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6th State Central Working Committee of Sangha of All Orders holds fifth meeting

YANGON, 13 March—The fifth meeting of the 6th State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Orders commenced at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this morning.

Chairman Sayadaw of the Working Committee Abbot of Bhamo Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumaraabhivamsha presided over the meeting, and Joint Secretary Sayadaw of the Committee Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Manitasirabhivamsha acted as MC.

The Chairman Sayadaw delivered a Saraniya Ovadakatha.

Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung supplicated on religious affairs.

The meeting discussed decease of State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws and member Sayadaws of SSMNC and State Central Working Committee of the Sasana of All Orders. The Secretary Sayadaw sought the approval from the meeting for substitution of late State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws and member Sayadaws of SSMNC and State Central Working Committee of the Sasana of All Orders with new ones.

(See page 7)

Prime Minister attends inauguration of Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road

NAY PYI TAW, 13 March—A ceremony to inaugurate Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road built by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction was held near Pantin Junction on Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo Road Section in Ottarathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw District this morning, attended by Prime Minister U Thein Sein.

In his address, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye said that utmost efforts are being made for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation facilitated with better transport. While carrying out tasks for smooth transport, the government is giving priority to land reclamation and construction of dams and reservoirs for social and economic development of the nation.

The 250 feet long Yin Creek Concrete Bridge will also be commissioned into service between mileposts 51/5 and 51/6 of Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road near Myothit Township. He urged local people to maintain the road for its durability.

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Maung delivered an address. He said that Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road is one of three motor roads linking Nay Pyi Taw and Magway. The alignment of the road was designated in 2007-2008. The facility was upgraded to asphalt one beginning 3-5-2010 and opened today.

Prime Minister U Thein Sein cordially greets attendees at opening ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road.

MNA

(See page 7)

Prime Minister U Thein Sein unveils stone inscription of Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road. — MNA
Myanmar, land of large reserves of natural resources

Myanmar is blessed with natural resources including rich deposits of quality gems.

The 48th Myanma Gems Emporium runs at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near the Myanma Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw from 10 to 22 March.

The 152 feet by 620 feet Mani Yadana Jade Hall has an area of 21.42 acres. The main three-storey building is of reinforced concrete steel structure. It is 550 feet long, 460 feet wide and 110 feet high. The total area of the basement, ground floor and the first floor is 239,425 square feet.

Myanma Gems Emporium has been held since 1964. On display at the 48th emporium are raw jade lots, cut jade lots, gems lots, cut gems lots, pearls, jewellery made of jade, gems and pearls, statues, crystals, mosaic paintings and silverwares.

Over 5000 local companies stage their gems pavilions, attracting attention from about 40000 gems merchants from 20 countries and over 30000 local gems merchants.

Not only does gems emporiums fetch foreign exchanges but also inform the international community about prosperity, peace, stability and rich natural resources of Myanmar through gems merchants.

Strong winds damage some houses in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions

Officials provided necessary assistance for victims

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 March—Some loss and damage occurred in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions due to strong winds on 11 March.

A total of 16 houses were destroyed in Ayeyawady Region, 94 houses in Dagon Myothit (North) Township and 38 huts in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. About 20 houses collapsed in the strong winds in Tayokchaung Village of Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Officials provided necessary assistance for stong wind-hit families.—MNA

One injured in mine blast

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 March—A villager was injured when a mine exploded after he stepped on it in Yaksaw, Shan State (South), on 11 March. U Aung Ni Nge of Hway Village-tract, Yaksaw, stepped on the mine planted by SSA (Ywet Sit) insurgent group on the way to a jungle about 2 miles north-east of his village. He sustained injuries on his right three toes and was moved from a local health centre to Sao San Tun Hospital in Taunggyi the next day. Officials concerned have provided necessary assistance to the victim.—MNA

Appointment of Cambodian Ambassador agreed on

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 March — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Sieng Bunvuth as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the Union of Myanmar in succession to His Excellency Mr Chhong Toeon.

Mr Sieng Bunvuth was born on 1 January 1959 in Cambodia. He obtained Integrated Master of German Language at Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany.

He joined the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cambodia in 1979 and has served in various capacities at the Cambodian Embassies in the Republic of India, the Republic of Singapore, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Cambodia. He is currently serving as Director of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia since 2007.

Mr Sieng Bunvuth is married with two children.—MNA

Capital Hypermarket (Nay Pyi Taw) opened

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 March—Together with Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, ministers, departmental heads and invited persons, Chairman of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo attended the opening ceremony of Capital Hypermarket (Nay Pyi Taw), established by Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited and Pac Link Trading Limited, held at Yacyathingaha Street in Zabuthiri Township, here this morning.

Commander Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw U Thein Nyunt, Managing Director of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited Maj-Gen Win Than, Brig-Gen Zarni Win from the Ministry of Defence and Director of Pac Link Trading Limited U Tin Maung cut the ribbon to open the Hypermarket.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo had unveiled the signboard of the Hypermarket.

There are restaurants and shops on the first floor, furniture and mattress shops, camera mobile accessories shop and a playground on the second floor. It has a wide car parking and is also equipped with four elevators and two escalators.—MNA

Progress of Nay Pyi Taw-Hsinthe (Tatkon)-Pinlaung railroad project inspected

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 March—Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min together with Deputy Minister U Pe Than yesterday morning looked into preparation for extending Hsinthe station yard in Tatkon Township of Nay Pyi Taw District for implementation of Nay Pyi Taw-Hsinthe (Tatkon)-Pinlaung railroad construction project.

They inspected the site for construction of Nawin Creek Bridge between Byaing-in and Hsinthe stations. At the Nay Pyi Taw-Hsinthe (Tatkon)-Pinlaung railroad construction project near Byaing-in Station, the minister heard reports on progress of project presented by Project Engineer U Zaw Min Oo. The deputy minister gave a supplementary report.

The minister and party inspected construction of Byaing-in, Paydawson and Yeu stations.

The railroad project will start from Hsinthe Station between Nay Pyi Taw and Tatkon Stations and will enter Pinlaung via Thitpingyi station on Aungban-Pinlaung railroad. The facility will link Nay Pyi Taw, Pinlaung and Loikaw. Myanma Railways is making efforts for opening the section-wise of the project.—MNA
Four killed in US drone strike in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 13 March—At least four people were killed in a US drone strike launched Sunday morning in Pakistan’s northwest tribal area of South Waziristan, reported local Urdu TV channel DAWN.

