President U Thein Sein participates in 18th ASEAN Summit Retreat in Jakarta of Indonesia

President U Thein Sein attends the 18th ASEAN Summit Retreat Session at Cendrawasih II Hall of Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC) in Jakarta, Indonesia.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the 18th ASEAN Summit Retreat Session at Cendrawasih II Hall of the Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC) in Jakarta of the Republic of Indonesia at 9 am on 8 May.

Also present at the meeting were Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah of Brunei Darussalam, Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen of Cambodia, President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister Mr. Thongsing Thammavong of Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Prime Minister Dato Sri Mohammad Najib Bin Tun Abdul Razak of Malaysia, President Mr. Benigno Aquino of the Republic of the Philippines, Senior Minister Professor S Jayakumar on behalf of Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong of the Republic of Singapore, Prime Minister Mr. Abhisit Vejajiva of Thailand, Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan and senior officials of the ASEAN countries.

Alternate Chairman of the ASEAN President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono delivered an opening address.

Next, President U Thein Sein, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries exchanged views on relations outside the ASEAN, participation of ASEAN Community in the global community, and regional and international issues.

After the meeting, they enjoyed luncheon together.—MNA

Soyuz launch from Europe space base set for October

A China Railway High-speed (CRH) train is seen going to its debut test on the high-speed railway between Shanghai and Beijing at Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station in Shanghai on 11 May.

Palermo stun Milan to reach Italian Cup final
PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 12 May, 2011

Aim at People-Centered ASEAN

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the plenary session of the 18th ASEAN Summit in Jakarta of the Republic of Indonesia on 7 May.

Also present at the Summit were Heads of State/Government of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, the Secretary-General of the ASEAN and senior officials of ASEAN countries.

All the participants at the summit focused on extension of research centres for food security, coordination in food delivery, promoting of cooperation with ASEAN+3 countries, energy security, implementation of ASEAN power grids for electricity security, holding of ASEAN Fair to be held in 2011, and development of small- and medium-scale enterprises.

President U Thein Sein also attended the meeting between Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and representatives of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, the informal meeting between ASEAN leaders and youth representatives and the informal meeting between ASEAN Leaders and representatives of Civil Society Organizations in Jakarta of the Republic of Indonesia on 7 May afternoon.

Their discussions emphasized narrowing the economic development gap in the region, food and energy security, and protection of women and children.

Likewise, they held discussions on emergence of ASEAN Community, promoting cooperation between governments and social organizations, development of human resources and creation of job opportunities.

In fact, emergence of the ASEAN Community is depending not only on the governments but also on the peoples. As programmes on education, creative industry and culture are being carried out for common interest of ASEAN countries, it is necessary to strive for emergence of the people-centered ASEAN.

Union Foreign Minister attends 18th ASEAN Summit and related meetings

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, a member of the Myanmar delegation to the 18th ASEAN Summit held in Jakarta, Indonesia, attended the 5th ASEAN Political-Security Community Council Meeting at Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC) in Jakarta on 6 May afternoon.

The meeting focused on work progress of organizations under the council, implementation of the resolutions passed at the 4th ASEAN Political-Security Community Council Meeting, ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint and progress in implementing prioritized sectors in the blueprint.

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin dealt with continued implementation of the resolutions passed at ASEAN Foreign Ministers Private Meeting in Lombok, ASEAN Foreign Ministers Informal Meeting and ASEAN-Japan Ministers Special Meeting in Jakarta and ASEAN Foreign Ministers Informal Meeting of East Asia Summit in Bangkok, and Myanmar’s alternative chairmanship of ASEAN in 2014.

At the 8th ASEAN Coordinating Council Meeting, ASEAN foreign ministers put heads together about the reports of the ASEAN secretary-general, the ASEAN permanent representatives, ASEAN integrity work group, and ASEAN integrity coordination committee. East Timor’s application for full-fledged ASEAN membership and rules and regulations ASEAN has to abide by in signing international agreements.

That evening, the Union minister attended the dinner hosted by Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Dr R M Marty Natalegawa at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jakarta.

MNA

Aung Thinkha-2 oil well successful

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—The test-running ceremony of Aung Thinkha-2 oil well in Myanmar offshore oilfield M-3 took place at the rig on 9 May.

The oil well being drilled jointly for mutual interests by the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy and PTTEPI Co of Thailand was launched on 26 March 2011.

The project manager and drilling manager of the company reported to Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay on the oil well. The minister called for further confirmation of the reserve, early report on follow-up programmes to the ministry, and continued implementation of tasks.

The Union Minister formally opened the valve of the oil well.

Now, the oil well produces 154 barrels of condensate and 25.8 million cubic feet of natural gas a day.—MNA

Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay launches test burning at Aung Thinkha-2 oil well.—ENERGY
Iraq blasts target police, government officials

BAGHDAD, 11 May—A roadside bomb targeting a security patrol Tuesday night killed a policeman and wounded another officer and a passerby in Saddam Hussein’s hometown, officials said, in the latest strike against Iraqi forces as US troops prepare to leave.

Ambulances raced to the scene after the blast hit central Tikrit, about 80 miles (130 kilometres) north of Baghdad. The city has suffered some of Iraq’s bloodiest attacks this year, including a March hostage siege on a government compound that killed 57 and a January suicide bombing that left 65 police recruits dead.

Salahuddin provincial health director Dr Raied Ibrahim said the one of the policemen died an hour after the explosion. The other was rushed to Tikrit hospital. The casualties were confirmed by Mohammed al-Asi, spokesman for Salahuddin’s governor.

The blast came hours after a pair of bombs in Baghdad killed an Iraq government official and wounded four people. Security and government officials are favourite targets for insurgents, who seek to undermine Iraq’s stability as US forces head home at the end of 2011 as required under a security agreement. US and Iraqi officials are considering whether to let some American troops stay behind to help bolster the nation’s fragile security.

Baghdad police said Salam Abdullah Ibrahim, the director general of a state-owned cement company, was killed around 9 am as he drove to work in the capital’s east by a bomb planted on his car.——Internet

Casualties of Iraqi people

<table>
<thead>
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<th>No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Death toll of Iraqi people</td>
<td>705809</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>The total number of seriously injured people</td>
<td>1278409</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

KABUL, 11 May—The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Number of Afghan people killed</td>
<td>33851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Seriously injured Afghan people</td>
<td>41323</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Afghan police: Taleban attack northern village

KABUL, 11 May—About 100 Taleban fighters on motorcycles attacked a northern Afghan Village that was working to join the government-sponsored local police programme against the insurgency, killing one villager, police said Wednesday. An ensuing battle also left 17 militants dead.

The Tuesday evening attack sparked a gunfire that raged intensely for two hours and then continued with sporadic shooting until just before dawn on Wednesday, said Abdul Aziz Ghyyrat, the police chief for Jawzjan Province.

