Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- 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

Four economic objectives

- 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

Four social objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- 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

National Railway Network will emerge in the near future. Government giving priority to smooth and secure rail transportation playing an important role in passengers and commodity transport.

Kwantaung-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section in Ponnagyun opened

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Prime Minister U Thein Sein attended the inauguration ceremony of Kwantaung-Ponnagyun-Yotayok section of Mumbu-An-Sittway railroad construction project, being implemented by Myanma Railways, was held in front of Ponnagyun Station in Rakhine State this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, the ministers, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, officials of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, staff and local people.

In his address, Prime Minister U Thein Sein said that the transport network plays an important role in implementing plans in all sectors for equitable development of all regions of the Union. In accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, saying that the better transport contributes not only (See page 8)

A train running on Kwantaung-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section in Ponnagyun.—MNA

Huge fire leaves 4,000 families homeless in Philippines

Chelsea beat Portsmouth to seal double

Secretary U Tun Kyi and departmental heads of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee arrange supply of water to Nay Pyi Taw Pyinnawana Township.—DAD
Take care of reminders on high temperature

With the aim of ensuring longevity of everybody and to be free from diseases, the Ministry of Health is striving for providing health care services to the entire people as a national duty.

During the current period when temperature is high, all the people are to take care of warnings on health by seeking ways and means for protection against high temperature of summer.

It is necessary to take preventive measures against high intensity of heat so as to avoid undesirable disadvantages. As the Ministry of Health issues reminders on prevention against the danger of higher temperature, the people are to strictly follow them.

As the high temperature are harmful to health conditions of the people residing in central Myanmar in recent days this summer, those working at the sites with high intensity of heat are to take care of their health.

Those who do not pay attention to the reminders will face the dehydration due to high temperature and the outbreaks of prickly heat and itch on the skin, exhaustion, muscle pain, high body temperature, unconsciousness and even death due to over perspiration.

It is necessary to avoid the foods that can increase high blood pressure. Especially, families are to take care of those suffering from diabetes, heart attack and hypertension, children and the elderly.

The Ministry of Health issues warnings on preventive measures against danger of high temperature daily. If the people pay attention and carefully follow the reminders, undesirable loss of lives can be prevented. As such, all the entire people are to equip themselves with health knowledge for practising systematic daily lifestyles.

Adequate water supplied to Seikkyi-Khanaungto Tsp

YANGON, 15 May—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor U Maung Pa donated 150 containers of drinking water to 16 monasteries in Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township of Yangon South District, 50 containers to Township People’s Hospital, two water pumps worth K 1 million and hores through township responsible persons today.

The Vice-Mayor inspected supply of water, river water pumping work, digging of 1 million-gallon-capacity of No. 3 Aung Mingala Lake in the township.

After that, he met with township level departmental officials, local people, townelders and members of social organizations at Township Peace and Development Council Office.

With the use of four motorboats carrying 3000 gallons of water authority concerned is supplying 18,000 gallons of water to wards in the township. Water bowsers are providing water to water supply centers adequately.—MNA

Public announcement for remonstration

1. The Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics, headquartered at Room No. 301 of Building F at Pearl Condominium on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township, Yangon Division, in its application to Union Election Commission for registration issued its name, flag and seal in dailies on 1-5-2010 as public announcement for remonstration.

2. The flag and seal of the party were remonstrated. After the scrutiny work, the UEC found that it is inappropriate for the Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics to use the flag and seal.

Therefore, the Commission summoned the responsible persons of the party and asked them to amend the party flag and seal in line with the law and rules.

3. It is hereby announced in accord with Political Parties Registration Rules 14 (d) that if there is anyone who wants to remonstrate about the amended flag and seal of the Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics, they may remonstrate with the Union Election Commission with firm evidence within seven days from the date of the announcement.
A resident looks at a damaged building after bomb attacks in Mahaweel, 60 km (35 miles) south of Baghdad, on 14 May, 2010.

Eurostar services resume after smoke alert

LONDON, 15 May—Channel Tunnel rail services between Britain and continental Europe resumed on Saturday following a smoke alert, operators said, though passengers were facing delays.

Freight and passenger services through the under-sea link were halted shortly after 0615 GMT Saturday after a carbon dioxide detector in the south tunnel went off.

There was some smoke emanating from a shuttle transporting trucks. Within 10 minutes all passengers were evacuated into the service tunnel,” a Eurotunnel spokesman told AFP.

Eurotunnel passenger services — the high-speed trains linking London with Paris and Brussels — plus Eurotunnel freight shuttles have now resumed through the north tunnel. The south tunnel should reopen later Saturday.

Japan postpones US base decision half year

TOKYO, 15 May—Japan will postpone a deadline for resolving a row over relocating a US base by up to half a year to November, abandoning Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama’s original end-May target, the daily Sankei Shimbun said on Saturday.

The decision will be conveyed to the US side as early as next week, the daily said. The paper said Hatoyama’s Democratic Party needs a decisive win in the upper house vote to build fixed-wing aircraft for the military in Vietnam, which is seeking to upgrade its maritime defences with six amphibious DHC-6 Twin Otter Series 400 aircraft.

Russia, US say new arms treaty marks end of “Cold War”

MOSCOW, 15 May—Russia and the United States say their new strategic arms reduction treaty (START) must be ratified as soon as possible and marks the “final end of the Cold War,” local media reported Friday.

“IT lays the foundation for qualitatively new bilateral relations in the strategic military field and, in effect, marks the ‘final end of the Cold War period,’” the US and Russia said in a joint statement issued on Thursday in Washington.

US President Barack Obama early Thursday sent the new treaty, which is designed to replace the expired START agreement between the two countries, to the Senate for ratification.

The new treaty stipulates the reduction of warheads to 1,550 on each side over seven years, while the number of delivery vehicles, both deployed and non-deployed, must not exceed 800.

The two countries hope that the new agreement will strengthen the security of both sides, making their relationship more stable, transparent and predictable.

The treaty must be ratified by both houses of the Russian parliament and by the US Senate before it can take effect.

10 Taleban killed, commander detained in S Afghanistan

LASHKAR G AH, 15 May—Ten Taleban militants were killed and their commander was captured as Afghan and NATO-led troops raided a Taleban hideout in Sangin district of Helmand Province in southern Afghanistan Friday night, spokesman for the provincial administration described Ahmad said on Saturday. “Afghan and international troops stormed the militants’ hideout in Tigradam Kariz area of Sangin District Friday night as a result 10 rebels were killed,” Ahmad told Xinhua.

Troops also captured a Taleban local commander Mullah Mohammad Hassan during the operation, the official added.

There were no casualties on the troops, Ahmad said.

Taleban militants have yet to make comment. Fighting has increased in Afghanistan since the beginning of spring. Spring and summer are known as fighting seasons in the militancy-plagued country.

Russian bombers patrol Norwegian Sea

MOSCOW, 15 May—Two Russian Tu-95MS strategic bombers have carried out a routine patrol flight over the Norwegian Sea, a spokesman of the Russia’s Defence Ministry said on Friday.

Two Tu-95MS strategic bombers took off from Engels Airbase near the Volga city of Saratov on May 12 and carried out patrolling over neutral waters, said the spokesman as quoted by the RIA Novosti news agency.

During the 12-hour mission, the crews “practised instrumental guidance flight and in-flight refueling,” the spokesman said.

He said all flights undertaken by Russian aircraft were performed in strict compliance with international law on the use of airspace over neutral waters, without entering the airspace of other states.