According to the report, the strike took place at about 10:00 am (local time) when a US drone fired two missiles at a vehicle suspected of carrying militants in the Azam Warsak area of South Waziristan, one of the militants’ strongholds in Pakistan, which borders Afghanistan. Sunday’s strike is the 19th of its kind since this year. To date, a total of 92 people have reportedly been killed in such strikes.

The frequency of the US drone strikes in Pakistan has apparently abated following the January 27 incident in which an American named Raymond Davis killed two Pakistanis in the country’s eastern city of Lahore in a bid to avoid further fueling the anti-American sentiment in the country. However, since a local court in Pakistan has refused the request by the US side to release Raymond Davis under the name of diplomatic immunity, the US side has resumed its drone strikes in Pakistan’s northwest tribal areas which border Afghanistan as militants hiding in the areas often launch attacks at the US-led NATO troops in Afghanistan across the Pakistani side.

Despite the violation of its territorial rights, the Pakistani government has turned a closed eye on the US drone strikes.

Insurgent bomb kills four Afghan civilians

KABUL, 13 March—A roadside bomb killed four Afghan civilians in a car in the country’s south, the government said Sunday. The victims were driving in Kandahar Province’s Shorabak District when their vehicle struck the bomb Saturday, the Interior Ministry said in a statement. The incident is being investigated, the ministry said. Civilians have increasingly become the victims of insurgent attacks as Taliban militants wage a violent campaign against international and Afghan forces in the south. A UN report issued last week said that civilian deaths jumped 15 percent in 2010 to 2,770. The report blamed insurgents for 75 percent of the combat-related killings — saying they were responsible for 2,080 deaths. Deaths attributed to US-led forces dropped by 26 percent to 440 people despite a large increase in fighting.

Two NATO service members have also been killed this weekend. One died in an insurgent attack in the east and another in a bomb attack in the south, the international military coalition said. NATO did not provide further details or identify the nationalities of the dead. The coalition typically waits for individual nations to identify their casualties. The latest deaths make 13 NATO service members killed so far this month.

One civilian killed, six wounded in Baghdad bombing

BAGHDAD, 13 March—A civilian was killed and six were wounded in a roadside bomb explosion in southern Baghdad on Saturday, an Interior Ministry source said.

The attack occurred in the morning when a roadside bomb struck a police patrol in Baghdad southern district of Doura, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Two policemen were among the wounded by the blast which damaged a police vehicle and several nearby civilian cars, the source said.

Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks continue in the Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease of violence over the past few years.

US spy suspect sentenced to 15-year imprisonment in Cuba

HAVANA, 13 March—A Cuban court on Saturday sentenced US contractor Alan Gross to 15 years in prison for “acts against the independence or territorial integrity of the state.” According to an official statement, Gross may appeal against the verdict, which reduced five years the prison term requested by prosecutors.

Gross was arrested on 3 Dec, 2009, at an Havana airport on charges of providing satellite communication equipment to anti-government groups, but Washington said Gross is an employee of the “Development Alternatives company” and was helping Cuban Jews to communicate with Jews abroad.

But Adela Dworin, leader of the Cuban Jewish community, said she had never met with Gross. Cuban leader Raul Castro cited Gross case at the parliament as an “example of the US continuous aggression policy against the island nation.” —Xinhua

Seven soldiers killed in northern Iraq

MOSSUL, 13 March—Gunmen shot dead seven Iraqi soldiers in an ambush near the city of Mosul, the capital of Nineveh Province, on Saturday, a provincial police source said.

The incident took place in Badoubeh area some 15 km west of Mosul, when unidentified gunmen attacked two cars carrying the soldiers who were wearing civilian clothes, the source from Nineveh’s operations command told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The soldiers were just left their militant base in the Kuchek area some 30 km west of Mosul, to go home on vacation when the attack occurred, the source said.

Nineveh Province has long been a stronghold for insurgent groups, including al-Qaeda militants. Its capita Mosul, some 400 km north of Baghdad, is one of the country’s most restive cities. —Xinhua

Residents and policemen inspect the site of a bomb attack in Muqdadiya, 80 km (50 miles) northeast of Baghdad recently.—INTERNET

An unarmed US “Shadow” drone is launched in this undated photograph. —Xinhua

Afghan police officer inspects a damaged police vehicle after an explosion in Herat, Afghanistan recently. A roadside bomb that appeared to be targeting a passing police vehicle killed a 10-year-old boy, said provincial spokesman Shafiq Ahmad Behrood. No police officers were killed, he said. —INTERNET

Afghan men help carry a wounded man on a stretcher at a local hospital in Herat, west of Kabul, Afghanistan recently. A bomb exploded near the market in Shindand District of Herat killing three people including a police man and injuring two others, according to Lali Mohammad Omarzai, District governor of Shindand. —INTERNET

Afghan police officer inspects a damaged police vehicle after an explosion in Herat, Afghanistan recently. A roadside bomb that appeared to be targeting a passing police vehicle killed a 10-year-old boy, said provincial spokesman Shafiq Ahmad Behrood. No police officers were killed, he said. —INTERNET

Residents and policemen inspect the site of a bomb attack in Muqdadiya, 80 km (50 miles) northeast of Baghdad recently.—INTERNET
Japan faces escalating nuke threat, meltdowns may occur

Tokyo, 13 March—Japan is facing an escalating nuclear threat on Sunday as the country’s top government spokesman warned that radioactive meltdowns may have occurred in two reactors of the Fukushima nuclear power plant.

“We are acting on the assumption that there is a high possibility that one has occurred” in the No 1 reactor of the quake-hit plant, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano told a Press conference on Sunday, while asked whether or not meltdowns had occurred. “As for the No 3 reactor, we are acting on the assumption that it is possible,” he said. The latest reports of Japan’s Sankei Shimbun said that pressure has been successfully released at the No 3 reactor of the Fukushima No 1 nuclear plant following the injection of fresh water.

Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO), operator and owner of Fukushima nuclear plants, said early on Sunday that a sixth reactor at the nuclear power plants has lost its ability to cool the reactor core since Friday’s quake.

