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* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San and party pay homage to Mann Shwesettawyar Pagoda, Magway Myathalon Pagoda

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San pay homage to Mann Shwesettawyar Pagoda.

In the afternoon, they visited the Magway Myathalon Pagoda. They offered meals, fruits, flowers, water, lights and joss sticks and paid homage to the pagoda.

Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presented cash donations to the pagoda through the pagoda board of trustees.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party signed the visitors’ book. They then viewed the tasks for all-round renovation of the pagoda. Afterwards, they left the pagoda.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye views conditions of the surrounding areas and the brick wall of the Upper Settawyar Pagoda.—MNA
Myanmar, Vietnam to boost bilateral cooperation

Myanmar maintains friendly relations with the international community, and cooperates actively with other countries, non-governmental organizations, neighbouring countries, and ASEAN members.

The Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, two members of ASEAN, have a fine tradition of friendly bilateral relations. Today, the two countries are boosting exchange of State visits for further enhance bilateral cooperation.

At the invitation of Prime Minister General Thein Sein of the Union of Myanmar, a delegation led by Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung paid a working visit to Myanmar on 2 April.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe received the visiting Vietnamese delegation led by Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw on 2 April. They compared notes on promotion of friendly bilateral relations and economic cooperation.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein conferred with the Vietnamese delegation led by Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw on 2 April. The two sides exchanged views on strengthening the existing friendship between the two countries and cooperation in multi sectors, and international and regional issues.

During the working visit, the two countries exchanged documents on the joint statement on cooperation between the two countries, and signed a number of contracts and MoUs covering investment promotion, fisheries, agriculture, finance, communication and mines and other sectors.

The working visit to Myanmar paid by the Vietnamese Prime Minister is believed to further cement existing bilateral friendly relations and bilateral cooperation in diverse fields.

Kyauktan Township Association to hold AGM

YANGON, 2 April — Kyauktan Township Association will hold the 23rd annual general meeting with respect-paying and prize-presentation ceremonies at the association’s Dhammayon in Mittyawuny, Tamway Township on 4 April. The members who are over 75 years old and matriculation students from Kyauktan Township, who got three distinctions and above are invited to attend the ceremonies. For cash and kind donations, contact U Sein Tun Aung (Ph: 570859, 09-8022923), U Myint Sein (Ph: 290773), U Thin Maung (Ph: 6520650), U Chan Ho (Ph: 682884), U Soe Myint (Ph: 298349), Daw Myint Myint Si (Ph: 545699), U Ye Htut (Ph: 540385), U Wai Lwin (Ph: 548113), U Kyin Nyunt (Ph: 056-25645) and U Chit Swe (Ph: 056-25276).

Yangon Division Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee organizes Second United Nations Global Road Safety Week Activities

YANGON, 3 April — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the opening ceremony of Second United Nations Global Road Safety Week Activities of Yangon Division Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee held at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here on 1 April and signed in the record book.

Firstly, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint made an opening speech.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented certificates of honour to contributors and signed in the record book of Second United Nations Global Road Safety Week Activities of Yangon Division Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee.

Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander, members of exhibition observance committee, attendees of workshop posed for documentary photos and attached the commemorative stickers to the vehicles.

Transport Minister receives PRC Deputy Transport Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met a delegation led by Deputy Minister of Transport Mr Xu Zuyuan and party of the People’s Republic of China at his office here yesterday morning. They discussed facts about maritime transport of the two countries.

It was attended by departmental heads and head of office under the ministry — MNA

Dy Construction Minister inspects construction of cyclone shelter in Letkhotkwin

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April — Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein inspected Yangon-Hinethaya-Dalla-Thikhwat-Letkhotkwin Road and the construction of cyclone shelter by Asia World Company in Letkhotkwin yesterday.

A responsible person of the company reported the deputy minister on the progress in construction of the cyclone shelters. The deputy minister called for meeting set standard and inspected the Kunyangon-Kawmyu-Twarday-Karne Road. — MNA

Correction

Please read the fourth paragraph of the story that appears in the fourth column on page 2 of the 31st March issue of this paper, as follows: — In another case, in search of a bus en route from Kutkai to Muse at the toll gate of Asia World in Kutkai, Shan State (North), on 22 March morning, officials arrested Ma Aye Su, Daw Kyan Kya Shant, who were bringing together with them Ma Aye Ye Yin to sell her into forced marriage in the neighbouring country. In that regard, the three women traffickers had paid her 200,000 kyats in advance as part of the payment, with a deception that she would be employed in the neighbouring country. Now, Kutkai Police Station has charged the three women with trafficking in persons, and the victim has been handed over to her parents.
Iraqi officials say 25 killed in overnight attack

BAGHDAD, 3 April — Iraqi officials say gunmen have killed 25 people during overnight raids in a Sunni village south of Baghdad.

The officials say most of the dead are members of local Sahwa, or Awakening Councils — one of several names for the Sunni fighters who said Saturday.

Two NATO-led troops kill six Afghan soldiers by mistake

KUNDUZ, 3 April — Six Afghan soldiers were killed as NATO-led troops mistakenly opened fire in Kunduz province north of Afghanistan, provincial governor Mohammad Omar said Saturday.

“Late Friday night NATO-led forces opened fire mistakenly on Afghan soldiers in Khakani area outside Kunduz city, the capital of Kunduz province, killing six soldiers,” Omar told Xinhua.

NATO soldier dies in Afghanistan bombing

KABUL, 3 April — NATO says one of its soldiers has been killed by a bomb in southern Afghanistan.

The alliance says the soldier died on Friday as the result of an improvised explosive device, but gave no further details.

The latest death was the fifth NATO fatality in the so far this month. On Friday, three German soldiers were killed in a firefight with the Taliban in the north of the country.

US Marines' anti-explosives squad blows up a roadside bomb in Marjah in Helmand province of southern Afghanistan on 31 March. Nearly two months after US Marines led what was billed the biggest offensive against the Taliban in more than eight years of war, troops still come under daily fire from insurgents and bombs are still exploding.

Six suspected al-Qaida leaders killed, captured in N Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 April — At least six al-Qaida leaders accused of operating extortion and assassination networks in northern Iraq were killed or captured by US and Iraqi troops, the US military said in a statement late Thursday.

