Union Election Commission holds 22/2010 meeting

Chairman of Union Election Commission U Thein Soe making an opening address at 22/2010 meeting of the commission.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—The Union Election Commission held its 22/2010 meeting at the office of the commission here today.

U Thein Soe, chairman of the commission, addressed the meeting. During the meeting, the chairman and members of the commission discussed matters on formation of township election sub-commissions and ward/village-tract election sub-commissions and scrutinized applications for setting-up of political parties. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the chairman of the commission.

MNA

UEC passes registration for formation of M.K.N.S.O as political party

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 April—The Union Election Commission issued Notification No. 19/2010 today. The translation of the notification is as follows:-

The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. 19/2010
1st Waning of Kason, 1372 ME
28 April, 2010

Permission for registration for formation of Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization (M.K.N.S.O) as political party

The Union Election Commission passed the registration for formation of the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization (M.K.N.S.O) as a political party with its headquarters at No. 202, Sartaik Road, Pyitawtha Ward, Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State, in accordance with the Article 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law today.

The registration number of Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization (M.K.N.S.O) is (1).

By Order
Win Ko
Secretary
Union Election Commission

Shanghai mobilizes for largest ever World Expo

SHANGHAI, 28 April—Half the global population now lives in a city. How we deal with the world’s increasing urbanization will determine the future of the Earth’s resources and societies. The theme “Better City, Better Life” is the focus of the upcoming Shanghai World Expo 2010, scheduled to open on 1 May.

INTERNET
Happy life in rural regions

The State is carrying out development tasks in rural areas where most of the nation’s population resides. Basic requirements are also being fulfilled to improve the socio-economy of rural people. Special emphasis is placed on better transport, supply of irrigation water and clean drinking water and promotion of rural education, health and economy.

Road transport development contributes a great deal to regional development. For the betterment of road transport that is instrumental in economic growth, inter-village roads and roads linking urban and rural regions are being built. With road transport development, the rural people have enjoyed easy access to each other’s region.

Mogaung-Tarpaw gravel road in Mogaung Township, Kachin State, was opened on 21 March. The 9,000 feet long road has facilitated the travelling of the people in Pinka village-tract. Likewise, the 2,000 feet long pebble road linking Ingapu village and Hthanpingon village in Shwedagon Township, Pyay District, Bago Division (West) was opened on 31 March.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is implementing dam and river-water tapping tasks in every region of the Central Myanmar with favourable conditions. The rural areas that had to grow crops relying only on rainwater have now enjoyed adequate supply of water to engage in their farming.

Now, new school buildings and affiliated high schools have been constructed in most of the rural regions. With the extended opening of self-reliant village libraries the young rural people have enjoyed education opportunities and gained more knowledge.

The State is expediting construction of development infrastructures in rural regions. Wellwishers on their part are contributing to the government’s efforts in the form of money or manpower. And as a result, all can now see developing rural regions of Myanmar.

Applications for formation of political parties, continued existence as political party scrutinized, passed

Nav Pvt Tay, 28 April — Those wishing to form political parties are submitting their applications to the Union Election Commission. Rakhine State National Force submitted the application for formation of a political party to the UEC today.

Among the groups who submitted their applications for formation of political parties to the UEC, the application of the Wa Democratic Party was passed by the UEC today as the commission found that the party is in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law and Rules.

Out of 22 groups which have submitted applications for formation of political parties, so far six groups have already been permitted by the commission to form political parties up to date, and the commission is scrutinizing the applications of the remaining groups.

Moreover, political parties that fall within the competence of Political Parties Registration Law Article-25 have submitted their applications to the UEC, and the UEC passed the application of the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization (M.K.N.S.O) today as it found the registration of the organization was in accord with the Political Parties Registration Law.

Out of four parties that applied for their continued existence as political parties, one party has already been permitted to continue as a political party, and the applications of remaining political parties are under scrutiny.—MNA

Boosting agriculture produce discussed

Nav Pvt Tay, 28 April — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo received FAO Resident Representative Dr Shin Imai at the Ministry here, this afternoon.

Their discussions focused on progress of the plans being jointly implemented by the ministry and FAO for boosting agricultural produce. Also present at the call were departmental heads of departments and enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

Real Time Vehicle Tracking System introduced

Yangon, 28 April — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo received FAO Resident Representative Dr Shin Imai at the Ministry here, this afternoon.

Their discussions focused on progress of the plans being jointly implemented by the ministry and FAO for boosting agricultural produce. Also present at the call were departmental heads of departments and enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

Equipment for Real Time Vehicle Tracking System.

MNA

Beware of Fire

MNA
Roadside bomb kills 12 civilians in Afghanistan

KHROST, 28 April— A roadside bomb struck a passenger van in southeast Afghanistan on Wednesday, killing 12 civilians, a local official said.

Dawlat Khan Yaqubi, head of the Tani district of Khrost Province near the Pakistan border, said women and children were among the dead. The vehicle caught fire and the bodies were burnt, he said.

The United Nations says 2400 civilians were killed last year, the deadliest of the war. Most were killed by insurgents, while the number killed by Western and government troops fell.

Khrost, across the border from the restive Pakistani region of North Waziristan, is a stronghold of fighters loyal to the Waziristan, is a stronghold of fighters loyal to the Haqqani family, an insurgent network linked to the Haqqani family, an insurgent network linked to the Taliban and al Qaeda.

US and allies kill, injure Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 28 April— There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to April 28 reached 701148 and the total number of seriously injured people reached 1266779, according to the news on the Internet.
Greece signs deal for boosting political ties with UAE

ATHENS, 28 April — The Greek government signed an agreement to strengthen political collaboration with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on foreign matters on Tuesday during a visit by UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayid al-Nahayyan Greek President Karolos Papoulias, Prime Minister George Papandreou and Alternate Foreign Minister Dimitris Droutsas met Abdullah separately. The dynamic of further economic cooperation between the two countries was stressed during the meetings. The UAE has recently invested in the Greek shipyards of Skaramagas near Athens, while many Greek enterprises operate in the UAE for years.

Subas Puni (1st R), director of the Indian Pavilion, lights a lamp during the pavilion pre-opening ceremony in Shanghai Expo Park, east China, on 27 April, 2010. The Indian Pavilion held a pre-opening ceremony in Shanghai on Tuesday.—XINHUA

FIFA happy with World Cup ticket sales

ABU DHABI, 28 April — FIFA is happy with the ticket sales for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa after about 40 matches were sold out.

FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke, who is attending an international sports conference in UAE, said on Tuesday that there would be no empty seats at the World Cup in South Africa.

Valcke admitted that FIFA’s initially largely Internet-based ticket sales system proved to be inefficient. Half a million tickets were still unsold by 15 April before over-the-counter sales ignited real World Cup fever in the country as quite a lot of South African fans lack access to computers of bank accounts.

Valcke said more or less 40 of the 64 World Cup matches were now sold out and he was much more optimistic than three weeks ago that all matches will have full stadiums.—XINHUA

Storms affect 152,000 people in S Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 April — The storms hitting Brazil’s southern state of Santa Catarina have destroyed 1,724 houses and affected 152,000 people since last Thursday, local authorities said on Tuesday.

There have been no casualties reported so far, but about 5,900 people had to leave their homes due to floods and mudslides. Most of them now lived in friends’ or relatives’ houses, while 600 were in public shelters, the local Civil Defence Services said in a report released Tuesday afternoon.

Twenty-four municipalities have declared state of emergency, as transportation services in many towns were damaged, with some highways blocked by mudslides. Several areas were left without electricity and water.

The storms in Santa Catarina state were forecast to last until Wednesday, with local temperatures down to 10 degrees Celsius.
Samsung develops world’s first PRAM for mobile phones

SEOUL, 28 April—Samsung Electronics Co., the largest memory chipmaker in the world, said on Wednesday that it has developed the world’s first Phase-Change RAM (PRAM) chip for cell phones, which is expected to become the new standard central processing unit (CPU) for the global mobile phone industry.

Samsung’s new 512 megabyte PRAM Multi-Chip Package (MCP) runs three times faster than the NOR flash memory chips most widely used in regular cell phone models, while offering the same features as the memory devices currently used in the market, making it more efficient in processing data, the company said in a statement.

The South Korean company said it plans to expand the use of its new PRAM technology into other areas including large data storage, MP3 players, portable multimedia players, as well as digital TVs in the future.

The market for PRAM devices are expected to blossom into a $50 million US dollar industry by 2013 from 10 million US dollars this year, it added.

Oil slides to near $82 in Asia on Greece debt woes

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 April—Oil extended its losses, sliding to near $82 a barrel on Wednesday in Asia amid concerns over the global economy recovery and expectations of rising crude inventories in the US.

Benchmark crude for May delivery was down 19 cents to $82.25 a barrel at midday Kuala Lumpur time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The contract lost $1.76 to settle at $82.44 on Tuesday. Crude’s slide follows falls in Asian stock markets on Wednesday, damped by the eurozone debt crisis after Standard and Poor’s downgraded the debt of Greece and Portugal. Concerns are mounting that the problems could damage the global economic recovery and hurt oil demand.

Ford reports 2.1 billion dollar profit in first quarter

CHICAGO, 28 April—Ford Motor Co. reported a profit of 2.1 billion US dollars for the first three months of 2010, and said it will be “solidly profitable” a year ahead of schedule on Tuesday.

The Dearborn automaker also announced a big ramp-up in production to match growing demand for its cars and trucks. Moreover, Ford said its days of downsizing are at an end.

“Our performance this year is off to a more encouraging start than anticipated,” the Detroit News quoted Ford CEO Alan Mulally as saying. “Based on our improving performance, the gradual strengthening economy and our present assumptions, we now expect to deliver solid profits this year.”

Mulally’s forecast would put Ford a year ahead of schedule on its turnaround plan; the automaker had promised to deliver on solid profits by the end of 2011. Excluding special charges and taxes, Ford’s operating profit for the first quarter of 2010 was 2 billion dollars, or 46 cents a share. It was Ford’s fourth consecutive quarterly net profit and its highest quarterly operating profit in six years.

Spain jobless rate above 20 percent

MADRID, 28 April—Spain’s jobless rate topped 20 percent of the workforce in the first quarter, its highest level since 1997, a report said Tuesday, citing figures accidentally released by statistics institute INE ahead of schedule. The number of unemployed jumped by 286,200 during the first three months of the year, compared with the final quarter of 2009 to reach 4.61 million or 20.05 percent of the workforce, conservative daily ABC reported. The figure was posted on INE’s web site for several minutes on Monday, it said. INE will publish the first official quarterly unemployment figures on Friday.

In this 27 April, 2010 photo guests arrive at the lobby of the world’s first Armani Hotel located in Burj Khalifa, world’s tallest building in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. A luxury hotel crafted by designer Giorgio Armani opened on Tuesday as the first landmark tenant in the world’s tallest skyscraper.—INTERNET

Yuichi Tsuda, a researcher from Japan’s Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) displays a model of a new Japanese satellite Ikaros (Interplanetary Kite-craft Accelerated by Radiation Of the Sun) during a press conference in Tokyo.—INTERNET

In this photo taken on 25 April, 2010, guests take a look at the Aston Martin concept Rapide, a 12-cylinder, four-door sports car at the Beijing Auto China 2010 show held in Beijing, China.—INTERNET

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Afghan gov’t rejects UN report on possible killing of staff by Afghan forces

KABUL, 28 April—The Afghan Interior Ministry on Tuesday rejected the United Nations report that suggested a UN staff may have been killed by Afghan security forces in last October’s attack on a UN guesthouse here. “The Interior Ministry does not accept this report and we reject it,” spokesman for Interior Ministry Zamaray Bashari told a Press briefing here.

The reason for the rejection, he said, is that the Afghan authorities do not have any evidence to show that the victim was killed as a result of police fire or friendly fire. “The Afghan Interior Ministry requested twice for a joint investigation and then come out of the result,” he said.

Bashari said that the Kabul police, jointly with the European Union Police (EUPOL), had been launched an investigation that does not show such results.

Five UN staff members were killed and several others injured on 28 Oct terrorist attack for which the Taliban militants claimed responsibility.

7,000 fake Rolex watches crushed

PHILADELPHIA, 28 April—Authorities in Pennsylvania said 7,000 counterfeit Rolex watches were crushed by a multi-ton double-drum vibrating roller at a contractor’s site.

The watches, seized from counterfeiter Binh Cam Tran, 53, were run over by the roller about 10 times on Monday at James Morrisey Inc. in Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Daily News reported on Monday.

Tran was convicted of trafficking in counterfeit goods, conspiracy and nine counts of money laundering. He was sentenced to six years in federal prison in 2009 and ordered to pay $2,273,166 in restitution to Rolex USA.