The No 3 reactor at Fukushima No 1 nuclear power plant lost the cooling function after No 1 and No 2 reactors at the No 1 plant and No 1, No 2 and No 4 at the No 2 plant had suffered the same trouble. At an emergency Press conference early Sunday, Edano said the reactor is releasing radioactive steam after the malfunction occurred.

An explosion occurred at the Fukushima No 1 nuclear power plant Saturday, destroying the roof and the walls of the building of the No 1 reactor’s outer container.

Japan quake-tsunami death toll likely over 10,000

Tagajo, 13 March—The death toll in Japan’s earthquake and tsunami will likely exceed 10,000 in one state alone, an official said Sunday, as millions of survivors were left without drinking water, electricity and proper food along the pulverized northeastern coast.

Although the government doubled the number of soldiers deployed in the aid effort to 100,000, it seemed overwhelmed by what’s turning out to be a triple disaster: Friday’s quake and tsunami damaged two nuclear reactors at a power plant on the coast, and at least one of them appeared to be going through a partial meltdown, raising fears of a radiation leak.

The police chief of Miyagi prefecture, or state, told a gathering of disaster relief officials that his estimate for deaths was more than 10,000, police spokesman Go Sugawara told The Associated Press.

Japan’s volcano erupts again with massive blast of gas, ash

Tokyo, 13 March—A volcano located on a mountain range on the island of Kyushu, southwest Japan, erupted again, shooting gas and ash to as high as 4,000 meters, said the Japan Meteorological Agency Sunday.

Quake causes Japan to move 2.4 meters

Beijing, 13 March—The 8.8 magnitude earthquake ranks as the fifth strongest in the world since records began. It’s caused the entire island of Japan to move a distance of 2.4 meters. It’s also created a shift in the earth’s axis of 25 centimeters, shortening each day from now on by 1.26 microseconds.

The energy of the quake is 180 times greater than the 7.3 magnitude quake that struck Hanshin, Japan, in 1995.

Wreckage of aircraft and cars are seen after being swept by tsunami following an earthquake near Sendai airport in northern Japan on 13 March, 2011.—Internet

6.0-magnitude earthquake hits off Japan’s Honshu

Beijing, 13 March—An earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale jolted off the east coast of Honshu, Japan at 3:56 pm Sunday, according to the China Earthquake Network Centre.

The epicenter, with a depth of 20 km, was monitored at 39.7 degrees north latitude and 143.2 degrees east longitude, the centre said in a statement.

Internet

Victims rest at a temporary shelter provided by local government in Morioka of Iwata, Japan, on 13 March, 2011. Some part of the city is facing blackout and water shortage due to the earthquake on Friday. Local government has provided 57 temporary shelters for about 3200 victims in Morioka.—Xinhua

Japan’s volcano erupts again with massive blast of gas, ash

Official in protective gear check for signs of radiation on children who are from the evacuation area near the Fukushima Daichi nuclear plant in Koriyama, on 13 March, 2011. Xinhua

Japan quake-tsunami death toll likely over 10,000

The No 3 reactor at the Fukushima No 1 nuclear power plant is seen in this still image taken from NHK news programme on 13 March, 2011. Tokyo Electric Power Co, the utility supplier, notified the government early Sunday morning that the No 3 reactor at the No 1 Fukushima plant had lost the ability to cool the reactor core. The reactor is now in the process of releasing radioactive steam, according to top government spokesman Yukio Edano.—Xinhua

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Quake causes severe damage in Japan

Beijing, 13 March—The devastating earthquake has caused a major tsunami and has been followed by strong aftershocks. The official death toll stands at 686, but the government says the figure may far exceed 1,000, with drowning as the main cause.

Officials estimate the number of damaged buildings at three-thousand. They add that the tremor also triggered 200 fires. Miyagi Prefecture suffered the most destruction, as it sits near the epicentres.

Four trains operating along the country’s coastline remain missing, while runaways at Sendai Airport have been flooded. The nation’s government says it will consider using emergency oil reserves to ensure electricity continues to flow in the disaster zone.

More than 210,000 people are now living in temporary shelters across five heavily impacted prefectures.

Local residents are evacuated to a shelter in Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, on 12 March, 2011. Xinhua

Wreckage of aircraft and cars are seen after being swept by tsunami following an earthquake near Sendai airport in northern Japan on 13 March, 2011.—Internet
Diabetics do better with empathetic doctors

PHILADELPHIA, 13 March—A doctor’s empathy can improve the care of diabetes patients and should be considered an important part of being a good doctor, according to a new study.

The study included 891 diabetes patients treated between July 2006 and June 2009 by 29 doctors at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. The researchers assessed the doctors’ level of empathy for patients, while the quality of patient care was determined by an LDL (“bad”) cholesterol test and a hemoglobin A1C test for blood glucose levels.

Patients whose doctors had high empathy scores were more likely to have good control of their blood sugar and low LDL cholesterol levels than patients whose doctors had low empathy scores.

The results indicate that empathy on the part of doctors can contribute to patient satisfaction, trust and compliance with therapy.

“Our results show that physicians with high empathy scores had better clinical outcomes than other physicians with lower scores,” study author Mohammadreza Hojat, research professor of psychiatry and human behaviour at Jefferson Medical College, said in a university news release.

Cheery, optimists die younger

RIVERSIDE, 13 March—Personality can affect longevity — those with the most optimism and cheerfulness die younger than their less positive counterparts, US researchers found.

Study leader Howard S Friedman, distinguished professor of psychology at the University of California, Riverside; Leslie R Martin, a psychology professor at La Sierra University in Riverside; and staff researchers — over a 20-year period — analyzed data from a study of 1,500 bright children who were about 10 years old when the study began in 1921.

“Longevity Project participants who were the most cheerful and had the best sense of humor as kids lived shorter lives, on average, than those who were less cheerful and joking,” Martin said in a statement. “It was the most prudent and persistent individuals who stayed healthiest and lived the longest.”

Ford, DTE Energy team up for solar project

DEARBORN, 13 March—US automaker Ford Motor Co said it would team up with DTE Energy to install solar panels at a factory in Wayne, Mich.

The Michigan Assembly Plant, where the Ford Focus is made, will have the capacity to generate 500 kilowatts of power with its solar panels, The Detroit News reported Saturday.

