damages, as there had been a warning telephone call to a Greek newspaper a few minutes before the time bomb blasts. The bomb which had been placed outside the offices of “Golden Dawn,” at the corridor of the 5th floor of a building near the crowded Omonia square in the centre of Athens, exploded at 08:46 local time, according to the police.

Exactly 22 minutes earlier an unidentified person had made the warning call to “Eleftherotypia” daily, a common practice for far-left, anarchist and terrorist groups that operate in Greece.

The police had managed to evacuate the area, where the bomb exploded and windows of nearby buildings broke in rush hour.

No group has claimed responsibility yet, as police investigate, gathering evidence that could lead to the perpetrators.—Xinhua

Huge fire breaks out after explosion in Lagos police barracks

LAGOS, 20 March — Huge fire broke out after an explosion in police barracks in Zone II in Nigeria’s largest city Lagos on Friday, local police said.

Dense smoke could be seen over Victoria Island.

Many fire engines rushed to the scene and the fire fighting is still going on. Casualties and cause of the fire are yet to know.

Security and rescue officials at the scene told Xinhua that the explosion was heard at about 11 am local time.

An official declined to be identified said it might take to get the fire under control as they were unable to approach the flame. “We received a call from top police officers in Lagos that their exhibit room was on fire, but we are yet to ascertain the cause,” he said.

“On getting here, we saw everyone was clearing their properties, desperately trying to get out before the fire spread to their offices,” he added. —Xinhua

WHO to send A/H1N1 flu vaccine to African countries

GENEVA, 20 March—The World Health Organization (WHO) will send millions of doses of A/H1N1 flu vaccine to African countries to help them fight the pandemic, a spokesman said on Friday.

At least 10 to 15 African countries are expected to get vaccines for 2 to 10 percent of their population in the coming weeks, Gregory Hartl told a news briefing in Geneva.

Among the countries that will receive the vaccine are Nigeria, Cameroon, Senegal, Togo, Kenya, Namibia and South Africa, Hartl said.

He added that the WHO was doing its best to limit the effects of the A/H1N1 pandemic on the African continent.

The A/H1N1 pandemic, which was announced by the WHO in June, has so far spread to more than 213 countries and overseas territories or communities and killed at least 16,813 people, the UN agency said in a latest update.

The most active areas of pandemic influenza transmission are now in Southeast Asia and West Africa.—Xinhua

Polish aircraft violates Turkey’s air space over Aegean

ANKARA, 20 March — A Polish aircraft on Friday violated Turkey’s air space over the Aegean Sea, a Turkish military statement said.

Polish M-28 aircraft, which took off from Kos island of Greece, violated Turkish air space over the Aegean province of Aydin three times early on Friday, said the statement posted on the General Staff website.

The statement said the Polish aircraft had violated the Turkish air space for a total of 11 minutes. —Xinhua

An Afghan firefighter gestures at a burning fuel tanker after an explosion caused by a bomb placed underneath the truck in Jalalabad, eastern Afghanistan on 19 March 2010. Internet
Shell posts huge Gulf of Mexico oil find

AMSTERDAM, 20 March — Royal Dutch Shell revealed a discovery on Friday in the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico that encountered a “significant” oil discovery in the eastern deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The discovery in the Appomattox prospect was found in 7,217 feet of water in Mississippi Canyon blocks 391 and 392. Shell drilled a 25,000-foot discovery well in block 392 that encountered roughly 530 feet of oil pay.

Mosquito would ‘vaccinate’ against malaria

SHIMOTSUKI, 20 March — Scientists in Japan say they’ve genetically modified a mosquito that vaccinates against malaria as it bites.

Scientists create tiny invisibility cloak

LONDON, 20 March — Researchers in Britain and Germany say they’ve created a tiny cloak of invisibility that could someday rival the one worn by fictional wizard Harry Potter.

Study: Climate stress killed dinosaurs

Severe climate change, and not a meteorite, was the main reason behind the mass extinction of the dinosaurs and other species 65 million years ago, a new study concludes.

NASA’s Cassini spacecraft shows Saturnian roller derby

The seemingly serene orb of Saturn is in fact a gas giant with extraordinary patterns of charged particles and rough and tumble roller derbies for rings.

Russia plans to resume space tourism

MOSCOW, 20 March — Russia says it could offer more seats than ever to space tourists when the programme begins again in two to three years. Russian halted the programme last year because all seats abroad its spacecraft were needed to ferry crew to the International Space Station.

