Established 1914

Four political objectives

* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconciliation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

* 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 social 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
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Shan State (East) Border Guard Force formed

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May — A ceremony to form Shan State (East) Border Guard Force was held in Metmang on a grand scale today.

It was attended by Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Phyo, Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn and Maj-Gen Hlaing Myint of the Ministry of Defence, senior military officers of the local station, departmental officials and local people totalling 600.

According to the agenda, hoisting State-flag, taking oaths of a Tatmadaw member and assigning duties and decorating the members of the Border Guard Force with insignia of the Tatmadaw followed. Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Phyo of People’s Militia and Frontier Forces Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn of the Ministry of Defence delivered addresses. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the stone plaque in commemoration of the formation of the border guard force. After documentary photos have been taken, BGF members together with local people sang songs and enjoyed the traditional dances. Lt-Gen Ye Myint spoke words of encouragement.

(See page 8)

Democratic Party (Myanmar) granted permission to register as political party

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May — The Union Election Commission issued Notification No. 43/2010 today. The translation of the notification is as follows:-

The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. 43/2010
8th Waxing of Nayon, 1372 ME
20 May 2010
Democratic Party (Myanmar) is granted permission to register as political party

The Union Election Commission granted permission to the Democratic Party (Myanmar) with its headquarters at No. 6, Kwetthit Street in Ward 7 of Pazundaung Township, Yangon Division, to register as a political party in accord with the Article 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law as of 20 May 2010.

The registration number of the Democratic Party (Myanmar) is (6).

By Order
Sd/Win Ko
Secretary
Union Election Commission

Kayan National Party granted permission to register as political party

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May — The Union Election Commission issued Notification No. 44/2010 today. The translation of the notification is as follows:-

The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. 44/2010
8th Waxing of Nayon, 1372 ME
20 May 2010
Kayan National Party is granted permission to register as political party

The Union Election Commission granted permission to the Kayan National Party with its headquarters at No. 6, Kweithit Street in Ward 7 of Pazundaung Township, Yangon Division, to register as a political party in accord with the Article 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law as of 20 May 2010.

The registration number of the Kayan National Party is (7).

By Order
Sd/Win Ko
Secretary
Union Election Commission
Potable water supply calls for public participation

The government is pouring tremendous efforts into the drive for construction of dams, river water pumping stations and underground water tapping stations, and supply of potable water. In that regard, it has been sinking a tube-well each in villages to supply safe water.

In addition, under the directives of the government, local authorities, departments and people are working in concert for supply of adequate drinking water to the regions where it is scarce.

Local administrative bodies are distributing drinking water with the use of their own water bowser and fire engines to local people of Luhteikpan Ward in Monywa, Kanbalu, Dabinshwehti Ward in Myinnmu, Ohnhnekan Village in Myaukkyi Township, Natayakan Village in ChaungU Township, East Kyin Village, Tamakan Village, Nyaungka Village and Inn-bei-taung Village in Wetlet Township, Myaukkyi Village in Budalin Township, and Zeeaw Village in Salinigyi Township.

In like manner, local authorities, fire brigades and well-wishers are supplying drinking water with the use of various brands of vehicles to rural areas in Bago, Ayeyawady and Mandalay divisions that are running short of drinking water.

The government is mobilizing active participation of local authorities, development affairs committees, departments, social organizations and well-wishers in addressing the issue of shortage of drinking water due to extreme hot weather. So, the people are urged to make contributions to the lofty drive.

Applications for formation, registration of political party scrutinized, passed

The Union Election Commission is scrutinizing and passing the groups that submitted the applications for formation of political party. The commission has found the Myanmar Democracy Congress to be in accord with the Political Parties Registration Law and Rules and thus the commission passed the formation of the party today.

Of 29 groups that have been granted to form political parties, the following groups submitted the application to register as political parties to the Union Election Commission today. They are as follows:-

(1) Modern People Party
(2) Union Democratic Party
Of 24 groups that submitted the applications for registration as political party, the commission has found the following groups to be in accord with the Political Parties Registration Law and Rules and thus the commission passed the groups to register as political parties. They are as follows:-

(1) Democratic Party (Myanmar)
(2) Kayan National Party
(3) Rakhine State National Force of Myanmar

Up to date, there were 39 parties who submitted the applications for formation and registration as political party. Of 24 that submitted the applications to register as political parties, eight parties have been allowed to register, and the remaining parties are under scrutiny.

MNA

Construction Minister receives guests

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint received Senior Vice President Mr Baek Sung-Kawn and party of POSCO Steel Company at the Ministry of Construction, here, yesterday afternoon.

At the call, they focused on the opportunity for POSCO Steel Co in housing projects of the Ministry of Construction.

MNA

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint receives Senior President Mr Baek Sung-Kawn and party of the POSCO Steel Company.—CONSTRUCTION

CSSTB provides uniforms, stationery to students

Chairman of CSSTB U Kyaw Thu delivers an address at the ceremony to provide school uniforms and stationery to basic education students of the staff of Civil Service Selection and Training Board for 2010-2011 academic year.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—A ceremony to provide school uniforms and stationery to basic education students of the staff of Civil Service Selection and Training Board for 2010-2011 academic year was held at the hall of CSSTB, here, yesterday morning.

Chairman of CSSTB U Kyaw Thu delivered an address. Daw Le Le Kyi, wife of the CSSTB Chairman, presented school uniforms and stationery to 96 students of primary, middle and high schools through student representatives.

Also present on the occasion were members of CSSTB U Hla Myint Oo, U Win Aung, U Soe Oo, U Nyi Tun and U Kyaw Aung and their wives, officials and staff.—MNA

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MNA
Second explosion hits eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 20 May—A second explosion hits Jalalabad city, capital of eastern Afghanistan’s Nangarhar Province on Thursday morning but cause no casualties, local TV said. “An explosive device was planted in a minibus on the road to the Jalalabad airport and detonated, but no one was killed or injured in the blast,” a police official form Jalalabad garrison was quoted by Tolo television as saying. This is the second explosion in the city Thursday morning. Earlier a blast near the Spinghar hotel in eastern Afghan city injured five people, all of them civilians.

No groups or individuals have yet to claim responsibility for the bomb attacks. However, officials had in the past blamed Taleban militants for organizing such incidents in the militancy-hit Afghanistan.

On Tuesday, the Taleban outfit claimed responsibility for a suicide car bombing in capital Kabul that killed 18 people including six NATO troops and injured 47 others. The militant group has vowed to speed up their attacks against Afghan government and its western backers this year in war-torn central Asian state. —Internet

Six killed by car bomb south of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 20 May—A car bomb exploded in front of a restaurant killing six people south of Baghdad on Wednesday. Iraqi officials said, highlighting the fragile nature of Iraq’s security. The bomb in the mixed Sunni-Shiite town comes as the country enters its third month without a new government, raising concerns that violence will rise as political disputes spill out into the streets.