The plant is expected to produce greener vehicles on the assembly line, as well. The Focus Electric, Ford C-Max Hybrid and C-Max Energi plug-in hybrid are all slated for production at the plant.

Ford said it considers the project a pilot programme and could later outfit other facilities with renewable power panels, the newspaper said.

Rocky mountain bicycles recalled

WASHINGTON, 13 March—Rocky Mountain Bicycles of Canada is recalling 325 bicycles due to a steering tube that reportedly has broken while in use, a product regulator said.

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission said Rocky Mountain Bicycles had received four reports of front fork steering tubes breaking, posing an injury risk to the rider.

The bicycles were sold nationwide from June 2007 through November 2010 for between $1,300 and $1,700.

The bicycles involved in the recall include “only bicycles with certain serial numbers, located on the bottom side of the bicycle,” the commission said.

That includes Solo CX bicycles from model year 2008-2010, Solo CXD from model year 2008-2009, Solo CXR from 2009 and Metropolis SEA from 2010.

Consumers were advised to stop using the bicycles and contact Procycle to issue a recall. The Focus Electric, Ford C-Max Hybrid and C-Max Energi plug-in hybrid are all slated for production at the plant.

Ford said it considers the project a pilot programme and could later outfit other facilities with renewable power panels, the newspaper said.

China Everbright names ten banks for HK float

HONG KONG, 13 March—China Everbright Bank (601818.HK) has mandated 10 banks for its planned about $6 billion Hong Kong listing, the lenders said.

The underwriters for the offer are: Bank of America Merrill Lynch (BACN), BOC International (3988.HK), BNP Paribas (BNPPPA), Citigroup, China Everbright Securities, Goldman Sachs (GSN), Guotai Junan Securities, JP Morgan (JPMN), Morgan Stanley (MSN) and UBS (UBSNVX), IFR, a Thomson Reuters publication said.

The lender aims to wrap up the deal by end July, it said.

Last month, the Shanghai-listed mid-sized Chinese bank said it plans to issue up to 12 billion Hong Kong-listed shares, including an over allotment option, to boost its capital adequacy ratio.

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15 people hurt in Okla wildfires

HARRAH, 13 March—Wildfires that raced across central Oklahoma left 15 people injured, dozens of homes destroyed and thousands of acres burned, officials said.

The Oklahoman reported on Saturday the injuries appeared to be minor and no dollar estimate was available for the damage caused by the blazes. The destruction included at least 34 homes, the newspaper said. CNN reported more than 40 homes had been destroyed statewide.

Despite the toll, Michelann Ooten of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, said after touring the affected areas that “it could have been much, much worse.”

However, if you are one of those looking at your home that has been reduced to rubble, it probably doesn’t feel that way,” she said.

Fire officials said there were at least 42 fires reported in the state Friday but most were contained by Saturday. Calmer winds and higher humidity helped firefighters control the blazes, the newspaper said. The largest was in Hughes County where more than 3,500 acres had been blackened.

A state of emergency remained in effect for all 77 counties a day after the declaration was issued by Gov Mary Fallin.

Chinese farmers go online to sell produce

BEIJING, 13 March—For years, Wang Yulan and her husband drove their three-wheeled vehicle to an outdoor market near Beijing to sell broccoli, peppers, eggplants and tomatoes grown on their small plot of land.

Now, thanks to the web, they don’t even have to leave their living room.

Two years ago the couple bought a computer and joined a growing number of Chinese farmers selling their produce online, giving them access to customers around the country and boosting their meagre income.

“What a broad market is opened once you get on the computer,” Wang, 55, told AFP as she logged on to a agricultural trading website with the help of her niece.

“The Internet is convenient.

The customers first place an order, we prepare the items, and then send a van to pick them up.”

Since Wang and her husband Liu Shujin, 66, started trading their vegetables online, the couple’s income has more than doubled to between 20,000 and 30,000 yuan ($3,000-4,500) a year and life has become easier.

“We’ve stopped going out to sell vegetables and just stay at home,” said Wang, who has suffered from a debilitating knee problem for 30 years.

Doctors recommend and take supplements

WASHINGTON, 13 March—Not only do many physicians recommend supplements to their patients, many take them themselves, US researchers say.

The study, published in Nutrition Journal, found 75 percent of dermatologists say they use dietary supplements and 66 percent recommend them to their patients; 57 percent of cardiologists use supplements and 72 percent recommend them to their patients; and 73 percent of orthopedic specialists use supplements and 91 percent recommend them.

“Health professionals, including physicians, have an interest in healthy lifestyles and in habits that may contribute to wellness, which may include the use of dietary supplements,” Annette Dickinson, consultant to and past president of the Council for Responsible Nutrition, said in a statement.

The multivitamin is most often taken by the specialists — 44 percent of all cardiologists, 61 percent of all dermatologists and 57 percent of all orthopedists say they had taken a multivitamin within the past year.

Malaysia-based AirAsia, which launched in 2001, was one of the first airlines to open Asia’s skies to the general public.

The airline continues to expand with the opening of three hubs in Kuching in the east Malaysian state of Sarawak, Chiang Mai in northern Thailand and Medan in Indonesia.

People queue up to buy food, drinks and daily necessities outside a supermarket in Shiogama, Miyagi prefecture.—INTERNET

Farmer Wang Yulan walks across her arid plot of land as the end of winter approaches before farmers start planting their crops near Beijing. For years, Wang and her husband had to drive their three-wheeled vehicle to an outdoor market near Beijing to sell their produce.

Officer dies after shooting in suburb east of NYC

MASSAPEQUA PARK, 13 March—A police officer was apparently shot accidentally and died following a confrontation Saturday night between officers and a knife-wielding man inside a home in a New York City suburb where he lived with his parents, police said. The suspect was also killed.

Theresa Kelly, who lives nearby, told Newsday she was backing out of her driveway when the suspect, wearing dark clothing and a hockey mask, jumped on the hood of her car.

“He got a good laugh out of scaring me,” said Kelly, 71. “I thought he wanted to get into my car, so I called 911.”

Kelly said she followed the man in her car as he ran away and told police where he was, then watched an officer with a gun go inside the house.

“A minute later, I heard three shots,” she said.