Five-year-old took dad’s SUV on joyride

A 5-year-old British boy named Thomas emerged unhurt after driving his father’s sport utility vehicle 4 miles and crashing into a wall, West Sussex police said. Even though Thomas was too short to reach the pedals, he managed to maneuver the 4x4 Mitsubishi Shogun until it hit a brick wall at a woman’s home in the village of Lavant, The Times of London Online reported. Along the way, the SUV collided with at least three other vehicles and nearly struck a pedestrian.

An image of four moons of Saturn passing in front of their parent planet in seen in this image taken by NASA’s Hubble Space Telescope 24 February, 2009 and released by NASA 17 March, 2009. In this view, the giant orange moon Titan casts a large shadow onto Saturn’s north polar hood. Below Titan, near the ring plane and to the left, is the moon Minus, casting a much smaller shadow onto Saturn’s equatorial cloud tops. Farther to the left, and off Saturn’s disk, are the bright moons Dione and the fainter Enceladus.
**US FDA warns about increased risk of muscle injury with Zocor**

**WASHINGTON, 20 March—**The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Friday warned patients and healthcare providers about the potential for increased risk of muscle injury from the cholesterol-lowering medication Zocor (simvastatin).

Although muscle injury (called myopathy) is a known side effect of all statins, the FDA’s warning highlights the greater risk of developing muscle injury, including rhabdomyolysis, for patients when they use higher doses of this drug. Rhabdomyolysis is the most serious form of myopathy and can lead to severe kidney damage, kidney failure, and sometimes death. “Review of simvas- tatin is part of an ongoing FDA effort to evaluate the risk of statin-associated muscle injury and to provide that information to the public as it becomes available,” said Eric Colman, Deputy Director of the FDA’s Division of Metabolism and Endocri- nology Products.

**TB booster appears promising**

**MARCH—**Researchers in South Africa say a booster might help tuberculosis re- sistance in already vacci- nated adults.

Willem Hanekom, co-director of the South Af- rican Tuberculosis Vacc- ine Initiative, reports ani- mal testing of the booster developed by Aeras Global Tuberculosis Foundation and Crucell — has been encouraging. The vaccine has proved safe in healthy adults previously vaccinated with the cur- rent TB vaccine.

“Aeras-402 was able to stimulate the immune system in a manner thought to be important for protection against tu- berculosis,” Hanekom says in a statement. “The world urgently needs new, better vaccines against tu- berculosis.”

Hanekom says it is im- portant to test the vaccines in settings where the dis- ease is very common, such as South Africa.

**Nutritional training for doctors overdue**

**LONDON, 20 March—**Nutritional training is impor- tant to every area of clinical practice but has been long neglected, researchers in Britain said.

Dr Penny Neild of St George’s Hospital in London and colleagues said the profession must take advantage of changes in medical education to ensure that all health professionals, but especially gut specialists, are given adequate training in nutrition.

The evidence shows healthcare professionals in general know little about how to assess and manage poor nutrition and gastroenterologists in particular need to be able to provide advice and expertise in general nutrition, artificial nutrition support, and intesti- nal failure, the researchers said.—**INTERNET**

**Stem cells ‘seed’ transplanted windpipe**

**LONDON, 20 March—**A boy in Britain is doing well four days after sur- geons used the boy’s own stem cells and a trans- planted windpipe to re- place his trachea, doctors say.

Martin Birchall of University College Lon- don said using the pa- tient’s own stem cells and body as a “bioreactor” could transform trans- plant surgery in the fu- ture, The Financial Times reported on Friday.

Paolo Macchiarini and colleagues at Careggi University Hospital in Florence, Italy, used en- zymes to strip the wind- pipe of a woman in Italy who died in an accident of all living cells that might trigger immune re- jection in the recipient. Macchiarini transported the windpipe to London.

Birchall removed about two table spoons of stem cells from the boy’s bone marrow and in- jected them into the trachea and replaced it with the boy’s defective wind- pipe.

On Friday, the boy said he was breathing better than he had in years, the Times said.

**Vaccine may stop cervical cancer return**

**BIRMINGHAM, 20 March—**US researchers said the vaccine to prevent cervical cancer may also protect against post-surgical recurrence of the disease.