The destruction of the watches was scheduled to coincide with World Intellectual Property Rights Day, authorities said. —Internet

Honda sees growing FY profits as US sales recover

TOKYO, 28 April—Honda Motor Co (7267.T), Japan’s No 2 automaker, forecast a 10 percent rise in annual operating profit as demand in its biggest and most profitable US market recovers from a multi-decade low.

Honda, also the world’s top motorcycle maker, is well positioned to gain from a steady rise in US sales with its fleet of fuel-efficient models, which will see the addition of the CR-Z sporty hybrid in North America in a few months. —Internet

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Bulgarian National Radio starts special programme on China

SOFIA, 28 April—Bulgarian National Radio on Tuesday started broadcasting a special programme to promote understanding of the oriental nation.

The first of the monthly series, “Closer to China,” was broadcast in Bulgarian and centred on the forthcoming World Expo in China’s largest city, Shanghai.

Programme anchor Nevena Pramatarova said future editions would cover culture, the arts, education and science. —Internet

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Woman tops 14 highest peaks for 1st time

South Korean climber Oh Eun-Sun is seen preparing for her ascent of the Himalayan peak of Annapurna.

A South Korean mountaineer became the first woman to scale the world’s 14th highest mountains, officials said, crawling on all fours Tuesday as she reached the last summit. Oh Eun-sun, 44, arrived at the final, steep stretch of Annapurna in the Himalayas 13 hours after she left the last camp to beat a Spanish rival to the record. Her feat was broadcast live in South Korea by KBS television.

At the top, she pulled out a South Korean flag, waved, and then wept before throwing up her arms and shouting, “Victory!”

Officials said Annapurna was the last of the 14 peaks above 26,247 feet (8,091 metres) Oh needed to climb to set the record. She reached the summit — 26,545 feet (8,000 meters) — after 13 years after she scaled her first Himalayan mountain, Gasherbrum II, in 1997. She scaled Everest in 2004.

Man eats big pizza, wins $450

A 58-year-old Massachusetts man returning to school says he is fulfilling a lifelong dream by pitching for the Springfield College junior varsity baseball team.

Larry Hasenfus, 58, who has three children older than all of his teammates, said he decided to try out for the baseball team 40 years after playing in high school because he did not have the grades for sports during his first tenure in college, WWLP-TV, Springfield, Mass., reported on Tuesday.

“It was always a dream for me to play college sports,” Hasenfus said.

Teammates and head coach Mark Simeone said Hasenfus won them over with his skills on the mound.

“I’m just trying to do the best I can every day,” Hasenfus said. “Maybe that’s inspiration to some, I hope so.”

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Norway, Russia reach agreement on delimitation of Barents Sea

OSLO, 28 April—Norway and Russia reached an agreement Tuesday on the delimitation line over the resource-rich Barents Sea, eventually putting to rest a 40-year-old border dispute between the two neighbouring countries. The two sides have agreed on dividing the disputed waters of 175,000 square km into roughly two equal parts. At a joint press conference with Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg on Tuesday morning, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said the agreement was important as it would serve as a positive factor for the development of Russia’s ties with Europe as a whole. Medvedev arrived here on Monday for a two-day visit to the Nordic country. The agreement came after productive, modern and open negotiations between both sides, the Russian president said. Stoltenberg said, “We have agreed on the most important unresolved issue between the two countries, which we have negotiated for 40 years.”

Diabetes linked to atrial fibrillation

SEATTLE, 28 April—US researchers have linked diabetes to a 40 percent greater risk of atrial fibrillation—irregular heart beat. Researchers at Group Health Research Institute in Seattle, led by Dr Sascha Dublin, also found the longer people have diabetes and the less controlled their blood sugar, the greater the risk of atrial fibrillation.

“When a patient with diabetes has symptoms like heart palpitations, clinicians should have a higher level of suspicion that the reason could be atrial fibrillation,” Dublin said in a statement.

However, the study, published in the Journal of General Internal Medicine, also found patients with well-controlled diabetes were about equally likely to have atrial fibrillation as people without diabetes. Dublin and colleagues tracked more than 1,400 Group Health patients with newly recognized atrial fibrillation and 2,200 controls matched by age, sex and high blood pressure, who did not have atrial fibrillation.

The study adjusted for patients’ weight because diabetes and atrial fibrillation are more common in heavier people. The researchers found risk of atrial fibrillation rose by 3 percent for each additional year a patient had diabetes. The risk of atrial fibrillation was twice that of those without diabetes in those with high blood sugar—glycosylated hemoglobin.

Pilot error blamed for 2007 crash that killed 114

NAIROBI, 28 April—An investigative report released Wednesday blamed pilot error for the 2007 crash of Kenya Airways flight in Cameroon that killed all 114 people on board. The pilot of the Kenya Airways flight didn’t notice the plane was banking right and when he did he turned farther right, triggering a downward spiral, the report found.

The crash of the Boeing 737-800 on 5 May, 2007, occurred during a thunderstorm less than two minutes after take-off, but the report said weather did not likely cause the crash. Instead it blamed “spatial disorientation” by the pilot. The report was posted early Wednesday on the website of the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority. Some of the investigation was conducted by the US National Transportation Safety Board and Boeing experts in the United States. Executives with Kenya Airways were expected to comment on the report later Wednesday.

The report said the pilot didn’t adhere to standard operating procedures, had poor situational awareness and “reacted inappropriately in the face of an abnormal situation.”

At least five dead after boat capsizes in Congo lake

KINSHASA, 28 April—A boat captain says at least five people have died after a passenger boat capsized on a lake in eastern Congo. Mirindi Lufongola, who was driving a commercial boat on Lake Kivu, says he rescued 29 passengers after the other boat capsized on Tuesday. He says nearly a hundred passengers were aboard the boat traveling from Idjwi island to the city of Goma. Lufongola said the 29 passengers were hanging on to empty jerry cans and bags full of embers. The survivors told him the boat capsized because of a strong wave. Congo is a vast country of jungles and huge rivers in Central Africa with little more than 300 miles (480 kilometres) of paved road. Many people prefer to take boats even if they do not know how to swim.

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Workshop on community-based reproductive health plan held

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivers speech at workshop on community-based reproductive health plan. — MNA

Strong winds and heavy rain cause some damages in States and Divisions

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Strong winds and heavy rain caused loss and damage in some States and Divisions from 23 to 26 April.

Due to strong winds, roofs of some houses and schools were blown off and about 15 huts collapsed in Aunglan and Hsinbauangwe Townships of Magway Division on 23 April evening. Neither human being nor animal was injured in the incident.