Huge fire leaves 4,000 families homeless in Philippines

MANILA, 15 May—A huge fire that engulfed a sprawling shanty-town just south of the Philippine capital left around 4,000 poor families homeless on Saturday, an official said.

The six-hour blaze started at a store selling liquefied petroleum gas tanks in the heart of the slum area in suburban Muntinlupa city south of Manila, mayor Aldrin San Pedro said.

“Approximately 4,000 families have been left homeless,” San Pedro said. “We were able to contain the fire and luckily there were no casualties.”
US shuttle Atlantis lifts off for final journey

WASHINGTON, 15 May—US space shuttle Atlantis lifted off from Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, to deliver a Russian module and equipment to the International Space Station, which is the last planned flight for the 25-year-old spaceship.

According to NASA TV, the shuttle blasted off at 2:20 pm EDT (1820 GMT) on a tower of flame, rising into a picture-perfect Florida sky.

Two booster rockets, which account for 80 percent of the shuttle’s lift during takeoff, peeled away as planned about two minutes and five seconds after the launch. They fell back toward the Atlantic Ocean, where they will land under parachutes and be subsequently retrieved and reused. They are equipped with cameras to record the performance of Atlantis’ external tank and any foam loss seen during Atlantis’ ascent.

The five engines boosting Atlantis and its external tank towards orbit shut down as planned about eight and half minutes into flight. The milestone means the spacecraft and its crew of six astronauts reached orbit.

Fourth attempt to be launched to check Phoenix Mars Lander

LOS ANGELES, 15 May—NASA’s Mars Odyssey orbiter will conduct a fourth and final attempt to check on whether the Phoenix Mars Lander has come back to life, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) said on Thursday.

During the period from May 17 to 21, Odyssey will listen for a signal from Phoenix during 61 flights over the lander’s site on far-northern Mars, according to the JPL.

In three previous attempts totalling 150 flights in January, February and April, Odyssey failed to detect transmission from the Phoenix Mars Lander.

The Phoenix Mars Lander showed no signal during February that it has revived itself after the northern Mars winter.

The lander worked for five months before reduced sunlight caused energy to become insufficient to keep the lander functioning. The solar-powered robot was not designed to survive through the dark and cold conditions of a Martian winter.

However, in case it did, NASA has used Odyssey to listen for the signals that Phoenix would transmit if abundant spring sunshine revived the lander.

Northern Mars will experience its maximum-sunshine day, the summer solstice, on 12 May (Eastern Time; May 13, Universal Time), so the sun will be higher in the sky above Phoenix during the fourth listening campaign than during any of the prior ones. Still, expectations of hearing from the lander remain low.

Most distant galaxy cluster revealed by invisible light

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of astronomers from Germany and Japan has discovered the most distant cluster of galaxies known so far — 9.6 billion light years away. The X-ray and infrared observations showed that the cluster hosts predominantly old, massive galaxies, demonstrating that the galaxies formed when the universe was still very young. These and similar observations therefore provide new information not only about early galaxy evolution but also about history of the universe as a whole.

Clusters of galaxies are the largest building blocks in the universe. Our galaxy, the Milky Way, is part of the Virgo cluster, comprising some 1000-2000 galaxies. By observing galaxies and clusters that are very distant from Earth, astronomers can look back in time, as their light was sent out a long time ago and took millions or billions of years to reach the astronomers’ telescopes.

Study finds lizards face extinction from climate change

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of biologists have found an alarming pattern of population extinctions attributable to rising temperatures. If current trends continue, up to 20 percent of all lizard species are predicted to go extinct by 2080. The study will be published on Friday in the journal Science.

The researchers, led by Barry Sinervo, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, conducted a major survey of lizard populations worldwide, studied the effects of rising temperatures on lizards, and used their findings to develop a predictive model of extinction risk.

Their model accurately predicted specific locations on five continents (North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Australia) where previously studied lizard populations have already gone locally extinct. Based on the predicted probabilities of local extinction, the probability of species extinction was estimated to be six percent by 2050 and 20 percent by 2080.

“We did a lot of work on the ground to validate the model and show that the extinctions are the result of climate change,” Sinervo said.

“None of these are due to habitat loss.”

Precisely calculating the age of stars: key to evolution of a type of white dwarf found

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of scientists has precisely calculated the age of a group of white dwarf stars. The research results open up new opportunities for advancing our understanding of the evolution of stars, plasma physics, and the origin of the universe in general.

A team of scientists from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) Barcelona Tech, the Catalan Institute for Space Studies, the Institute of Space Sciences of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), the National University of La Plata (Argentina), and Liverpool John Moores University (UK), led by researcher Enrique García-Berro of the UPC’s Department of Applied Physics, has demonstrated that the white dwarf stars in the NGC 6791 star cluster are 8 billion years old, not 6 billion as previously believed. The research opens up new opportunities for extending our knowledge of the origin of the universe.

The results will be published in the scientific journal Nature on 13 May.

Precisely calculating the age of stars: key to evolution of a type of white dwarf found

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of scientists has precisely calculated the age of a group of white dwarf stars. The research results open up new opportunities for advancing our understanding of the evolution of stars, plasma physics, and the origin of the universe in general.

A team of scientists from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) Barcelona Tech, the Catalan Institute for Space Studies, the Institute of Space Sciences of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), the National University of La Plata (Argentina), and Liverpool John Moores University (UK), led by researcher Enrique García-Berro of the UPC’s Department of Applied Physics, has demonstrated that the white dwarf stars in the NGC 6791 star cluster are 8 billion years old, not 6 billion as previously believed. The research opens up new opportunities for extending our knowledge of the origin of the universe.

The results will be published in the scientific journal Nature on 13 May.

Study finds lizards face extinction from climate change

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of biologists have found an alarming pattern of population extinctions attributable to rising temperatures. If current trends continue, up to 20 percent of all lizard species are predicted to go extinct by 2080. The study will be published on Friday in the journal Science.

The researchers, led by Barry Sinervo, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, conducted a major survey of lizard populations worldwide, studied the effects of rising temperatures on lizards, and used their findings to develop a predictive model of extinction risk.

Their model accurately predicted specific locations on five continents (North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Australia) where previously studied lizard populations have already gone locally extinct. Based on the predicted probabilities of local extinction, the probability of species extinction was estimated to be six percent by 2050 and 20 percent by 2080.

“We did a lot of work on the ground to validate the model and show that the extinctions are the result of climate change,” Sinervo said.

“None of these are due to habitat loss.”

Precisely calculating the age of stars: key to evolution of a type of white dwarf found

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of scientists has precisely calculated the age of a group of white dwarf stars. The research results open up new opportunities for advancing our understanding of the evolution of stars, plasma physics, and the origin of the universe in general.

A team of scientists from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) Barcelona Tech, the Catalan Institute for Space Studies, the Institute of Space Sciences of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), the National University of La Plata (Argentina), and Liverpool John Moores University (UK), led by researcher Enrique García-Berro of the UPC’s Department of Applied Physics, has demonstrated that the white dwarf stars in the NGC 6791 star cluster are 8 billion years old, not 6 billion as previously believed. The research opens up new opportunities for extending our knowledge of the origin of the universe.

The results will be published in the scientific journal Nature on 13 May.

Study finds lizards face extinction from climate change

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of biologists have found an alarming pattern of population extinctions attributable to rising temperatures. If current trends continue, up to 20 percent of all lizard species are predicted to go extinct by 2080. The study will be published on Friday in the journal Science.