Oncology researchers at the University of Alabama in Birmingham said the Gardasil vaccine that reduces the likelihood of human papillomavirus-related dis- eases may also protect against cervical or related can- cers or pre-cancerous changes that had been surgically removed from reoccurring.

“Based on this study, the data is compelling and suggests it does help to treat virus-related changes,” Dr Warner Huh said in a statement.

Huh and colleagues looked at the participants who had surgery to remove cervical or related cancer or pre-cancerous changes among the 17,622 women ages 15-26 involved in two clinical trials where some were vaccinated with Gardasil and some were not.

**Health Canada allows low-level caffeine in non-cola soft drinks**

**VANCOUVER, 20 March—**Synthetic caf- feine in lower concentra- tion than cola drinks could be added as a food addi- tive in non-cola soft drinks, Health Canada said in a press release on Friday.

Based on an “exten- sive review of all avail- able science,” the Cana- dian health agency deter- mined that synthetic caf- feine in carbonated soft drinks poses no health risk to users if its concentra- tion doesn’t exceed 150 parts per million (ppm), according to the release.

The authorized concentration for non-cola beverages is lower than the maximum of 200 ppm for cola beverages author- ized by Canadian food and drug regulations.

Similar levels of caf- feine in non-cola soft drinks are currently per- mitted in the United States and Europe.

Synthetic caffeine is still not allowed to be added to other foods, Health Canada said.

**Team New Zealand (front) crosses in front of Italy’s Azzura during the Louis Vuitton Trophy Series yachting best-of-three semi-finals in Auckland, on 19 March. Team N.Zealand took the early honours in the final of the Louis Vuitton Trophy yachting regatta on Saturday, winning the opening race against the Italians by 12 seconds.**—**INTERNET**
Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 20 March—The coordination meeting of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee was held at the meeting hall of Nay Pyi Taw Command here yesterday evening.

Patron of the committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, committee members, sub-committee members and officials attended the meeting. The commander delivered an address at the meeting and heard reports on traffic rules enforcement submitted by officials. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks of the commander. MNA

Sanitation tasks in Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 20 March—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint inspected sanitation and drainage tasks in Kyimyindaing Township here today.

On arrival at No.(5) Basic Education High School Kyimyindaing, officials reported the commander on the progress of tasks. He also visited east ward of Makyeedan (North) village and viewed activities for healthy environment. The commander addressed 21st cash donation ceremony of Tamway Township All Bus Lines Supervisory Committee (Headquarters). The commander and officials donated cash. MNA

Energy Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 20 March—Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi received Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Ye Dabo and party at the ministry office here this morning. They discussed matters on energy sectors between two countries. Also present at the call were officials concerned.—MNA

Micro Computer takes part in Myanmar ICT Exhibition

YANGON, 20 March—Computer Co Ltd is participating in Myanmar ICT Exhibition-2010 held at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on Uwsara Road here from 19 to 21 March.

The company is importing and distributing computer accessories, A-DATA Brand memory devices, Genius Brand computer accessories and Chaungxiang Brand computer tables.—MNA

Chief Justice visits Mandalay Supreme Court

NAY PYI TAW, 20 March—Chief Justice U Aung Toe today met Deputy Chief Justice U Khin Maung Latt of Supreme Court (Mandalay). In meeting with them, he called for matters related to judiciary, administration and code of ethics.

Min Htet’s costume, acting and dialogues are very realistic, and he showed a brilliant performance. Therefore, I am confident that TV lovers will enjoy the TV play “Alinyaung” to be screened to mark the 65th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

Interview: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

TV play “Alinyaung” to be on screen

(From page 1) Moe Hay Ko added that she was satisfied because the play is designed to serve the interest of the nation and the people, and she had an opportunity to play her role.

Actor Min Htet (Saw Mu He), who in the play becomes the KNU leader following Myint Myat (Saw Hse Wah)’s return to the legal fold, said, “This is the first Armed Forces Day commemorative TV play I have ever played my role in. I have never acted a role in any TV play that is related to the State policy. Now, I am very glad to have played my role in such a TV play.”

Min Htet’s costumes, acting and dialogues are very realistic, and he showed a brilliant performance.

He played his role bravely as KNU leader Saw Mu He in acting the trait of character with extreme concepts and convictions.

Therefore, I am confident that TV lovers will enjoy the TV play “Alinyaung” to be screened to mark the 65th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.

Translation: MS
Where to find the best Notebook?  