“They targeted Abduraman Village. The people there planned to join the local police and the Taleban had heard about this plan,” Ghyyrat said.——Internet

Debris of a car destroyed in a blast is seen in northwest Pakistan’s Peshawar on 10 May, 2011. At least one journalist was killed in a blast that occurred Tuesday night in a supermarket in Peshawar.—Xinhua

French soldier killed in Afghanistan

PARIS, 11 May—A French soldier was killed Tuesday in an explosion in the southern valley of Tagab in Afghanistan, the Elysee Palace said in a statement.

During an operation in Kapisa, a soldier from the 13th Engineer Regiment was killed by an improvised explosive device during a reconnaissance mission.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy expressed his condolences to thesoldier’s family and reiterated France’s support to the Afghan authority and people, the presidential office added. In the statement, Sarkozy stressed France’s determination to continue working with the US-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to help local authorities to restore security and crack down on Taleban militants.——Xinhua

Helicopter makes emergency landing in E Afghan Province

ASSADABAD, 11 May—A helicopter made emergency landing in Nuristan Province on Wednesday, casualties feared. Provincial police chief Shams Rahman Zahid said.

“The incident happened at 11:00 am local time in nearby provincial capital Parun and some people on board sustained injuries,” Zahid told Xinhua.——Xinhua

An Afghan woman sits with her child, waiting for alms to be given, in Kabul, Afghanistan on 9 May, 2011.——Internet

A member of the civil defence (C) and policemen inspect the site of a bomb attack in Hilla, 100 km (60 miles) south of Baghdad on 5 May, 2011.——Internet

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An Afghan man photographs the wreckage of a motorcycle used by a suicide attacker in Qarghayi, Laghman Province east of Kabul, Afghanistan on 9 May, 2011. A suicide bomber on a motorcycle blew himself up in front of a compound belonging to Saleh Mohammad Niazi, the chief of the Qarghayi District.—INTERNET
Soyuz launch from Europe space base set for October

The Soyuz rocket vertically integrated in its launch complex in Kourou on 7 May. The maiden launch of the veteran Soviet-Russian rocket Soyuz from Europe’s space base in South America has been scheduled for October, a spokesman for launch operators ArianeSpace said on Tuesday. “Right now we are looking at mid-October” for the first launch, said spokesman Mario de Lepine.

Soyuz will carry the first two satellites in Europe’s Galileo navigation system, the competitor to the US Global Positioning System (GPS), he said. The European Space Agency (ESA) and Russia agreed to deploy Soyuz at Kourou, French Guiana, under a 2003 accord to provide ArianeSpace with a medium-sized launcher.

A ceremony was held there on Saturday to mark the launch pad handover, which required major modifications. Soyuz traces its lineage to the pioneering days of space, from launchers used for Sputnik in 1957 and Yuri Gagarin’s first manned flight on 12 April, 1961.

With more than 1,700 launches to its credit, it is the most used and most reliable rocket in history. Up to now, it has only ever been launched from Russia’s bases at Baikonur in Kazakhstan and Plesetsk, Russia.—Internet

US alert system targets mobile phones

NEW YORK, 11 May—Plans were unveiled for a nationwide system that will deliver text-like emergency messages from President Barack Obama and key government agencies to mobile phone users. The free service, called the Personal Localized Alerting Network or “PLAN,” is scheduled to be launched, said spokesman for launch operators ArianeSpace said on Tuesday. “Right now we are looking at mid-October” for the first launch, said spokesman Mario de Lepine.

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China’s first Space station: A new foothold in earth orbit

BEIJING, 11 May—China’s state-run news outlets report that preparations of the country’s first space station module, called Tiangong-1, are in full swing for a launch in the second half of this year and will be followed by an un piloted spacecraft. The spacecraft, the station module and China’s Shenzhou 8 vehicle, will mark the country’s first round of orbital rendezvous and docking tests viewed as a springboard to larger space adventures.

A Long March 2F rocket is the booster of choice for the individual launches, according to reports by China’s Xinhua news agency. According to state media reports, the Tiangong-1 space station module is outfitted with a docking port on its front and rear ends. It will tip the scales at roughly 8 1/2 tons and purportedly will have a two-year lifetime in Earth orbit. Next year, China’s Shenzhou 9 and Shenzhou 10 missions, each carrying astronauts, are expected to link up with the station module, according to current plans.

By honing their skills at rendezvous and docking, Chinese space officials see the target practice as a step forward in assembling a far larger space facility, now slated to be completed around 2020, according to Yang Liwei, deputy head of China’s Manned Space Engineering Office.—Internet

Electric cars take off in Norway

OSLO, 11 May—They speed past gas guzzlers in traffic, ignore congestion charges and get city centre parking for free. In a country whose wealth is fuelled by oil, Oslo has become the world capital of the electric car.

“There are more electric cars per capita here than in any other capital of the world,” said Rune Haaland, the head of the electric car users association Noenstart, standing in a city centre car park forbidden to other car users.

Almost 4,000 of the small, clean and silent vehicles are on the roads of Norway, although they are found mainly in the cities, and the number is climbing as new models come onto the market.

From the tiny, locally-made Buddy, to the sporty Tesla, which can accelerate from zero to 100 kilometres (62 miles) in less than four seconds, all sorts of electric cars have taken to the roads of Norway, although they are found mainly in the cities, and the number is climbing as new models come onto the market.

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“The electric car is a very important tool for that, knowing that 40 percent of our emissions come from the transport sector and 60 percent of those come from road transport,” Transport Minister Magnhild Meltveit Kleppa told AFP.

According to some estimates, the country’s 3,891 electric cars allow it to save over 6,900 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year.—Internet

A New York policeman looks at his mobile phone. Plans were unveiled for a nationwide system that will deliver text-like emergency messages from President Barack Obama and key government agencies to mobile phone users. —Internet

The guerilla roots of the Skype calling service

NEW YORK, 11 May—In buying Skype, Microsoft is getting one of the rare companies that has turned its name into a verb, like Xerox or Google. “Let’s Skype” is a phrase understandable, with slight variations, like Xerox or Google. “Let’s Skype” is a phrase understandable, with slight modifications, Soyuz traces its lineage to the pioneering days of space, from launchers used for Sputnik in 1957 and Yuri Gagarin’s first manned flight on 12 April, 1961.

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A Microsoft and Skype sign are displayed at a news conference in San Francisco on 10 May, 2011, announcing Microsoft’s acquisition of Skype. —Internet

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A book a day helps keep doctors away

BEIJING, 11 May— New retirees suddenly confronted with plenty of time on their hands might be happy to learn that reading keeps one mentally alert and abreast of current affairs, says Ursula Lenz of Germany’s working group of senior citizens’ organizations, BAGSO.

Growing old can present difficulties such as failing eyesight or problems concentrating, but experts encourage the elderly not to give up on reading and to adapt to their situation.

From the perspective of health professionals, there are many advantages to reading books or newspapers for senior citizens.

The ability to transform words into mental images is good for cognitive performance. Reading also improves vocabulary, language use and the ability to concentrate, according to Simone Helck from the Karurutat Forshinshilfe, an organization in Germany that helps promote and develop strategies for taking care of the elderly. So, what exactly happens in the brain when we read?