A spokesman for the Babil police, Maj. Mutthana Khalid, said the parked car detonated in the town of Masaayib, about 40 miles (60 kilometres) south of Baghdad. The car was left in front of a restaurant where people had gathered to eat grilled meat. Ten people were injured in the incident.

A hospital official confirmed the toll. He did not want to be identified because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Violence has fallen dramatically in Iraq since the height of the insurgency, but a spate of attacks, including one last week that killed 119 people, has heightened fears that insurgents will try to incite a return to sectarian violence just as US forces go home. —Internet

Taleban kills two, wounds five in S Afghanistan

GHAZNI, 20 May—Taleban militants in their armed campaign against establishment killed two persons in the southern Ghazni Province and injured five others in the neighbouring Wardak Province, officials said on Thursday. “The rebels brutally executed two more innocent civilians in Andar District of Ghazni Province on Wednesday night,” Police chief of Ghazni Province Khayalzab Shirzai told Xinhua.

This is the second execution carried out by Taleban in the Province over the past couple of days. Taleban militants abducted 12 people on charge of spying for security forces last week and took them to their hideout in Andar District. The militant also on Tuesday night shot dead four of their hostages, according to Shirzai. Furthermore, five civilians including two children and a woman were injured as a mortar shell fired by Taleban militants hit a civilian car in Jaghato District of Wardak Province.

A security personnel inspects weapons and explosive objects after a raid operation in Baghdad’s Abu Ghrab district on 18 May, 2010. Iraqi army seized various weapons and explosive materials and arrested eight suspected militants during the raid, Baghdad’s security spokesman Major General Qassim al-Mousawi said on Tuesday. —Internet

Smoke rises from the Bagram airbase after militants launched a brazen pre-dawn on 19 May, 2010. At least 10 insurgents have been killed and seven US service members have been wounded so far in the attack on Bagram, which started at about 3 am with rockets, small arms and grenades fired into the base, said Maj Virginia McCabe, a spokeswoman for US forces at Bagram.—Internet

Wreckage of Afghan plane found

KABUL, 20 May—The wreckage of the Afghan passenger plane that went missing on Monday was found Wednesday, an official said.

“We have received information just now that the wreckage of our passenger plane was found in the mountainous Salang Pass today,” Mohammad Mohsin, a senior official with Pamir Airways, told Xinhua.

A passenger plane with 43 people on board including five crew and eight foreigners from the above company, the Pamir Airways, went missing minutes after taking off from the northern Kunduz Province on Monday morning.

The official, however, did not provide more information, saying it is good news that the wreckage was found and more details would be provided later. —Xinhua

Rescued German girls leave Saudi for home

RIYADH, 20 May—The Saudi government has announced that two young German girls rescued after yearlong kidnap ordeal in Yemen are heading back to Germany. The statement issued Wednesday said the two girls were flying with four German officials and three family members, including an aunt.

The girls were kidnapped a year ago with their family in the restive northern Yemeni province of Saada. The whereabouts of their parents and brother remain unknown. Three other people traveling with them have turned up dead. Saudi forces, working with the Yemen government, rescued them near the border on Monday.

The Saudi government said the girls were in good health. al-Qaeda has been implicated in the attack.—Internet

A man who was wounded in a bomb attack lies in a hospital in Dhubak, north of Baghdad, on 15 May, 2010. Bombers attacked players and spectators at a soccer field, killing eight people and wounding 120 others, in Tal Afar, northwest of Baghdad. —Internet

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A hospital official said the two girls were flying with four German officials and three family members, including an aunt. —Internet

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Residents react after the arrest of their relatives during a joint raid and search operation by the Iraqi and US forces, working with the Yemen government, rescued them near the border on Monday. —INTERNET

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Six men get ready for 520-day simulated Mars trip

WASHINGTON, 20 May—Six men from Russia, Europe and China are preparing to spend 520 days together in a sealed-off Warren to take a simulated trip to Mars to test how long isolation would affect humans.

On 3 June, three Russians, an Italian-Colombian, a Frenchman and a Chinese man will be locked up in a set of cramped compartments as the record-breaking Mars500 simulated flight to the Red Planet gets underway to last until November 2011.

“This 520-day flight to Mars ... is unprecedented in its overall duration,” Martin Zell, European Space Agency (ESA) head of the experiment, told Reuters. “I think when talking about a human mission to the Red Planet, it will probably still take 20 or more, even 30 years to go there,” said Zell, who is also in charge of ESA human missions to the $100-billion, 16-nation International Space Station (ISS).

Seven volunteers for the Mars500 experiment, which simulates a 520-day flight to Mars, pose for a picture in Moscow on 18 May, 2010

Birds and mammals share a common brain circuit for learning

Jerusalem, 20 May—Bird song learning is a model system for studying the general principles of learning, but attempts to draw parallels between learning in birds and mammals have been difficult because of anatomical brain differences between the two species.

A new study from researchers at MIT and Hebrew University helps solve this problem, by identifying specific classes of neurons within the brains of songbirds and matching them to their mammalian counterparts.

The study focuses on the basal ganglia, brain structures that play a key role in skill learning and habit formation and are also linked to many disorders, including Parkinson’s disease, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and drug addiction. Mammalian basal ganglia consist of several structures, including the striatum and the globus pallidus, both of which are centrally involved in Parkinson’s disease.

There is growing evidence that similar brain circuits are also present in birds, in which these circuits appear to underlie song learning. In birds, however, there are no anatomical divisions, and the different basal ganglia cell types are intermixed within a tiny (~1mm) structure known as ‘area X.’

Jesse Goldberg and Michale Fee at MIT’s McGovern Institute for Brain Research recorded electrical activity from individual neurons in the brains of young zebra finches, using a motored microdrive to position the electrodes precisely within area X.

New research identifies specific classes of neurons within the brains of songbirds and matching them to their mammalian counterparts.—Internet

New fossil material redefines azendohsaurus as a peculiar early reptile

WASHINGTON, 20 May—Azendohsaurus just shed its dinosaur affiliation. A careful new analysis of A. madagaskaricas, this time based on the entire skull rather than on just teeth and jaws—a Finnish 230-million-year-old animal with a different and very early branch on the reptile evolutionary tree. Many aspects of Azendohsaurus are far more primitive than previously assumed, which in turn means that its plant-eating adaptations, similar to those found some early dinosaurs, were developed independently. The new analysis is published in the Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology.