As police arrived, the man barricaded himself inside and hid in a bedroom, Smith said. Soon after the home was evacuated, the suspect burst out of the bedroom holding the knives and was shot as he charged at the officers, he said.

It was the second line-of-duty death of a Nassau County officer so far this year.
Prime Minister attends inauguration of...

(from page 1) In the past, the local people used the 172 miles and two furlongs long Nay Pyi Taw-Pyaywwe-Ywamone-Natmauk-Kanbya-Magway Road and the 117 miles and two furlongs long Nay Pyi Taw-Chaungnet-Taungdwin-gyi-Magway Road. The newly-opened road is the shortest facility with least curves and gradient, saving the travelling time.

At present, vehicles can run from Nay Pyi Taw to Magway in three hours. The road is the sixth facility of seven mountain range crossing roads built by Ministry of Construction. Yin Creek Concrete Bridge is also the 261st facility of over 180 feet long.

The minister urged the local people to maintain the road and the bridge for their durability.

A local spoke words of thanks.

The Prime Minister cordially greeted members of social organizations and local people.

The commander, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint and Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun formally opened the new road.

The Prime Minister sprinkled scented water on the stone plaque. After the ceremony, the Prime Minister looked into the road in a motorcade.

Similarly, the opening of Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road was held at Kanbya Junction of Magway Region this morning. Chairman of Mandalay Region PDC Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Ye Aung, Chairman of Magway Region PDC U Phone Maw Shwe and Deputy Minister for Construction U Myint Thein made speeches.

The commander, the deputy minister, the chairman of Magway Region PDC and Brig-Gen Zaw Tun of Magway Station formally opened the road.

Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road passing through Tatkon Township of Nay Pyi Taw District, Magway and Myothit townships of Magway Region is 106 miles and two furlongs long with 40 feet wide earthen embankment and 12 feet wide motor road. The facility can withstand 40-ton loads.
Prime Minister attends inauguration of...

(from page 7)

A ceremony to put Yin Creek Bridge into service was held at the bridge this morning.

Deputy Minister U Myint Thein, the chairman of Magway Region PDC and Brig-Gen Tun Tun Naung of local station formally opened the bridge. After that, Commander Brig-Gen Ye Aung unveiled stone plaque of the bridge.

Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanbya (Magway) Asphalt Road passing through Tatkon Township of Nay Pyi Taw District, Magway and Myothit townships of Magway Region is 106 miles and two furlongs long with 40 feet wide earthen embankment and 12 feet wide motor road. The facility can withstand 40-ton loads.

A total of 13 groups of Public Works and 14 companies participated in the construction of the road. The 250 feet long Yin Creek Bridge is of bored pile and reinforced concrete type. The facility has 24 feet wide motorway and can withstand 60-ton loads.

The construction of the bridge started on 9 September 2010 and lasted six months and four days.

The 48th Myanma Gems Emporium continues

Mines Minister visits fourth-day Myanma Gems Emporium

NAY PYI TAW, 13 March — The 48th Myanma Gems Emporium continued at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near Myanmar Gems Museum here this morning with a visit by Patron of the 48th Myanma Gems Emporium Organizing Committee Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint.

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives observe gems and jewellery shops at Myanmar Gems Museum.

Minister U Ohn Myint together with the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives viewed the display of gems shops and selling and buying of jade lots by gems merchants at home and abroad.

Starting this morning, gem lots were sold out through tender system bidding system. Eight gem lots were sold out through tender system and 22 gem lots through competitive bidding system, totaling 30 gem lots.

Secretary of the central holding committee Managing Director of Myanmar Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and central committee members helped local and foreign gems merchants put the proposals to buy jade lots in tender system at noon.

The officials counted the proposals made by local and foreign merchants in the evening.

The gems shops at the emporium were teeming with their customers while enthusiastic gems merchants were setting sights on buying jade lots.

Tomorrow, the jade lots will also be sold out through tender system at the emporium which will soon till 22 March.

A total 8626 gems merchants — 3935 local gems merchants and 1496 international counterparts — visited the emporium.

Bandoola Transportation Limited plied 150 Parami Taxis for easy travel of the merchants under the arrangement of reception and transportation sub-committee.

The Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs is selling 20-FEC and 50-FEC phone cards which can be used in GSM and CDMA handsets and providing free Wi-Fi Internet access in the hall during the emporium period.

MNA
Emergence of health care facilities...

(from page 16)

Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and the commander accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the donors.

U Zaw Zaw handed over the documents related to the hospital to Director-General of the Department of Health Dr Win Myint.

Speaking words of thanks, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint said that the company used huge funds, labour and machinery to complete the rebuilding of the modern hospital in one year; that the fund-raising programmes implemented in cooperation with the public not only help improve the nation’s health standard and reflect the fine tradition of Myanmar people; that now Yangon gets two pediatric hospitals, and the new one will be also used as an academic hospital of Yangon University of Medicine-2; that from 1988-89 to 2009-2010, the government’s expenditure on health care surged from 464.1 million to 64,001.2 million kyats; that now, the number of hospitals in Yangon Region is 81, compared with only 53 in 1988-89; and that he called on all medical staff of the hospital to show kindness to patients and work more closely in order to win trust and reliance of the people.

In his speech, the commander said that health care to mothers and children that constitute over 60% of the nation’s population is crucial part of the national health plan; that Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his guidance highlighted the vital importance of better health care to children, new generations; that to improve the health infrastructure for children is a huge part in bringing about healthy and fit younger generations; that in times of seasonal epidemics like flu, the 550-bed children hospital in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, had to receive about 800 child inpatients; that the two hospitals benefit children in eastern Bago Region, Mon State, eastern Yangon Region and western Ayeyawady Region; that emergence of health care facilities one after another also symbolizes cooperation of national forces; that health education is to be improved in laying down disease control and prevention tactics; and that public participation is indispensable for improving the health care standard of the nation.

(See page 10)
Emergence of health care facilities...

(from page 9)

In conclusion, he called for hard work to win public trust and reliance, greater use of modern therapies and methods, and participation of more social organizations, well-wishers and the people in disease prevention and control measures to be able to cope with worldwide health challenges.

The new hospital is made up of three buildings along with a mortuary, the residence of the medical superintendent, wards, kitchen, gate, transformer, pump station, 20,000-gallon water tank, lifts and garage.