“The brain builds new synapses, junctions between the neurons, when it’s simulated such as during reading,” says Manfred Gogol, a physician and president of Germany’s Society for Gerontology and Geriatrics.

Gogol recommends reading books that deal with subjects that are of special interest to the reader. If a long novel seems like too much work, then try a novella or collection of short stories. But a prerequisite for reading is that any sight defect is corrected by an optician.

In response to the needs of elderly people, publishers print books with large typefaces and bigger line spacing. Lenz says it is worthwhile asking for large print books in libraries and bookshops.—Xinhua

Hitachi logs record net profit despite earthquake

TOKYO, 11 May— Japanese high-tech firm Hitachi said Wednesday it returned to the black in the year to March on robust electronics sales, logging a record net profit despite damage from the massive quake and tsunami.

The company’s group net profit came to 238.87 billion yen ($2.96 billion), after a loss of 106.96 billion yen in the previous year.

Operating profit more than doubled, surging 119.9 percent to 444.51 billion yen, as sales grew 3.9 percent to 9.32 trillion yen. The Hitachi’s group net profit came to 238.87 billion yen ($2.96 billion), after a loss of 106.96 billion yen in the previous year.

The company said construction expenses, the company said.

Sales were reduced by 130 billion yen due mainly to delays in shipments, the company said, whose products range from computer hard- and software to nuclear power generation systems.

“Hitachi suffered damage to its buildings and production facilities, in-process products and other assets,” the company said in a statement, adding that it also faced delays in agreeing new contracts.

The disaster affected all business segments but profits grew due to higher revenues and cuts in procurement costs and fixed expenses, the company said.

The company said construction machinery sales grew on strong demand from emerging economies, while sales also rose in sectors including electronics systems, components and devices, and automotive systems.—Internet

Research suggests 1 in 7 strokes happens during sleep

LOS ANGELES, 11 May— About 14 percent of strokes happen while people are sleeping, lowering the chance that they’ll be able to get to the hospital in time for a potentially brain-saving treatment, a new study suggests.

“This is the only treatment for ischemic stroke that must be given within a few hours after the first symptoms begin, people who wake up with stroke symptoms often can’t receive the treatment since we can’t determine when the symptoms started,” said Dr Jason Mackey, of the University of Cincinnati and a study co-author, in a news release from the American Academy of Neurology. “Imaging studies are being conducted now to help us develop better methods to identify which people are most likely to benefit from the treatment, even if symptoms started during the night.”

In the study, published in the 10 May issue of Neurology, researchers examined the medical records of 1,854 adults who suffered from ischemic strokes in a one-year period and were treated at emergency rooms in the Cincinnati area. Ischemic stroke is caused by blocked blood flow in the brain, usually because of a clot. In 14 percent of the cases, people woke up with symptoms of a stroke. Nation-wide, that would account for 58,000 people who visit emergency rooms with stroke systems annually, the study authors pointed out.

China’s economy cools, limiting room for tighter policy

BEIJING, 11 May— China’s inflation eased in April to 5.3 percent and other data, including industrial output and loans, suggested slower activity in the world’s second-biggest economy and less room for further aggressive moves to tighten monetary policy.

Inflation was slightly higher than expected but lower than a 32-month high in March of 5.4 percent, underlining expectations that price pressures were peaking and would start to ease in the second half of 2011. The annual pace of industrial output and retail sales eased more than expected, backing the view that the heady 10-percent plus pace of economic growth last year is calming. Annual food price increases, the main driver of overall inflation, pulled back to 11.2 percent in April from 11.7 percent in March.

“Price pressures are still uncomfortably strong, but there are some signs in today’s data that policy measures put in place over the last six months or so are having an impact,” said Brian Jackson, economist with Royal Bank of Scotland in Hong Kong. Jackson said inflation remained high enough to warrant two more increases by the central bank in interest rates and further yuan appreciation against the dollar.

But several analysts said other data released on Wednesday, including figures that showed a slowdown in the pace of money supply and bank loans outstanding, suggested that the central bank could be less aggressive with monetary tightening in the months ahead.

“The April economic indicators make it less likely that the central bank will raise required reserve ratios or interest rates,” said Shao Yu, an economist with Hongyuan Securities in Shanghai.—Reuters
President U Thein Sein arrives back in Nay Pyi Taw from Jakarta of Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, accompanied by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, deputy ministers and departmental senior officials, left Ritz Carlton Hotel for Halim Perdanakusuma International Airport of the Republic of Indonesia at 9.45 am local time on 9 May to leave for the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, after paying a State visit to the Republic of Indonesia and attending the 18th ASEAN Summit in Jakarta of Indonesia.

The President was seen off at the airport by Indonesian Minister for Administrative Reforms Mr E.E. Mangindaan, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar U Nyan Lin and wife, Military Attaché Col Aye Thaw and wife, staff and families from embassy and Military Attaché office.

The President and party left Indonesia at 10 am local time and arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw by special aircraft in the afternoon.—MNA

Minister stresses importance of discipline, correct training to improve sports skills

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan stressed the need for giving intensive training with correct techniques to athletes as part of efforts for preparing to participate in the XXVI and XXVII SEA Games.

At the meeting with presidents and officials of weightlifting, boxing, table tennis, Judo, Wushu, swimming, badminton and tennis federations of Myanmar at the Ministry of Sports today, the union minister urged them to set short and long term plans to improve the sports of Myanmar and to keep in contact with international sports federations.

During the meeting, presidents from eight sports federations, the deputy minister for sports and responsible officials reported to the union minister on making intensive training camps for athletes.

MNA
President U Thein Sein meets staff of Myanmar Embassy, Military Attaché in Jakarta

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, accompanied by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, deputy ministers and departmental senior officials, visited the resident of the Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Indonesia in Jakarta on 8 May evening.

The President was welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador U Nyan Lin and wife Daw Khin Mar Nwe, Military Attaché Col Aye Thaw and wife Daw Khin Oo May, staff of the embassy and the military attaché office and families.

Staff of the embassy and the military attaché office and families led by the Ambassador and Military Attaché traditionally paid respects to the President.

Next, President U Thein Sein explained the emergence of the new government elected by the people in accord with the new Constitution approved by the majority of the people, safeguarding the Three Main National Causes as national policy for new generations, building the nation to be a peaceful, modern and developed country as inspiration of the massive people, modernizing the nation to be an industrialized one while sustaining the momentum of developing agricultural sector, turning out necessary strong and healthy intellectuals and intelligentsia by the State for building the industrialized nation applying natural resources of the nation, and strengthening diplomatic ethics, rules and regulations for the embassy staff for promoting the bilateral relations between the two countries. Next, the President presented gifts to the Myanmar Ambassador, the Military Attaché, staff of the embassy and the military attaché office and families.