The heavy rain with strong winds blew off roofs of some village schools and office buildings and fell down six huts at Kyaingrai village in Nanyin Township, Peinchan village in Kuning Township, Kengtung Township and Tangyan Township on 24 April afternoon. At Kyaingrai village in Nanyin Township, one man was killed after collapse of the house.

The strong winds blew off roofs of some buildings, broke some trees and killed two heads of oxen in Nay Pyi Taw. Tatkon and Budalin Townships in the evening of 24 April.

In the evening of 25 April, strong winds caused damage to some houses, schools and buildings and fell down lamp-posts in Katha, Bamauk, Wuntho, Tiddim and Kyaukme Townships. Neither human being nor animals injured.

In Pakokku, Yesagyo and NyaungU Townships, five men were injured but are not in critical condition after strong winds blew off roofs of schools, gymnasium and some office buildings and houses fell down trees and lamp-posts and cut out electricity in the evening of 26 April. The injured were rushed to hospital.

Official concerned provided necessary assistance to the victims of strong winds and heavy rain and cleared the debris quickly.

The department concerned has remained the public to be aware of strong winds that can occur some times during this season.

Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association meets

YANGON, 28 April—Central Executive Committee of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association held meeting 4/2010 on the second floor of Sapay Beikman here this morning.

On the occasion, Chairman of CEC U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) who presided the meeting made an opening speech, Secretary Dr Tin Tun Oo (Dr Tin Tun Oo) reported on the minutes of the previous meeting and the leaders of other committees presented works carried out.

They discussed requirements for the fifth Literary Conference to be held at UMFCCCI on Myine Kyaw Swa Road in Lammawad Township, here on 16 and 17 May. The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks by the chairman.— MNA

Acer notebooks available at Life Style & IT 2010

YANGON, 28 April—The Life Style & IT 2010 Exhibition kicked off at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road, here, today. Shwe Lamin Naga Co, Sole agent of Acer, sells Acer brand Acer Time Line Series Notebooks and Acer Aspire One Notebooks and monitors at special discount. The customers can get gifts of Acer.

The exhibition will last up to 1 May. — MNA

216 drug-related cases exposed in March 2010

YANGON, 28 April—The authorities concerned exposed 216 drug-related cases in March.

These cases were 155,553 kilos of opium in 45 cases, 1,587.4 kilos of heroin in 50 cases, 5,926.4 kilos of opium oil crystal in eight cases, 46,785 kilos of low-grade opium in 10 cases, 21,879 kilos of marijuana in 17 cases, 554,699.7 kilos of stimulant tablets in 58 cases, 98.2 kilos of morphene in one case, 1.6 kilos of Ephedrine in one case, 14 kilos of caffeine, 2.45 litres of opium liquid in one case, 0.06 litre of cough syrup, 209 litres of morphene liquid in one case, 2,198.5 kilos of chemical powder in one case, 107,250 Psudo Ephedrine tablets in one case, two kilos of Ice in one case, 42.4 kilos of stimulant powder, 10,684.3 kilos of opium specious in 10 cases, one case of failure to register and other 10 cases.

Action was taken against 330 persons—272 men and 58 women— in 216 cases under the law. — MNA

ICT course for teachers

YANGON, 28 April—As part of efforts to create the opportunity for IT enthusiasts, the ICT Development & Application Course No. 1/2010, organized by No. 3 Department of Basic Education, commenced at the computer room of the department in Kyimyindine Township this morning.

Deputy Director-General U Myo Myint of DBIE-3 spoke on the occasion.

Managing Director U Aung Than of Nyunt of Soft Guide Co Ltd explained facts about the IT subjects.

Altogether 90 teachers are attending the 10-day course. — MNA

Korean Laminate floors on show at Life Style & IT-2010 Exhibition

Booths of Tharaphee Korea Laminate floors displayed at Life Style & IT-2010 Exhibition being held at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road here up to 1 May.

Laminate floors are cost-saving and convenient for long-term use. It can save two-third costs than any other hard wood floors. Customers can get 8.3 mm and 12.3 mm sized floors with 15 years guarantee. For more information, may contact No.349 (B), Zeya Khay road, the 8° mile, Mayangon Township, here, (Ph-095115530 and 095134614).— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Organized by Health Department under the Ministry of Health, the opening ceremony of workshop on community-based reproductive health plan of extended townships took place at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed) this morning. Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint made an opening speech on the occasion. In his speech, about 1600 mothers and 5,000 infants die daily in the world. In Myanmar, the death rates of mothers, infants aged under one and under five are vital and basic indexes of economic, social and health.

With the assistance of JICA/JOICFP, Maternal and Child Health Division implemented community-based reproductive health plans in Kyaukme and Nawngkhio Townships, Shan State (North) from 2005 till 2010. As a result of plan, health standard of the people has improved.

The death rate of mothers, infants aged under one and -five have declined dramatically if compared with the period before the plan.

It is important to have volunteers’ cooperation in order that pregnant women can reach hospitals from homes in time, he added. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe, directors-general and officials from the departments and heads of state/division/ township Health Department. The workshop will go on till yesterday.— MNA
Nowadays, it is a national duty to develop all the regions of the Union and to ensure smooth and secure transport. The government is building new railroads and motor roads for better transport of the national people and constructing large and small bridges where necessary.

On 21 March 2009, Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) emerged as the 45th facility of its kind in Ayeyawady Division. Thanks to construction of the bridge, the region is gaining development momentum in economic and social sectors.

In the past, the local people used the old rail-road Ngawun Bridge. For enabling the local people to have easier access to other regions, the new Ngawun Bridge was built there.

Ngawun Bridge (Myokwin) is located on Hinthada-Myokwin-Kwinkauk Road. It is 2835 feet long and 34 feet wide. The main bridge is of reinforced concrete beams and frames. The approach structures are of reinforced concrete.

Ayeyawady Division had to rely solely on the waterways in the past. Thanks to bridges and roads built by the government, the region is accessible from other States and Divisions through smooth transport. In fact, the division is on the track of development with momentum.

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**Follow Me & Secret beauty products introduced**

YANGON, 28 April — Follow Me and Secret brands New beauty products distributed by Ta-fa Trading Co Ltd were introduced yesterday. A marketing executive of the company explained facts about Follow Me UV White Oxygen Skin Care Series to guests and journalists at the press meet held at Parkroyal Hotel here.