The researchers, led by Barry Sinervo, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, conducted a major survey of lizard populations worldwide, studied the effects of rising temperatures on lizards, and used their findings to develop a predictive model of extinction risk.

Their model accurately predicted specific locations on five continents (North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Australia) where previously studied lizard populations have already gone locally extinct. Based on the predicted probabilities of local extinction, the probability of species extinction was estimated to be six percent by 2050 and 20 percent by 2080.

“We did a lot of work on the ground to validate the model and show that the extinctions are the result of climate change,” Sinervo said.

“None of these are due to habitat loss.”

Precisely calculating the age of stars: key to evolution of a type of white dwarf found

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of scientists has precisely calculated the age of a group of white dwarf stars. The research results open up new opportunities for advancing our understanding of the evolution of stars, plasma physics, and the origin of the universe in general.

A team of scientists from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) Barcelona Tech, the Catalan Institute for Space Studies, the Institute of Space Sciences of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), the National University of La Plata (Argentina), and Liverpool John Moores University (UK), led by researcher Enrique García-Berro of the UPC’s Department of Applied Physics, has demonstrated that the white dwarf stars in the NGC 6791 star cluster are 8 billion years old, not 6 billion as previously believed. The research opens up new opportunities for extending our knowledge of the origin of the universe.

The results will be published in the scientific journal Nature on 13 May.

Study finds lizards face extinction from climate change

WASHINGTON, 15 May—An international team of biologists have found an alarming pattern of population extinctions attributable to rising temperatures. If current trends continue, up to 20 percent of all lizard species are predicted to go extinct by 2080. The study will be published on Friday in the journal Science.

The researchers, led by Barry Sinervo, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, conducted a major survey of lizard populations worldwide, studied the effects of rising temperatures on lizards, and used their findings to develop a predictive model of extinction risk.

Their model accurately predicted specific locations on five continents (North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Australia) where previously studied lizard populations have already gone locally extinct. Based on the predicted probabilities of local extinction, the probability of species extinction was estimated to be six percent by 2050 and 20 percent by 2080.

“We did a lot of work on the ground to validate the model and show that the extinctions are the result of climate change,” Sinervo said.

“None of these are due to habitat loss.”
Novel pouch could reduce mother-to-infant HIV infection

University have developed an inexpensive and easy-to-use system that allows mothers to give their newborns a potentially life-saving dose of an anti-HIV medication shortly after birth. This is especially important since such drugs can only be found in clinics or hospitals, which can be days away from an expectant mother.

Timing is crucial for the newborn. In order to be effective, the drug, known as Nevirapine, must be given to the newborn within days of birth. Since most mothers are not up to traveling that soon after delivery to get medication, the biomedical engineers developed a way of providing the medication in a simple manner and with a long shelf-life — pouches made of foil and plastic that can hold a single dose of Nevirapine.

Quick weight loss may be best for long-term success

GAINESVILLE, 15 May — When it comes to weight-loss patterns, the old adage proclaims that “slow and steady” wins the race, but recent research suggests otherwise.

A new study found that obese women who started out losing 1.5 pounds a week or more on average and kept it up lost more weight over time than women who lost more slowly. They also maintained the loss longer and were no more likely to put it back on than the slowest losers, the researchers added.

The results shouldn’t be interpreted to mean that crash diets work, said study author Lisa Nackers, a doctoral student in clinical psychology at the University of Florida, Gainesville. Her report is published online in the International Journal of Behavioral Medicine.

Rather, she said, the quicker weight loss of the fast-losing group reflected their commitment to the programme, Nackers said. “The fast group attended more sessions [to talk about weight-loss], completed more food records and ate fewer calories than the slow group.”

Skiny dip leads to swollen tip for tourist

NEW YORK, 15 May — It is well established that exposure to ionizing radiation can result in mutations or other genetic damage that cause cells to turn cancerous. Now a new study led by researchers with the US Department of Energy’s Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab) has revealed another way in which radiation can promote cancer development.

Working with cultures of human breast cells, the researchers discovered that radiation exposure can alter the microenvironment surrounding the cells so that future cells are more likely to become cancerous. “Our work shows that radiation can change the microenvironment of breast cells, and this in turn can allow the growth of abnormal cells with a long-lived phenotype that has a much greater potential to be cancerous,” says Paul Yaswen, a cell biologist and breast cancer research specialist with Berkeley Lab’s Life Sciences Division. A cell’s phenotype is its full complement of observable physical or biochemical characteristics. Different cells can have phenotypes that look dramatically different or exhibit radically different behavior even though their genetic makeup (genotype) is identical.

Primary care docs handling more HIV cases

WASHINGTON, 15 May — A new US survey, touted as the first of its kind, reveals that primary care doctors are taking over a larger share of care for people with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Fifty-four percent of primary care doctors surveyed said they treat HIV-positive patients, and 43 percent said the number of HIV cases they treat had increased over the past year. Among primary care physicians who treat HIV-positive patients, more than one-third said they see more than 200 cases a year.

“The state of HIV primary care is evolving rapidly, with serious implications for the health-care system,” Brian Hujdev, executive director of HealthHIV, the organization that commissioned the report, said in a news release.
US-China talks to focus on jobs, economy

WASHINGTON, 15 May—The US ambassador to Beijing said Friday that key US-China talks later this month will focus on jobs and economic vitality as China’s “historic economic transformation” stimulates US exports.

“Jobs and economic vitality will be a centerpiece” of the strategic and economic dialogue, Ambassador Jon Huntsman told reporters ahead of US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s trip for the meetings.

The chief US diplomat and Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner will hold the dialogue with their Chinese counterpart in Beijing on 24-25 May after Clinton spends a couple of days in Shanghai for China’s World Expo.

“China is going through an historic economic transformation as they endeavor to create social safety nets that will allow them to move from an export-based system to a more consumer-based system,” Huntsman said.

Tourists view the scenery of the Diaoashilou waterfalls of Jingbohu Lake in Mudanjiang City, northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, on 13 May, 2010. Due to the frequent rainfall and snowfall from last winter to spring in this year in the area, especially increasing precipitation on the upper reaches of the Mudanjiang River recently, the Jingbohu Lake met the highest water level compared to the same historical period.

Investors show more interest in Indonesian oil, gas tenders

JAKARTA, 15 May—Indonesia’s Energy Ministry officials said that the government has awarded drilling rights in 14 oil and gas areas in a tender, declaring the results a “relief” after similar tenders last year failed to attract any bidders, local media reported here on Saturday.

The successful tender came after the government dropped a proposal to limit cost-recovery expenses by oil and gas companies in late April. Last year, tenders for 17 blocks went largely ignored by investors, many of whom cited uncertainty over government proposals to limit cost-recovery expenses as a factor.

Cost-recovery is a process whereby contractors are reimbursed for expenses incurred in the development and operation of the block.

International firms including Spanish giant Repsol, Canada’s Talisman Energy and Thailand’s PTT Exploration and Production were among those awarded drilling rights. Local companies winning rights included PT Sarga & Vega and PT Cakra Nusa Darma.

The tenders come as the nation struggles to reverse its declining oil production, a phenomenon which saw it drop out of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in 2008.

Last month, just after the government reversed its stance of cost recovery, a survey released by PricewaterhouseCoopers showed that the country was “losing its shine” for oil and gas investors.