The six were suspected to be involved in extortion and assassination networks which target oil companies and small businesses to help fund al-Qaida in Iraq. The statement said the ability of al-Qaida in Iraq to operate and restructure would be “severely hindered” after the operation.

The six suspected al-Qaida leaders were killed or arrested in Mosul, which is located 360 km northwest of Baghdad, in joint security operations by the US and Iraqi forces on March 18-24, according to the statement.

Afghans look at bloodstains as they stand at the site where NATO-led soldiers mistakenly killed six Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers in Kunduz on 3 April, 2010. Troops based in north Afghanistan mistakenly killed six Afghan soldiers, a provincial governor said on Saturday, hours after losing three of their own soldiers in a gunfight with insurgents.

Pentagon boosting Afghanistan “eyes in the sky”

WASHINGTON, 3 April — The Pentagon is focused on getting more trucks, surveillance equipment and other military equipment into Afghanistan to prepare for what will be a critical summer in the war, Defense Undersecretary Ashton Carter said on Friday.

Carter, head of Pentagon acquisition, technology and logistics, said the success of the war in Afghanistan would depend largely on being able to get weapons and support services to the US troops headed to the land-locked country, which he described as “the last place where you would like to be fighting a war.”

As part of that effort, Carter said he was increasing 20-fold the number of airships hovering over Afghanistan, providing “eyes in the sky” to troops on the ground.

Equipped with sophisticated cameras and the ability to stream images to US bases on the ground, the airships would help track any activity that could jeopardize the troops, including the burying of roadside bombs.

At the same time, the very visible presence of the airships would keep potential attackers on their guard, Carter said, calling the airships a more affordable way to maintain surveillance than more-expensive unmanned airplanes, which are also being deployed in Afghanistan in large numbers.
Autism needs more attention

EIGING, 3 April — April 2 this year marks the third annual World Autism Awareness Day. Autism is a complex developmental disability featuring difficulty in communication, verbal and non-verbal, as well as social interactions and leisure activities.

Symptoms of autism are usually manifested in the first three years of one’s life. At first people generally consider autism as a psychiatric disorder, but over time they discover that it is neurological, though many of its characteristic traits seem to be psychological.

Children and adults with autism typically have difficulty in verbal and non-verbal communication, social interactions and leisure activities. On 18 Dec, 2007, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution setting April 2 as the World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). The theme of this year’s WAAD is “Stand up for Autism.”

One in 110 children born in the United States today is diagnosed with autism, and the numbers keep growing. Autistic children deserve greater awareness, attention and acceptance.

More research on promising treatments is desperately needed, and so are programs to meet the housing and employment needs of a population that is rapidly aging up.

US oil refinery explosion kills at least three people

ANACORTES, (Washington), 3 April — An explosion and fire at an oil refinery in Washington state in the United States killed three people and critically injured four others early Friday, company officials said. Tesoro Corp. said three people died in the fire at its refinery in Anacortes, Washington, about 70 miles (112 kilometers) north of Seattle.

Four other employees are in critical condition at a Seattle hospital. A hospital spokeswoman identified the injured as two women, ages 29 and 36, and two men, 34 and 41. All are in the intensive care unit with major burns over the majority of their bodies.

The blaze started in a naphtha unit of the Tesoro Corp. refinery at about 12:30 a.m. local time, and was extinguished in about 90 minutes, the company said.

Venezuela receives four Russian helicopters

CARACAS, 3 April — Venezuela Friday received four Russian helicopters as the first delivery of the country’s purchase, which coincided with the visit by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. The MI-17s are part of the 38 helicopters Venezuela ordered from Russia in 2006. “These are very important cooperation fruits between Russia and Venezuela”, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said after his six-hour meeting with Putin.

The four helicopters were offloaded at the Maiquetia Airport, 30 km north of Caracas. Chavez announced on Friday the purchase from Russia of at least one hydroplane, Beriev-200, to fight fires. Putin said that the hydroplane “is an amphibious plane unique in the world to fight fires with reaction engines and a speed of 700 km per hour.” Venezuela and Russia also signed other trade and cooperation agreements on Friday.

Most of seized weapons in Mexico smuggled from US

MEXICO CITY, 3 April — About 95 percent of the weapons seized in Mexico last year were smuggled from the United States, the National Confederation of Popular Organizations (CNOP) said on Friday.

Edmundo Ramirez, secretary of the CNOP, said that Mexico seized 28,000 weapons in 2009, accounting for 10 percent of an estimated total of smuggled weaponry from the United States.

The Mexican National Defense Ministry said it estimated that more than 3 million cartridges entered the country in 2009, adding that the ministry seized more than 8,300 cartridges per day last year. Some smugglers hired US citizens to buy weapons, and southern US gangs also frequently trafficked weapons to Mexico, Ramirez said.

Moderate quake hits eastern Indonesia

JAVA, 3 April — A moderate earthquake with magnitude of 5.1 jolted eastern parts of Indonesia on Saturday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The quake struck at 10:40 a.m. (0340 GMT) with the epicenter at 133 km southeast of North Maluku and with a depth of 71 km, the agency said.

So far, no further report has been available.

A couple canoes across a flooded section of road in Westerly, Rhode Island 3 April.
Nepalese Sherpa to climb Everest for 20th time

Sherpas go by one name, first climbed the 29,035-foot (8,850-meter) mountain in 1989 and has repeated the feat almost every year since. His closest rival is fellow Sherpa guide Chhewang Nima, who has made 15 trips to the summit.

Thursday his intention to make his 20th ascent in May. He and his fellow climbers — 17 other Sherpas and 12 Westerners — also plan to collect 7,000 kilograms (15,400 pounds) of garbage, a growing environmental problem in the Himalayan peaks. They plan to pay porters hired by several expeditions to help bring down the refuse.

Nearly 2,500 venues across Europe to join France’s Night of Museums initiative in May

PARIS, 3 April —

Nearly 2,500 museums throughout Europe will open their doors to night-owl exhibition-lovers on May 15 to celebrate the Night of Museums, French Culture Ministry announced here Wednesday.

For one night each year, more than 1,000 museums across France take part in the festival night, which allows visitors access to museums generally free of charge from sunset to approximately 1:00 am. The French government launched the event in 2005 to provide easier access to the treasures housed within French collections and the concept has expanded, with many other European nations joining in.