YANGON, 20 March—View Sonic is displaying in Myanmar ICT Exhibition-2010 held at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on Uwisara Road here from 19 to 21 March.

Royal Ayeayawady Co Ltd has been displaying and selling View Sonic Notebook, LCD Monitor, Portable Media Player, Digital Photo Frame and Projector. The company will import View Book (Notebook) of View Sonic products as main computer accessories.

Battery of the view book can be used till 8-hour and Secondary Battery will be used in place of Optical Drive.

During the exhibition, customers, buying the view sonic products, will get coupon to try one’s luck of View Sonic Notebook.

Interesting persons connect to 87-street, No-7 (GF), Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon (phone: 384850, 389366 and 394494). —MNA

Reckless driving causes traffic accidents  

NAY PYI TAW, 20 March—A passenger light truck en route from Pathein to Ngwehsaung ran into the right brick wall of the culvert on Pathein-Ngwehsaung Road in front of the monastery in Kwingalya Village about two miles from the query.

In another case, a white Hilux with passengers and foodstuff onboard turned over on Myikyima-Sumprabum Road at about 4 pm the same day. The seven injured are now in Sumprabum General Hospital.

A 10-wheeled Nissan bound from Tachilek to Kengtung got a broken brake and ran into the rear of running Fuso air-conditioned bus with 59 passengers onboard three times on Kengtung-Tachilek Road near Panlot (upper) village, about nine miles from Kengtung. Then, the bus turned over. The Nissan skidded off the road on the left side for about 100 yards and ran into the brick wall of a monastery. In the accident, the driver, two bus conductors and nine passengers of the bus, and the driver and two bus conductors of the Nissan were killed, and 50 passengers from the bus were injured. The injured are now in Kengtung General Hospital.

Now, action is being taken against the reckless drivers. —MNA

PISM Fisher Random Chess Tourney kicks off  

YANGON, 20 March—Jointly organized by Myanmar Chess Federation and Pride International School Myanmar under the supervision of Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports, PISM Fisher Random Chess Tournament was opened at Aung San Stadium here this afternoon.

President of MCF U Maung Maung Lwin addressed the opening ceremony.—MNA

Hightech Princess’s products displaying on Myanmar ICT Exhibition  

YANGON, 20 March—Hightech Princess has also been displaying on Myanmar ICT Exhibition 2010 being held at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on Uwisara Road here from 19 to 21 March.

The Hightech Princess is distributing security products for offices, homes, factories, schools and hospitals, and network devices. The company is also showcasing MASH wifi system to be developed cooperatively with Yatanarpon Teleport.—MNA

Science justifies California water limits  

LOS ANGELES, 20 March—Federal limits on water that can be pumped out of a major river delta for California farmers are scientifically justified, a much-anticipated report said Friday, a finding hailed by environmentalists in the state’s epic water wars.

But the National Academy of Sciences stopped short of handing a decisive victory to environmental interests over agricultural interests. The academy said further study was required and that threats to Chinook salmon, delta smelt and other endangered fish were not entirely caused by the pumping.


“It’s time to stop pitting the economic interests of farmers against fishermen and move forward to find solutions,” Hayden said. “We have pushed the Bay-Delta system to the brink of collapse and saving it — and the jobs that depend on it — is going to require increased cooperation among all interests.”
FIFA makes 196 million dollars profit in 2009

GENEVA, 20 March—FIFA made a profit of 196 million dollars (145 million euros) in 2009 and increased its reserves to more than 1 billion in spite of the global economic crisis. In its annual financial report published in Zurich on Friday, soccer’s world governing body said it made its surplus on revenue of 1.059 billion dollars (780 million euros). The revenue had topped 10 figures for the first time.

In the report, Julio Grondona, the Chairman of FIFA’s finance committee, said the first World Cup in Africa had posted marketing revenues that surpassed the results of the previous two tournaments, in Germany (2006) and South Korea and Japan (2002).

FIFA has focused on building its reserves in recent years to sustain it in the event that a World Cup is canceled and commercial partners have to be repaid. —Xinhua

New threat rankles Hemet, Calif

HEMET, 20 March—A Southern California Police Department flagged by booby trap attacks against its officers went on heightened alert on Friday following yet another threat.

An unidentified person called a 911 operator at about 5:45 pm and said a police car would be blown up in the Hemet-San Jacinto area in the next 24 to 48 hours, Hemet Police Chief Richard Dana said.