Models demonstrated use of new beauty products of Follow Me UV White Oxygen Skin Care Series during the show.

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**Only 32 bomb blast victims under treatment**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April — Of 170 wounded in the bomb blast that occurred in front of X2O pandal on Kandawgyi circular road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 15 April who are undergoing treatments at Yangon General Hospital and other hospitals, most of the patients were discharged from the hospitals. News has already been issued that the remaining 60 patients—42 men and 18 women—were being given treatments.

Of them, some more patients have been discharged from the hospitals. Up to now, 32 patients—19 men and 13 women— are undergoing medical treatments.
Paper wasps and honey bees share a genetic toolkit

SPRINGFIELD, 28 April—They are both nest-building social insects, but paper wasps and honey bees organize their colonies in very different ways. In a new study, researchers report that despite their differences, these insects rely on the same network of genes to guide their social behavior.

Honey bees and paper wasps are separated by more than 100 million years of evolution, and there are striking differences in how they divvy up the work of maintaining a colony, said University of Illinois entomology professor Gene Robinson, who led the study with post-doctoral researcher Amy Toth. “Honey bees have a sharp division of labour between queens, which reproduce, and workers, which care for the brood and forage for food, while among paper wasps social roles are much more fluid,” he said.

“And yet the same genes can be used by these different organisms to do similar kinds of things. This is the genetic toolkit idea: The same genetic elements are used for different types of division of labour.”

Reward-driven people win more, even when no reward at stake

WASHINGTON, 28 April—Whether it’s for money, marbles or chalk, the brains of reward-driven people keep their game faces on, helping them win at every step of the way. Surprisingly, they win most often when there is no reward.

That’s the finding of neuroscientists at Washington University in St. Louis, who tested 31 randomly selected subjects with word games, some of which had monetary rewards of either 25 or 75 cents per correct answer, others of which had no money attached. Subjects were given a short list of five words to memorize in a matter of seconds, then a 3.5-second interval or pause, then a few seconds to respond to a solitary word that either had been on the list or had not. Test performance had no consequence in some trials, but in others, a computer graded the responses, providing an opportunity to win either 25 cent or 75 cents for quick and accurate answers. Even during these periods, subjects were sometimes alerted that their performance would not be rewarded on that trial.

Scientists learn to block pain at its source: new non-addictive painkillers from substance similar to ingredient in hot chilli peppers

SAN ANTONIO, 28 April—A substance similar to capsaicin, which gives chilli peppers their heat, is generated at the site of pain in the human body. Scientists at The University of Texas Health Science Centre at San Antonio have discovered how to block these capsaicin-like molecules and created a new class of non-addictive painkillers.

The findings were published on 26 April in the Journal of Clinical Investigation. The senior investigator was Kenneth Hargreaves, D.D.S., Ph.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Endodontics in the Dental School at the UT Health Science Centre. Amol M. Patwardhan, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., a graduate of the Health Science Centre’s Department of Pharmacology who worked under Dr. Hargreaves’ supervision, is the lead author.

“Nearly everyone will experience persistent pain at some point in their lifetime,” Dr. Hargreaves said. “Our findings are truly exciting because they will offer physicians, dentists and patients more options in prescription pain medications. In addition, they may help circumvent the problem of addiction and dependency to pain medications, and will have the potential to benefit millions of people who suffer from chronic pain every day.”

Soil microbes produce less atmospheric CO₂ than expected with climate warming

FORESTY & Environmental Studies found that as global temperatures increase, microbes in soil become less efficient over time at converting carbon in soil into carbon dioxide, a key contributor to climate warming.

Microbes, in the form of bacteria and fungi, use carbon for energy to breathe, or respire, and to grow in size and number. A model developed by the researchers shows microbes exhaling carbon dioxide furiously for a short period of time in a warmer environment, leaving less carbon to grow on. As warmer temperatures are maintained, the less efficient use of carbon by the microbes causes them to decrease in number, eventually resulting in less carbon dioxide being emitted into the atmosphere.

Liquid-solid interaction measures improved

CAMBRIDGE, 28 April—US-led scientists say they’ve created a technique that produces unprecedented precision in measuring liquid-solid interactions.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology researchers explained a liquid’s “wettability” — the degree to which it either spreads over a surface or forms into droplets — is crucial to a wide variety of processes. However, the only way to quantify such liquid-solid interaction characteristics has been to measure the shapes of droplets that form on a material. But now MIT researchers say they’ve found a way to improve the resolution of such measurements by a factor of 10,000 or more. In addition, they said the new method can be used to study curved, textured or complex solid surfaces — something that could not be done previously.

Scottish police once believed in Loch Ness monster

EDINBURGH, 28 April—What lurks beneath the dark waters of Scotland’s Loch Ness? Newly released documents on display Tuesday in Scotland show that during the 1930s, police in Scotland were convinced some sort of creature inhabited the Highlands lake — so sure, in fact, that they worried about how to protect it from big-game hunters.

The files from the National Archive of Scotland show that local officials asked Britain’s Parliament to investigate the issue and confirm the monster’s existence — in the interests of science. “That there is some strange creature in Loch Ness now seems beyond doubt,” wrote William Fraser, a senior police officer, “but that the police have any power to protect it is very doubtful.”

“The Nessie Files, kept secret for 70 years, were revealed as part of an exhibition on government secrecy. The exhibit examines how governments once kept almost everything secret, and how attitudes evolved to move toward more open government in modern times. Nessie, of course, was the epitome of mystery.”
Girl lucky to be alive after sting by deadly jellyfish

SYDNEY, 28 April—A 10-year-old Australian girl who survived being stung by the world’s most venomous creature, the deadly box jellyfish, may have rewritten medical history, an expert said Tuesday.

Schoolgirl Rachael Shardlow lost consciousness after being badly stung by the jellyfish while swimming in a river in eastern Queensland state with her brother in December, but lived to tell the tale.

“When I first saw the pictures of the injuries I just went, ‘you know to be honest, this kid should not be alive’,” said Jamie Seymour, professor of zoology and tropical ecology at James Cook University.

“I mean they are horrific. Usually when you see people who have been stung by box jellyfish with that number of the tentacle contacts on their body, it’s usually in a moruge,” he told public broadcaster, the ABC.

Often deadly, the box jellyfish has long, trailing tentacles and is able to squeeze through even the smallest of nets as it is only the size of a fingernail.

The venom is so overpoweringly painful that victims often go in shock and drown or die of heart failure before reaching shore.