This year, many museums will use Twitter to allow visitors to leave messages and write down their feelings about the event.

A number of French venues will mark what’s France-Russia Culture Year by featuring Russian culture programs while more than 30 museums in Russia will also participate.

Last year, French museums and venues recorded about 1.8 million visitors on the night, when the Paris-based UNESCO took part for the first time, according to official data.

China steps up underwater archaeology

China has long been keen on protecting and displaying its rich treasure of cultural relics. Now, the country is set to exercise better protection on those that are lying deep under the sea. Recently, a wide investigation has been launched on underwater cultural heritages within the country’s maritime area.

The investigation will involve China’s coastal provinces such as Hainan, Guangdong, and Shandong. These provincial authorities are organizing in-depth searches and excavations in their respective sea regions, in an attempt to contrast the general situation under the sea.

Tourist falls into active volcano crater on Bali

Bali, 3 April —

A Swiss tourist fell to his death into the crater of an active volcano Wednesday on the Indonesian resort island of Bali.

The 25-year-old man and two friends were on a pre-dawn hike along the rim of the crater of 5,633-foot (1,717-meter) Mount Batur when he fell in, local police chief Capt. Made Oka said.

“Rescuers spotted the man’s body inside the dry crater at a depth of about 500 feet (150 meters), Oka said. Officials believe the man did not survive the initial impact of the fall.”

“Rescuers are now in the process of evacuating the body,” Oka said, adding that poor weather around the crater may slow the efforts.

Tourist falls into active volcano crater on Bali

China has 340,000 millionaires

Beijing, 3 April — Beijing had 340,000 millionaires in 2009, the fourth highest number in the world in spite of an 11 percent decrease from the year before, according to the 2010 edition of “The Wealth Report” released by Citi Private Bank.

Investible assets of each person in this group, called the High-Net-Worth Individuals (HNWI), total between $1m and $10m, excluding their principal residence.

The survey of global wealth distribution saw a sharp drop in the number of HNWIs as few corners of the world left untouched by net asset value erosion.

The United States still holds the largest number of HNWIs, standing at 2,519,000, but that figure has dropped 19 percent following the economic downturn.

Next are Japan and Britain, who have 669,000 and 439,000 people included respectively.

Among the world’s major economies, India and Portugal saw their number of wealthy people most reduced, by 24 percent each, while Hong Kong, Belgium and Russia saw a reduction of around 20 percent.
Indian expats send home 55 bln dollars in 2009

NEW DELHI, 3 April — Remittances to India increased to 55 billion dollars in 2009, making the country the biggest recipient of money from overseas migrant workers, a report said Friday.

India has been the world’s top remittance earner for more than a decade and depends on the money transfers as a key source of finance along with foreign direct investment. The 2009 figure of 55.06 billion dollars was up seven percent from 51.6 billion dollars in 2008, the Economic Times said, citing central bank data, and just two billion dollars a year in the late 1980s.

The increase in remittances came despite the financial crisis and global economic slowdown last year which had been expected to hit migrant labour. The central bank attributed the higher remittances to India being perceived as a relatively safe option during the financial crisis, a hike in interest rates on non-resident deposits and new investment products.

Elton John stage collapses in Mexico injuring three

MEXICO, 2 April — Three workers were injured Thursday when the stage for an upcoming Elton John concert collapsed at the Maya pyramids of Chichen Itza, in southern Mexico, event organizers said.

The injured were taken to a nearby hospital where two were promptly released but the third was retained for surgery to a fractured leg, concert organizer Jorge Esma said. The concert, scheduled for Saturday, “will not be canceled” despite the damage, which is being repaired at full speed, he added.

The stage collapsed when the upper section of an 80-meter-high (262-foot) metal structure came crashing down. The accident cut off tourist access to the archeological site all Thursday.

In a similar accident on July 16 last year, a Frenchman and a Briton were killed and eight others injured when part of the stage that concert was canceled and Madonna visited the families of the accident victims in France.

Carp being hunted takes revenge

A woman has got a slap in her face by a carp which she is hunting with a bow and arrow. It happened on the reservoirs of the Illinois River, where the population of Asian carp has exploded. Those carp are very invasive. When boats approach, they would jump out of the water, which has led to the sport of hunting them.

As the woman named Jodi Barnes prepared to fire an arrow at a carp, the carp suddenly jumped out and hit directly against his assailant.

Young man sings lung out

A sophomore named Liu from Guangdong Pharmaceutical University in Guangzhou was sent to the hospital for surgery on March 21 after his exuberant KTV performance caused a lung to rupture.

“When he sang the climax of the song, his voice suddenly stopped and he fell down with his hand pressing his chest. He looked very uncomfortable,” said one of his classmates at the karaoke bar. The song that felled him wasn’t reported.

Woman, 82, crashes into salon, gets her hair done

An 82-year-old woman who accidentally crashed her car through the front window of a southwest Michigan salon stuck around afterward for an appointment to get her hair done.

A authorities said Marion Zock was parking her Ford Fusion on Thursday outside Classic Hair Design in Kent County’s Plainfield Township, near Grand Rapids, when she stepped on the accelerator instead of the brake. Two people were injured, including an employee who returned to work after treatment and a girl with a bruised arm.

Saudi could behead Lebanese for witchcraft

The lawyer of a Lebanese TV psychic who was convicted in Saudi Arabia for witchcraft says her client could be beheaded this week.

A former M ay al-K hansa says she learned from an unofficial source that Ali Sibat is to be beheaded on Friday. She says she hasn’t had any official confirmation on this.

A-I-K hansa said on Thursday she has called upon Saudi King Abdullah to absolve Sibat, a 49-year-old father of five. She also says she is in contact with Lebanese officials over the case.

Sibat made predictions on an Arab satellite TV channel from his home in Beirut. He was arrested by the Saudi religious police during his pilgrimage to the holy city of Medina in May 2008.

The Saudi justice system is based Islamic law. It does not clearly define the charge of witchcraft.
MYANMAR-VIETNAM INVESTMENT PROMOTION CONFERENCE HELD

Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung being welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

UMFCCI President U Win Myint and executive members and businessmen.

First, Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein delivered an opening speech and Minister of Planning and Investment of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Vo Hong Phuc extended greetings. Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, departmental heads, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam Mr Chu Cong Phung and embassy officials, Vietnamese entrepreneurs made cash donations for sport, health, education and industry sectors.

Later, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Chu Cong Phung expressed thanks.

DEPUTY MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT WELCOMES VIETNAMESE DELEGATION

Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung who is here on a working visit at the invitation of Prime Minister of Myanmar General Thein Sein, together with Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam U Khin Maung Soe, Vietnamese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Chu Cong Phung and officials, arrived here with a special flight from Nay Pyi Taw at 8.25 am today.

The delegation led by Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Thurein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, officials and families of Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Yangon.

Vietnamese delegation arrives in Yangon

YANGON, 3 April—The delegation led by Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung who is here on a working visit at the invitation of Prime Minister of Myanmar General Thein Sein, together with Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam U Khin Maung Soe, Vietnamese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Chu Cong Phung and officials, arrived here with a special flight from Nay Pyi Taw at 8.25 am today.

The delegation led by Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung was welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Thurein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, officials and families of Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Yangon.

Myanmar-Vietnam investment promotion conference held

YANGON, 3 April—Conference on Vietnam Investment Promotion in the Union of Myanmar.—MNA

It was also attended by the visiting delegation members, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thurein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, departmental heads, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Khin Maung Soe, Vietnamese Embassy officials and families of Vietnamese delegation.

Myanmar-Vietnam entrepreneurs signing documents.—MNA

DEPUTY MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT WELCOMES VIETNAMESE DELEGATION

“Bio Plus” Healthy Drinking Water Factory opened

YANGON, 2 April—The opening ceremony of “Bio Plus” Healthy Drinking Water Factory.—MNA

Drinking Water Factory for the production of Bio Disc Passed Water created by Nano Technology was held in front of the factory in Ahlon Township at 10 am this morning.

Wives of Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein and Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council U Kyaw Thu Zaw and Managing Director Daw Ohmara Lwin of Long Luck Co. Ltd formally opened the new factory and Wife of Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin unveiled the signboard of the factory.

Scalar Energy in the molecule of Bio Plus Healthy Drinking Water may boost the immune system of the body cells.

The Bio Plus Healthy Drinking Water may help the body to absorb more nutrients by supplying more oxygen into the blood.

Washing face with the bio plus water may prevent side effects from computer and electronic systems. The Bio Plus Healthy Drinking Water will be distributed soon.

One may contact the factory at No. (23-B) on Winkyaung Road in Ahlon Township here Ph: 09(52)00978, 951-222277 and Fax: 951-223305 and mail to Long Luck 23 b @gmail.com.—MNA
NAY Pyi Taw, 3 April—The Ministry of Culture marked its 58th founding anniversary at its office here yesterday evening.

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint presented gifts for 2009-2010 Financial Year to outstanding staff who stood first, second and third and won consolation prize in the third Htamane preparing contest, those who stood first, second and third and won consolation prize in the second Anyeint contest, those who stood first, second and third and won consolation prize and those won stood first, second and third in the English language skill contest (director level, deputy director level and assistant director level) and others.

Similar ceremonies were also held simultaneously in Yangon and Mandalay.—MNA

Religious titles to be offered

NAY Pyi Taw, 3 April—A ceremony to offer religious titles under Notification No 1/2010 of the State Peace and Development Council will be held at Sasana Maha Beikman Pagoda.

Titles recipient Sayadaws and nuns have been invited to arrive Nay Pyi Taw not earlier than 24 April 2010 (12th Waxing of Kason 1372 ME) and not later than 25 April 2010 (13th Waxing of Kason 1372 ME).

MNA

Rotary Club of Essendon donates medical equipment to Jivitadhana Sangha Hospital (Yangon)

YANGON, 3 April—Rotary Club of Essendon of Australia donates medical equipment to Jivitadhana Sangha Hospital in Bahan Township here yesterday.

At the ceremony, Chairman of Hospital Administration Committee U M auung Maung extended greetings and Chairperson of the Rotary Club of Essendon Mrs. Anne Rogers explained the purpose of donation.

Mrs. Anne Rogers donated medical equipment and medicine worth 22,000 US dollars through Chairman U M auung Maung who presented her certificate of honour and commemorative gifts.

The Rotary Club of Essendon has donated to the hospital twice. For the first time, the club donated medicines worth 10,000 US dollars to the hospital on 2 April 2009.

MNA

Advanced Sewing Course No. 1, Basic Domestic Course No. 3 conclude

NAY Pyi Taw, 2 April—Member of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing attended conclusion ceremony of Advanced Sewing Course No. 1 and Basic Domestic Course No. 3 held in Pyapon on 29 March.

The minister presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to 60 trainees from villages and towns of Pyapon Township.

Minister and Acting Director-General U M auung Myint Oo later cordially greeted those trainees.

To rebuild the livelihood of locals residing in cyclone-ravaged Pyapon Township, Education and Training Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs conducted Advanced Sewing Course No. 1 and Basic Domestic Course No. 3 that took 10 weeks beginning of 25 January.

MNA

Culture Ministry in its 58th anniversary

NAY Pyi Taw, 3 April—The Ministry of Culture marked its 58th founding anniversary at its office here yesterday evening.

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint presented gifts for 2009-2010 Financial Year to outstanding staff who stood first, second and third and won consolation prize in the third Htamane preparing contest, those who stood first, second and third and won consolation prize and those won stood first, second and third in the English language skill contest (director level, deputy director level and assistant director level) and others.

Similar ceremonies were also held simultaneously in Yangon and Mandalay.—MNA

Culture Minister Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint awards a winner at the 58th founding anniversary of the ministry.—MNA
**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, wife Daw Mya Mya San pay reverence to remains of Ven. Monk Bhaddanta Kumara**


**Lt-Gen Ko Ko on inspection tour of Maubin District, Ayeyawady Div, Pyu Township, Bago Div**


**Industry-1 Minister inspects Vest Factory (Taungtha)**


**Construction Minister meets Chinese guests**


**Take Fire Preventive Measures**
Joint Statement on cooperation between Union of Myanmar and Socialist Republic of Vietnam

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April — At the invitation of H.E. General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, H.E. Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam paid a working visit to the Union of Myanmar from 2 to 4 April 2010. The two delegations led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein and Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung held bilateral talks on 2nd April at Zeyathiri Beikman, Ministry of Defence, Nay Pyi Taw. The Joint Statement on cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was issued after the talks.