Later, the Ambassador and wife hosted a dinner to the President and party.—MNA

Union Home Affairs Minister receives UNSG’s Special Adviser

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko received Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General (UN Under-Secretary-General) Mr Vijay Nambiar and party at the ministry, here, at 5.30 pm today.—MNA

Books donated to MLF

YANGON, 11 May—Today’s donations to the Myanmar Library Foundation, U Chit San (Chit San Win)-Daw Maw Maw (La Min Eain) of Panmyo Tayar Sarpay donated 450 books worth K 600,000, and U Khin Hlaing (Saw Aung Moe-University of Pharmacy) 50 books worth K 100,000.

Chairman U Maung Maung and Vice-Chairman U Nyunt Swe of the foundation accepted the donations.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the foundation may contact the foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Road in Botataung Township, Yangon. Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.—MNA
President U Thein Sein receives Vietnamese Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung at Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC) in Jakarta of Indonesia at 3.10 pm local time on 8 May.

Also present at the call were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia U Nyan Lin and senior officials.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister was accompanied by Vietnam’s Minister of Trade and Industry Mr Vu Huy Hoang and senior officials.

At the call, President U Thein Sein and Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung held discussions on promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation, duties to be assigned to government departments of both sides for implementation of the signed agreements and sharing technology in agricultural sector.

Union NPED Minister attends ASEAN Summit and related meetings, discusses economic matters

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—After attending ASEAN Summit and related meetings, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, one of Myanmar delegation members, attended the preliminary coordination meeting for the 18th ASEAN Summit at Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC) in Jakarta of Indonesia at 8.30 am on 6 May.

Preliminary discussions for the 5th ASEAN Economic Community, SME development for AEC’s third pillar of equitable and broad-based development within the ASEAN, participation of CLMV countries in initiative for ASEAN Integration, matters related to strengthening evaluation machinery for making close supervision on implementation of AEC initiatives and bridging the development gap within ASEAN member countries and duty assignment for better development of national and regional coordination were discussed at the meeting.

Next, the Union Minister took part in the 5th ASEAN Economic Community Council meeting at which those present exchanged views on plans to be flexible for proper flow of services before 2015 within ASEAN member countries regarding liberalization of service sector in ASEAN, reports presented in ASEAN Finance Minister’s Meeting and ASEAN Agriculture and Forestry Minister’s Meeting and reports of private sector.

The Union Minister attended the 10th ASEAN Economic Ministers-European Union (AEM-EU) Trade Commissioner Consultation at 1 pm.

At the meeting, those present exchanged views on global and regional economic growth and new investment policy of EU and held discussions on trade and investment cooperation between the ASEAN and EU and on benefits and challenges of green technologies.
NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General (UN Under-Secretary-General) Mr Vijay Nambiar and party arrived in Yangon by air at 9.20 am today.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Director-General Daw Yin Yin Myint of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, officials, Resident Coordinator Mr Bishow B Parajuli of UN agencies and party.

Mr Vijay Nambiar and party left Yangon for Nay Pyi Taw and they arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 12.15 pm. They were welcomed by Director-General U Maung Wai of the International Organizations and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

At 1.50 pm, the UNSG’s Special Adviser and party called on Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin at the ministry. Next, departmental heads of various ministries led by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin held a meeting with the UNSG’s Special Adviser and party. They discussed development issues in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and implementation of cooperation between Myanmar and the UN. In the evening, the minister hosted a dinner to the UNSG’s Special Adviser and party at Golden Palace Hotel.

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—The Road Safety Decade (2011-2020) was launched at the Ministry of Health here this morning.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin in his speech noted that traffic accidents around the world claim about 1.3 million lives a year or about 3000 a day. About 50 million people are permanently disabled, he said, adding that UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki-moon called for collaborative efforts to achieve success in the movement and declared the 11th May of 2011 as the launch day of Road Safety Decade.

WHO Resident Representative Dr H S B Tennakoom read the message of the director of WHO for Southeast Asia Region.

The minister and guests visited the commemorative exhibition.

MYANMAR delegation led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin receives Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General (UN Under-Secretary-General)

Mr Vijay Nambiar and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—The University for Development of National Races will resume its courses for 2011-2012 academic years on 6 June.

All the trainees of States and Regions are to report to the university between 30 May and 3 June.—MNA
Mississippi River crests at 14 metres

BEIJING, 11 May—The Mississippi River crested in the US City of Memphis, Tennessee, at 14.63 metres early on Tuesday, falling short of its all-time record of the devastating 1937 flood. The US National Weather Service said the river was expected to stay very close to that level for the next 24 to 36 hours.

The soaking was confined to low-lying neighbourhoods, and forced nearly thousands of people from their homes. Rising waters also flooded 3 million acres of farmland. The flood is due to the heavy rain over the past few weeks and snow melt along the upper reaches of the Mississippi River.

Residents of Kawauchi village, within the 20km exclusion area around the stricken Fukushima nuclear power plant, prepare to return to their homes briefly to pick up their personal belongings on 10 May.—INTERNET

Five drug traffickers hanged in Iran

TEHERAN, 11 May—Authorities in Iran have hanged five convicted drug-traffickers in the country’s northwest area, a media report here said.

The hanging was carried out immediately after the convicts were awarded death sentence by a court in Oumishe, the capital of West Azerbaijan Province. They were hanged in the main prison of Orumieh in Iran’s northwest area, a media report here said.

The quake jolted at 14:54 pm Jakarta time (0754 GMT) with the epicenter at 92 km southwest Ternate of South Maluku and with the depth at 16 km, the agency said.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire”, where two continental plates meet frequently causing seismic and volcanic movement.

Death toll from typhoon Aere rises to 24

MANILA, 11 May—The Philippine death toll from tropical storm Aere rose to 24 following the recovery of four more bodies, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said Wednesday.

The NDRRMC said 6 others were wounded, while two remained missing.

More than 70,000 families were affected by the heavy rains and floods that swept northern Philippines over the weekend. Aere also damaged several roads and bridges.

A state of calamity was declared in the provinces of Albay and Camarines Sur.

Mississippi River crests at 14 metres

Water from the swollen Mississippi River surrounds the Historic Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company Depot in Vicksburg, Mississippi on 10 May, 2011. More residents were warned on Monday to get out of the way of the raging Mississippi River as it surged toward a near-record crest in its southern reaches, prompting authorities to try to divert some of the flood waters.—XINHUA

Russia, Norway to begin naval drills

MOSCOW, 11 May—Russia and Norway will begin a joint large-scale naval exercise-Pomor-2011-Wednesday, a spokesman for Russia’s Northern Fleet said.

The six-day exercise in the Barents and Norwegian seas will involve Russian Udaloy class destroyer Vice Admiral Kulakov from the Northern Fleet, Norwegian Fridtjof Nansen class frigate Helge Ingstad, as well as coastal guard vessels and naval aircraft.

The drills will include artillery firing at air and surface targets, anti-submarine warfare, an anti-piracy mission, and the freeing of an oil platform or a commercial ship seized by armed extremists.