A sign outside a hotel warns swimmers of box jellyfish, in Darwin. A 10-year-old Australian girl who survived being stung by the world’s most venomous creature, may have rewritten medical history, an expert said Tuesday. Internet

EU Naval Force captures two pirate boats

NAIROBI, 28 April—The European Union Naval Force has seized two Somali pirate boats and yet prevented another pirate group from leaving the Somali coast.

Naval Force said the Dutch warship HNLMS Johan de Witt’s weekend seizure was the second event in four days of patrolling in the most dangerous waters of the Somali coast.

“Afour days of counter piracy operations, this is the second pirate boat, so called whalers, on her flight deck. A good start for a patrol that was slightly different from others,” Major Theo Mestrini said in a statement.

Mestrini said the EU Naval Force spotted a whaler, near the Somali coast which was very close to one of the pirate camps where they had seen activities on Friday night.

“After Commanding Officer approval, we approached the whaler. The crew was totally surprised and looked confused. Soon it was clear that this whaler was equipped to be used for pirating. They were ready to set sail to the ocean, but we prevented it,” he said.

He said the incident was the second event in four days of patrolling in the area where two whalers were lifted on board of Johan de Witt and 5 crew members of the whaler were sent safely back to the shore.

Proposed site for Jordan’s first nuclear power plant “geologically suitable”

AMMAN, 28 April—Results of geological studies on a site in the Jordanian city of Aqaba proposed to host the kingdom’s first nuclear power plant proved that it is suitable, Jordan’s Atomic Energy Commission (JAEC) said Monday.

“The geological studies conducted by Belgian Tractabel Engineering (GDF-SUEZ) over the past few months indicated that the proposed site in Aqaba is suitable for the installation of the nuclear power plant,” JAEC Chief Khaled Toukan said in a statement obtained by Xinhua.

The proposed site is located about 12 km to the east of the Aqaba coastline. The plant, expected to initially generate 750 to 1,100 megawatts of electricity annually, is scheduled to be operational by 2020.

Caterpillar turns 1Q profit, sees growing economy

OMAHA, 28 April—Caterpillar Inc., the world’s largest maker of construction and mining equipment, said Monday that it is ramping up production as the global economic recovery spurs demand for its heavy equipment, especially in commodity-rich developing countries.

“We’re in a revival. There’s no doubt about it,” Chief Financial Officer Dave Burritt said. “We’re heading up, and it’s driven by the emerging markets. No doubt.”

The Peoria, Ill., company offered an upbeat outlook for its business and the world economy after reporting first-quarter earnings of $233 million on Monday, reversing last year’s loss in a quarter weighed down by layoff costs.

Caterpillar’s iconic yellow and black machinery is sold in so many places and used by so many industries that its results are considered an indicator of the overall health of the economy.
Depressed people turn to chocolate

San Diego, 28 April — Getting depressed can drive a person to chocolate, research suggests. A US study of 931 men and women found a strong association between chocolate consumption and mood. Participants with signs of depression ate 8.4 servings of chocolate per month on average, while non-depressed individuals restricted themselves to 5.4 servings.

People with high depression assessment scores gorged even more chocolate — as many as 11.8 servings. A medium serving was defined as one ounce of chocolate, slightly less than a normal-sized bar. Scientists believe chocolate may have properties that improve mood, as has been demonstrated in rat studies. Eating chocolate when depressed may therefore be a form of “self-treatment”.

Alternatively, it is just possible the association is the other way round, and eating too much chocolate causes depression. — Internet

Depression can drive a person to chocolate.

Sausage ‘solution’ to Australia’s cane toad invasion

SYDNEY, 28 April — Scientists in Australia have designed a cane toad “sausage” that could help protect vulnerable predators from the poisonous toads. The researchers developed the sausage as a bait that could help train animals to avoid eating the large toads. They employed “taste aversion learning”—adding a nausea-inducing drug to cane toad meat.

This, the scientists say, caused animals to associate the smell of the toads with feeling sick. Jonathan Webb from the University of Sydney, the senior member of the research team, explained: “It’s a really powerful form of learning. “Many people might have experienced it when they get food poisoning and then associate the taste or the smell of whatever food it was that made them ill with feeling sick.” His team focused on quolls — small carnivorous marsupials that are used to be very abundant in northern Australia.

“Pick the right veg” for health

London, 28 April — Obvious choices of fruit and vegetables are not necessarily the healthiest, say researchers. Accordin to US experts, making simple swaps like eating sweet potatoes instead of carrots and papaya rather than oranges could make a difference. Fruits, like raspberries, watercress and kale, are richer in nutrients which may help prevent disease, they told a US meeting.

UK nutritionists said a balanced diet is essential to good health. — Internet

Sentencing delayed for bird smuggler

LOS ANGELES, 28 April — Sentencing was delayed for a man accused of smuggling rare songbirds into the United States by tapping them to his legs under his pants, officials said.

Song Dong, 46, was arrested in April 2009 after authorities found 51 songbirds including red-whiskered bulbuls, magpie robins and shama thrushes, fastened to his legs under his pants when he arrived at Los Angeles International Airport from Vietnam, the Los Angeles Times reported. Dong’s arrest led to his legs under his pants with signs of depression. — Xinhua

Los Angeles Times

South Korea formally marked completion of the world’s longest seawall on Tuesday.

The 33.9 kilometre Saemangeum seawall encloses 401 square kilometres of seawater or tidal mudflats. — Xinhua

Location chosen for European extremely large telescope

The 5,500-tonne behemoth could be operating by 2018. — Internet

London, 28 April — Europe has chosen the place it wants to build the world’s biggest telescope. The observatory will be constructed on Cerro Armazones, a 3,000m-high mountain in Chile’s Atacama Desert. The E-ELT (European Extremely Large Telescope) will have a primary mirror 42m in diameter — about five times the width of today’s best telescopes. Astronomers say the next-generation observatory will be so powerful it will be able to image directly rocky planets beyond our Solar System. It should also be able to provide major insights into the nature of black holes, galaxy formation, the mysterious “dark matter” that pervades the Universe, and the even more mysterious “dark energy” which appears to be pushing the cosmos apart at an accelerating rate.