The full text of the Joint Statement is as follows:

Joint Statement on Cooperation
Between the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

At the invitation of H.E. General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, H.E. Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam paid a working visit to the Union of Myanmar from April 2-4, 2010. During the visit Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung called on General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, the Union of Myanmar; held talks with Prime Minister General Thein Sein; attended the Conference on Vietnam’s Investment promotion in Myanmar; and the Meeting of the Association of Vietnam’s investors in Myanmar; witnessed the opening ceremonies of the Hanoi-Yangon direct flight, the Myanmar Trade Fair in Yangon and on the inauguration of the representative office of Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) representative office in Yangon and its signing of documents, business agreements and contracts.

The leaders of the two countries informed each other of the political and economic situation of their respective countries, and exchanged views on the strengthening of the traditional friendship and multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries. The two leaders also discussed the launch of the Association of Vietnam’s investors in Myanmar; witnessed the opening ceremonies of the Hanoi-Yangon direct flight, the Myanmar Trade Fair in Yangon and on the inauguration of the representative office of Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) representative office in Yangon.

Joint Statement on cooperation between Union of Myanmar and Socialist Republic of Vietnam

**Economic Cooperation**

The two Prime Ministers expressed their pleasure at the new and positive developments in bilateral relations in the fields of politics, economics, trade, investment, telecommunication, civil aviation, banking, agriculture, etc. and were highly appreciative of the excellent cooperation between the two countries at both regional and international forums.

During the visit, the leaders of the two countries agreed to further promote and expand the multi-faceted cooperation between Vietnam and Myanmar, particularly the economic cooperation by maximizing the full potentials of both countries. In this spirit, the two Prime Ministers approved the promotion of cooperation in the (12) key fields in accordance with the guidelines as follows:

1. **Agriculture**
   - The two sides agreed to focus on effective implementation of the MOU between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Myanmar on agriculture; increase cooperation in production of high quality seeds in rice, corn, coffee and tea etc. and trade and promotion of investment in agriculture.

2. **Industrial Crops**
   - The two sides agreed to accelerate the discussion on the draft of the MOU between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Myanmar on Rubber Plantation Investment; strive to quickly achieve the goal of commercial planting of rubber trees and facilitate the investment activities of Vietnam Rubber Group, Ho Chi Minh City Youth volunteers, and Hoang Anh Gia Lai Group. The two sides also agreed to expand cooperation to other types of industrial crops.

3. **Fishery**
   - The two sides agreed to promote aquaculture, fishing, import and export of aquatic products, as well as scientific and technological cooperation in fishery in the spirit of the MOU between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries of Myanmar in order to create the basic legal framework for banking cooperation in the future.

4. **Aviation**
   - The two sides welcomed the opening of BIDV’s representative office in Yangon. Both sides appreciated the signing of the MOU on cooperation between the State Bank of Vietnam and the Central Bank of Myanmar, in order to create the basic legal framework for banking cooperation in the future.

5. **Telecommunication**
   - The two sides welcomed the opening of Viettel’s representative office in Yangon. Both sides appreciated the signing of the MOU on cooperation between the State Bank of Vietnam and the Central Bank of Myanmar, in order to create the basic legal framework for banking cooperation in the future.

6. **Trade and Investment cooperation**
   - The two sides agreed to accelerate the discussion on the draft of the MOU between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Myanmar on Rubber Plantation Investment; strive to quickly achieve the goal of commercial planting of rubber trees and facilitate the investment activities of Vietnam Rubber Group, Ho Chi Minh City Youth volunteers, and Hoang Anh Gia Lai Group. The two sides also agreed to expand cooperation to other types of industrial crops.

7. **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

The two Prime Ministers agreed to assign their respective offices of the ASEAN Chairmanship since January 2010. Prime Minister General Thein Sein also briefed the Vietnamese Prime Minister of the recent progress in the implementation of the Seven-Step Road Map for democratization and other developments in the economic and social spheres of Myanmar including the promulgation of election laws and the formation of the Election Commission, Prime Minister of Vietnam expressed his understanding of the complexities of the situation, in Myanmar and reiterated his support for Myanmar’s efforts for the successful implementation of its Seven-Step Road Map. The Prime Minister of Vietnam encouraged Myanmar to further efforts towards a free and fair election in 2010.

The two Prime Ministers expressed their intention to explore and produce oil and gas in offshore Myanmar. The Myanmar side agreed to consider A.S.V. Holdings’ intention to explore and produce oil and gas in offshore Myanmar.

The two sides agreed to continue to create mutually beneficial conditions for PetroVietnam in oil and gas exploration and production in offshore Myanmar. Myanmar also agreed to consider A.S.V. Holdings’ intention to explore and produce oil and gas in offshore Myanmar.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 April — At the invitation of H.E. General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, H.E. Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam paid a working visit to the Union of Myanmar from April 2-4, 2010. During the visit Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung called on General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, the Union of Myanmar; held talks with Prime Minister General Thein Sein; attended the Conference on Vietnam’s Investment promotion in Myanmar; and the Meeting of the Association of Vietnam’s investors in Myanmar; witnessed the opening ceremonies of the Hanoi-Yangon direct flight, the Myanmar Trade Fair in Yangon and on the inauguration of the representative office of Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) representative office in Yangon and its signing of documents, business agreements and contracts.

Both countries shall strengthen the cooperation on investment promotion in each country in accordance with the memorandum of understanding (MOU) on investment promotion between the Ministry of Planning and Investment of Vietnam and the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar and their respective laws.

The two sides welcomed each other’s enterprises to establish companies for business cooperation in their respective countries. The two sides were pleased to note the recent submission of the application to establish Myanmar Investment and Development Company Ltd (MIDC) of BIDV in Myanmar.

**Other Cooperation**

Besides the above mentioned fields, the two Prime Ministers agreed to strengthen and promote cooperation in culture, education, sport, tourism, road transport, security and defence; including the negotiation on an MOU on bilateral defence cooperation. The two sides agreed to discuss on cooperation in the field of forestry, including the negotiation on an agreement on forestry cooperation.