Russia and Norway held similar naval drills last June to practice interoperability during missions in the Arctic.

Mild quake jolts South Philippines Wednesday

JAKARTA, 11 May—A shallow moderate quake with magnitude of 5.4 jolted southern Philippines Wednesday morning, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said here.

The quake occurred at 09:28 am (0128 GMT) with its epicenter at 91 kilometres east of General Santos, Mindanao, and at a depth of 104.8 kilometres.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said the earthquake was tectonic in origin.

No one was reported hurt from the earthquake. Phivolcs doesn’t expect any aftershocks from the mild tremor.

Moderate quake rocks E Indonesia

An aerial view of flooding brought by tropical storm Aere in Camarines Sur Province, central Philippines on 10 May, 2011. XINHUA

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True patriotism

* It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Photo taken on 10 May, 2011 shows stainless steel kitchen ware in the media prevew in Hong Kong, south Chin.—XINHUA

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Nepal Sherpa climbs Everest for record 21st time

KATHMANDU, 11 May—A Nepalese Sherpa on Wednesday broke his own record for most climbs of Mount Everest by scaling the world’s tallest peak for the 21st time.

Apa, who is leading an environmental expedition that plans to carry down tons of garbage left behind by past climbers, took advantage of good weather to reach the 29,035-foot (8,850-metre) summit with a group of other climbers, said Tilak Pandey, a government mountaineering official stationed at the base camp. “They said they are enjoying the view and taking pictures on the summit,” said Ang Thshering of Asian Trekking, which organized the expedition.

Apa, who like many in the Himalayas’ Sherpa community uses only one name, grew up in the foothills of Everest and began carrying equipment and supplies for trekkers and mountaineers at age 12. He first climbed Everest in 1989 and has repeated the feat almost annually.

The 50-year-old Apa and his team climbed all night Tuesday and Wednesday morning before reaching the summit at 9:15 am local time (0330 GMT). Before leaving for the mountain in April, Apa had said his team planned to clear 8,800 pounds (4,000 kilograms) from near the summit (1,000 kilogrammes) from near the summit. —INTERNET

Chinese cargo ship rescued by joint forces in Arabian Sea

BEIJING, 11 May—A Chinese cargo ship which was seized by Somali pirates in the Arabian Sea, has reached Indian port safely under the escort of Chinese and Indian Navy forces.

The ship with 24 sailors on board was rescued by an international team made up of NATO and Indian marines. The Chinese embassy in New Delhi has conveyed its gratitude to India for the action.

Luo Shuang, Assistant Military Attache of Chinese Embassy to India, said, “The Indian Navy swung into action and mobilized its aircraft and ships right after receiving the distress call from the Chinese authorities. They found a pirate mother ship and an empty skiff alongside the ship, meaning the pirates were already on board. Chinese crew members on the vessel had locked themselves in safe rooms on the ship. Then Indian aircraft dispelled the pirate ship. Meanwhile, nearby US aircraft carrier Carl Vinson and a Turkish navy vessel also sent aircraft to help. Turkish special troops were also on board to make sure all the pirates left.”

Pirates attacked the vessel on May 5th about 450 nautical miles off the coast of the Indian city of Mumbai. —Xinhua

A China Railway High-speed (CRH) train is seen going to its debut test on the high-speed railway between Shanghai and Beijing at Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station in Shanghai, east China, on 11 May, 2011. —Xinhua

Contaminated fuel in Israel causes rerouting of over 160 flights

NICOSIA, 11 May—Over 160 aircraft flying to Israel’s Tel Aviv City have been rerouted to Cyprus since last Thursday following contamination in an international airport’s refuelling system, Xinhua reported Tuesday.

A spokesman with Hermes Airports, a company which operates Cyprus’ two airports, told media Tuesday that over 160 aircraft are expected to make stopover at Larnaca and Paphos Airports in Cyprus by midnight for refuelling since jet fuel at Ben Gurion airport was detected contaminated 5 May. Ben Gurion Airport is the largest and busiest international airport in Israel.

Israeli and foreign airlines’ flights had to be diverted to Cyprus or Jordan, as Israeli authorities expect the problem to be solved by Wednesday night. Their destinations include European and American airports such as Munich, Zurich, Paris, Luton, New York and Philadelphia.

An initial investigation has found mold and bacteria in the jet fuel, but Israeli authorities were yet to know what led to the contamination.

Boeing delivers six C-17 Globemaster III airlifters to UAE

LOS ANGELES, 11 May—Six C-17 Globemaster III airlifters manufactured by Boeing Co were delivered on Tuesday to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force and Air Defence at the company’s final assembly facility in Long Beach near Los Angeles.

The six airlifters were the first batch of C-17s ordered by the UAE, according to Boeing.

“Three more C-17s will be delivered to UAE later this year and two next year.

“The C-17s advanced capabilities, high reliability and mission-readiness rate meet all of our requirements,” he said.

The deliveries to the UAE Air Force and Air Defence as they join the worldwide community of C-17 operators,” said Chris Chadwick, president, Boeing Military Aircraft. “We pledge that your commitment to the C-17 will be backed up by Boeing’s expertise, support and dedication wherever your crews fly the finest airlifter the world has ever known.” —Xinhua

Six dead, two injured after water storage falls down in central China

ZHENGZHOU, 11 May—Six people died and two others were injured after a water storage fell down and hit a factory late Tuesday in central China’s Henan Province, local government sources said Wednesday morning.

Rescue work has completed, the sources added.

One building of the Dongxishan Ore Dressing Factory in Wangwu Town of Jiyuan City collapsed after being hit by the factory’s water storage at 6 pm when eight workers were inside the building.

Five died and two others were injured at the scene, and another was believed to be trapped. Rescuers retrieved the body of the trapped worker under the debris at around 6:00 am Wednesday. The two injured are in stable condition. Founded in 1996, the ore dressing factory is a private business. —Xinhua

The model of a fighter plane is seen during the 10th International Defence Industry Fair in Istanbul, Turkey, on 10 May, 2011. More than 600 companies from 48 countries and regions attended the four-day fair that kicked off here on Tuesday. —Xinhua

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BALTCRUISER VOY NO (+)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BALTCRUISER VOY NO (+) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.5.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: GREEN S & A CO LTD**, KOREA

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**Depp to star in ‘Thin Man’ re-make**

New York, 11 May — Director Rob Marshall and producer John DeLuca have signed on for a planned remake of “The Thin Man” set to star Hollywood actor Johnny Depp. Marshall and DeLuca said they will produce the film through their LUCAMAR Productions company. Marshall and Depp recently worked together on the soon-to-be-released, “Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides.” LUCAMAR Productions joins Infinimus Nihal Company and Langley Park Pictures as production companies on the project. In addition to DeLuca and Marshall, Depp and Christo Dembrowski are producing on behalf of Infinimus Nihal, and Kevin McCormick is producing on behalf of his Langley Park Pictures.

