**Four political objectives**
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility; prevalence of law and order
- Strengthening of national solidarity
- Building and strengthening of discipline-flourishing democracy system
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the Constitution

**Four economic objectives**
- Building of modern industrialized nation through the agricultural development, and all-round development of other sectors of the economy
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investment from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

**Four social objectives**
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Flourishing of Union Spirit, the true patriotism
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

**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.

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**Dokhtawady Bridge (Yeywa-Kabyu) on Kyaukse-Yeywa-PyinOoLwin road under construction**

Nav Pyi Taw, 15 May—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint inspected maintenance of Kyaukse-TadaU Road and bank erosion at mile post No. 7/5 of Samon River yesterday.

He looked into progress in construction of Kyaukse-Yeywa-PyinOoLwin-Mogok Road (Kyaukse-Phyaukseikhin-Yeywa section).

The Union Minister viewed groundwork for Dokhtawady Bridge (Yeywa-Kabyu) being undertaken by Bridge Construction Project Special Group (14).

The bridge located on Kyaukse-Yeywa-PyinOoLwin Road is of RC type. The facility, 480 feet long, will have 24 feet wide two-way motor road and three feet wide pedestrian way on either side.

Withstanding of the bridge will be 60-ton loads.—MNA

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**Ambassador U Tin Oo Lwin presents Credentials to Singaporean President**

Nav Pyi Taw, 16 May—U Tin Oo Lwin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Singapore, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Sellapan Ramanathan, President of the Republic of Singapore, on 28 April 2011 in Singapore.—MNA

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**Magpies make Chelsea’s title blues worse**

Chelsea vs Newcastle United in English Premier League soccer match.

Byline: Soe Thura; Photos: Ko Ko Soe Nyunt

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**Yaybu Checkpoint on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse (Namhkam) Road**

Trucks are examined at Yaybu Checkpoint on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse (Namhkam) Road. (Byline on page 8)
**Perspectives**

Monday, 16 May, 2011

**Protect the world from deforestation**

The environment is to remain in good conditions for all living things to survive. Dense forests ensure temperate climate patterns and provide basic needs for human beings.

Today, the world has come under climate changes triggered by large-scale deforestation. So, deforestation and degradation of natural resources is in the centre of the attention of many countries.

The Ministry of Forestry and the Forest Department of the Republic of Korea co-organized the workshop on deduction of carbon emission from deforestation at the Forest Department in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 May, focusing on conservation of forests, deduction of air and water pollution, economic development, and environmental conservation.

Myanmar has preserved a fine tradition of environmental conservation for long. The Environmental Conservation Committee comprising members from 19 related ministries, for instance, ensures efficient exploitation and sustainable development of natural resources.

It is to avoid harnessing natural resources excessively and throwing away hazardous wastes indiscriminately, which further exacerbates air and water pollution. The Ministry of Forestry and relevant ministries are responsible for conservation of forests in watershed areas, forest serves, special teak plantations and biodiversity.

Conservation of natural resources and afforestation make significant contribution towards environmental conservation and improvement of the social-status of the people. The public and altruistic organizations should therefore join hands with the government in improvement of the social-status of the people.

Trees near cables cut to prevent power supply disruption

**Yangon**, 15 May — Yangon City Electric Supply Board (YCESB) cut branches of trees near power cables in districts in Yangon yesterday as part of efforts for uninterrupted power supply in monsoon season.

The move was carried out in Yangon Region North District, East District, South District and West District and employees of the respective township electric power departments in the districts cut branches in an attempt to prevent short circuit, disruption of power supply and unit losses in the rainy season.

YCESB Chairman and responsible officials assisted in the movement. — MNA

**Rakhine State marks National Immunization Days-2011**

**NAY PYI TAW**, 15 May — Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin met staff members of Labour Department, Social Security Board and Factories, and General Labour Law Inspection Department at the office of SSB in Sittway on 13 May. He then visited Transport Planning Department and there inspected car driving training ground.

The chief minister yesterday attended opening of National Immunization Days-2011 in Sittway. He together with Rakhine State ministers and guests administered polio vaccines to under-five-year-old kids.

The chief minister also viewed vaccination activities at No. 2 Mawlate Basic Education Middle School and polio vaccination centres in Minsan.

Later, the chief minister and party went to Rakhine State Home for the Aged where they raised trust fund and provided cash and assistance to the aged. — MNA

**Mandalay Region team emerges Boxing Champion**

**Yangon**, 15 May — Mandalay Region team became the champion of the 42nd Inter Region and State Boxing Championship today after the final matches of the championship at Theinbyu Gymnasium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

Deputy Minister for Sports and Physical Education U Aye Myint Kyu presented the championship shield to Mandalay Region team.

Ye Min Oo of Ayeyawady Region became a 46-kilo weight champion after defeating Thet Tun Aung of Ayeyawady Region 4-1 and won the best boxer award of the event.