Canada signs free trade agreement with Panama

OTTAWA, 15 May—Canada’s Minister of International Trade Van Loan and Panama’s Minister of Commerce and Industry Roberto Henriquez signed on Friday Free Trade Agreement and parallel agreements on labour cooperation and the environment. “Our government’s aggressive free trade agenda is opening new markets within the Americas, creating opportunities for Canadian businesses and workers and, as we recover from the global economic downturn, securing future prosperity for Canadians and our trading partners,” said Van Loan. The Canada-

Canadian service providers in areas such as information and communication technology, and engine-ering, environmental, energy and financial services.

Spain’s airlines count cost of Icelandic volcano

MADRID, 15 May—The ongoing eruption of the Icelandic volcano Eyjafjallia, that has caused chaos in air-traffic control over the past month has turned out to be very expensive to Spain’s airlines.

Iberia, which presented its results for the first quarter of the year this Friday, said that the eruption that caused the closure of airports all over Europe between 15-21 April cost it between 18-20 million Euros (22.4-24.9 million US dollars).

The low cost airline Vueling lost between six and eight million Euros, Air Europa lost around 10 million Euros and Spanair lost a quantity similar to that lost by Air Europa.

Xinhua

Greece, Turkey to cooperate in tourism

ATHENS, 15 May—Greek Culture and Tourism Minister Pavlos Geroulanos and his Turkish counterpart Ertugral Gunay signed on Friday in Athens a joint declaration for enhanced bilateral cooperation in the tourism, focusing on Chinese visitors.

The agreement ratified during the first meeting of the High Level Greek-Turkish Council for Strategic Partnership in the presence of the prime ministers of Greece and Turkey, George Papandreou and Recep Tayip Erdogan, promotes first of all joint Greek-Turkish tourism packages to third countries such as China.

Athens, 15 May — Greek Culture and Tourism Minister Pavlos Geroulanos and his Turkish counterpart Ertugral Gunay signed on Friday in Athens a joint declaration for enhanced bilateral cooperation in the tourism, focusing on Chinese visitors.

The agreement ratified during the first meeting of the High Level Greek-Turkish Council for Strategic Partnership in the presence of the prime ministers of Greece and Turkey, George Papandreou and Recep Tayip Erdogan, promotes first of all joint Greek-Turkish tourism packages to third countries such as China.

Xinhua

Spain’s airlines count cost of Icelandic volcano

MADRID, 15 May—The ongoing eruption of the Icelandic volcano Eyjafjallia, that has caused chaos in air-traffic control over the past month has turned out to be very expensive to Spain’s airlines.

Iberia, which presented its results for the first quarter of the year this Friday, said that the eruption that caused the closure of airports all over Europe between 15-21 April cost it between 18-20 million Euros (22.4-24.9 million US dollars).

The low cost airline Vueling lost between six and eight million Euros, Air Europa lost around 10 million Euros and Spanair lost a quantity similar to that lost by Air Europa.

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua
Long-term and short-term means should be applied to address water shortages

Prime Minister U Thein Sein views construction site of tributary of Hsatoeikya creek in Sittway built by TDAC.—MNA

Naypyidaw, 15 May — Long-term and short-term means should be applied to address water shortages in the regions concerned, said Prime Minister U Thein Sein yesterday during his visit to Sittway, the capital of Rakhine State.

The Prime Minister pointed out the gradually rising global warming as the cause of droughts and water shortages at his meeting with departmental officials.

Currently, short-term means including sinking of tube-wells and distribution of water are in use to solve the problem, he said, adding, long-term means covering the task of repairing and dredging lakes, digging new lakes as necessary, arrangements to enable every household to store rainwater and building of 30000-gallon-capacity tanks at schools, hospitals and offices. The Prime Minister spoke of the need to disseminate heat warnings and launch educational campaigns.

Rakhine State lagged behind in development in the past due to insurgency. But now the government is providing necessary infrastructures in the state where peace and stability has been restored. The state is witnessing the fruits of peace and stability. All will have to maintain peace and stability till posterity, he said.

Administrative staff will have to join hands with judicial and law staff and the public for the rule of law, he noted.

The Head of State has been making arrangements for the improvement of transport sector for the state to export its surplus rice, meat, fish and salt to other regions of the country, he said, urging, officials to make necessary repairs soonest with public cooperation.

In addition to road transport, the government has also upgraded Thandwe, Kyaukphyu and Sittway airports and extended railroads. Pyidawtha-Sittway-Yechanbyin railroad section has been inaugurated. Kwantung-Ponnyaung-Yotayok section will be put into service tomorrow. Through self-relied efforts, the government-built infrastructures should be utilized effectively for socioeconomic improvement of every individual.

Necessary laws and rules have been enacted and Union Election Commission formed to hold the 2010 election. The UEC is now carrying out the task of setting up parties and party registration in accord with the respective laws. As there are attempts of internal and external saboteurs to disrupt the election, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw should make cooperative efforts for the success of the election.

Whilst there were loss of lives and property in Yangon and Ayeyawady divisions due to cyclone Nargis. Thanks to the harmonious efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, the locals of the cyclone-hit regions are now able to enjoy a better live.

He then dealt with building of cyclone shelters as well as a prevent loss, he said. At his inspection of Hsatoeikya dam, the Prime Minister facilitated the programme to supply water to seven wards from the reservoir after hearing the reports presented by Lt-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and officials.

Effective supervision is required to prevent leaks and wastage in providing water to the town, the Prime Minister stressed.

The dam is located over 33 miles long Ponnyaung-Yathedau road, over 20 miles long Pauktaw-Minbya road, and over 22 miles long Ponnyaung-Yathedau road, which is the building of a 130-million-gallon reservoir.

Prime Minister U Thein Sein inspects storage of water in Kandawkyi and extra lake supplying water to Sittway.—MNA

Prime Minister U Thein Sein views construction site of tributary of Hsatoeikya creek in Sittway built by TDAC.—MNA

There were loss of lives and property in Yangon and Ayeyawady divisions due to cyclone Nargis. Thanks to the harmonious efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, the locals of the cyclone-hit regions are now able to enjoy a better live.

He then dealt with building of cyclone shelters as well as a prevent loss, he said. At his inspection of Hsatoeikya dam, the Prime Minister facilitated the programme to supply water to seven wards from the reservoir after hearing the reports presented by Lt-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western

is the building of a 130-million-gallon reservoir. He then inspected storage of water in Kandawgyi and an extra lake which are supplying water to Sittway.

The Prime Minister’s inspection tour also covered over 22 miles long Ponnyaung-Yathedau road, over 20 miles long Pauktaw-Minbya road, and over 24 miles long Myebon-Minbya road, over 33 miles long Kyauktaw-Paletwa road, three-storey main hall project of Sittway University, facilitation of works in coordination with high level officials and a meeting with faculty members and students this morning.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back here by air in the afternoon.—MNA
National Railway Network will emerge...

Prime Minister U Thein Sein delivering address at inauguration ceremony of Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section of Minbu-An-Sittway railroad construction project. MNA

Social-economic status of the people but also to the structure of integrity for all national people, the government has spent a large sum of money in implementing the strategic plans on building roads and bridges in all regions of the Union including border regions.

It is necessary to build a peaceful and developed nation on a self-reliant basis. All the people are to try hard to improve their efficiency. Only when, they rely on their own strength, will the modern and developed nation emerge. He noted that there are many ongoing tasks to build the nation. He stressed the need to implement the development plans. Achievements in the development plans will contribute much to cementing relationship between the national races and forging the Union Spirit.