The two sides look forward to working together on early conclusion of a Visa Exemption Agreement for ordinary passport holders of the two countries in line with the ASEAN Agreement on Visa Exemption Agreement for ordinary passport holders of member countries.

The two Prime Ministers agreed to assign their relevant Ministries and agencies to follow up the concluded agreements reached during the visit, considering it as an important factor to continuously enhance the traditional friendship and multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries.

This Joint Statement was issued in Nay Pyi Taw on the 2nd April 2010.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
India begins population census

NEW DELHI, 3 April — India on Thursday began its population census with President Pratibha Patil being enumerated as the first person to share details, including information on number of mobile phones, computers and internet connections in her Rashtrapati Bhawan or presidential palace.

The census will compile the status of an estimated 1.2 billion people across the country in the next one year in two phases. It will include fingerprinting and photographing of the population in one database, a senior Indian government official said.

“The data will help create the national population register and each citizen will be given an ID-card with a unique number. The Unique ID will help end duplicity of documentation,” he said. — Xinhua

Turkey captures nine pirates in Aden Gulf

ANKARA, 3 April— Turkish Military Underwater Attack Commandos captured nine pirates in a skiff in the Aden Gulf, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Thursday.

A statement issued by the General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces on the website on Thursday, Turkish frigate TCG Gemlik which serves under an international mission to fight off piracy in the Gulf of Aden, encountered a suspicious boat in the security corridor of the commercial vessels early on Wednesday.

The statement said the Turkish frigate forced the boat to stop and 9 pirates in the boat were captured. TCG Gemlik is the fifth task force Turkey has deployed to the region since last February. — Xinhua

Report says US Navy captures pirates near Seychelles

NAIROBI, 3 April — US naval forces said they had captured five pirates after exchanging fire with them near Seychelles, media reported on Thursday.

The report said, the US vessel was under fire early on Thursday in a place west of the Seychelles, adding that five captured pirates would remain in US custody. No further details was available so far.

Xinhua

More than 30 prisoners escape after prison blast in Yemen

SANAA, 3 April — More than 30 detainees escaped on Thursday after a bomb attack a prison in the troubled southern Yemeni province of al-Dhalee, security officials in al-Dhalee told Xinhua.

The attack took place early morning when pro-independence protesters took to street and headed to the Security Administration building in the capital city of al-Dhalee, demanding the release of their fellow jailed people, said the sources.

“They approached the security building in an attempt to break in and threw a bomb at the nearby door of the building’s prison,” said the security official on condition of anonymity.

“The explosion almost smashed the prison’s door,” said the source, adding that “undetermined (number of) inmates and policemen were wounded and more than 30 prisoners escaped.”

Additional security troops were deployed around the presidential palace.

Rashtrapati Bhawan or presidential palace.

70 fall sick due to food poisoning in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 3 April — Some 70 people fell sick after eating leftover wedding food in Bangladesh’s north-eastern Rangpur district town, some 304 km away from the capital Dhaka, early on Thursday. They were admitted to local hospitals.

Quoting local sources, leading English newspaper The Daily Star in its online edition said a wedding party was held at a community centre in the town on Wednesday night.

After the party, the leftover food was distributed among the poor people of that area at night.

More than 30 workers gather around the last Toyota Corolla sedan to roll off the line at the NUMMI plant in Fremont, California, in this publicity photo taken and released to Reuters on 1 April, 2010. — Internet
300-year-old ‘saucy’ tales found

Trounbeck, 3 April—The National Trust custodian for England’s Townend House said a cache of 300-year-old erotica was found hidden behind books in the library.

Emma Wright, Trust custodian for the Townend estate in Trounbeck, said a collection of pamphlets bearing erotic stories and illustrations, known as Chapbooks, were hidden in the library of Townend House, which was owned by wealthy farming family, the Brownes prior to being passed on to the National Trust, the Daily Mail reported Friday.

“The Browne book collection goes back through the centuries and proves that rural people had a strong interest in literature,” Wright said. “However, as we have gone slowly through the library we have found hidden away these Chapbooks. They contain rather saucy even rude tales which were found to be rather amusing by their 18th-century readers.”

“The Chapbooks have really caught the imagination. The Brownes were obviously on a roll,” she told the Daily Mail. Internet

Gecko survives week in English fridge

Bideford, 3 April—A woman in southwestern England was surprised when she discovered a gecko, a small lizard native to warmer climes, in the bottom of a bag of apples.

The gecko had survived a week in Wendy Newbury’s refrigerator, The Daily Telegraph reported. She did not notice it until she took the bag out of the refrigerator after the apples had been eaten.

“It then must have started warming up and he started moving around,” Newbury said. “He was such a sweet and amazing little thing and me and my husband, Brian, are both animal lovers so we didn’t want anything to happen to it.”

No one knows how the gecko got into the apples Newbury purchased at a Waitrose supermarket in Holworthy, near her home in Bideford, Devon. The apples were labeled as grown in Kent, but experts say the gecko probably came from Asia.—Internet

Meeting on Mekong water resources kicks off in Thailand amid tight security

Hua Hin, 3 April—The Mekong River Commission (MRC) International Conference started here on Friday under the theme of “Transboundary Water Resources Management in a Changing World.”

The conference, attended by senior officials from member countries in the Lower Mekong basin, will discuss water resources development and management on the Mekong River.

Solutions from the meeting will be forwarded to leaders of the member countries including Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam in the MRC Summit, the Thai News Agency reported.

The meetings have been hosted in Thailand’s central resort town of Cha Am and Hua Hin amid tight security as Major General Dithaporn Sasasamit, the spokesman of Thailand’s Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) said earlier that some 8,660 security men would be deployed to ensure security.—Xinhua

Twelve US companies forced to pay for toxic waste cleanup

Los Angeles, 3 April—Twelve US companies will pay millions of dollars to clean up toxic waste at a Monterey Park site near Los Angeles after 36 years of dumping, the federal government announced Thursday.

Under a settlement filed with the US District Court in Los Angeles, the companies agreed to pay for past and future cleanup work and other costs at the site, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Justice Department said in remarks broadcast by Southern California public radio KPCC.