Su Hlaing Hnin of Mandalay Region won the best boxer award for the women’s boxing championship.

Meanwhile, Naing Lin Aung of Sagaing Region became a 56-kilo-weight champion after defeating Thet Tun Aung of Ayeyawady Region 4-1 and won the best boxer award of the event.

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Ayeyawady Region team won the shield for the 46-kilo weight men’s championship, Mandalay Region team the shield for the women’s championship and Yangon Region Team the shield for the men’s championship. The Championship was organized by the Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Boxing Federation. — MNA
Gunmen killed, three policemen wounded in Baghdad silenced weapons attacks

BAGHDAD, 15 May—A gunman was killed and three policemen wounded in separate attacks by silenced weapons in Baghdad on Saturday, an Interior Ministry source said. Gunmen using weapons fitted with silencers opened fire on a traffic police and wounded him in Baghdad’s northern district of al-Shaab, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The policeman shot back on the attackers and killed one of them, the source said. In a separate incident, Lieutenant Colonel Mahmoud Nawaf from the Interior Ministry escaped with wound as an attack by gunmen who opened fire from their silenced pistols on his car in Abu Dshier area in southern Baghdad, the source added.

Also in the capital, gunmen using weapons equipped with silencers wounded an intelligence officer in al-Nisour Square in western central Baghdad, he said.

Seven killed as blast hits bus in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 15 May—A blast on a passenger bus killed at least seven persons in Pakistan’s eastern Punjab Province Saturday evening, police and local media said. Around 20 passengers were also injured in the blast near the City of Kharian, some 35 km from Gujrat, a main city in the region. Kharian has the world’s second largest army base, built during the British colonial era.

Express TV reported that three women and a child were among the dead. Police said that around 50 passengers were on board when the blast took place.

Local TV channels reported that it was a suicide blast. But police did not confirm the suicide attack. Eyewitnesses said that the bomb was kept at the back seat of the bus. Motives behind the blast were unclear as civilians were targeted in the attack.

No group has claimed responsibility for the blast.

Residents started rescue operation and shifting the injured people to nearby hospitals. Reports said that the bus caught fire which also spreaded to the nearby wheat crops. It is the second blast in Pakistan within two days.

Gunmen kill three family members in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 15 May—Gunmen in police uniforms shot dead three family members in their house in Baghdad early on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

“Unidentified gunmen wearing police uniforms at dawn broke into a house in Baghdad’s southwestern district of Bayaa, and shot dead a man, his wife and their son,” the source said on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi security forces sealed off the area and launched investigation into the incident, while troops conducted search operation looking for suspects, the source said.

In a separate incident, a roadside bomb went off in Karrada District in central Baghdad, wounding three civilians, the source added.

Also in the morning, a mortar round struck a house in Alawi area in downtown the capital, damaging the house and nearby buildings without causing human casualties, he said.

Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks continue in the Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease of violence over the last three years.—Xinhua

Oaxaca violence leaves at least eight people dead

OAXACA, 15 May—Violence motivated by an electoral dispute between indigenous communities in the Mexican state of Oaxaca has left at least eight people dead.

State authorities say the violence occurred near the town of Santiago Chaupan, about six hours from the state capital.

A mayoral election is planned for five municipalities in the region. A December election was annullled after four of the five townships were not allowed to vote and disputed the results.

Authorities said in a statement Saturday that an unknown number of people were injured in the violence. The municipalities are dominated by the Mixe indigenous group.

Afghans watch a burning fuel tanker on the Jalalabad-Kabul highway, east of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 14 May, 2011. The tanker transporting fuel for the NATO forces accidentally broke down and caught fire injuring three people.—INTERNET

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Afghan intelligence: Taleban using child bombers

KABUL, 15 May—The orders from their religious teacher were clear: Go to Afghanistan, strap on a suicide vest and kill foreign forces.

With that, 9-year-old Ghulam Farooq left his home in Pakistan with three other would-be boy bombers and headed into eastern Afghanistan.

They were told there would be two members of the Taleban waiting for them at the Torkham border crossing in Nangarhar Province. Instead, members of the Afghan intelligence service who had been tipped to the boys’ plans arrested them at the border. “Our mullah told us that when we carried out our suicide attacks, all the people around us would die, but we would stay alive,” Farooq said Saturday, sitting inside a juvenile detention facility in the Afghan capital.