Thanks to concerted efforts of the people and innovative measures of the employees, Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section emerged for lifting socio-economic status of the national people, ensuring better and secure transport and speedy flow of commodity.

The 22.72 miles long Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section is a part of Minbu-An-Sittway railroad, and it is the second facility of its kind in Rakhine State. Minbu-An-Sittway railroad project is being implemented to link Minbu of Magway Division on Kyaungin-Pakokku railroad section and Sittway of Rakhine State. The 257 miles long railroad will have tunnels and bridges passing through 1285 small and large railway stations and 51 small and large bridges along the railroad. It is necessary to build a peaceful and developed nation on a self-reliant basis.

The 22.72 miles long Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section will have easy access to all the regions of the nation and commodities will be transported smoothly. That is why the railroad will contribute much to enhancement of all the sectors including economic and social sectors.

He said that plans are under way to build 51 railway stations and 1285 small and large bridges along the railroad. Head of State Senator General Than Shwe had given guidance to construct railroads as networks for improvement of the socio-economic status of the people from States and Divisions. The new railroad projects are: 320 miles long Kyayn-Dawei railroad, 98 miles long Katha-Hamo railroad, 95 miles long Pyay-Nyaungdon railroad, 132 miles long Dawei-Myeik railroad, 226 miles long Mongnai-Kengtung railroad, 257 miles long Sittway-An-Minburailroad, 89 miles long Pathin-Yangon road.

In the near future, the National Railway Network will emerge to link all the States and Divisions. Thanks to the Ministry of Rail Transportation, railroads have been constructed from Myitkyina in the northern part of the nation to Dawei in the southern part of the nation, Mongnai in the eastern part and Kalay in the western part in addition to Loikaw in the southeastern part. If the newly-planned Pyay-Nyaung-Yangon road links with Kyayn-Pakokku railroad on the west bank of Ayeyawady Division, the people from the east and west of Ayeyawady Division will gain access to Nay Pyi Taw through the railroads. Thanks to construction of railroads, Shan State, Kayah State, Tanintharyi Division, upper Magway Division and Sagaing Division are enjoying fruitful results of passengers and commodity transportation.

(See page 9)
National Railway Network will emerge…  
(from page 8)

He noted that although the transport technology improves in the international community, the rail transportation is taking position of reliable service up to now. In Myanmar, the government is giving priority to operating the smooth and secure rail transportation which is playing an important role in passengers and commodity transport.

With a view to developing the rail transportation sector, the government upgraded old railroads, constructed new railroads, extended new railway stations and modernized the stations of major towns at international level. Myanmar had 1976 miles long railroads and 487 railway stations before 1988. At present, the country has 3433 miles long railroads and 875 railway stations. As such, the government could build 1457 miles long railroads and 388 stations more than the past. In addition, efforts are being made to construct and upgrade locomotives, passenger coaches and wagons.

In the past, the country did not have good conditions of motorways due to natural barriers of mountain ranges, forests, rivers and creeks. At present, the government has built inter-village roads, inter-town roads, inter-district roads and Union Highways including the roads of border regions. Therefore, the number of tarred, gravel and earth roads increased over 70,000 miles from 20,000 miles in 1988. Likewise, new small and large bridges have been built and the withstand of existing bridges has been upgraded for better transport of commodity.

In the aviation sector, the government built new airports and upgraded the existing ones. Therefore, a total of 70 airports including two international airports are in operation for enabling the passengers and commodities to reach their destinations within the short period of time. With regard to the waterway transport sector, the number of wharves for berthing of ocean liners hit 26 from 13, and three international standard container yards have been constructed.

With a view to enhancing education, health and social sectors with genuine goodwill, the government has created better transport for all the national people including those residing the regions that had lagged behind in development. He pointed out that the government is making endeavors to undertake the rail transport, road transport, waterway transport and aviation transport with the investments of money, manpower, machinery and technology. By overcoming internal and external disturbance and hindrances, the government is striving for enabling the Union of Myanmar to keep abreast of international community with the aim of serving the interest of the people. As a result, all the people can witness the accurate and firm figures showing development of the nation and improvement of livelihoods of the people.

The construction of railroads including Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section resulted in the genuine goodwill and correct stand of the government for ensuring improvement in socio-economic status of the national people and equitable development of all the regions of the Union. That is why all the people are to effectively utilize the good results and keep sustainable development of their socio-economic sector till posterity.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister urged the staff of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, passenger and local people to maintain the newly-opened railroad sector for its durability.

In his speaking, the commander said that local people of 20 villages residing along the newly-inaugurated 22.72 miles long Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section of Minbu-An-Sittway railroad will be able to travel from one place to another, thereby contributing towards improvement in friendship and socio-economic status of local people.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, An valley road, Taungup valley road and Gwa-Ngathainggayun road were upgraded and 1600 small and large bridges were built with the aim of ensuring better transportation in Rakhine State. So far, 1100 miles and three furlongs of road have been constructed in the state. The construction of 22 miles and six furlongs long Yathedaun-Ponnagyun road, 24 miles and seven furlongs long Myebon-Minbya road and 20 miles and six furlongs long Pauktaw-Minbya road are under construction for three townships which are not linked to Yangon-Sittway road. The 42 miles and five furlongs long Paletwa-Kyauktaw road which will link Paletwa in Chin State with Yangon-Sittway Road is also under construction.

Thanks to collaborative efforts of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, companies and local people, Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section was successfully inaugurated within the period of seven months.

Engineers of Sittway-An-Minbu railroad project and companies built not only the railroad section but also 32 drinking water lakes and one dam in Sittway, Ponnagyun and Kyauktaw Townships in order to store 31 million gallons of water for ensuring drinking water sufficiency at villages along the railroad section, he added.

The commander called for effective utilization of sound foundations implemented by the State and durability of the newly-opened railroad section.

In his address, the minister said that the ministry was assigned to build 257-mile Sittway-An-Minbu railroad within the short period of time. The 12-mile Pyidawtha-Sittway-Yaychabyin railroad section was opened on 19 April, 2009. The construction of Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section started on 1 October, 2009. A total of 70 small and large bridges and seven railway stations were constructed along the railroad section.

(See page 10)
National Railway Network will emerge...

(from page 9)

At the time when the State Peace and Development Council is striving for ensuring harmonious development of all sectors across the nation, the Ministry of Rail Transportation is making strenuous efforts on repair, upgrading and extended construction of railroads for better transport and regional development and assembling of cost-effective passenger coaches and wagons at home for convenience of passengers. The minister pledged the ministry will continue to serve the interest of the State and the people.

Next, a local spoke words of thanks. Then the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present.

Afterwards, Lt.-Gen Ko Ko, the commander, Ministers U Soe Thein, U Thein Swe and U Aung Min formally opened the Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section.

The Prime Minister and party posed for a documentary together with those present.

Next, the Prime Minister sprinkled scented water on the special train and presented gifts to passengers.

The Prime Minister and party left here for Aungpyuwin Station by special train.

The construction of the 22.72-mile Kwantuang-Ponnagyun-Yotayok railroad section started on 1 Oct, 2009 and there were 70 large and small bridges and four railway stations namely Kwantuang, Ponnagyun, Aungpyuwin and Yotayok stations along the railroad section.—MNA

Drive for building a peaceful, modern...