Jerry Stahl is writing the screenplay. “John and I are overjoyed at the idea of working with Johnny again, especially on such a classy and classic project. We are also thrilled to be partnering this time with such wonderful producers as Christo Dembrowski and Kevin McCormick, and we are looking forward to working with Warner Bros. to create a reinvention of a beloved story,” Marshall said in a statement.

“‘The Thin Man’ series of big-screen comedy-mysteries from the 1930s and ’40s — based on a novel by Dashiell Hammett — featured William Powell and Myrna Loy as Nick and Nora Charles, a pair of glamorous married sleuths,” Thompson says.

**Enlarged prostate not a sign of cancer**

San Antonio, 11 May — A 10-year study of 19,000 men indicates the symptoms of an enlarged prostate are not associated with the risk of prostate cancer, US researchers say.

Study trial leader Dr Ian M Thompson Jr — director of the Cancer Epidemiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio — says despite the recommendations of some health groups, the data suggest men and their physicians should instead look to a combination of prostate-specific antigen levels and other factors when assessing prostate cancer risk.

“Many organizations that speak to ‘cancer-related symptoms’ suggest that men with problems related to urination should be checked for prostate cancer,” Thompson says in a statement. “What we demonstrated is that prostate enlargement symptoms are absolutely unassociated with risk of cancer.”

More than 2,000 San Antonio men participated in the trial, which ran from 1993 to 2003. “This means that you cannot rely on symptoms but, if you have problems related to urination should be checked for prostate cancer,” Thompson says. The findings are published in the American Journal of Epidemiology.

**Fungus turns ants into ‘zombies’**

**University Park, 11 May** — A parasitic fungus of ants changes the ants’ behavior, creating “zombies” that then die in a spot best suited for the fungus to reproduce, US researchers say.

Researchers at Penn State University said the growing fungus fills the body and head of tropical carpenter ants and affects the ant’s central nervous system, creating “zombie” ants that walk in a random manner, unable to find their way home, a university release reported last week. The ants suffer convulsions, causing them to fall to the ground from their normal spot high in tree canopies.

Once on the ground, the ants are unable to find their way back to the canopy and remain at the lower, leafy area which, at about 9 or 10 inches above the soil, is cooler and moister than the canopy, providing ideal conditions for the fungus to thrive.

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**Liposuction: The fat returns, elsewhere**

**Aurora, 11 May** — Liposuction — the vacuuming of fat from under the skin — doesn’t keep fat off permanently, it just returns elsewhere on the body, US researchers found.

Teras Hirokawa and Dr. Robert Eickel of the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Aurora, Colorado, said they found the fat eventually returns within one year, but is redistributed to other areas of the body — especially the upper abdomen, men around the shoulders and triceps of the arms.

“The fact that fat returned is of great interest to us as scientists. It supports the idea that levels of body fat are very tightly regulated by mechanisms we have yet to uncover,” Eickel said in a statement.

“This was the hypothesis we were testing and it was confirmed. In rodents when fat is removed it returns, and after weight loss in humans most everyone regains the weight. We think the brain somehow knows how much fat is on board and responds in a manner to regulate that weight. That’s why preventing obesity is so important.”

**One-third of young girls’ clothing sexy**

**Gambier, 11 May** — Some young girls’ clothing available online is sexy or sexualizing and US researchers say this contributes to socializing girls as sexually objectified women. Samantha Goodin, a former Kenyon College student, and a research team led by Dr Sarah Murnen, a professor of psychology at Kenyon College examined the frequency and nature of sexualizing clothing available for young girls — children, not adolescents — on the Web sites of 15 popular US stores.

**Drunk man ate, slept at wrong house**

Palm Harbor, 11 May — Police in Florida said a drunken man discovered sleeping on a sofa insisted he was in his own home when confronted by the actual residents. The Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office said a woman awoke at about 2:30 am Friday when she heard the sound of coughing and discovered Mark Sirben, 51, sleeping in her Palm Harbour home, the St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times reported on Monday. The woman’s husband confronted Sirben, who insisted he was in his own home. “They had no idea who this guy was,” said Sheriff’s Office spokeswoman Cecilia Barreda.

The couple told deputies Sirben had apparently made himself some food in their kitchen before going to sleep. “The kitchen cabinets were open and there was food in a frying pan that was not there when he and his wife had gone to bed,” Barreda said. Sirben was charged with trespassing in an occupied structure and criminal mischief.

**Two pug dogs named Roxy (L) and Ivan are dressed up as Dorothy and the Tin Man, from the movie “Wizard of Oz,” as they posed to have their picture taken at the Pug Rescue of San Diego County’s 20th annual Pug Party in Del Mar, California on 7 May, 2011.**

**A train carrying tourists runs in the High Park in Toronto, Canada, on 9 May, 2011. Cherry blossoms are in full bloom recently in Toronto.**

**A Sumatran tiger plays with its cub in the Bukit Tigapuluh forest on central Sumatra Island in this image captured using camera traps on 14 April, 2011, and released on 9 May, 2011.**

**Internet**
190 World War II artillery shells found in north China

About 190 artillery shells discarded by Japanese troops during World War II have been found in north China’s Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. The shells were discovered buried under a swamp about 500 meters away from a residential community in the region’s Xilingol Prefecture, according to Zha Gan, an officer from the local police station. Zha said the shells were discovered on Tuesday after water levels in the swamp dropped, revealing the buried munitions.

The shells are rusty from being submerged in water for nearly 70 years, but still have the possibility of detonating, Zha said. Police have cordoned off the site and warned people living within five kilometers of the site not to go near it.

Soon, talk to a dolphin via underwater translator!

Scientists have developed a new underwater translation software that could soon allow humans and dolphins to talk to each other. Dolphins have been declared the world’s second most intelligent creatures after humans that can keep track of over 100 different words. But this showcase of underwater mammal talent may become an interactive exchange if the bid is successful.

Denise Herzinger, founder of the Wild Dolphin Project in Jupiter, Fla, and Thad Sturman, an artificial intelligence researcher at Georgia Tech, developed a project called Cetacean Hearing and Telemetry (CHAT), and will test a prototype device this summer, reports New Scientist.

appropriately named, the Cetacean Hearing and Telemetry (CHAT) project aims to record and interpret dolphin sounds by building a prototype device featuring a smartphone-sized computer and two hydrophones.

Schwarzenegger, Shriver announce separation

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and his wife Maria Shriver, announced Monday that they are separating.

The statement, issued by a spokesman for Schwarzenegger, said the two were working on the future of their relationship while living apart and would continue to parent their four children together. “This has been a time of great personal and professional transition for each of us,” the two said in a prepared statement. “After a great deal of thought, reflection, discussion, and prayer, we came to this decision together.” It was not clear from the statement if either remained at their estate in Brentwood, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and his wife Maria Shriver (R).—XINHUA

Los Angeles, 11 May—Former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and his wife of 25 years, Maria Shriver, announced Monday that they are separating.