The caller said the attack would be in retaliation for the law enforcement sweep against the gang earlier this week.

A Riverside County sheriff’s spokeswoman said the department has not been able to confirm the threat. —Xinhua

First-ever French language day celebrated at UN

UNITED NATIONS, 20 March—The United Nations is celebrating French language day here on Friday as part of a new initiative to raise awareness and respect for the history, culture and achievements of each of the six official languages of the world body.

“French, as a working language of the UN and one that is spoken on all continents, plays an important role in spreading the message of the United Nations in the world,” said Kiyo Akasaka, the UN under-secretary-general for the Department of Public Information (DPI) and Coordinator for Multilingualism at the UN.

The 20 March celebration of French coincides with the 40th anniversary of the International Organization of La Francophonie, a group whose members share a common tongue, as well as the humanist values promoted by the French language. —Xinhua

Booming tourism boosts service sector in south China’s Hainan

HAIKOU, 20 March—The booming tourism industry of south China’s Hainan Province has made major contribution to the island’s economy and will further bolster its service sector, a senior official has said.

“As Hainan’s top pillar industry, tourism has boosted the development of the whole service sector, accounting for 42 percent of the province’s GDP. But we aim to increase the proportion to 60 percent,” said Tan Li, Hainan’s vice governor.

Hainan received more than 22.5 million visitors last year, increasing by 9.2 percent from the previous year. The island’s tourism industry generated 21.17-billion-yuan (3 billion US dollars) in revenue, up 10.1 percent, according to statistics from the provincial government.

Driven by booming tourism, the sales of Hainan’s real estate industry grew by 25.4 percent, and sales of hotel and restaurant industry reached 52.5 percent. —Xinhua

Oil settles near $80 a barrel

NEW YORK, 20 March—Oil prices slumped at the end of the week, tumbling on Friday close to $80 a barrel as continued uncertainty about Greece’s economy helped lift the dollar higher.

Benchmark crude for April delivery dropped $1.52 to settle at $80.68 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Oil is traded in US currency, and its price tends to fall as the dollar rises and makes contracts tougher to buy with foreign currency. Investors also will move money out of commodities and into the greenback as the dollar rises. Crude prices rallied earlier this week after the Fed promised to hold interest rates at record lows in a move that was expected to help the economic recovery. Prices crested on Wednesday, and they’ve been falling since then as worries about Greece’s debts forced the euro lower. —Internet

FAA faulted on Southwest Airlines

WASHINGTON, 20 March—A government watchdog faulted the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for allowing Southwest Airlines Co to fly jets that had not undergone mandatory maintenance work, violating stipulated safety rules, the Wall Street Journal said.

The Office of Special Counsel said on Thursday that the company failed to complete certain required maintenance involving rivets around the window frames of 55 of its Boeing 737 aircraft, the paper said, citing the counsel’s documents.

Southwest voluntarily disclosed the information to a senior FAA inspector who was also a supervisor in the local office charged with overseeing the airline, the Journal said.

People purchase goods ahead of the Nowruz festival at a bazaar in Tehran, capital of Iran, on 19 March, 2010. Nowruz, the Iranian New Year, falls on 21 March. —Xinhua
Landscapers see green as weary
East greets spring

TRENTON, 20 March — Gardeners and landscapers along the Eastern seaboard are making haste — and money — as spring begins and they pick up the pieces from the region’s particularly harsh winter, which toppled more than snowfall records.

Marian Anderson, a 73-year-old resident of Manchester, NJ, is having problems trying to find a crew with enough time to remove two old oak trees that fell in her yard during a nor’easter last weekend.

“They tell me they’re swamped and will get out as soon as they can, but who knows when that will be,” she said. “I really hated this winter; I truly did. It caused nothing but trouble.”

Seeing their snowiest winters on record were cities including Baltimore, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Del, Washington and Atlantic City, NJ. Heavy rains in recent weeks caused major flooding across the mid-Atlantic region. Hurricane-strength winds joined forces with heavy rains last month to make yards messy in New England.

“It has been a remarkable winter. One of the stormiest, if not the stormiest on record. It has impacted everyone,” New Jersey state climatologist David Robinson said Friday, the day before the official start of spring. “People will be talking about this 20 years from now.”—Internet

Ethiopia admits jamming VOA radio broadcasts in Amharic

ADDIS ABABA, 20 March—Ethiopia has admitted it is jamming the Voice of America’s (VOA) broadcasts in Amharic, accusing the radio station of engaging in “destabilising propaganda”. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi said Ethiopia had been testing jamming equipment, although there had been no formal decision to block the US station.