Even though this extraordinary ancient reptile looks similar to some plant-eating dinosaurs in some features of the skull and dentition, it is in fact only distantly related to dinosaurs,” says John J. Flynn, curator in the Division of Paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History. “With more complete material, we re-assessed features like the downturned jaw and leaf-shaped teeth found in A. madagaskaricas as convergent with some herbivorous dinosaurs.

Facebook draws increased criticism

BEIJING, 20 May—Social networking site Facebook has come under a barrage of criticism in recent weeks, leading some users to seriously consider whether to continue using the site. Much criticism revolves around Facebook’s privacy policy which many say goes too far in making users’ details publicly viewable.

The company faced objections last year when it rolled out changes to privacy settings that made certain information viewable to everyone on the service, instead of just to friends on Facebook. Questions have even been raised in the US congress and the European parliament as to whether Facebook took the correct approach in changing its settings. Users to the site found they had to opt-out rather than opt-in to the new settings and some have complained that the settings are also too complicated.

Apple’s iPhone becomes new choice for bankers

BEIJING, 20 May—Thousands of Standard Chartered bankers are replacing their Blackberry, a commonly used corporate communication device, with Apple’s iPhone.

The move by Standard Chartered shows that Apple’s effortful pursuit of a market share in business and communication arena has begun to yield. In many people’s eyes, iPhone is only a trendy consumer toy, but now Apple has proved that it can be also a practical corporate device for use everywhere from the building site to the trading floor.

Standard Chartered is one of the first big banks to adopt the iPhone for internal functions. Other financial institutions like HSBC and Morgan Stanley have also showed indications of change, but the switch might take time for security concerns, a financial professional and information technology analyst told Reuters.—Internet
Drug may prevent lung cancer, study finds

WASHINGTON, 20 May—A drug approved to treat a range of conditions may also work to prevent lung cancer in people who have given up smoking, US researchers reported on Tuesday.

The drug, called iloprost, is approved in inhaled forms to treat pulmonary hypertension, when blood pools near the lungs, a connective tissue disease called scleroderma and a nerve condition called Raynaud’s phenomenon.

Dr Robert Keith of the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Centre and colleagues tested an oral version of the drug in a study involving women with Raynaud’s disease at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre. They found it was as effective in preventing lung cancer as the inhaled version of iloprost when given to mice.

“This is a very promising finding which demonstrates the potential for iloprost to be used as an oral drug against lung cancer,” Dr Keith said.

The Nemours Foundation says by 2030, 50 percent of children who have survived childhood cancer will have long-term health problems.

Health tip: Take a childbirth class

FLORIDA, 20 May—Pregnant women and their partners may be fully stocked with diapers and baby food, but there’s much more to preparing for childbirth.

The Nemours Foundation says by taking a childbirth class, soon-to-be parents can learn:

* How the baby develops during pregnancy.
* Potential signs that there may be a problem.
* Suggestions for staying more comfortable during pregnancy, labour and delivery.
* Relaxation and breathing techniques to use during labour and delivery.
* Creating a birth plan.
* Signs that labour has begun.
* What labour and birth involve, and how the partner can help.

Latest attempt to block HIV: Stronger vaginal gels

WASHINGTON, 20 May—Try after try to make vaginal creams that could repel the AIDS virus have failed. Now researchers are testing a drug used to treat HIV infection, finally might give women a tool to prevent transmission.

The drug, called iloprost, is approved in inhaled forms to treat pulmonary hypertension, when blood pools near the lungs, a connective tissue disease called scleroderma and a nerve condition called Raynaud’s phenomenon.

Dr Robert Keith of the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Centre and colleagues tested an oral version to see if it might prevent lung cancer in smokers and former smokers. “Oral iloprost showed promise for preventing lung cancer in former, but not current, smokers in a phase II clinical trial,” they wrote in a summary presented to a meeting of the American Thoracic Society in New Orleans.

Iloprost is a version of prostacyclin, a drug in the prostaglandin class that prevents lung cancer in mice. Keith, who has been testing several drugs to prevent lung cancer, looked at biopsies taken from the lungs of 125 current and former smokers. —Internet

For kids, video games top saving nature

PARIS, 20 May—Ten times more children around the world rank watching television and playing video games as more important to them than saving the environment, according to a survey released on Wednesday.

Earth’s flora and fauna are disappearing 1,000 times faster than the natural extinction rate, but only nine percent of kids gave a top priority to protecting the planet’s animal life.

Many did not even know what is meant by “endangered species,” reported the survey, released by the UN Convention on Biodiversity.

“The survey confirms the alarming disconnect of our children with nature,” said the Convention’s Executive Secretary, Ahmed Djoghlaf, said in a statement.

He called for “urgent action to close this growing gap between tomorrow’s citizens and their natural heritage.”

Sponsored by European aircraft giant Airbus, the survey was conducted among 10,000 five-to-18 year olds in 10 countries.

When asked which type of animal or plant they would most likely to save, nine percent cited birds, 23 percent favoured reptiles, and 50 percent gave mammals top priority, with the snow leopard given as an example.

More bran tied to longer life in diabetic women

NEW YORK, 20 May—Among women with diabetes, those who bulk up their diets with plenty of bran may live longer and be less likely to die of heart disease, a new study hints.

A number of studies have linked higher consumption of whole grains to lower risks of developing type 2 diabetes and heart disease. The new study extends those findings by suggesting that even among people with type 2 diabetes — which raises the risk of heart disease — whole grains may help protect the heart.

They also suggest a particularly important role for the fiber-rich bran found in whole grains, Dr. Lu Qi, one of the researchers on the study, told Reuters Health.

Grains consist of three layers: the fiber- and nutrient-containing bran and germ layers and the starchy kernel layer. Refined grains, like white flour, are largely stripped of the bran and germ; whole grains such as oatmeal, brown rice, barley and breads made from whole wheat — retain more of those components. —Internet

A dog, seized by Beijing authorities over concerns connected to the rising incidence of rabies, is seen in a cage in the Chinese capital. Two drug companies have been fined for producing substandard rabies shots, state media said on Monday. —Internet

File photo shows a Palestinian pharmacist serves customers in Gaza City in 2009. —Internet

Children play video games at a computer store in Montpellier, southwestern France, in 2009. —Internet

Internet

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Argentine gov’t pledges to defend national industry, employment

BUENOS AIRES, 20 May— The Argentine government pledged Wednesday to safeguard national industry development and employment. Interior Minister Florencio Randazzo told local media that Argentina is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and that it’s necessary to establish game rules for foreign trade which we have to keep to.”

Randazzo made the remarks after President Cristina Fernandez denied in Spain that Argentina had been asked to stop importing food that could be produced domestically.

“It is important to say that Argentina did not stop its imports,” Randazzo said, adding that his country “will defend the development of the national industry and the employment of the people.”