(from page 16)

The Secretary-1 added that in the time of the Tatmadaw government, the 30-year Education Promotion Plan for rapid development was launched in the education sector. In the process, multimedia classrooms were opened in basic education primary, middle and high schools, and the education system has been improved through electronic education. So far, the number of universities and colleges across the nation has touched 161. Literate population makes up 94 per cent, and the enrolment at the primary level has reached 98 per cent. The government is taking measures for prescription of subjects in all fields to enable the nation’s population reside; smooth transport in rural areas; supply of adequate potable water; promotion of the rural education standard; better health care to rural people; and economic growth of rural areas. In addition, it is establishing village libraries with the aim of expediting the five programmes.

In Myanmar, rural people constitute about 70 per cent of the nation’s population. The nation’s major business is sustainable development of self-reliant village libraries. Up to now, the number of self-reliant village libraries in urban and rural areas has hit 55,795, of which 29,185 have got fine buildings, periodicals, furniture, and librarians.

With a growing number of self-reliant village libraries throughout the nation, rural folks can broaden their horizons more than ever. If so, the people will be able to practise democracy in a correct, effective way. In future, self-reliant village libraries are to be upgraded to community learning centres by providing them with access to Internet. Therefore, building self-reliant village libraries is not only to broaden the horizons of rural people, but also to implement a national duty of building a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

With this concept in view, the government has been providing funds since 2009-2010 to make sure that every self-reliant village library has their own buildings.

Thanks to the leadership of the government, and contributions of entrepreneurs and wellwishers, 29,185 of the libraries have possessed furniture, publications, librarians, library committees, and funds. Continued efforts are to be made for the remaining libraries to possess those standards. In particular, the drive needs the contributions of wellwishers, the government, and various organizations. Only then will it be possible for the libraries to enjoy sustainable development. So, Rural Library Foundation will be built for sustainable progress of the libraries.

He spoke of the need for the entire people to join hands with the government in building Rural Library Foundation. He urged all to extend helping hands as the foundation is part of the national duty of expanding the horizons of rural people, improving their living conditions, and building a new nation.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 called for collaborative efforts to ensure progress of the Rural Library Foundation that will help generate physical and spiritual development of rural areas since rural people play a crucial role in building a new nation.

(See page 11)
Drive for building a peaceful, modern...

(from page 10)

Entrepreneurs should participate in the drive by providing funds and labour with the conviction that ensuring sustainable development of self-reliant village libraries is part of the national duty.

After speaking words of thanks, Patron of Rural Library Foundation Min U Kyaw Hsan explained the purpose of establishing the Rural Library Foundation. He said that first and foremost, the establishment of the foundation was aimed at broadening the horizons of the rural people in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. As Myanmar is an agrarian nation, improvement of rural regions means progress of the nation. In fact, development of rural regions depends on the widening scope of the rural people. The practice of reading is a basic need for enhancement of intelligence quotient of the rural people. Therefore, the libraries were opened for enabling the rural people to have reading practice and widen their knowledge scope.

The second point of the foundation is to acquire knowledge about media. Today is education age as well as media age. While IT and ICT are developing day by day around the world, the media is covering various sectors rapidly. Protection cannot be taken against media through technology. Only then, can the own knowledge of the people protect against the media. The reading practice is the main point for creating on own media knowledge.

The third point of the aims is set in order to correctly practise and manage democracy. Those who will practise democracy are the people as well as those who manage to correctly practise democracy is also the people. To correctly practise and manage democracy, the people must have high intelligence quotient. Literature is the basic need for improvement of knowledge for the people. Thus, the village libraries were established in the rural regions.

The aims of the Rural Library Foundation are not to serve the whole people’s interest, not for individual and organization. On other hand, it is for the national interest. As Myanmar has over 60,000 villages, rural libraries have been opened in almost all the villages. The foundation will be formed with the board of patrons and executive committee. The members have to work there on a voluntary basis. The foundation will have to practice the public-based fund-raising method to raise its fund.

The foundation will run its functions with the use of proceeds from the fund donated by wellwishers. It is planned to form state/division/ townships level foundations in future. After successful implementation of sustainable development of rural libraries, it is planned to carry out rural education development task and rural health development task that are included in five rural development tasks in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. The minister called on the entire people to take part in establishment of rural libraries for successful realization of tasks of rural library foundation.

Next, the Secretary-1, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers and officials accepted cash and kind worth K 720,943,500 donated by 354 wellwishers including entrepreneurs, companies, organizations and departments and presented certificates of honour to them.

Local authorities, departments, wellwishers join hands in supplying adequate drinking water to residents of Magway, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Yangon Divs, Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May — Under the arrangements of the State, local authorities, departments, non-governmental organizations and people are supplying water to the regions facing drinking water scarcity for ensuring drinking water sufficiency.

Under the supervision of Executive Officer U Thet Tun of Magway Township Development Affairs Committee and officials, 14,400 gallons of water are supplied to local people of five villages in Magway Township daily with the use of water bowsers of the committee and wellwishers.

For ensuring drinking water sufficiency at two villages in Thazi Township, two villages in Taungtha Township and two villages in Natogyi Township, Director U Min Min Zaw of Mandalay Division DAC and officials attended to the water needs of local people with the use of water bowsers yesterday.

The respective township DACs are providing drinking water to 245 villages in Thazi Township, 243 villages in Taungtha Township and 186 villages in Natogyi Township.

Yesterday, Director U Tin Cho of Ayeyawady Division DAC supervised supply of 4,000 gallons of drinking water to people of urban wards in Pathein by bowser and inspected the lake which is under repair in order to store more rainwater.

Local authorities supplied 1,600 gallons of drinking water to two wards in Nyaungdon Township on 12 May and seven villages on 13 May, two villages on 14 May, 3,200 gallons of water to two villages in Dedaye Township and adequate drinking water to one village in Maubin Township on 14 May.

Deputy Superintending Engineer U Tin Maung Myint of Yangon Division DAC and officials supervised supply of water to two villages in Hmawby Township daily.

Director U Aye Swe of Mon State DAC and party yesterday oversaw Attayan, Setkon, Honbo and Myoma water supplying stations in Kyakmaraw and attended to the needs.

For ensuring drinking water sufficiency at three urban wards, Kyakmaraw Township DAC distributes 35,000 gallons of water from four water supplying stations, 22 water tanks and three taps to local people daily.
Adequate drinking water supplied to townships of Nay Pyi Taw District

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee manages to supply adequate drinking water to people from the places of Nay Pyi Taw District facing shortage of water.

Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Tun Kyi and heads of department supervised supply of drinking water to wards of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township and its villages today.

In so doing, a total of 12,000 gallons of water was supplied to 1,200 houses of Yanaung (1) Bogon Ward, 18,000 gallons to 1,830 houses of Yanaung (2) Kyaunkuang Ward and 6,000 gallons to Thahtaygon Village in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township with the use of 14 water bowser.

The Joint-Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee and heads of department supervised supply of water to Nay Pyi Taw Ottarathiri Township. The committee daily provides 100,000 gallons of water to 1,500 houses of Shwenatha Ward in Nay Pyi Taw Ottarathiri Township and not extends supply of water with the use of four 2,800-gallon water tankers.

Moreover, eight 1,600-gallon capacity water tankers supply water 220 houses in Thayagon Ward of Nay Pyi Taw Zabathiri Township, 14,400 gallons of water to 450 houses of Shweingyi Ward in Nay Pyi Taw Dekkhinathiri Township and 48,000 gallons of water to Mingaladipa, Zawandipa and Wunnadipa wards of Nay Pyi Taw Pobbathiri Township daily.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Than Shein and officials provided 20,000 gallons of water to 680 houses of Khayansatgon Village of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township. Likewise, arrangements were made to supply adequate drinking water to Nay Pyinmana Township.