The Amharic Service has experienced interference since late February. Mr Meles also compared the VOA’s transmissions to broadcasts in Rwanda in the mid-1990s that incited genocide.—Internet

US environment satellite reaches orbit

WASHINGTON, 20 March— Twelve days after launch, NASA and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-P (GOES-P) reached its proper orbit and was renamed GOES-15, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said Friday in a statement.

The latest weather satellite will complete its checkout in mid August and be stored in-orbit, ready for activation should one of the operational GOES satellites degrade or exhaust their fuel.

“The NASA team has done an excellent job and the spacecraft performance has been near perfect. Reaching the proper orbit marks a significant milestone, but we still have a lot of work to complete,” stated Andra Dress, the NASA GOES Deputy Project Manager. “We remain focused on the tasks at hand and look forward to complete mission success.”—Xinhua

China seizes 27.7 tonnes of drugs in 2009

BEIJING, 20 March — Chinese police seized 27.7 tonnes of drugs ranging from heroin to ketamine in 2009 as the country stepped up its fight against drug dealers, the National Narcotics Control Commission (NNCC) said Friday.

Chinese police confiscated 5.8 tonnes of heroin, 1.3 tonnes of opium, 6.6 tonnes of crystal methamphetamine, commonly known as “ice”, 5.3 tonnes of ketamine, 8.7 tonnes of marijuana and 1.06 million ecstasy pills last year, according to the annual report on drug control released by NNCC.

Chinese police cracked down on 77,000 cases of drug-related crimes and detained 91,000 criminal suspects last year, it said.—Xinhua

Cyclone headed for NE Australia

TOWNSVILLE, 20 March—Northeast Australia prepared on Saturday for a tropical cyclone headed toward the coast of Queensland.

Mark Hentschel, a spokesman for the Weather Bureau, said Cyclone Ului was expected to make landfall near Townsville early Sunday morning, the Australian Broadcasting Corp reported. High winds were expected to hit the coast between Townsville and Yeppoon by late Saturday.

Ferry services to offshore islands were already being canceled Saturday, and harborers were crowded with yachts as their owners sought shelter from the coming storm.—Internet

At least 200 people killed in cave-in in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN, 20 March— At least 200 people were killed on Friday in a cave-in which took place in a mine in the western African country of Sierra Leone, media reported.

The site was in a gold mine in the south of the country, less than 300 km from the capital of Freetown. The report said a trench collapsed in the mine, leading to the accident. No further details was available so far. Bordering the Atlantic Ocean, Sierra Leone was between Guinea and Liberia in western Africa.

The country covers an area of about 72,000 square km. Its natural resources included gold, diamonds, bauxite and iron ore.

Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAJA VOY NO (213)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAJA VOY NO (213) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.3.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINE

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

5.7 magnitude earthquake hits New Zealand’s Southland

WELLINGTON, 20 March—An earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale struck New Zealand’s Southland on Thursday night, the GNS Science said.

The quake occurred at 7:28 pm New Zealand Local Time (0628 GMT Thursday) at a depth of 33 km, the New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences reported.

The quake’s epicentre was about 360 km south-west of the South Island city of Invercargill. There were no reports of any damage or injuries, GNS said it was felt in the southern town of Riverston.

Moderate quake jolts eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 20 March—An earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter scale struck eastern parts of Indonesia on Thursday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The quake took place at 3:36 pm Jakarta Time (0836 GMT) with the epicentre at 29 km southwest of Central Sulawesi and with a depth of 30 km, the agency said.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire.” —Xinhua

Teen gets over 12 years for Sydney murder

SYDNEY, 20 March—A teenager will spend more than 12 years in jail over three brutal Sydney street attacks, including the stomping murder of a chef. Now aged 18, he claims he remembers little or nothing of the attacks because he was high on drugs and alcohol. He cannot be named because he was a juvenile at the time of the offences.

The trio of bashings took place over 13 and 14 June, 2008, and included the violent robbery of actress Virginia Gay. Best known for her role in television drama All Saints, Gay suffered head injuries after being attacked by the teen as she walked along Illawarra Road at Marrickville. After being punched repeatedly and kicked in the face while on the ground, Gay flagged down a passing bus which prompted her attacker to flee.