Max Myanmar Co family also donated hospital and medical equipment, staff quarters, a prayer hall, library and shops.

The international level children hospital lies in a 9.5-acre land at No. 90 on Thitsar Street in Yankin Township.—MNA

Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo looking round newly-opened Yankin Children's Hospital (550-bed). — MNA

Health Minister Dr Kyaw Myint speaking words of thanks at the ceremony.—MNA

Secretary-1 visits blood donation of Ayeyawady Bank employees

NAY PYI TAW, 13 March — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and party viewed blood donation of the employees of Ayeyawady Bank to mark the inauguration of 550-bed Yankin Children's Hospital today. A total of 75 employees of the bank donated blood during the ceremony to donate blood. — MNA

Media corners to satisfy thirst for knowledge

YANGON, 13 March — Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association (MWJA) will open 38 media corners in Pabedan, Kyauktada, Pazundaung, Botataung, Lannadaw and Latha townships in Yangon Region in accord with regulations of Yangon City Development Committee, with a view to whetting the public's appetite for knowledge and promoting publishing industry.

For details, contact MWJA, at No. 529, Second Floor, Sarpay Beikman, Merchant Street, here, Ph:252417 and 385273. — MNA

Max Myanmar Group of Companies Chairman U Zaw Zaw hands over documents related to Yankin Children Hospital to Director-General Dr Win Myint.—MNA
Kaung Myat Myanmar
Amateur Open (2011) Golf Tournament on 22 March

YANGON, 13 March— Kaung Myat Myanmar Amateur Open 2011 Golf Tournament, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and mainly sponsored by Kaung Myat Co Ltd, will be held at Yangon Golf Course (Danyin gon) from 22 to 25 March on a grand scale.

Only amateur golf players (Handicap-0-12) level may partake in the tournament in which handsome prize will go to Hole-In-One prize winner.

Participants may enroll Yangon Golf Course (Danyin gon) Ph: 09-2037671 or 01-651374, not later than 2 pm on 20 March.—MNA

MDevs alumni meet first time

YANGON, 13 March — Master of Development Studies (MDevs) graduates held their first get-together at Park Royal Hotel here yesterday evening.

Rector of the Institute of Economics Dr Kan Zaw delivered address and Prof of the MDevs Daw Yi Aye extended greetings.

During the meeting, alumni of MDevs contributed cash to the fund of the course. The course started in 2002, and has produced 247 graduates so far.

A total of 168 trainees are attending the course of this academic year. —MNA

Secretary-1 inspects progress of Yangon Port region, extension project of Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) football stand

YADANA Street, Bago River Street, Ayarwun street, Maung-magankantha Street and No.2 Road.

The Secretary-1 and party then proceeded to extension project of Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna).—MNA

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects construction of football stand at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna).—MNA

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects construction of jetty at Asia World Port.—MNA

MNA

Secretary-1 inspects progress of Yangon Port region, extension project of Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) football stand
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1. Sealed Tenders are invited for supply of the following in Myanmar
Kyat, Euro;
Sr No Tender No Description Qty Closing Date
1. 12T/MR/MC Vacuum Brake Cylinder 100 Sets 11.4.2011
2010-11(Kyat) 15" Combined E-Type (C&W) (12:00)Hr:
2. 12T/MR/MC Vacuum Brake Cylinder 100 Sets 13.5.2011
2010-11(Euro) 21" F-Type Loco & (C&W) (12:00)Hr:
2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 14.3.2011
during office hours and for further detail please call Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Mer-
chant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 291994.

Quake accelerates Earth's rotation

NEW YORK, 13 March — Friday was just
a tiny bit shorter because
of the giant earthquake
off the coast of Japan. NASA
geophysicist
Richard Gross calculated
that Earth's rotation sped
up by 1.6 microseconds.
That is because of the
shift in Earth's mass
caused by the 8.9-magni-
tude earthquake. A
microsecond is one-mil-
liionth of a second.
That change in rota-
tion speed is slightly
more than the one caused
by last year's larger
Chile earthquake. But
2004's bigger Sumatra
earthquake caused a 6.8-
microsecond shortening
of the day. The Japan
quake is the fifth
strongest since 1900.

State of emergency extended in New Zealand

Wellington, 13 March — New Zealand's
state of emergency imposed after last month's
devastating Christchurch earthquake has been
extended for another seven days.

Civil Defence initially declared the status on 23
February, the day after the 6.3-magnitude quake struck.
The status has to be reaffirmed every seven days and
Civil Defence Minister John Carter said on Sunday
"The declaration of the state of national emergency
ensures the maximum possible co-ordination and co-
operation between central and local resources in
response to this disaster," Cartre said.

"It has been nearly three weeks since the
earthquake and I am constantly impressed by the
willingness of everyone involved in putting Christchurch back together to pull out all stops to
ensure people's most urgent needs are met as quickly
as they can be," he added. —MNA/Xinhua

Bronx tour bus crash kills 14

NEW YORK, 13 March — Fourteen
people have been killed
and 10 injured in a tour
bus accident in New York City, officials
say. The bus
overturned on the New
England Thruway in
the Bronx at about
12:30 (1030 GMT) on
Saturday, a spokesman
for the city's fire de-
partment said.

The bus was carrying at least
31 passengers. The
light pole "went
through the whole bus
while driving", a
fire department
spokesman told the
New York Times
newspaper.

Cholesterol linked to infections

Edinburgh, 13 March — Lowering cholesterol
may help the body's immune system fight viral
infections, researchers in Scotland said.

Scientists at the University of Edinburgh say they
have discovered a direct link between the immune
system and cholesterol levels.

Professor Peter Ghazal and colleagues said the
researchers found that when the body succumbs to a
viral infection a hormone in the immune system
sends signals to blood cells.

The study, published in the journal PLoS Biology,
found cholesterol produced by a person's cells is
needed for viruses and certain bacteria to grow, and
limiting the body's production of cholesterol would
curb the opportunity for viruses to thrive.

Currently, antibiotics are used to fight infections
by targeting the virus directly, but the researchers
said it may be possible to use cholesterol-lowering
drugs to boost the immune system. —Internet

China inspects nuclear plants, reports no problems

BEIJING, 13 March—This
week's devastating earthquake in
Japan has had no impact at all on
Chinese nuclear plants, but the
government has demanded they
step up inspections anyway, the
Environment Ministry said.