Secretary U Tun Kyi and departmental heads of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee arranged supply of water to Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township.—DAD

Libya to strengthen cooperation with China on oil, development aids

TIANJIN, 15 May—Libyan Foreign Minister Moussa Kousa said here on Friday that Libya is willing to strengthen cooperation with China on issues like energy, trade and African development aid.

He told Xinhua at the on-going fourth China-Arab Cooperation Forum that China-Libyan cooperation has “great potential.” Africa especially needs foreign aid and assistance to develop infrastructure and improve people’s livelihoods, he said.

The Foreign Minister said China has done a great deal to help Africa.

It is Kousa’s first visit to China since he was appointed Libyan Foreign Minister in March last year. Kousa is the co-chairman of this year’s two-day forum, themed “Deepening All-Round Cooperation for Common Development.”

The forum was initiated in January 2004, when Chinese President Hu Jintao visited the Arab League headquarters in Cairo. It has since served as a platform for exchanging views between China and Arab nations and for enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation.—Xinhua

Spanish navy donates 10 mln US dollars for Chile’s post-quake reconstruction

SANTIAGO, 15 May—Spain donated 10 million US dollars to Chile on Thursday for the sanitation reconstruction in the rural areas affected by the 27 Feb earthquake, local Press reported.

Chilean Interior Minister Rodrigo Hinzpeter appreciated Spain’s donation for the moment when the money was given, considering the complex economic situation in most of the European countries.

Xinhua

Somali pirates release British-flagged chemical tanker

NAIROBI, 15 May—Somali pirates have released a British chemical tanker which was hijacked in December last year with 26 crew aboard, the European Union naval force said on Friday.

Naval Force spokesman John Harbour said St James Park and its 26 crew released on Thursday were sailing to Spain from Thailand when it was seized by the pirates in the Gulf of Aden on 28 December, 2009. “On the morning of 13 May a ransom drop was made to the pirate group holding the St James Park at anchorage at Garacad,” Harbour said.

He said St James Park is a British Flagged chemical tanker with deadweight of 13,924 tonnes, and has three Filipinos, three Russians, two Romanians, five Bulgarians, two Ukrainians, one Polish, six Indians and three Turkish.

“Since it is now safely underway and EU NAVFOR is continuing to monitor the situation,” Harbour said.

Xinhua

Greek police cordon off area near Athens’ main prison following strong bomb explosion

Greek police cordoned off area near Athens’ main prison in Korydallos District in Athens, capital of Greece, on 13 May, 2010, following a strong bomb explosion that occurred outside the prison on Thursday evening. At least one woman living in a nearby apartment was slightly injured in her leg by glasses from shattered windows.

Xinhua

File photo of the released British chemical tanker St James Park. Somalians have released a British chemical tanker which was hijacked in December last year with 26 crew aboard, the European Union naval force said on Friday.—Xinhua

Water being provided to Mingaladipa ward, Nay Pyi Taw Pobbathiri Township.—DAD
DNA clue to life at high altitude

WASHINGTON, 15 May — The ability of Tibetans to live on the “roof of the world” may be due to their DNA, US researchers say. University of Utah researchers found 10 genes which help Tibetans thrive at heights where others get sick. Two of the genes are linked to haemoglobin — the substance in blood that transports oxygen round the body.

Doctors say the research, published in Science, could lead to treatments for severe forms of altitude sickness and other illnesses. Altitude sickness is the name given to ill-effects caused by the body’s struggle to deal with a lack of oxygen at high altitude. It can lead to brain and lung complications, which can threaten even the fittest mountaineers. People native to high altitudes appear to be immune to such effects, through thousands of years of genetic selection.

Tibetans have evolved genes that others living at high altitudes — such as in the Andes — have not. Professor Lynn Jorde, of the University of Utah School of Medicine, said: “For the first time, we have genes that explain that adaptation.” The study looked at DNA extracted from blood samples taken from 75 villagers living at 15,000ft (4,500m).

New York man sentenced to 15-years-to-life for stabbing, ‘eating’ his wife

NEW YORK, 15 May — A Queens man was sentenced today to 15-years-to-life for stabbing his wife more than 250 times and then allegedly eating her lungs and drinking her blood, all in front of their four-year-old daughter. Mohammad Solaiman was sentenced today for the gruesome murder of his wife Shahida Sultanna in their Jamaica, Queens, New York home in December 2007.

Their four-year-old daughter was in the next room at the time of the incident and witnessed the bloody aftermath. Ms Sultanna’s sister, Ferdousi Begum, shuddered and bawled in court today as she begged Solaiman to explain why he killed her. “He drank her blood. Her daughter told me that.”

DNA clue to life at high altitude

Nepal Everest clean-up held up by strong winds

KATHMANDU, 15 May — An effort by 20 Nepalese Sherpas to clear rubbish and remove the bodies of climbers from the top of Mount Everest has been hampered by 100kmh winds. The Sherpa-led Extreme Everest expedition is performing a “deep clean” of the world’s highest mountain. So far it has recovered several bodies, including that of a Russian climber, Sergey Duganov, which has now been helicoptered off the mountain.

The Sherpas hope to remove at least two tonnes of rubbish from Everest. The clean-up team now aims to reach the summit on Saturday when the weather should have improved. A spokesman for the expedition said that three bodies — two of which had not been identified — had been found on a lower part of the mountain known as the Khumbu icefall. Mr Duganov’s body was found on the Lhotse face of the mountain — along with the body of Swiss climber Gianni Goltz which was removed on Tuesday.

In a separate development, the government has announced that foreign mountaineers who have climbed Mount Everest and another peak — Mount Dhaulagiri, the world’s seventh highest at 8,167m — will get free Nepalese visas for two years.

DNA clue to life at high altitude

Pneumonia, diarrhea biggest killers of kids under 5

LONDON, 15 May — Infections illnesses such as pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria accounted for more than two-thirds of the estimated 8.8 million deaths of children under five worldwide in 2008, according to a new study.

The study, published in this week’s online issue of the medical journal The Lancet, was done by researchers at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore for the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

DNA clue to life at high altitude

Woman who impaled breast on door handle had to be cut free by firefighters

LONDON, 15 May — A young woman who impaled her breast on a door handle had to be cut free by firefighters. The Daily Telegraph in Britain reports the unnamed 24-year-old victim still had the handle attached to her inside her home in Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, England, when ambulance officers arrived at the scene. No explanation was given as to how the accident happened.

She was taken to hospital after firefighters “used hand saws to cut her free”, the paper said. A spokesman for the Great Western Ambulance Service told The Telegraph: “An emergency care practitioner administered morphine which allowed fire crews to detach the handle from the door.

“You have to be so careful with traumas like this as you have no idea how deep the object is inside the woman or what internal damage might have been caused.”

DNA clue to life at high altitude

Missing’ woman turns up

GLENDALE, 15 May — A young California woman was found alive and well on Thursday in Merced, several hundred miles north of the Los Angeles area where she was reported missing. Nancy Salas’s apparent disappearance on Wednesday set off a massive search, the Los Angeles Times reported. Relatives and friends helped comb the hills around Glendale, while police used helicopters and dogs. What happened to her was unclear. While her family apparently believed Salas was a student at the University of California at Los Angeles, police and UCLA officials say she dropped out almost two years ago.