Interior Commerce Minister Guillermo Moreno ordered giving priority to the national foodstuff industry instead of importing, which elicited strong criticism from European and Brazilian ambassadors. Despite the comments by Fernandez and Randazzo, the chambers for imports and exports said that “as there is no countermand at the moment, the restrictions should be observed.”

Macao’s CPI up 2.56 pct in April

MACAO, 20 May— Macao’s Composite CPI (consumer price index) for April 2010 went up slightly by 2.56 percent over the same month last year to 103.68, which was attributable to the price increase of Food and non-alcoholic beverages and Transport, according to the figures released Wednesday by the city’s Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

On account of dear prices of gasoline and the new arrival of Spring clothing, rising gold prices and higher charges for meals bought away from home, price indices of Transport, Miscellaneous goods and services, Food and non-alcoholic beverages, and Clothing and footwear rose by 9.11 percent, 5.26 percent, 5.04 percent and 4.83 percent year on year respectively last month, the figures indicated.

Euro falls against US dollar in morning trade

SEOUL, 20 May— The euro fell to 1.23 US dollars level in morning session in Tokyo Thursday.

At noon, the euro traded at 1.2352-2356 yen versus 1.2401-2402 yen and 113.85-95 yen in New York and 1.2194-2196 dollars and 112.08-12 yen in Tokyo at 5 pm Wednesday.

Singapore shares end 2.45 pct lower

SINGAPORE, 20 May— The shares prices in Singapore fell 69.81 points or 2.45 percent on Wednesday with the benchmark Straits Times Index (STI) closing at 2,774.54 points.

The overall volume stood at 1.50 billion shares or 1.75 billion Singapore dollars (about 0.81 billion US dollars).

Losers led gainers by 497 to 68 with another 656 unchanged.

On Tuesday, the STI rose 10.66 points or 0.38 percent to end at 2,844.35 points.

Lufthansa receives first A380

BERLIN, 20 May— German airline Lufthansa received its first Airbus A380 on Wednesday in Hamburg.

Lufthansa, the biggest airline in the country, has ordered 15 A380 super jets, with four scheduled to join the fleet in 2010. Lufthansa plans to deploy its new flagship aircraft on routes to Tokyo, Beijing and Johannesburg.

“Lufthansa passengers will enjoy more space in all classes and the unique cabin comfort, the airline will profit from the unprecedented efficiency of the A380,” said Airbus President and CEO Tom Enders at the handover ceremony in Hamburg.

“Passengers can look forward to a very special flight experience on board the A380,” said Wolfgang Mayrhuber, Chairman and CEO of Lufthansa.

Lufthansa’s version of the A380 will have a capacity for 526 passengers, 420 in economy on the lower deck, as well as 98 business and eight first class seats on the upper deck.—Xinhua

S Korean shares continue to slide on European debt crisis

SEOUL, 20 May— South Korean shares on Wednesday continued to dip for the third consecutive session as eurozone debt woes lingered, damping investor sentiment, local analysts said.

The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) fell 13.16 points, or 0.8 percent, to end at 1,630.08, according to the bourse operator Korea Exchange (KRX).

Starting off weaker on overnight US falls, the index stayed on a downward trend as foreigners led massive selling.

While foreign investors stayed as net sellers for the fourth straight session, institutions and retailer investors stood as net purchasers.

Despite the continued decline, local analysts still stay optimistic on the outlook, saying in one voice the index will not fall below the 1,600-level.

INTERNET
Supply of clean water improves livelihoods of rural people

**Article: Myint Wai Hlaing; Photos: Ye Thura Aung (NyaungU District IPRD)**

Water was more valuable than gold for rural people of dry region in Myanmar in the past. During a visit to Bagan-NyaungU, I witnessed efficient use of water. In the past, summer paddy and other crops could not be cultivated in NyaungU region due to shortage of water in summer. At present, lush and green paddy fields can be seen like a vast stretch of green carpet in the region thanks to dams and river water pumping projects.

Especially, the local people are enjoying fruitful results of adequate drinking water supply. While in NyaungU, I made trips along NyaungU-Myingyan Road, NyaungU-Kyaukpaduang Road and NyaungU-Chauk Road via Myingaba and Bagan Myothit.

Along the routes, I saw tube-wells sunk with the contributions of Township Development Affairs Committee and wellwishers. In an interview, Chairman of NyaungU District Peace and Development Council U Myo Aung of Township with the contributions of Development Affairs Department, wellwishers, other organizations and international organizations.

Deputy Director U Myo Aung of Township Development Affairs Committee said, “Before the water supply projects, the local people needed to walk miles from their homes. So, they could not concentrate on their businesses. Due to water scarcity, diarrhoea, dysentery, skin diseases and trachoma were common in the region.” He further explained, “Sinking tube-wells and digging lakes in the region improve economic growth of the local people and help increase income. In addition, infection of common diseases has declined, and the local people enjoy enhancement of economic and health sectors.”

Kamma Lake, about 240 feet by 250 feet, is located in Taungzin Village-tract. Although it was mid-summer, the lake was supplying water to 12,000 people of 1823 houses from the village-tract and farming cattle. Similar lakes have been dug in Saka, Pyinchaung, Htipu, Kyaukpyinkan and Dahatkan villages.

Brick water tanks in another 15 villages store water from river water pumping projects. Lawkananda river water pumping project supplies water to 13,200-gallon tanks. Kyaukriver water pumping project, one 12,000-gallon tank, Ngabayauk river water pumping project, five 12,000-gallon tanks, Letpanchepepe river water pumping project, two 12,000-gallon tanks and Thaagautu river water pumping project, two 12,000-gallon tanks.

The urban wards of NyaungU are being supplied with water from Natthamee bank of Ayeyawady River via a 140,000-gallon tank.

Scientists and researchers have said that water has no scent and flavour. In reality, water is delicious for those residing in the regions facing shortage of water. Drinking clean and purified water is more delicious than other foods.

At present, tube-wells and lakes have emerged in NyaungU District thanks to water supply projects. The local people are enjoying fruits of clean water supply project for public consumption all the year round. Indeed, water supply projects are a drive for uplifting socioeconomic life of the rural people in NyaungU District.
Shan State (East) Border Guard...

(from page 1)

The members have shouldered duties as people’s militia (local) with a sense of friendship among national races and with nationalistic spirit. They are pleased and are taking pride in the opportunity to serve as border guard force members. Local people welcome and encourage the formation of the border guard forces for their security, stability and peace, perpetual peace of border areas.