"Our ministry is paying a great
deal of attention to this huge
earthquake in Japan, and has
already confirmed that it has had
no impact at all on our nuclear
plants' safety," the ministry said
in a statement late on Saturday.

Radiation checks have been
performed up and down the
country and "at present we have
discovered no abnormal
radiation", it added in a statement
on its website (www.mep.gov.cn).

Environmental protection
departments have also stepped up
monitoring, and are required to
report any unusual readings as
soon as possible, the ministry
department.

They said the ministry will continue to
follow this accident closely."—it said
of events in Japan. Thousands of
Japanese have fled the vicinity of
an earthquake-crippled nuclear
plant after a radiation leak.

China has 13 working reactors
with 10.8 gigawatts of total
generating capacity. China's official
nuclear capacity target for 2020
remains 40 gigawatt, less than 5
percent of its current total installed
capacity, or enough to power Spain.

However, officials have said China
was considering raising the goal to
80 gigawatts or more for 2020.

China has never had a major
nuclear disaster, though some of its
plants have had occasional leaks. A
nuclear plant in the southern
Chinese city of Shenzhen had a
small radiation leak last year, but it
was contained and isolated.

MNA/Reuters
India catches 57 pilots over alcohol limit, only grounds 11

India’s airline authorities caught 57 pilots over the alcohol limit about to take to the cabin of passenger-carrying jets over the past two years, but most were cleared to fly again, media said on Friday.

Only 11 of the pilots found to be under the influence of alcohol in random pre-flight medical tests between January 2009 and November 2010 lost their job, the Times of India newspaper said, citing a statement by Aviation Minister Vayalar Ravi to lawmakers.

The rest were hit with varying punishments determined by their airline, such as warning letters or a fine.

To combat the rising number of inebriated pilots in India’s skies, authorities brought in a rule last year grounding first-time offenders for three months and stripping the flying licence from repeat offenders.

Since the rule came into effect in December, a month when cases have traditionally peaked, no cases have yet been reported.

Malaysians make off with all including house

A Malaysian landlord was shocked to find his double-storey wooden house missing while making his rent call, local daily The Star reported on Friday.

Zuria Ali, 30, said he was greeted by the sight of scattered wood, a damaged television set and twenty-four concrete pillar holders when he went to the site of his house in Malaysia’s northern Perlis state bordering Thailand. “I had heard that my house had vanished and was curious to find out the truth,” Zuria was quoted as saying by the newspaper. He lost his furniture, cutlery, cupboards, a dining table and a refrigerator and estimated his losses to be about 30,000 ringgit (6,200 pounds).

Zuria’s neighbour, Ah Kuang, said he saw three men and a trailer arriving at the house last month. “I thought the three were carrying out the dismantling work on instructions from the landlord.” Ah Kuang said. “I did not suspect anything until he (Zuria) asked me about it. Police confirmed receiving a report about the “missing” house, the newspaper said.

Justin Timberlake, Jessica Biel ‘call it quits’

WASHINGTON, 13 March— The Social Network star Justin Timberlake and his longtime lover Jessica Biel have parted ways, according to sources. The couple decided to end their four-year relationship recently and “there are no hard feelings.”

“It was completely mutual and they both decided it was time to move on,” Radar Online quoted a source as telling People. Biel, 29, is reportedly holding onto the couple’s Los Angeles home as part of the split. Timberlake, 30, was last spotted with Biel at the Vanity Fair post-Oscars party on 27 February.—Internet

Neil Gaiman to help Monkey King speak English in 3D trilogy

BEIJING, 13 March— Hollywood writer Neil Gaiman has joined the production team of a 3D trilogy about Monkey King, a classic Chinese fiction figure, the film’s chief producer and director Zhang Zhijun announced here on Thursday.

Gaiman is an award-winning author and Hollywood screenwriter with abounding experiences in screenplay adaptations, including Robert Zemeckis’s “Beowulf” in 2007 and “Coraline,” the stop-motion production of Gaiman’s novel of the same name, in 2009.

Gaiman is a long-time fan of the Monkey King story and has travelled to China several times to experience that journey, Zhang said at a press conference.

Gaiman’s understanding of the story, awareness of Chinese culture, and passion for the subject made him “very suitable” for this job, said Zhang.—Xinhua

‘Merry Little Christmas’ songwriter Martin dies

LOS ANGELES, 13 March— Hugh Martin, the composer-songwriter whose works included “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas” and “The Trolley Song,” died Friday. He was 96.

He died from natural causes at his home in Encinitas, Calif, said Martin’s niece Suzanne Hanners. Martin and songwriting partner Ralph Blane co-wrote such catchy tunes as “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” “The Trolley Song” and “The Boy Next Door” from the musical “Meet Me in St Louis.”

Photo taken on 10 March, 2011 shows the unveiled shoes sculpture in Kiev, Ukraine. This shoes copper sculpture was unveiled on Thursday to commemorate the businessmen for their hard-working.
Coyle dreams of Wembley glory with Bolton

BIRMINGHAM, 13 March — Bolton manager Owen Coyle is dreaming of more Wembley glory after seeing his side book a date there next month with a dramatic 3-2 win over Birmingham in Saturday’s FA Cup quarter-final at St Andrew’s. Coyle tasted success at the English national stadium as a Bolton player when he won promotion to the Premier League via the play-offs in 1995, scoring in the 4-3 extra-time win over Reading, and he triumphed there too as manager of Burnley when he led them from the Championship to the top flight the same route in 2009.

Now he will return to the famous arena for the Cup semi-finals hoping for more success after South Korean substitute Lee Chang-Yong’s 90th-minute goal saw off League Cup winners Birmingham.

"It’s always been kind to me as a player," Coyle said. — Internet

Rafael Nadal of Spain

Bolton Wanderers’ Kevin Davies (R) vies with Birmingham City’s Liam Ridgewell during their FA Cup quarter-final match at St Andrews in Birmingham, West Midlands.— Internet

Spurs star Palacios sidelined after surgery

LONDON, 13 March — Tottenham midfielder Wilson Palacios will be sidelined for three weeks after surgery on a knee injury suffered in training. The 26-year-old alerted Tottenham’s medical staff to the problem following Wednesday’s 0-0 draw with AC Milan in the Champions League and the Honduras international underwent a minor operation on Saturday.