“She may have been leading a double life and it was starting to catch up with her,” said Sgt Tom Lorenz of the Glendale Police Department. “The family was going to have a graduation party where she would have to show off her diploma.” Salas’s father called police on Wednesday after his daughter failed to return from an early morning run.

DNA clue to life at high altitude

Nepal Everest clean-up held up by strong winds

The Extreme Everest team says the mountain has been polluted.

DNA clue to life at high altitude

Pneumonia, diarrhea biggest killers of kids under 5

LONDON, 15 May — Infections illnesses such as pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria accounted for more than two-thirds of the estimated 8.8 million deaths of children under five worldwide in 2008, according to a new study.

The study, published in this week’s online issue of the medical journal The Lancet, was done by researchers at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore for the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

DNA clue to life at high altitude

Woman who impaled breast on door handle had to be cut free by firefighters

LONDON, 15 May — A young woman who impaled her breast on a door handle had to be cut free by firefighters. The Daily Telegraph in Britain reports the unnamed 24-year-old victim still had the handle attached to her inside her home in Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, England, when ambulance officers arrived at the scene. No explanation was given as to how the accident happened.

She was taken to hospital after firefighters “used hand saws to cut her free”, the paper said. A spokesman for the Great Western Ambulance Service told The Telegraph: “An emergency care practitioner administered morphine which allowed fire crews to detach the handle from the door.

“You have to be so careful with traumas like this as you have no idea how deep the object is inside the woman or what internal damage might have been caused.”

DNA clue to life at high altitude

"He drank her blood. Her daughter told me that."

NEWSresco goslings huddle near the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia, on 12 May, 2010.
Rooney’s new-found maturity boosts England

LONDON, 15 May – Wayne Rooney believes England will feel the benefit of his new-found maturity when the Manchester United striker leads his country’s bid to win the World Cup. Rooney has been in superb form this season and his performances for United have been recognised by a host of player of the year awards over the last month. Aside from his 34 goals and countless match-winning displays, the most impressive aspect of Rooney’s campaign has been his ability to stay out of trouble on the pitch.

The sight of Rooney snarling at opponents and referees after yet another flashpoint was commonplace during his early years at Everton and then United. But, after initially earning a reputation as a hot-head, who was liable to get himself sent off at the first sign of provocation, Rooney was booked just eight times this term. He admits the process of growing up in the spotlight had taken a while to get used to, but now he is fully aware of his responsibilities to United and England.

Beckham targets September return

LONDON, 15 May – David Beckham believes he will be fit to resume playing in September after recovering from the Achilles tendon injury which destroyed his World Cup dream. The 34-year-old former England skipper suffered the injury in March when he was playing for AC Milan and was immediately ruled out for six months. Asked about his likely return date, Beckham told the BBC on Friday: “Probably September.

“I said a couple of weeks ago it would be November but the way it’s going — I’m sure there will be setbacks along the way but if it continues to go well — hopefully I’ll be back at the start of September. It’s still a long road. I’ve got a while to go before I even run again. It’s going to take time, it’s an injury that needs to heal and make sure it’s right before I push it in any way but it’s going well so far.”

Wigan swoop for Paraguay defender Alcaraz

WIGAN, 15 May – English Premier League club Wigan agreed a deal to sign Paraguay defender Antonil Alcaraz from Belgian team Bruges on Friday. Roberto Martinez’s side negotiated an undisclosed transfer fee for the 27-year-old central defender, who has been a virtual ever-present for Bruges since joining in 2007. Alcaraz, who has been selected for Paraguay’s provisional World Cup squad, helped Bruges come second in the Belgian League behind Anderlecht this season and Martinez believes he will prove a valuable addition.

Goaless draw sends Yadanabon to semi

YANGON, 15 May – Host club Yadanarbon held ITTU to a goalless draw and qualified for the semi-finals from Group C of the AFC President’s Cup held in Myanmar on Thursday. The Myanmar National League champions were reduced to 10 men in the 29th minute when Chit San Maung was sent off for an early shower by Hong Kong referee Ng Kai Lam.

But ITTU failed to break down Yadanarbon’s defences despite the Turkmen side’s best attempts in front of 10,000 fans at the Youth Training Centre.

WBA light-welterweight champion Amir Khan of Britain and challenger Paulie Malignaggi of New York. The boxers nearly came to blows when tension between the fighters and their entourages sparked an hysterical outbreak of pushing and shoving that security officers had to break up.

Neither fighter was hurt, but Malignaggi’s manager blamed the incident on the large Khan contingent in attendance and said the challenger would gain his revenge in the ring.

“There was some trash talking going on and they were in each other’s face, and up to there I have no problem with it,” Malignaggi manager Anthony Catarzaro, told Reuters.
A girl walks past a giant digital screen at Gyegu Town in quake-hit Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of northwest China's Qinghai Province, on May 12, 2010.—XINHUA

European Food Festival to be held in Vietnam

HANOI, 15 May — The fifth European Food Festival will take place in the Vietnamese capital of Hanoi in May 22, according to a press conference held here on Friday. The festival is expected to feature a variety of European food and drink served by many famous food companies from European countries.

Speaking at the conference, Vice Chairman of European Chamber and Commerce in Vietnam (EuroCham) Preben Hjortlund said the event will make contribution to boost cooperation between Vietnam and Europe, believing that culture is an important bridge between economies.—Xinhua

WEATHER

Saturday, 15th May, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. MST. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Mon and Chin States, Taninthayi Division, isolated in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (5°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin, Southern and Northern Shan, Rakline and Kayah and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (45°C) to (50°C) above May average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Myinmu (47.2°C), Chauk (45.8°C), Mwegywar and Myingyan (45.5°C) each, Monywa (45.1°C) NyuangU (44.7°C) and Mandalay (44.6°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyekhame(0.55) inch, Lashio (0.51) inch, Pang (0.39) inch, and Pato (0.24) inch and Taunggyi (0.20) inch.

Maximum temperature on 14-5-2010 was 105°F. Minimum temperature on 15-5-2010 was 82°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 15-5-2010 was 56 %. Total sun shine hours on 14-5-2010 was (18) hours. Rainfall on 15-5-2010 was (Nil) at Mingleladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (6) mm from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 14-5-2010.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 16th May 2010: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin and Chin States, isolated in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 16-5-2010: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-5-2010: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar.
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

Drive for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation calls for massive development of human resources
Every citizen must have easy access to learning opportunities irrespective of age, experience, educational qualification and location

Yangon, 15 May—A ceremony to establish the Rural Library Foundation was held in conjunction with the cash donation ceremony at International Business Centre on Pyay Road, here, this afternoon, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, wellwishers and guests.

In his address, Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivered an address.

The Secretary-1 in his speech quoted the guidance given by the Head of State in his message sent on 1 January 2010 to mark the day on which e-Education was launched saying that the drive for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation calls for massive development of human resources as well as regional human resource development in every part of the nation; that to ensure sustainable development of human resources, it is needed to build the Myanmar society into a lifelong learning one; and that every citizen must have easy access to learning opportunities irrespective of age, experience, educational qualification and location.

The significant day temperatures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Myinmu</td>
<td>47.2°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chauk</td>
<td>45.8°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magway</td>
<td>45.5°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myingyan</td>
<td>45.5°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monywa</td>
<td>45.1°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NyaungU</td>
<td>44.7°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>44.6°C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>