Each of these companies “contributed” more than the equivalent of 110,000 gallons of commercial liquid waste to the Operating Industries Inc. Superfund site, the report quoted the EPA as saying.

The companies that agreed to pay for the cleanup include Ameron International Corporation; B & C Plating Company; California Dairies, Inc; Casex Co and Energy Production & Sales Co.

“With this latest settlement at the Operating Industries Inc. Superfund site, more than 600 million US dollars have been dedicated to the cleanup of this site,” the EPA’s Jane Diamond said.—Xinhua

Kids eat 5.5 lbs of Easter candy

London, 3 April—A British survey suggests children in the country will consume an average of more than 5.5 pounds of chocolate during Easter weekend.

Retail Active, a company that sends mystery shoppers to pose as customers and evaluate stores, said its e-mail survey of 2,000 people, conducted earlier this week, found many children get 13 or more chocolate eggs to eat on their own for Easter, The Daily Telegraph reported on Friday.

“Families with two adults in their 40s and two children under 14 could have an amazing cumulative total of 30 Easter eggs in the household over the holiday,” Retail Active managing director Julian Chamberlain said.—Internet

Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) Women’s World number two Sofia Mulanovich of Peru competes at the Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach surfing competition in Torquay, Victoria on 3 April, 2010. Stephanie Gilmore of Australia defeated Mulanovich to win her third Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach title on Saturday.—INTERNET

Forecasters have predicted a wet and windy Easter in the UK.INTERNET

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Forecasters have predicted a wet and windy Easter in the UK.INTERNET
New drug may fight inflammation

HAMILTON, 3 April — An anti-inflammatory drug may reduce inflammation symptoms with less incidence of bleeding often caused by other medications, Canadian researchers say.

John Wallace of the Farncombe Family Digestive Health Research Institute at McMaster University in Hamilton says animal models showed the drug ATB-346—a derivative of naproxen that releases hydrogen sulfide, which may help protect the gastrointestinal tract—was at least as effective as naproxen in relieving inflammation and was 100 times safer than naproxen—with little or no damage to the stomach and small intestine.

The researchers said the drug helped the healing of pre-existing ulcers. The research, published in the British Journal of Pharmacology, tested the drug on healthy rats, those with arthritis and inflammation, and on rats with compromised gastrointestinal tracts. ATB-346 may also have less cardiovascular risk because—unlike naproxen—the researchers found no effects on blood pressure.

Naproxen, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug such as Aleve, is commonly used for the reduction of intense pain, fever, inflammation and stiffness caused by conditions such as osteoarthritis, gout and other conditions.

Many with Alzheimer’s get depression

WALTHAM, 3 April — Some 52 percent of those with Alzheimer’s are prescribed an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor, but 26.1 percent get an antidepressant, US researchers say. Matthew Winton, an analyst with Decision Resources, a research and advisory company focusing on pharmaceutical and healthcare issues, says 45 percent of surveyed primary care physicians say they prescribe antidepressants as a monotherapy, compared with 27 percent of surveyed neurologists.

“The prescribing of antidepressants as first line therapy for Alzheimer’s disease not only under-scores the relatively high rate of comorbidity between Alzheimer’s disease and depression, but more importantly indicates that physicians and/or patients prioritize the treatment of depression in newly diagnosed Alzheimer’s disease patients,” Winton said in a statement.

“This is likely because physicians perceive that effective treatments exist for depression, but not for cognitive decline.”

Patient-level claims data show 34.9 percent of patients begin first-line treatment for Alzheimer’s disease within a year of their first diagnosis, the study says.—Internet

Drought may have led to Khmer’s collapse

NEW YORK, 3 April — US led scientists say they have found evidence suggesting changing environmental factors, including drought, can cause a civilization’s collapse.

The researchers, led by Brendan Buckley of Columbia University’s Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, say decades of drought, interspersed with intense monsoon rains, may have helped bring about the fall of Cambodia’s ancient Khmer civilization at Angkor nearly 600 years ago.

The scientists reached their conclusion after conducting an analysis of tree rings—the longest tropical tree ring record studied to date. Historians have offered various explanations for the fall of the Angkor civilization that stretched across much of Southeast Asia between the 9th and 14th centuries.

But the scientists said their new findings offer the strongest evidence yet that two severe droughts, punctuated by bouts of heavy rainfall, may have weakened the empire by shrinking water supplies for drinking and agriculture, and damaging Angkor’s vast irrigation system, which was central to its economy.

The kingdom is thought to have collapsed in 1431 after a raid by Siamese from present-day Thailand.—Internet

Mars rover may be in hibernation mode

PASADENA, 3 April — The US space agency says its Mars exploration rover named Spirit skipped a planned communication session this week and may have entered hibernation mode.

NASA said the rover missed a planned on Tuesday communication downlink. The switch to a low-power hibernation mode was anticipated from recent power-supply projections, officials said.

While in hibernation, the rover’s clock keeps running, but communications and other activities are suspended so all available energy is used for heating and battery recharging, scientists said. When the battery charge is adequate, the rover attempts to wake up and communicate on a schedule it knows.

“We may not hear from Spirit again for weeks or months, but we will be listening at every opportunity, and our expectation is that Spirit will resume communications when the batteries are sufficient charged,” said John Callas, project manager for Spirit and its twin rover Opportunity. NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Spirit’s power supply is low because daily sunshine is declining with the approach of the winter solstice, NASA said.

In addition, the rover is stuck in soft sand and unable to put its solar panels at a favourable angle toward the sun.

Essential oils may be key anti-microbials

EDINBURGH, 3 April—Greek scientists say therapeutic essential oils may become the anti-microbial of the future.

Study authors Yannis Samaras and Effimia Ernobou of the Technological Educational Institute of Ionian Islands in Greece tested the anti-microbial activity of eight essential oils from plants and found thyme completely eliminated bacteria within 60 minutes.

Cinnamon was also found to efficiently fight off a number of strains of bacteria, including Staphylococcus species such as meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus.

“Not only are essential oils a cheap and effective treatment option for antibiotic-resistant strains, but decreased use of antibiotics will help minimize the risk of new strains of antibiotic-resistant microorganisms emerging,” Samaras says in a statement.