However, the violence did not stop there, as the teen and a juvenile co-accused launched an attack nearby on chef Daniel Owen, 31, in the driveway of the victim’s home. Mr Owen was found dead, lying face down in a pool of blood just after midnight on 14 June.

Polish court jails three men for Auschwitz sign theft

STOCKHOLM, 20 March—A Polish court has convicted three men for stealing the infamous “Arbeit Macht Frei” sign from the former Auschwitz death camp last December. The trio, two of whom are brothers, were given jail sentences ranging from 18 months to two-and-a-half years. The court in Krakow said the men had admitted the theft, and so the case did not have to go to trial.

Two other Poles remain in custody over the theft of the 5m (16ft) wrought-iron sign, which was quickly recovered. It had been half-unscrewed, half-torn off by a man from a memorial site’s gate and cut into three pieces to ease the thieves’ getaway. The three convicted on Thursday were named as Radoslaw M, Lukasz M and Pawel S.

The authorities in Stockholm said last week that a Swedish former neo-Nazi, who allegedly instigated the theft, will be extradited to Poland to face trial. The sign, which translates as “Work sets you free,” symbolises for many the atrocities of Nazi Germany.—Xinhua

Primark-obsessed Brits dress worse than Germans

LONDON, 20 March—Brits obsessed with cheap stores such as Primark have been voted the worst dressed in Europe. The Sun reported consumers in seven countries voted British women bottom—beaten only by the Germans. A whopping 44 per cent said the British were worst dressed behind the likes of the Swedes and Dutch in the survey by shopping website Ciao. And the poor polling has been blamed on Brits’ fixation with budget clothing from stores including Primark, fondly nicknamed Primani. The survey found 85 per cent of British shoppers spend less than £100 ($165) a month on their wardrobes, the worst result of all seven nations. According to the poll, 33 per cent thought Germans—famed for their mullet hairstyles—were least fashionable. The Italians were voted the most stylish with only three per cent calling them badly dressed.

In Germany, 58 per cent of people said they spend up to £200 a month on clothes, and in Spain six per cent spend more than £500 a month. Other stats showed 29 per cent of Brits considered their sunglasses were their most important accessory compared with only three per cent who agreed in France and Italy.

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Kraft to cut salt in its North American foods

PORTLAND, 20 March—Kraft Foods Inc. said on Wednesday that it will cut the salt in its products that are sold in North America by an average of 10 per cent over the next two years to appeal to health-conscious consumers.

The changes at Kraft, the largest US food maker, will affect more than 1,000 products and eliminate more than 10 million pounds of salt over the two-year period, the company said.

Kraft and other food makers have cut their use of sodium in recent years. Among other cuts, the company said this latest move will cut the salt in Oskar Mayer Bologna by 17 percent, Easy Mac Cups by 20 percent and Velveeta by 10 percent.—Xinhua

Boeing supports safety checks on 737s

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 March—Boeing said on Wednesday it supports the FAA’s rule which requires 737 operators to inspect the elevator tab control mechanism in response to China’s safety checks on more than 400 aircraft made by the US giant.

As the elevator tab on a 737 airplane was found loose while running earlier this month, Boeing sent an alert bulletin to all operators on 10 March, recommending a safety check on the mechanism, a spokesman of the Boeing Commercial Airplanes told Xinhua in a written statement on Wednesday. “Airworthiness Directive essentially mandates recommendations in a Boeing all-operator message.—Xinhua

Four-day-old Elephant calf Bimas walks in an enclosure during its first day in public in the Tierpark zoo in Berlin on 19 March 2010.

INTERNET

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Four-day-old Elephant calf Bimas walks in an enclosure during its first day in public in the Tierpark zoo in Berlin on 19 March 2010.

INTERNET
Hypnotherapy ‘can help’ irritable bowel syndrome

**London, 20 March** — Greater use of hypnotherapy to ease the symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome would help sufferers and might save money, says a gastroenterologist. Dr. Rolan Valori, editor of Frontline Gastroenterology, said of the first 100 of his patients treated, symptoms improved significantly for nine in 10.

He said that although previous research has shown hypnotherapy is effective for IBS sufferers, it is not widely used. This may be because doctors simply do not believe it works. Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is a common gut problem which can cause abdominal pain, bloating, and sometimes diarrhea or constipation.