MNA

Dinner hosted to delegates of 5th Meeting of ASEAN-WEN

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—Minister for Forestry U Thein Aung hosted a dinner to the delegates to the 5th Meeting of ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network at Lake View Hall of Golden Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone, here, yesterday evening. It was attended by departmental heads of university and departments under the Ministry of Forestry, officials of the Supreme Court, Attorney-General’s Office, Myanmar Police Force and other related ministries, delegates from 10 ASEAN countries and representatives from ASEAN-WEN and other organizations.

After extending greetings, the minister presented gifts to the delegates.

MNA
Nyaunggon Dam is one of the irrigation facilities included in the dam cluster to be able to supply water to Meiktila Lake. It is an earthen dam built on Nyaunggon Creek with 6400 feet long and 40 feet wide embankment. The dam can store 3500 acre-feet of water.

Nyaunggon Dam, built by Construction 7 of Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, was the 178th facility of its kind across the nation. The dam opened on 24 September 2005 is now benefiting Meiktila District for its lush and green process.

Whole nation sees rain due to “Laila”

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—It was reported on 18 and 19 May that due to the influence of cyclone Laila over the Bay of Bengal, it rained heavily the whole nation.

Like other states and divisions, the entire Nay Pyi Taw on 19 May saw downpour rains. Noteworthy rainfalls were 1.71 inches in Nay Pyi Taw; 2.24 inches in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana; 1.16 inches in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe, and 1.43 inches in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon.—MNA
Public announcement for remonstration

1. The Modern People Party headquartered at No. (255) (5th floor B) on Bogoyoke Aung San Street between 39th and 40th Streets in Ward 8 of Kyauktada Township, Yangon Division, on 20-5-2010 submitted its applications to register as a political party under the Article-5 of Political Parties Registration Law. In its application, it is mentioned that the party will use its name, flag and seal described hereunder.

2. It is hereby announced in accord with Political Parties Registration Rules 14(d) that if there is anyone who wants to remonstrate about the name, flag and seal of the party, they may remonstrate with the Union Election Commission with firm evidence within seven days from the date of the announcement.

YANGON, 20 May—Information Department of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation donated rice, cash and kind to nuns of Myaing Nunnery, Bogyoke Aung San Street in Ward 5/7 of Shwepyitha Township here this morning. Head of Information Department of MWAF Daw Soe Wutty and members presented three bags of rice, 10 viss of gram, 10 viss of groundnut oil, one bag of onion, one bag of potato, 25 dozens of exercise books, bottles of purified drinking water and K $4000 to Presiding Nun of Myaing nunnery Nun Daw Sunanda (Dhammacariya). MNA

Measures for prevention of recruitment of child soldiers discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—As part of the programme being jointly implemented by the Work Committee for Prevention of Recruitment of Minors for Military Services, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and UNICEF (Myanmar), the workshop of high-ranking officials responsible for prevention of recruitment of minors for military services took place at the Hotel Amara here this morning.

Chairman of the Work Committee Maj-Gen Ngwe Thein of the Ministry of Defence delivered a speech. The resident representative of UNICEF (Myanmar) extended greetings. The high-ranking officials and responsible persons held discussions about the tasks.

Also present on the occasion were the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Deputy Minister for Labour, heads of department, and resident representatives of UN agencies. MNA

Three women narrowly escape from being trafficked

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—Tachilek Township Anti-Human Trafficking Squad of Shan State (East) investigated two suspects: Daw Aye Yin (a) Par Aik and Daw Nan Hsai of Kengtung, along with three young women at its office on 13 May. The investigation revealed that Daw Aye Yin (a) Par Aik had brought two 19-year-old women and one 20-year-old woman, deceiving them that they would get not-hard but well-paid jobs in a neighbouring country. She would get 5000 Thai bahts if she sent a young woman to an Aik Kein in the neighbouring country. She asked Daw Nan Hsai to accompany her. Tachilek Police Station is taking action against the two women. Now, the three victims have been handed over to their guardians. The case was due to lack of knowledge of human trafficking. Not only officials but also parents should take part widely in giving educative talks to the public. MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.
Two Atlantis astronauts complete second spacewalk of mission

WASHINGTON, 20 May—Two US astronauts conducted the second of three spacewalks for space shuttle Atlantis’ STS-132 mission on Wednesday, NASA said.

According to the US space agency, Atlantis’ mission specialists Steve Bowen and Michael Good began the spacewalk at 6:38 am EDT (1038 GMT). During the seven-hour spacewalk, they plugged in four new batteries at the International Space Station on 17 May.

Besides, Bowen adjusted a cable on the end of the orbiter boom and used a plastic tie to hold it in position.

This brief task was added after discovering early in the flight that the cable was inhibiting a camera from maneuvering correctly.

Two more batteries will be replaced on Friday during the third and final spacewalk of Atlantis’ flight.

Atlantis lifted off on Friday afternoon from Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. This is the scheduled final voyage for Atlantis, which has flown 31 missions since it was put into service in 1985. It will have one final assignment: remain on standby in case the last shuttle crew needs a rescue.

Only two shuttle flights remain after Atlantis’ flight. Discovery is targeted for launch in September with spare parts and equipment. Endeavour is due to launch in November carrying a 2-billion-dollar, multinational particle detector known as the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer.

US top scientists urge coal, oil use penalties

WASHINGTON, 20 May—Ditching its past cautious tone, the nation’s top scientists urged the government Wednesday to take drastic action to raise the cost of using coal and oil to slow global warming.

The National Academy of Sciences specifically called for a carbon tax on fossil fuels or a cap-and-trade system for curbing greenhouse gas emissions, calling said the nation needs to cut the pollution that causes global warming by about 57 percent to 83 percent by 2050. That’s close to President Barack Obama’s goal.

“We really need to get started right away,” said Robert Fri, who chaired one of the three panels producing separate climate reports.—Internet

Venezuelan police catch Colombian officer with drugs

CARACAS, 20 May—A Colombian officer was detained during an operation carried out at a mobile checkpoint along the Trans-Andean highway in Pueblo Hondo, northeast of Tachira, which borders Colombia. The drugs were stashed in 900 sacks and hidden in the false bottom of his car, regional police chief Jose Armando Echavez Prado, president of Colombia’s Santander Port Council, was detained during an operation carried out at a mobile checkpoint along the Trans-Andean highway in Pueblo Hondo, northeast of Tachira, which borders Colombia. The drugs were stashed in 900 sacks and hidden in the false bottom of his car, regional police chief Jose Armando Echavez Prado, president of Colombia’s Santander Port Council, was detained during an operation carried out at a mobile checkpoint along the Trans-Andean highway in Pueblo Hondo, northeast of Tachira, which borders Colombia. The drugs were stashed in 900 sacks and hidden in the false bottom of his car, regional police chief Jose Armando Echavez Prado, president of Colombia’s Santander Port Council, was detained during an operation carried out at a mobile checkpoint along the Trans-Andean highway in Pueblo Hondo, northeast of Tachira, which borders Colombia. The drugs were stashed in 900 sacks and hidden in the false bottom of his car, regional police chief Jose Armando Echavez Prado, president of Colombia’s Santander Port Council, was detained during an operation carried out at a mobile checkpoint along the Trans-Andean highway in Pueblo Hondo, northeast of Tachira, which borders Colombia.