Samaras and colleagues pointed out essential oils have been recognized for hundreds of years for their therapeutic properties, but yet very little is still known about how they work.

The findings were presented at the Society for General Microbiology’s spring meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland.
**SPORTS**

**Ronaldo can’t bear to watch Champions League**

**Madrid, 3 April**—Real Madrid winger Cristiano Ronaldo says he can’t bear to watch the Champions League since his side was eliminated from the competition at the last 16 stage for the sixth successive season.

“I don’t like to watch the Champions League matches because it leaves me a bit annoyed because I know that our team was good enough to remain in the competition and we are not because of our own fault,” he said Friday during an interview with public television TVE.

**Rooney back in three weeks**

**Manchester, 3 March**—Sir Alex Ferguson has stated Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney will be out of action for between two and three weeks.

The England international went down in a heap late in the Red Devils’ 2-1 UEFA Champions League quarter-final defeat to Bayern Munich on Tuesday, clutching his right ankle.

It had been feared that 24-year-old could be doubtful for this summer’s World Cup, although United later confirmed he suffered only minor ligament damage.

Ferguson followed up that bulletin by putting a timescale on Rooney’s return and revealed the striker should be back in action within three weeks.

**Wenger, Domenech on Gallas collision course**

**London, 3 April**—Arsene Wenger and French national coach Raymond Domenech squared up on Friday over the injury which has ended William Gallas’ domestic season.

Wenger insisted that it was right that Gallas played in the midweek Champions League clash against Barcelona even though the veteran French defender suffered a recurrence of a calf injury.

Domenech was furious that the influential Gallas was risked with the World Cup finals in South Africa due to get underway on June 11.

“I didn’t speak to (Domenech) after the game. But we have to first take care of the interests of a réseau,” said Wenger.

**Arsenal’s French defender William Gallas**

**Ex-boxing champ back in New Mexico jail**

**Albuquerque, 3 April**—Former five-time world champion boxer Johnny Tapia is jailed in New Mexico again, this time for reportedly failing a drug test.

A spokeswoman for the Metropolitan Detention Center says Tapia’s urine tested positive for cocaine and he was returned to jail Thursday. Tapia was undergoing the test as part of the conditions of his release into a community custody program rather than remaining behind bars on a probation violation.

**West Ham complain over Fulham team selection for Hull**

**London, 3 April**—The Premier League have confirmed they have received a complaint from West Ham over Fulham’s decision to rest players for last Saturday’s match against Hull.

Fulham left out Bobby Zamora, Danny Murphy, an arow Hughes, Dickson Etuhu and Damien Duff for a game they lost 2-0.

Manager Roy Hodgson made the decision with one eye on Thursday’s Europa League match with Wolfsburg and said Fulham “have no case to answer”.

West Ham manager Gianfranco Zola said that he had no issue with Hodgson. “As far as I am concerned, a manager can play his best team,” he said.

“I have no doubts that Roy Hodgson is doing the best for his team and he is a person that I respect for his loyalty and I have no complaints with that.”

**Kim takes 1-shot lead in Kraft Nabisco**

**Rancho Mirage, 3 April**—Song-Hee Kim will start the third round of the Kraft Nabisco Championship atop a leaderboard loaded with majors winners.

The 21-year-old South Korean is the world’s highest-ranked player — No. 14 — without an LPGA Tour victory.

So was she nervous knowing she’ll be in the final group Saturday?

“Nope,” she responded matter-of-factly after shooting a 3-under 69 Friday at Mission Hills.

Kim has top-10 finishes in all the events this year as she chases her first victory. Her two-round total of 7-under 137 in the season’s first major gave her a one-shot lead over majors winners Cristie Kerr (67), K. Aron Stapples (69) and top-ranked Lorena Ochoa (70).
ASLEEP IN JESUS
Mr Patrick Watson @ U Soe Myint
Aged (56) years
Beloved eldest son of Mr H A Watson (deceased) & Daw Aye Sein, brother of Kenneth Soe Win (deceased), Kathleen Tin Tin Aye-Joseph Thein Pe (Singapore), Albert Khin Maung Thein-Esther, Alick Tin Maung Htwe (deceased), uncle of (4) nieces and nephews and grand uncle of (1) grand niece passed away on 1st April 2010 at No. 155, Rm 13, 45th Street, Botataung Township, Yangon. Funeral Mass and burial will be held on 5th April 2010 (Monday) at 11:30 am at Yeway Christian cemetery. (Buses will leave the residence and St Mary’s Cathedral Catholic Church at 10:00 am).

AN ORANDE REDCAP GOLDFISH. A BRITISH grandmother was heavily fined and electronically tagged for selling a goldfish to a child, triggering criticism of over-zealous use of animal protection laws.—INTERNET

WEATHER
Saturday, 3rd April, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. MST. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State and Tanintharyi Division, isolated in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day Temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) above April average temperatures in Kayin State, Yangon, and Tanintharyi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Divisions, (10°C) below April average temperatures in Kachin State, (8°C) below April average temperatures in upper Sagaing Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Magway (42°C) each, Nay Pyi Taw, Myingyan, Aunglan, Pyay and Thayawady (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (0.31) inch, Hakha (0.20) inch and Patuon Kawthoung (0.08) inch each. Maximum temperature on 2-4-2010 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 3-4-2010 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 3-4-2010 was 71%. Total sun shine hours on 2-4-2010 was (9.4) hours approx. Rainfall on 3-4-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (3) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from West at (12:30) hours MST on 2-4-2010. Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 4th April 2010: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Tanintharyi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-4-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-4-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-4-2010: Partly cloudy.
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

Prime Minister General Thein Sein hosts dinner to Vietnamese counterpart

NA P Y T A W, 3 April—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein hosted a dinner in honour of the delegation led by Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung at Zeyathiri Beikman here at 7 pm yesterday. The dinner was also attended by ministers, deputy ministers, Myanmar Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam U Khin Maung Soe, departmental heads, Vietnamese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar H.E. Mr. Chu Cong Phung and officials. The State Band played the National Anthems of the two countries. Artistes entertained with songs and traditional dances before and during the dinner. After the dinner, Prime Minister General Thein Sein presented a documentary album of the working visit to his counterpart. The Vietnamese Prime Minister presented a bouquet to the artistes and cordially greeted them. — MNA