Dr. Valori, of Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, said the research evidence which shows that hypnotherapy could help sufferers of IBS was first published in the 1980s. He thinks it has been widely ignored because many doctors find it hard to believe that it does work, or to comprehend how it could work.

He began referring IBS patients for hypnotherapy in the early 1990s and has found it to be highly effective. “To be frank, I have never looked back,” he said.

He audited the first 100 cases he referred for hypnotherapy and found that the symptoms stopped completely in four in nine patients.

**Study finds H1N1 flu in pregnancy is critical risk**

**London, 20 March** — Pregnant women in Australia and New Zealand who had pandemic H1N1 flu were 13 times more likely to become critically ill and be admitted to hospital, researchers said on Friday.

The study, published in the *British Medical Journal* (*BMJ*), analyzed data from the middle of the southern hemisphere’s 2009 winter and found that 11 per cent of mothers and 12 per cent of babies died after admission to intensive care with swine flu.

The findings confirm earlier research that pregnant women are at higher risk of serious complications if they get the flu. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared last June that the new H1N1 virus was causing the first influenza pandemic in more than 40 years after it spread around the world from Mexico and the United States in just six weeks.

The H1N1 pandemic sparked a race to develop new vaccines by drugmakers including GlaxoSmithKline and Sanofi-Aventis. But the vaccines were not ready until later in the year, and then many people failed to have the shots because of safety concerns and because the pandemic was milder then feared.

**More US children suffer from extreme obesity**

**Los Angeles, 20 March** — More and more American children are suffering from extreme obesity, posing danger to their future lives, according to a new study released on Thursday.

“Children who are extremely obese may continue to be extremely obese as adults, and all the health problems associated with obesity are in these children’s futures,” said Corinna Koebnick, a research scientist at the Los Angeles-based Kaiser Permanente, a medical institution, and lead author of the study.

“Without major lifestyle changes, these kids face a 10 to 20 years shorter life span and will develop health problems in their twenties that we typically see in 40 to 60 year olds,” Koebnick said.

**West Nile virus back in Los Angeles**

**Los Angeles, 20 March** — Two dead birds have tested positive recently for West Nile virus in Los Angeles, indicating that the virus is back in the area, authorities said on Thursday.

“These two West Nile virus positive dead birds are evidence that West Nile virus continues to persist in Los Angeles,” said Susanne Kluh of the Vector Control District, which tracks the movements of pests.

The cases are the first two documented in Los Angeles County this year, according to health officials.
Chelsea boss Ancelotti sets his sights on the double

**Nadal books semifinal with Ljubicic**

**Wozniacki vs Jankovic in final**

**Andy Murray beaten by Robin Soderling in California**

**Sir Alex Ferguson calls FA ‘dysfunctional’**

**Arsenal draw favourites Barcelona in Champions League**

**Championship cancelled after surf lifesaver death**
**WEATHER**

Saturday, 20th March, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3 °C) above March average temperatures in Chin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (6 °C) above March average temperatures in Kachin State and about March average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures was Chauk (40 °C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Shwegyin (0.40) inch, Kungtung and Sagaing (0.16) inch each and Thaton (0.12) inch.

Maximum temperature on 19-3-2010 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 20-3-2010 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on20-3-2010 was 77%. Total sun shine hours on 19-3-2010 was (1.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 20-3-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4)mph from Southeast at (17:30) hours MST on 19-3-2010.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 21st March 2010: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**State of the sea:** Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 21-3-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-3-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-3-2010: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (69%).

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**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3 °C) above March average temperatures in Chin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (6 °C) above March average temperatures in Kachin State and about March average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures was Chauk (40 °C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Shwegyin (0.40) inch, Kungtung and Sagaing (0.16) inch each and Thaton (0.12) inch.

Maximum temperature on 19-3-2010 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 20-3-2010 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on20-3-2010 was 77%. Total sun shine hours on 19-3-2010 was (1.0) hours approx.

Rainfall on 20-3-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4)mph from Southeast at (17:30) hours MST on 19-3-2010.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 21st March 2010: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**State of the sea:** Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 21-3-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-3-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-3-2010: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (69%).

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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
- We 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

“Right View” series on MRTV and MWD

Earthquake report

Nano-based RFID tags could replace bar codes

Songbirds yield insight into speech production