Final go-ahead for the E-ELT is expected at the end of this year. The European Southern Observatory (Eso) organisation which is managing the project says it hopes the telescope can be operational by 2018. The estimated cost is in the region of a billion euros. — Internet

‘Pick the right veg’ for health

Papaya is a fruit rich in beta-cryptoxanthin. — Internet

Lo and Le were indicted in 2009 by a federal grand jury in Los Angeles. Le pleaded guilty to conspiracy to smuggle, and could receive a 5-year prison term when he is sentenced in June, the newspaper said. — Internet

Quolls became locally extinct in Kakadu National Park when cane toads invaded. — Internet

INTERNET

‘Pick the right veg’ for health

Papaya is a fruit rich in beta-cryptoxanthin. — Internet
US invents crop yield calculator programme

WASHINGTON, 28 April—A US Department of Agriculture scientist says he’s developed a computer program that estimates crop yields based on available water.

The program developed by Agricultural Research Service scientist David Nielsen is being used now by several hundred farmers in the central Great Plains.

Nielsen said his device, called the MultiCalculator CD, uses three simple Excel spreadsheets and, in four steps, the yield calculator predicts non-irrigated crop yields.

First, farmers estimate how much available soil water their fields have. Farmers can tab to a table on a different screen that helps them make this estimate, giving multiplication factors for various soil types.

In the next three steps, farmers choose a crop, a location and estimate the percentage of average precipitation they expect during the growing season.

The researcher said the computer instantly shows the yields they can expect. The yield calculator does this for 18 crops, including cereal grains, seed legumes, oilseeds and forages.

The water calculator also works in reverse — in five steps — beginning with the farmer choosing a crop, then the target yield, Nielsen said. It tells how much irrigation water will be needed to achieve the target yield. In addition, the calculator will also tell farmers how many gallons of irrigation water they will need for each gallon of ethanol produced from the corn they grow.

Vitamin D improves elderly mobility

WINSTON-SALEM, 28 April—Elderly study participants with the highest levels of vitamin D had better physical function and mobility than others, US researchers found. Dr. Denise Houston of the Sticht Centre on Aging at Wake Forest University and colleagues studied vitamin D status and physical function in a group of relatively healthy seniors, mean age 75, in Memphis and Pittsburgh.

The study tracked 2,788 seniors for four years and assessed vitamin D status by analyzing each person’s blood for 25-hydroxyvitamin D — a precursor activated vitamin D.

Not all solar power plants totally ‘green’

LAS VEGAS, 28 April—Not all solar thermal power plants, touted for their environmental benefits, are pollution-free because they also use other fuels, US experts note.

Solar thermal plants are expected to sprout up across the sunny US Southwest as the nation looks for so-called green energy alternatives. But the Las Vegas Sun reported Monday some of the solar plants are designed to use natural gas or propane boilers to jump-start the units each day, releasing greenhouse gases.

While the solar plants would produce only a small fraction of the carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and particulates natural gas-fired power plants produce, the Sun said.

About 60 solar power projects are on the drawing boards for federal land in southern Nevada, though US Bureau of Land Management records don’t indicate which would use boilers. The Sun said 32 are identified as either solar thermal or concentrating solar power, which includes both solar thermal and advanced solar photovoltaic technologies.

The newspaper said the US Environmental Protection Agency says the impact of a large number of solar thermal power plants on the region can’t be determined since different technologies are used.

A cameraman films trucks seized after a shooting with hitmen at a military base on the outskirts of Monterrey on 26 April, 2010. The army freed seven people after a shooting with drug hitmen in the municipality of General Bravo.

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**Bayern ease into Champions League final**

Lyon 3-0 at Stade Gerland here on Tuesday to secure a 4-0 aggregate victory.

Bayern’s progress to their first European final since they last won the tournament in 2001 means Robben will return to the home of his former club.

The free-scoring Dutch international winger joined Bayern from Real in August 2009 after an often injury-plagued two-year spell in the Spanish capital.

His departure was hastened by the return of big-spending Real president Florentino Perez and although Robben expressed reluctance to leave at the time, he now feels he made the right decision.

“I’m very happy to be going back to Madrid,” he said.

**Kaka unhappy with performances for Real**

Madrid, 28 April—Real Madrid’s Brazilian star Kaka said he was unhappy with his performances since arriving last summer, but blamed injuries for his lack of form.

“I’m not happy with my performances, but it’s all physical. I suffered a lot since I got injured,” he said. “When I’m good physically, my performance will improve, I’ll be happy and the fans too,” he told a news conference on Tuesday.

The midfielder has found goals hard to come by since arriving from AC Milan last summer for 65 million euros and has been accused of failing to replicate the form that made him the FIFA World Player of the Year in 2007. But on Saturday, he ended a six-week injury absence by grabbing the winner for Real Madrid in a 2-1 victory over Zaragoza.—Internet

**Bayern Munich’s Ivica Olic celebrates scoring his third goal against Lyon.—Internet**

Lyon, 28 April—Arjen Robben said he was looking forward to reacquainting himself with the Estadio Santiago Bernabeu after Bayern Munich booked their place in this season’s Champions League final.

The German giants will contest the May 22 showpiece at the home of Real Madrid against either Barcelona or Inter Milan after swatting aside Portugal any day to start his career.

He could be taken to Portugal for rioting last summer, but blamed injuries for his lack of form.—Internet

**Engage fan claims ‘witch-hunt’ over Portugal riot**

London, 28 April—An England football fan sentenced to two years in jail in Portugal for rioting claimed to be the victim of a “witch-hunt”, as the European Court of Human Rights refused on Tuesday to intervene in his case.

Campaigners for Garry Mann, a 52-year-old former fireman, said he could be taken to Portugal any day to start his sentence. Mann, who argues he was drinking in a bar while other football fans rioted during the Euro 2004 tournament, said the prosecuting authorities in Portugal and England should be “ashamed of their actions”.

**Swimming great Thorpe backs Aussie football WC bid**

Sydney, 28 April—Australian swimming great Ian Thorpe has thrown his support behind his country’s bid to host the football World Cup, saying on Wednesday it would be “huge for Australia”.

Australia hopes to hold the World Cup in 2018 or 2022, arguing that having the event would consolidate the growth of the sport in Asia. “It would be huge for Australia as the whole country would be showcased to the rest of the world,” Thorpe said in a statement.

“Also, economically we would receive a great benefit.” Thorpe, a five-time Olympic gold medallist from the Sydney and Athens Games who announced his retirement from swimming in November 2006, said Australians understood this after hosting the 2000 Olympics.

**PSG humbled by relegated Grenoble**

Paris, 28 April—Paris Saint-Germain suffered a 4-0 humiliation at already-relegated Grenoble on Tuesday four days before they turn out for the French Cup final.