Tian Xinyu, a 23-year-old Michael Jackson imitator from Shaanxi Province, busted out his best moonwalk moves for hospital employees at a plastic surgery clinic in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province on May 12 where he went to get a complete Jackson makeover.

Tian used pictures of Jackson at age 30 as his model and after years of duplicating the legendary star’s expressions, dancing, shoulder shrugs and hip thrusts said his new face has made him feel complete. “I was crazy about his dancing ever since the first time I saw him on TV as a child,” said Tian.

“I bought lots of his albums, and imitated him. I practiced eight hours a day and felt only my appearance limited my imitation.”

‘I’m okay, but my spleen is a mess’

A 4-year-old boy in Shenyang, Liaoning Province who accidentally fell from a sixth floor apartment window and hit the ground, stunned and delighted his mother when she rushed to his aid when he stood up and said, “I’m OK, mom.”

Actually, the boy, Tongtong, who had fallen through the window screen while playing, wasn’t quite “okay.” His mother took him to the hospital where doctors found he had ruptured his spleen and removed it. He was reexamined on 5 May and his condition was described as “stable.”
CLAM'S DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (513)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (513) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.5.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

CLAIMING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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Waterlily saved from extinction

Rwanda. The world's biggest species of waterlily can have pads that grow to around 3m (10ft). By contrast the thermal lily is just a centimetre wide—with tiny satin white flowers with a but-ter yellow centre. Two years ago, this delicate bloom went extinct in the wild due to over-exploita-
tion of its habitat. Luck-ily its seeds were kept in storage — and were used by Carlos Magdalena to regrow the plant at Kew Gardens — just outside London. It took him three months to find the ideal condi-
tions for growth. He hopes now that the Thermal Lily will flourish once again in the hot springs of Rwanda.

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Indonesian police seize 71 giant turtles in Bali

DENPASAR, 20 May—In-
donesian police have con-
fiscated 71 endangered gi-
ant sea turtles from a food stall on the resort island of Bali, an officer said yester-
day. The owner of the stall was arrested when the gi-
ant green turtles, named Chelonia mydas, were found in-side his store-
house in Denpasar, chief investigator Col Anri Tuqdir Rahmanto said.

Rahmanto said the stall owner told police he pur-
chased the turtles, with an average size of more than 3.3 feet (one metre), from fishermen who caught them in waters off Sulawesi Island. Turtle meat is a tra-
tional delicacy in the pre-
dominantly Hindu prov-
ince of Bali, although Indon-
esia has banned turtle trade and consumption due to concerns about dwin-
dling numbers and threats by animal welfare groups of a tourist boycott of Bali.

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British hikers die in Spanish Pyrenees accident

MADEIRA, 20 May—Two Britons who died in a hiking accident in the Spanish Pyrenees have been named as John Pe-
ter Field and Richard Christopher Green-
wood. The Foreign Office has said it is investigating the men's deaths.

They were reported to have fallen into an ice field near the 9,000ft high (2.7km) Pico de Frondiellas in the Sallent de Gallego region. A third male member of their party also fell in the accident on Tuesday but is understood to be unin-
jured.

A foreign office spokeswoman said it was providing consular assistance.

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Undertaker ‘paid killer nurse for tip-offs’

ROME, 20 May — An Italian nurse has been ar-
rested on suspicion of murdering seven pension-
ers at a care home and profiting by tipping off funeral parlours. Angelo Stazzi (65) is suspected of killing at least seven people by injecting them with overdoses of insulin.

Detectives believe he would murder patients in his care and then recom-
mend the use of certain funeral parlours to their families, receiving a “commission” from the undertakers.

Mr Stazzi has been in jail since October last year, when he was ar-
rested on suspicion of killing a nurse with whom he was having a relationship. Maria Teresa Dell’Ung (58) disap-
peared in 2001, but the case remained unsolved for eight years. His former lover’s remains were found buried in Mr Stazzi’s garden. He had been under suspicion for some time and police wiretapped his phones.

The evidence also led police to suspect that Mr Stazzi may have been re-
sponsible for the premu-
ture deaths of seven pa-
ients at the care home in the town of Tivoli, outside Rome, between 2007 and 2009. When police searched his home last month, they reportedly found syringes, needles and insulin. The alleged victims, five women and two men, were in their 70s and 80s. Several suffered from Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of demen-
tia.

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40 missing in PNG sea ordeal

PORT MORESBY, 20 May—Two Papua New Guineans are dead with at least 40 missing, feared drowned, after an over-
loaded boat capsized in rough seas off PNG’s northeast coast. Authori-
ties say several survivors from Tuesday’s tragedy are recovering in hospital in Madang, while the search for more continues.

“The vessel was roughly 30km off Singer village in Rai Coast when it capsized and, at the moment, it is believed that overloading and technical problem were the cause,” said Madang’s disaster and emergency co-
ordinator, Pius Ikuma.

PNG’s National newspa-
er reports that 60 people — double its normal ca-
pacity — were on board the MV Mara when it foundered.

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Large screens at World Expo pavilions - Saudi Arabia pavilion

BEIJING, 20 May—Large screens with their illusory light at the Expo give visitors a vivid presentation of dynamic culture and advanced technology of different countries and regions. In the Saudi Arabia pavilion, the four large screens, the size of two in-door football pitches, offer visitors a mysterious experience of unity of human body and shadow.—XINHUA

In the Saudi Arabia pavilion, the four large screens, the size of two in-door football pitches, offer visitors a mysterious experience of unity of human body and shadow.—XINHUA

Firstever sky bridge in Phnom Penh to be opened soon

PHNOM PENH, 20 May—The effort of Phnom Penh Municipality to deal with traffic congestion has brought about a new and first-ever sky bridge in the city that will be officially opened in late June 2010, official news agency AKP reported on Tuesday.

Located in the southeastern part of Phnom Penh City, adjacent to Monivong bridge, the approximately 300-metre-long sky bridge cost around 6 million US dollars, it said.

As planned, the municipality will construct two other sky bridges in the areas, statistically showed to be the most jammed by traffic, including Stung Meanchey area and locally known as Two-Lion area.

Expanding key bridges and roads and enhancing traffic law enforcement are also measures to improve the traffic in the capital city of Cambodia, AKP said.