“Wilson Palacios has undergone an arthroscopy on his right knee today (Saturday),” a statement on Spurs’ website confirmed.

Bayern Munich’s Dutch midfielder Arjen Robben

Ravens safety Zbikowski wins second pro fight

LAS VEGAS, 13 March — Baltimore Ravens safety Tommy Zbikowski didn’t let the NFL lockout stop him from making a nice payday — and delivering some hard hits. Fighting for the second time as a pro, Zbikowski barely broke a sweat Saturday night in stopping Richard Bryant at 1:45 of the first round of a four-round fight on the undercard of the Miguel Cotto-Ricardo Mayorga 154-pound title fight.

Zbikowski, who last fought while still attending Notre Dame, earned $50,000. He dropped Bryant with a left hook to the body and referee Russell Mora waved the fight to a close after Bryant got up at the count of seven. — Internet

Stoke beat Hammers to reach FA Cup semi-finals

LONDON, 13 March — Stoke City secured their first FA Cup semi-final appearance since 1972 with a 2-1 win against West Ham in the quarter-finals at the Britannia Stadium on Sunday.

Tony Pulis’s side were beaten 3-0 by the Hammers in the Premier League last weekend, but they got their revenge, and earned a trip to Wembley in the process, thanks to Danny Higginbotham’s second half winner.

Stoke took the lead in the 12th minute with yet another goal from one of Rory Delap’s trademark long throws.

Price takes 2-stroke lead in Toshiba Classic

NEWPORT BEACH, 13 March — Nick Price followed his record-tying first round with a 3-under 68 on Saturday at Newport Beach Country Club to take a two-stroke lead in the Toshiba Classic.

The 54-year-old Price had a 128 total. Seeking his fourth win of the season — a year earlier than planned — Bay턴 secured their biggest win of the season the following three straight defeats.

“Who would have thought this, eh? Certainly not my friends from the media,” gloated van Gaal, whose side host Inter Milan in the Champions League on Tuesday.

“But that is football. ‘In the beginning, we played well and we could have gone into the half-time break behind. Fortunately, that didn’t happen and I am very glad we put in a good performance.”
One miner dead, five rescued in Philippine landslide

MANILA, 13 March — Police say a gold miner has been killed and five others dug up alive by fellow miners after their hut got buried by a landslide in a remote mountain town in the southern Philippines.

Compostella Valley provincial police chief Aaron Aquino says dozens of pounding rain set off the landslide that buried the hut in which the six miners were resting on Friday in Pantukan town.

Aquino said Sunday it was not immediately clear if the victims were among the many illegal miners operating in the vast mountainous region. Police have been trying to enforce a crackdown on miners operating in the vast mountainous region.

Frigate Ma’anshan of the 5th escort flotilla sent by the Chinese Navy leaves after the farewell ceremony, in Karachi, Pakistan, on 13 March, 2011. The flotilla left Karachi for the Gulf of Aden on Sunday. Pakistani Navy officials and sailors, Chinese diplomats and delegates of the overseas Chinese attended the farewell ceremony. —XINHUA

WEATHER

Sunday, 13th March, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Bago and Yangon Regions, isolated in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Region, Kachin, Shan and Kayah States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (6°C) above March average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin and Mon States, (3°C) below March average temperatures in Eastern Shan State, (6°C) below March average temperatures in Rakhine State, (8°C) to (9°C) below March average temperatures in Magway and Bago Regions and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Kaleiywa, Kantafulu, Monywa, Hpa-an and Theinza (38°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Longlon (1.02) inches, Kawkareik (0.79) inch, Myik (0.47) inch and Yangon (Central) (0.39) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 12-3-2011 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 13-3-2011 was 70°F. Relative humidity on 09:30 hours MST on 13-3-2011 was (69%). Rainfall on 13-3-2011 was (nil). Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 12-3-2011 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 13-3-2011 was 74°F. Relative humidity on 09:30 hours MST on 13-3-2011 was (68%). Total sunshine hours on 12-3-2011 was (8.3) hours (Approx). Rainfall on 11-3-2011 was (Tr) at Mingaladon. (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (0.39) inch at Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (2.44) inches at Mingaladon. (5.25) inches at Kaba-Aye and (4.76) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southeast at 18:25 hours MST on 12-3-2011.

Bay Influence: Weather is generally fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy to hazy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 14th March 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, isolated in Upper Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, Kachin and Shan States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong Easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mogtuma, off and along Mon-Taninthay Region. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere. Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Lower Myanmar areas. Good chance of isolated rain or thundershowers in the remaining areas. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-3-11: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-3-11: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-3-11: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-3-11: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).
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

Emergence of health care facilities one after another also symbolizes cooperation of national forces

Secretary-1 attends opening of renovated Yankin Children’s Hospital (550-bed)

Emergence of health care facilities one after another also symbolizes cooperation of national forces

Secretary-1 attends opening of renovated Yankin Children’s Hospital (550-bed)

NHC Chairman Secretary-1 of State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo unveils bronze plaque of Yankin Children’s Hospital (550-bed).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 March—The opening of Yankin Children’s Hospital (550-bed) renovated by Max Myanmar Co. took place at the hospital on Kanbe Street in Yankin Township this morning, attended by Chairman of the National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Region PDC Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Yangon Mayor U Aung Thein Lin and Chairman of Max Myanmar Group of Companies U Zaw Zaw formally opened the hospital.

The Secretary-1 unveiled the bronze plaque of the health facility. The donations to the Committee for Perpetual Existence of Yankin Children’s Hospital totalled K 728.85 million and 500 pillows, water dispenser and hospital equipment including K 3 million by grandson Pho La Pyae under the patronage of Chairman of SPDC Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing; K 2.5 million by son Ko Pyi Aung Ma Nandar Aye under the patronage of SPDC Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San; one elevator by son U Aung Thet Mann-Daw Khin Hnin Thandar under the patronage of SPDC Member Thura U Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet; and an incubator by Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, son U Tay Zar Saw Oo and wife Daw Hnin Yi Mon, grandchildren Shoon Let Hnin Oo and Yati Hnin Oo in memory of late Ma Moe Phyu Saw Oo. (See page 9)