With Gregory Coupet back in goal for the first time since injury back in November PSG tuned up for the Stade de France clash with Montpellier in the worst possible style.PSG were undone by goals from Laurent Batelles and Nicolas deuzee in the first half with Nissim Akrouk and Daniel Ljubojca compounding the capital side’s misery after the break.

Monaco, bereft of their number one keeper Stephane Ruffier who pulled out of the match suffering an injury when

**Sports City make Fulop move after Given injury**

London, 28 April—Manchester City are reported to have approached Sunderland about signing goalkeeper Marton Fulop as they await permission to bring in a replacement for injured star Shay Given.

City are firmly in the hunt for a Champions League spot but their challenge could be damaged after they were left without an experienced senior goalkeeper when Given dislocated his shoulder in Saturday’s 0-0 draw at Arsenal.

Joe Hart is currently on loan at Birmingham and Stuart Taylor is on his way back from a knee injury, leaving the Faroe Islands’ Gunnar Nielsen as the squad’s only fit keeper.

**Domenech to name WC squad live on television**

Paris, 28 April—Players hoping to be named in France’s squad for the World Cup would be well advised to tune in to the main evening news on 11 May.

The reason? That is the time and place coach Raymond Domenech has chosen to reveal his squad for South Africa. French television station TF1 announced on Tuesday. Domenech is breaking from tradition as in the past he has unveiled his national squads at a press conference open to all media.

France’s World Cup campaign kicks off against Uruguay in Cape Town on 11 June, followed by Mexico in Polokwane on 17 June and hosts South Africa in Bloemfontain five days later.—Internet

**Fates decided in AFC Champions League**

Singapore, 28 April—Adelaide United and Suwon Bluewings both earned crucial home advantage for the knockout round of the AFC Champions League on Tuesday as the group phase wound down.

The Reds clung on to a home tie for their round of 16 match next month despite losing their final group game to China’s Shandong Luneng 1-0. They stayed top of their group after South Korea’s Pohang Steelers, the defending champions, went down 4-3 to Sanfrecce Hiroshima in Japan at the same time.

Adelaide, who reached the 2008 final, dominated but fell to a spectacular goal from Li Wei. Shandong launched a blistering counter-attack from inside their own half and Li turned defender Robert Cornthwaite in the box and unleashed a fierce left-foot volley in the 53rd minute.—Internet

**Laurent Batelles(R) celebrates with a teammate after scoring against Paris Saint Germain during their French LI football match in Grenoble. Grenoble won 4-0. INTERNET warming up, escaped with a come-from-behind 1-1 draw with visitors Le Mans. With this depressing result, their 13th loss of the campaign, PSG must now look to Saturday and the Cup final to add some much needed cheer to what has been a season to forget.—Internet**
Two AU peacekeepers wounded in Mogadishu suicide attack

Mogadishu, 28 April—Two African Union (AU) peacekeepers were wounded in a suicide car bombing near their base after the peacekeepers shot at the approaching vehicle, officials said. "Two of our soldiers were slightly injured after they foiled an attempt to attack one of our bases in Mogadishu," Bridgeye Bahouka, spokesperson for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), told Xinhua.

The AMISOM spokesman said that they have been aware that Islamist rebels had been planning to carry out such attacks and that help them "thwart it in time".

The suicide attacker used medium-sized truck in the assault against a newly-set up base at the former Somali national bank building in the government-controlled part of the Somali capital.

Chimpanzees munch on leeks at Tokyo’s Tama Zoo. Chimpanzees, the closest evolutionary relatives of humans, react to death in a similar way that humans do, according to research out on Monday.—INTERNET

WEATHER

Wednesday, 28th April, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

MST. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Mon State, scattered in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Kachin and Shan and Kayin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above April average temperatures in Chin States, Yangon Ayeawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about April average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Tharrawady (42.2°C), Napyitaw (Yesein), Napyitaw (Pyinmana), Aunglan and Magway (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Belin (2.91) inches, Paung (1.18) inches and Yay (1.10) inches.

Maximum temperature on 27-4-2010 was 105°F. Minimum temperature on 28-4-2010 was 81°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-4-2010 was 69%. Total sun shine hours on 27-4-2010 was (9.3) hours.

Rainfall on 27-4-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (28.3) inches. Rainfall on 25-4-2010 at Paung (1.18) inches and Yay (1.10) inches.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Belin (2.91) inches, Paung (1.18) inches and Yay (1.10) inches.

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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
- 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

Weather forecast for monsoon 2010

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—According to the observations recorded up to the last week of April 2010 sea levels along the equatorial regions of the Pacific Ocean had been warmer than normal and reached the weak level of El Nino. Due to the consequences of El Nino, in Asian countries including Myanmar, there usually cause hot, dry weather, scarcity of storms, the late coming and early going of monsoon and scarcity of rainfall. It has been reviewed that there cannot be significant impact on the coming Myanmar’s monsoon as the level of El Nino has become weak.

The southwest monsoon wind is likely to come to Myanmar southern regions in the second ten days of May, to delta regions in the third ten days of May, to central regions by the end of May and to northern regions in the beginning of June. But it is likely to leave the whole country in the third ten days of September.

It is forecast that storms are likely to occur in the Bay of Bengal one time in May and June of early monsoon, two times in July and August of mid-monsoon and one time in September of late monsoon.

The amounts of rainfall in states and divisions are likely to be as usual in early and mid-monsoon and more in late monsoon.

It has been forecast for the rivers of Myanmar that there is not likely to be rising sea level in early monsoon. But sea level is likely to reach danger level one time each in the Ayeyawady and the Chindwin and two times each in the Thanhwin and the Sittoung in mid-monsoon and one time each in the Sittoung and the Thanhwin in late monsoon.

The significant day temperatures

**Early death by junk food? High levels of phosphate in sodas and processed foods accelerate the aging process in mice**

Elephants have word for ‘bee-ware’

LONDON, 28 April — For the first time elephants have been found to produce an alarm call associated with the threat of bees, and have been shown to retreat when a recording of the call is played even when there are no bees around.

A team of scientists from Oxford University, Save the Elephants, and Disney’s Animal Kingdom, made the discovery as part of an ongoing study of elephants in Kenya. They report their results in the journal PLos One.

‘In our experiments we played the sound of angry bees to elephant families and studied their reaction,’ said Lucy King of Oxford University’s Department of Zoology and charity Save the Elephants, who led the research. ‘Importantly we discovered elephants not only flee from the buzzing sound but make a unique ‘rumbling’ call as well as shaking their heads.’—Internet