Ronnie James Dio accepts the Best Vocalist award at the 2010 file photo.

Guns N’ Roses multimedia release out Wednesday

NEW YORK, 20 May—The latest Guns N’ Roses project is not an album, a video or a book. The band has completed a multimedia edition of the biography “Reckless Road,” in which author Marc Canter tells of the making of Guns N’ Roses’ multimillion-selling debut “Appetite for Destruction.” The video book goes on sale on Wednesday and was produced by Vook, an Alameda, Calif-based digital publisher.

Vook says the edition will include text, studio and concert footage and interviews with band members, but not lead singer Axl Rose. It has a suggested price of $4.99 and can be downloaded from Vook’s website, http://www.vook.com, or from Apple’s iTunes. Vook has also worked on video projects for fiction by Anne Rice and Jude Deveraux and children’s favourites such as “The Velveteen Rabbit.”

Opah Winfrey hires manager for personal fortune

NEW YORK, 20 May—US television talk show host and media entrepreneur Oprah Winfrey has hired a prominent investor to manage her personal fortune, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday.

Winfrey has begun setting up an office to handle her personal investments, according to the Journal, which cited people familiar with the situation. She has hired Peter Adamson, who is currently the chief investment officer for Eli Broad, the Los Angeles billionaire and philanthropist. This is believed to be the first time Winfrey has established a full investment organization around her fortune, the journal said, estimating her net worth at $2.4 billion.

Spokespeople for Winfrey’s production company could not immediately be reached for comment.

More elephants infected with TB in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 20 May—Two female elephants above 60, died inside Chitwan National Park in central Nepal due to tuberculosis (TB), local media reported on Wednesday.

Two more elephants are being treated for TB and six have already been cured for the disease in the park in the last five months.

5.1-magnitude earthquake hits US-Mexican border

LOS ANGELES, 20 May—An estimated 5.1-magnitude earthquake hit the US-Mexican border area on Tuesday, but there was no immediate report of injuries or damage, according to the US Geological Survey.

The quake affected a wide area in Southern California, including San Diego, about 128 km south of Los Angeles.

The tremor, which occurred at 5:38 pm (0038 GMT on Wednesday), was centered about 29 km west-southwest of El Centro in the state’s western-south corner, the USGS said.

Some residents in the area reported feeling the shaking, which lasted several seconds.

Local police said that so far they received no reports of injuries or damage.

The area has been hit by a series of aftershocks since a 7.2-magnitude quake struck northern Baja California on 4 April, according to the USGS.

INTERNET

INTERNET


INTERNET

Drive safety
Barcelona, 20 May — FC Sevilla prevented Atletico Madrid from celebrating a cup double on Wednesday as they beat the recently-crowned Europa League champions 2-0 to take the King’s Cup here for the fifth time in their history and second in four years.

Sevilla — who took the fourth and final Champions League place in the last minutes of the final match of the league season — lifted the Cup thanks to a fifth minute goal by diminutive Diego Capel and a second in time added on by Jesus Navas.

Sevilla captain Andres Palop, who made several good saves during the match, said it was achieved for the season. “It was a difficult and extraordinary final,” he said. “This is what we wanted, quality for the Champions League and win the King’s Cup. We are very happy.” Atletico coach Quique Sanchez Flores was proud of his side’s efforts.— Internet

Sevilla’s players celebrate after winning the King’s Cup final match against Atletico Madrid on Wednesday.— Internet

LIVERPOOL, 20 May — Fernando Torres has no desire to quit Liverpool this summer according to manager Rafael Benitez. The Reds striker has been linked with a summer move to Premier League champions Chelsea or mega-rich Manchester City after a torrid campaign which saw the Merseysiders finish seventh.

The lack of UEFA Champions League football for next term has led some to claim the Spanish international, who is currently racing against the clock to be fit for the World Cup following a knee operation, would opt to leave Anfield.

But Benitez sides on the contrary, insisting the former Atletico Madrid marksman will stay at Liverpool beyond the South Africa finals. “I am not aware that Torres wants to leave,” said the Spaniard, who revealed on Wednesday he would like to manage his national team in the future.— Internet

Rafa rejects Torres exit talk

Striker David Villa moves to Barcelona from Valencia

BIRMINGHAM, 20 May — Birmingham City before a surprising three-year spell with Portsmouth before a surprising three-year spell with Portsmouth.

Manchester United goalkeeper Ben Foster

BIRMINGHAM, 20 May — Birmingham City have signed goalkeeper Ben Foster from Manchester United on a three-year deal for an undisclosed fee. The 27-year-old England international fills the gap left by Joe Hart’s return to Manchester City after a loan spell. Blues boss Alex McLeish told the club’s website: “We’ve signed another young hungry goalkeeper who wants to prove himself and live up to his potential.”

Foster joined United from Stoke in 2005 and signed an improved four-year contract at Old Trafford in July 2009. He had denied taking the banned performance enhancer. Odesnik’s ban has been backdated to 29 December, 2009, meaning that all his results since then and prize-money accrued — including his winnings from reaching the semi-finals of the US Men’s Clay Court Championships in April — are annulled and not paid out respectively.

USC extends lead in NCAA women’s golf

WELLESLEY, 20 May — Southern California shot even-par 288 to extend its lead to seven over Alabama in the lighting-delayed NCAA women’s golf championships on Wednesday.

Play in the afternoon was halted twice by lightning and later stopped by heavy rain with 27 golfers on the course. The second round will be completed Thursday morning before the third round begins at the Country Club of Landfall.

The Pac-10 is dominating the competition. Six teams from the conference are in the field, and four are in the top six in the standings. Arizona, in sixth place, shot the only under-par round Wednesday with a 2-under 286.

Arizona State freshman Jennifer Johnson shot 2-under par 70 to take a one-shot lead over USC’s Jennifer Song in the individual competition. Johnson, at 7-under for two rounds, has four birdies and one bogey on her first 10 holes. She parred the next seven holes before bogeying her final hole, the par-4 ninth.

London 2012 unveils Games mascots Wenlock & Mandeville

London, 20 May — London 2012 organizers have unveiled cartoon animations named Wenlock and Mandeville as the mascots for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Focus groups of children and families helped form the designs and children’s author Michael Morpurgo added a story concept for an animated series.

“We’ve created our mascots for children,” said Lord Coe. “They will connect young people with sport, and tell the story of our proud Olympic and Paralympic history.”

The characters are named after the village of Much Wenlock in Shropshire — which hosted a precursor to the modern Olympics in 1896. Olympic motifs chime through the design: Wenlock wears the Olympic rings as friendship bracelets, and although pre-dominantly silver in colour, also contains flashes of gold and bronze.