Charlie Chaplin’s 1929 Pierce-Arrow up for grabs on eBay

WASHINGTON, 11 May—Charlie Chaplin, an icon of the silent film era, has given us some of the funniest and most famous movies of all time.

Now, his fans and car collectors can bid for a chance to take home the Hollywood legend’s classic ride — his 1929 Pierce-Arrow is currently for sale on eBay, reports the Fox News. The dual-cowl phaeton convertible is one of the most luxurious and ostentatious cars of the era, making it the choice of many of America’s pre-depression elite.

Its straight-8 engine was one of the smoothest and most powerful at the time, and a separate compartment for the rear passengers meant they didn’t have to associate with the riff raff in the driver’s seat — even when the top was down.

The car had been part of the collection of the Automotive Road of Dreams Museum, until the Costa Mesa, California attraction closed in 2005, and has been in storage ever since.

It is one of several cars from the collection currently being offered on the online auction website.

Priced around 8,000 dollars when new, the Pierce-Arrow is considered one of the most luxurious and ostentatious cars of the era, making it the choice of many of America’s pre-depression elite.

Rod Stewart embarks on two-year Las Vegas residency

Los Angeles, 11 May—British rocker Rod Stewart has signed a two year Las Vegas residency deal which will see him return to The Colosseum at Caesars Palace beginning 24 August, promoters said on Tuesday. Tickets for the first 18 concerts, titled “Rod Stewart: The Hits,” go on sale on 15 May.

Promoters AEG Live said the concert will be designed to give audiences an intimate feel with no fan more than 120 feet from the stage. Stewart will perform rock and R&B favorites including “Maggie May,” “You Wear it Well,” “Hot Legs,” “You’re in My Heart” and “Some Guys Have All the Luck.”

Stewart, 66, whose eighth child was born in February, recently wrapped “The Heart & Soul Tour” with Stevie Nicks. In 2010, he embarked on a European summer tour which continued with eight concerts at the 4,300-seat Colosseum last November.—Reuters

The scene inside the Bertrand bookshop in Lisbon, Portugal, which has been acknowledged to be the world’s oldest operating book store, and a certificate now hangs on the walls of the book store, center, in Lisbon’s Chiado neighbourhood.

Scientists stung by theft of research bees

Several thousand bees that were part a multimillion pound neuroscience research project have been stolen from a British university.

Police in the Scottish region of Tayside were appealing for information on Tuesday after four bee hives containing several thousand British black bees were stolen from a medical school in the city of Dundee.

“This theft will undoubtedly hamper our research,” said Dr Chris Connolly, the lead researcher on the Dundee project, who reported the bees missing on Sunday.

In a statement he described the bees as “very unique” and said they should be easy to identify if they are sold on. The hives are a part of a 2 million pound ($3.3 million) project at the Center for Neurosciences at the Dundee University’s medical school which is investigating the potential effect of pesticides on bee learning and health.

A huge logo of Cannes film festival is seen on a street in Cannes, France, on 10 May, 2011.—XINHUA
Palermo stun Milan to reach Italian Cup final

ROME, 11 May—
Palermo kept their dream of a first ever piece of silverware and a place in Europe next season alive by beating newly-crowned champions AC Milan on Tuesday to reach the Italian Cup final.

Giulio Migliaccio and a Cesare Bovo penalty gave the Sicilians a 2-1 win on the night in the semi-final, second leg and 4-3 aggregate success following a 2-2 draw in Milan three weeks ago. Zlatan Ibrahimovic pulled a goal back for Milan deep into injury time. Palermo will face either holders Inter Milan or Roma in the final on 29 May, in what will be their first ever piece of silverware.

Pallermo's defender Cesare Bovo (R) celebrates after he scored a goal against AC Milan during their Coppa Italia semifinal second-leg football match at Barbera Stadium in Palermo. Pallermo won 2-1.—INTERNET

FIFA rocked by new World Cup corruption allegations

LONDON, 11 May—
FIFA was rocked by new allegations of corruption on Tuesday as the former head of England’s 2018 World Cup bid accused senior officials of demanding cash and honours in return for votes.

In an explosive session of a British parliamentary committee, six members of FIFA’s graft-tainted executive were accused of involvement in bribery before last year’s votes to decide the 2018 and 2022 World Cup hosts.

British lawmaker Damian Collins said the hearing had received evidence that FIFA vice-president Issa Hayatou from Cameroon and Jacques Anouma from the Ivory Coast received bribes of 1.5 million dollars to vote for Qatar’s 2022 bid.

France coach Blanc cleared in race row

PARIS, 11 May—
France coach Laurent Blanc was on Tuesday cleared of racial discrimination by French Sports Minister Chantal Jouanno in the row over talks concerning the introduction of quotas for dual nationality players.

“No there is nothing to suggest that Laurent Blanc in any way gave his support to discriminatory actions,” Jouanno told a press conference.

Mancini warns Man City not to mess up FA Cup final

TOTTENHAM Hotspur’s English forward Peter Crouch

MANCHESTER, 11 May—Roberto Mancini has warned Champions League-bound Manchester City not to take the gloss off their European success by messing up in Saturday’s FA Cup final.

Mancini immediately set his sights on securing the club major silverware for the first time in Blackburn “furioso” as fans sell tickets to United

Blackburn Rovers have expressed ‘fury’ at claims fans are selling season tickets to Manchester United ahead of this weekend’s Premier League match between the clubs.

United will win a record 35 years after overcoming Tottenham 1-0 to seal a top-four finish. It means City will compete in the Champions League play-offs next season although they could still secure an automatic passage to the group stages should they win their last two league games and finish above third-placed Arsenal.

Mancini said he was thrilled for City’s supporters after making it into the Champions League. But the Italian has told his players not to undo all the hard work by losing to Stoke in the FA Cup final at Wembley.—INTERNET

Federer laments lack of top ten Americans

Swiss tennis star, and former world number one, Roger Federer

ROME, 11 May—
Former world number one Roger Federer believes the current dearth of top class American players is bad for the game.

For the first time since the rankings were introduced no American is among the world’s top ten in the men’s or women’s lists. Federer, however, believes the United States is merely suffering from a general lack of emerging talent which can also be seen elsewhere.

“There are not that many teenagers in the top 100 so I think many countries are going through a phase where they do not have the talent they have to have,” said the Swiss, who is currently ranked third in the world.

A rusty Woods is feeling better as Players awaits

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, 11 May—
Tiger Woods heard a series of shutters from a spectator’s camera and stopped his swing at the last minute, knees flexed, club shaft parallel to the ground, holding his pose until he could regain his balance.

“Oh, no,” said the caddie for Mark O’Meara. “You’re starting to swing like Charles Barkley.”

San Jose Sharks goalie Antti Niemi (31), of Finland, stops a Detroit Red Wings right wing Daniel Cleary (11) shot in the second period of Game 6 of a second-round NHL Stanley Cup playoff hockey game in Detroit, on 10 May, 2011.—INTERNET

Ronaldo hat-trick delays Barca title party

MADRID, 11 May—
Cristiano Ronaldo scored a hat-trick to make it an incredible 36 league goals in the current campaign as Real Madrid defeated local rivals Getafe 4-0 at the Santiago Bernabeu on Tuesday to prevent Barcelona from winning the league title for at least one more day.