Mandeville and Wenlock will feature in an animated series.— Internet

Sevilla crowned Spanish Cup kings

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Sevilla captain Andres Palop, who made several good saves during the match, said it was achieved for the season. “It was a difficult and extraordinary final,” he said. “This is what we wanted, quality for the Champions League and win the King’s Cup. We are very happy.” Atletico coach Quique Sanchez Flores was proud of his side’s efforts.— Internet

To the Emirates in January on a short-term deal and went on to make 14 appearances.

A new one-year contract is on offer but has not been formally agreed. And Campbell has been quoted on ESPN as saying that Celtic, who finished the season without a trophy but second in the Scottish Premier League, would be an attractive option should he fail to agree terms with Arsenal. He had initially spent five years with Arsenal after leaving English Premier League rivals Tottenham Hotspur in 2001. Campbell had a three-year spell with Portmouth before a surprising three-year spell with Portsmouth.

Birmingham sign Manchester United goalkeeper Ben Foster

BIRMINGHAM CITY, 20 May — Birmingham City have signed goalkeeper Ben Foster from Manchester United on a three-year deal for an undisclosed fee. The 27-year-old England international fills the gap left by Joe Hart’s return to Manchester City after a loan spell. Blues boss Alex McLeish told the club’s website: “We’ve signed another young hungry goalkeeper who wants to prove himself and live up to his potential.”

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Birmingham sign Manchester United goalkeeper Ben Foster
Performers participate in a simulated wedding ceremony at a patio-style courtyard at a cave-house in Shanzuxian County in central China’s Henan Province, on 19 May, 2010. The local government has established folk museum and tourist village for better conservation and development of the cave dwellings, an intangible cultural relics in Henan Province.

**Daw Mynt Myint**

(85 years)

Retired Deputy Assistant Director,
General Administration Department,
Ministry of Home Affairs

Beloved eldest daughter of (U Maung Kalay- Daw Aye Hlaing), daughter-in-law of (U Ba Kyaw-Daw Hla Khin), beloved wife of U Hla Myaing (Ko Saung) Patron, Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, of 2/Ab-6, Lane-3, Tharyaraye Street, Kyaiak Waing Pagoda Road, Mayagungon Township, Yangon, beloved mother of U Aung Thu Myaing (Correspondent- Ji Ji Press News Agency, Japan)-Daw Zan Zan Mar (Representative of Kelvin Diesels), Dr. Mynt Thu Myaing (Professor, Law Department, East Yangon University) beloved grand mother of Ma May Oo Myaing (Final Year, B.E.Mechtronics, G.U.-Hmawh) and Maung Shwe Po Myaing, passed away peacefully at 7:00 a.m on Thursday, 20th May 2010 at Yangon General Hospital. Cremation will take place at 4:00 p.m on Saturday, 22nd May 2010 at Ye Way Cemetery. (Buses will leave from the above address at 2:30pm on Saturday.)

**Myanmar International Programme Schedule**

(B2-5-2010)(Friday)

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<td>Shwe Inn Tha, Eco-friendly Resort</td>
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<td>Myanmar Movie “Like a Spring”</td>
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**Oversea Transmission**

- Opening
- News
- Current Affairs “Surprising Myanmar (Longyi)”
- News
- Documentary “The Richly Blessed Gem Land”
- On the LEDO Road
- News
- Record Album
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- Endless Wonders…..(Hikkanti Thein Temple)
- News
- Current Affairs “Surprising Myanmar (Longyi)”
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- Future Stars (Loikaw, Kayah State)
- News
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- News
- Shwe Inn Tha, Eco-friendly Resort
- Myanmar Movie “Like a Spring”

**WEATHER**

Thursday, 20th May, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin, Rakhine, and Mon States, fairly widespread in Chin State, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagain and Mandalay Divisions, and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions and with isolated heavy fall in Mandalay Division. Day temperature were (3°C) to (5°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin and Mon States. Lower Sagain, Magway, Bago and Ayeawady Divisions, (6°C) to (8°C) above May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Kalawa (43.2°C) and Monywa (41.5°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Launglon (6.02) inches, Paung (2.56) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Pwini-ma) (3.2) inches, Thandaungyi (1.65) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (1.18) inches and Nay Pyi Taw (Thapyakone) (1.02) inches. Maximum temperature on 19-5-2010 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 20-5-2010 was 81°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours on 20-5-2010 was 78%. Total sun shine hours on 19-5-2010 was (1.19) hours.

Rainfall on 20-5-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (2.48) inches at Mingaladon and (2.91) inches at Kaba Aye and (1.26) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangoon (Kaba Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (15-30) hours MST on 19-5-2010.

**Bay Inference:** According to the observations at (12:30) hours M.S.T today, yesterday’s cyclonic storm “Laila” over West Central Bay has moved Northwards and is centered at about (660) miles Southwest of Kolkata (India). The maximum wind speed is about (60) miles per hour and it is likely to cross Andhrapradesh Coast during the next (12) hour(s) as land depression. It is forecast to move northeastwards. Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Andaman sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 21st May 2010:

Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Mon and Rakhine States, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions scattered in Kachin, Chin and Kayin States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanamr Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of thundery in the Delta areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 21-5-2010:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-5-2010:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-5-2010:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
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

Rakhine State National Force of Myanmar granted permission to register as political party
NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—The Union Election Commission issued Notification No. 45/2010 today. The translation of the notification is as follows:-
The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. 45/2010
8th Waxing of Nayon, 1372 ME
20 May 2010
Rakhine State National Force of Myanmar is granted permission to register as political party

The Union Election Commission granted permission to the Rakhine State National Force of Myanmar with its headquarters at No. 16 (First Floor) on Arthawka Road in Tamway Township, Yangon Division to register as a political party in accord with the Article 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law as of 20 May 2010. The registration number of the Rakhine State National Force of Myanmar is (8).

By Order
Sd/Win Ko
Secretary
Union Election Commission

Weather Report
NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced today that according to the observatory report at 5.30 pm today, cyclonic storm “Laila” that occurred in the central west Bay of Bengal crossed Andhra Pradesh Coast of India as land depression. It is forecast to move toward northeasterward.—MNA

Nyaunggon Dam contributing to lush and green Meiktila District

As a traditional business, the agricultural task is based on endeavours of the farmers and necessary assistance. With a view to yielding agricultural out- puts, the government is rendering assistance for increasing sown acreage, boosting agricultural produce and growing various crops with the use of double and mixed cropping patterns.

Nyaunggon Dam in Meiktila Township will distribute surplus water from Chaunggauk Dam of Pyaywae Township to Meiktila Lake via Lunngin and Lakkhokpin dams through canals. Indeed, it is a drive for contributing to lush and green Meiktila District.

(See page 9)