If Real had failed to win, Barcelona would have been crowned champions without playing, but Pep Guardiola’s side need a point from their final three matches, with

France national football coach Laurent Blanc

Blanc appeared before a joint hearing of the French Football Federation (FFF) and the Sports Ministry on Monday.—INTERNET

Maccabi Tel Aviv’s Mesut Ozil

The joint boss of the joint hearing had received evidence that FIFA vice-president Issa Hayatou from Cameroon and Jacques Anouma from the Ivory Coast received bribes of 1.5 million dollars to vote for Qatar’s 2022 bid.

Lille take giant step towards French title

PARIS, 11 May—
Lille moved ever closer to the league title on Tuesday after they came from behind to beat St Etienne 2-1 and give the unglamorous northern French side a seven point lead over defending champions Marseille.

Marseille can reduce it back to four points with three matches to play should they beat Brest on Wednesday while seven-time champions Lyon have to beat Auxerre away if they are to keep their flickering title hopes alive.

Lille’s French midfielder Antonio Mavudza (C) celebrates with teammates after scoring a goal during the French L1 football match Saint-Etienne vs Lille at the Geoffroy Guichard stadium in Saint-Etienne.—INTERNET

Blackburn “furioso” as fans sell tickets to United

BLACKBURN, 11 May—
Blackburn Rovers have expressed ‘fury’ at claims fans are selling season tickets to Manchester United ahead of this weekend’s Premier League match between the clubs.

United will win a record 19th English title if they avoid defeat at Blackburn’s Ewood Park ground on Saturday, with Rovers looking for points in their quest to avoid relegation. Now there are concerns that United supporters wanting to see their club break the current English record of 18 titles it shares with arch-rivals Liverpool will cause security problems if they are sat amongst Rovers supporters.—INTERNET

Tiger Woods

Woods doubled over in laughter Tuesday on the eighth tee on the TPC Sawgrass, a light moment during his first time playing golf since disclosing minor knee and Achilles’ injuries on the Masters.

Woods said the left knee — which has gone through four surgeries — and his left Achilles’ are better. “Good enough to play,” he said.—INTERNET
came to an end around 10 km from the finish after
at the scene before being taken to hospital.
car. Still conscious, Slagter was given medical attention
around 15km from the finish, that Weening's teammate,
leader's pink jersey from Britain's David Millar. A
capped a brave solo attack with victory in the fifth

Millar loses Giro lead as
Weening wins fifth stage

Orvieto, 11 May—Dutchman Pieter Weening
capped a brave solo attack with victory in the fifth
stage of the Giro d’Italia Wednesday to take the race
leader’s pink jersey from Britain’s David Millar. A
day after the peloton held a 216 km procession to
honour stricken Belgian Wouter Weylandt, who died
in a crash on Monday, there was drama aplenty on the
strade bianche (white roads) that peppered the last
19km of the 191 km ride from Pombino to Orvieto.
It was on one of the few paved sections in the finale,
around 15km from the finish, that Weening’s teammate,
Tom-Jelle Slagter, caused brief anxiety when he fell
and lay prone as his physios called for the medical
car. Still conscious, Slagter was given medical attention
at the scene before being taken to hospital.
An earlier solo breakaway by BMC’s Martin Kohler
came to an end around 10 km from the finish after
Weening and Frenchman John Gadret of AG2R had

Summary of observations recorded on 09:30 hr. M.S.T.
During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been
widespread in Tanintharyi Region and Mon State, fairly
widespread in Bago Region, scattered in Yangon Region and
Rakhine State, isolated in Shan, Chin and Kayin States and
weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and
Regions with Regional heavy falls in Mon State and isolated
heavy falls in Bago Region. Day temperatures were (3°C)
above May average temperatures in Kachin and Northern
Shan States, (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperatures
in Bago and Tanintharyi Regions, (6°C) to (7°C) below May
average temperatures in Tanintharyi Region and Kayin State
and about May average temperatures in the remaining
Regions and States. The significant day temperature were
Chank (43°C), Monywa and Magway (40°C) each. The
noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawlamyine
(3.82) inches, Kyaikmaraw (3.62) inches, Nyaunglebin and
Bilin (3.11) inches each, Pyay (2.87) inches, Paung (2.48)
inches, Kyakikham (2.36) inches, Zaungtu (2.28) inches,
and Dawei (2.16) inches.

Pieter Weening celebrates after winning stage 5
of the 94th Giro d’Italia, from Pombino to
Orvieto.—INTERNET

Pieter Weening pulled away from a reduced peloton. Weening then left
both riders in the white dust to go on and build the
foundations of a deserved victory. Eight seconds in his
wake Colombia’s Fabio Duarte dominated the sprint for

Opener

News

Myanmar’s Customs & 7 Days Born

News

Famous Pagoda of Sagaing

Water Pouring Festival on Bo Tree

News

Myanmar-China Border Trade Fair 2011

Song for you

News

Youth of the Future (Episode-4) (Puppet)

Oversea Transmission

Opening

News

Myanmar’s Customs & 7 Days Born

News

Famous Pagoda of Sagaing

Water Pouring Festival on Bo Tree

News

Myanmar-China Border Trade Fair 2011

Song for you

News

Youth of the Future (Episode-4) (Puppet)

News

Music Gallery

The Colossal Marble Buddha Images from the Sacred Sagyin Hill

MI People’s Celebrities “7 Hours with”

News

Ayeawady (The Historical Lifeline of Myanmar)

News

From The Union Highway to Forever Friendship

News

*Visitation to Mawlamyine*(Part-II)

Myanmar Movie “Master of Flowers”
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

President U Thein Sein attends closing ceremony of ASEAN Summit in Jakarta

President U Thein Sein attends closing ceremony of Plenary Session of 18th ASEAN Summit at Assembly Hall of Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC) in Jakarta of Indonesia.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the closing ceremony of the Plenary Session of the 18th ASEAN Summit at Assembly Hall of Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC) in Jakarta of the Republic of Indonesia at 2.45 pm on 8 May.

Also present at the ceremony were Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah of Brunei Darussalam, Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen of Cambodia, President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister Mr. Thongsing Thammavong of Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Prime Minister Dato Sri Mohammad Najib Bin Tun Abdul Razak of Malaysia, President Mr. Benigno Aquino of the Republic of the Philippines, Senior Minister Professor S. Jayakumar on behalf of Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong of the Republic of Singapore, Prime Minister Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva of Thailand, Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, deputy ministers, departmental senior officials, ministers of ASEAN countries, senior officials, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, permanent representatives to ASEAN and guests.

Alternate Chairman of ASEAN President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono reviewed the topics discussed in the 18th ASEAN Summit Plenary Session.

Later, the Indonesian President cordially greeted the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries.—MNA