Farooq and the other boys are being held at a detention facility that resembles a vocational training centre. There are no armed guards, and the facility has classrooms and playgrounds. During a visit to the centre, Farooq was smiling and said he was going to school and that he and the other boys were being given the opportunity to learn carpet weaving, carpentry and other handicrafts. The facility has dozens of boys, most detained in criminal cases. —INTERNET

Suicide car bomb rocks Afghan town, wounds seven civilians

KHOST, 15 May—A suicide car bomb explosion shocked Sabari District in eastern Khost Province on Saturday, wounding seven civilians, provincial police chief Abdul Hakim Ishaqzai said. “It was a suicide car bomb attack happened at 04:00 pm local time next to a convoy of NATO-led forces but wounding seven civilians including five children, a man and a woman,” Ishaqzai told Xinhua. He did not say if there were any casualties on foreign troops. However, he added that the suicide bomber was killed in the blast.

Hamidullah Kadukhil, director of health department in Khost Province in talks with Xinhua, confirmed that seven injured persons had been taken to hospital, but did not provide more details. Meantime, Zabihullah Mujahid from the Taleban outfit claimed of responsibility and in talks with media via telephone from an unknown location insisted that some foreign soldiers were killed in the blast.—Xinhua

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**Science**

**Facebook fish count helps researcher**

**TORONTO, 15 May—**
A Canadian researcher says he turned to Facebook for help in quickly identifying thousands of fish species as part of a research project.

University of Toronto Scarborough doctoral candidate Devin Bloom helped conduct the first ichthyological survey on Guyana’s remote Cuyuni River in January.

In the two-week survey, Bloom and other researchers caught as many fish as they could, eventually collecting more than 5,000 specimens. That’s when Bloom suggested Facebook.

After uploading photos of all the different kinds of fish caught, within less than 24 hours the researchers’ network of friends and colleagues had identified almost every species. With the identifications supplied by a network of “diehard fish-heads,” Bloom said, the team was able to deliver its results to the government and return home on schedule.

**Australian lizards are the family type**

**SYDNEY, 15 May—**Lizards are not usually thought of as warm and fuzzy family types, but scientists say one Australian species is exactly that.

Researchers at Macquarie University studying the great desert burrowing skink in central Australia’s sandy plains found the reptiles form close-knit families, featuring relatively monogamous parents and sprawling tunnel homes built and maintained by the whole family including the youngsters. World-Science.net reported Thursday. Researchers said no other lizard species is known to cooperate in building long-term homes.

Families including as many as 10 of the brightly coloured 16-inch lizards live in a burrow, the Australian Wildlife Conservancy said.

The shared burrow can be occupied continuously for as much as seven years, and multiple generations participate in construction and maintenance, researcher Adam Stow said.

“For adults to invest so much in a home within which kids mature, it makes evolutionary sense that these adult individuals are sure that they are providing for their own offspring,” he said.

**Adobe gives users control of privacy with Flash Player 10.3**

**NEW YORK, 15 May—**Adobe has released Adobe Flash Player 10.3 for Windows, Mac OS X, Linux, and Android. Flash Player 10.3 represents a pretty significant upgrade for the Adobe software—adding a variety of improvements and features, and giving users more control over their Web surfing privacy.

The update addresses the obligatory critical vulnerabilities that could be exploited to compromise your PC. But, the most compelling new feature of Adobe Flash Player 10.3 is the increased control users have over their own privacy. With all of the various efforts to manage online tracking and implement some sort of do-not-track framework, Flash cookies are often forgotten about.

But, cookies are not stored or managed only in the Web browser itself. The security concerns over Flash cookies—and cookies stored by other third-party apps and plug-ins—have been an issue as well. Adobe worked with several open source entities—including Google and Mozilla—to develop a new browser API called NPAPI ClearSiteData. The new API allows any browser that implements it to be able to clear local storage for any plugins that also utilize the API. Adobe also worked directly with Microsoft to develop equivalent functionality for Internet Explorer 8 and 9.

Flash Player 10.3 is the first plugin to support the new API—providing users with the tools to clear Flash cookies from local storage in the same way they clear browser cookies.

**First Look: BitTorrent’s social channels explained**

**WASHINGTON, 15 May—**BitTorrent is changing. In a bid to become known outside of the hardcore-nerd and video-pirating communities, BitTorrent announced a brand-new app with “social channels” this week, which could introduce the tool to a more mainstream audience.

The secret sauce behind BitTorrent is its peer-to-peer technology, which eases the burden of sharing large files over the Internet. Typically, a download is only as fast as the upload speed where you file is, but BitTorrent changes all that. By sharing bandwidth among everyone else who’s downloading (or has already downloaded) the file, the connection actually gets faster as more people download it.

That quality makes BitTorrent a natural for casual sharing of, oh I don’t know, videos—and at a quality that’s severely lacking in places like YouTube. The only thing the service needs to get past is the cumbersome process of finding torrents in various dark corners of the Web, then downloading them to a piece of client software that looks more at home on an IT desktop than a Facebook profile.

Streamlining and beautifying that process is what the new client app is all about, codenamed “Chrysalis.”
Potatoes a good choice for gluten-free

DENVER, 15 May—Most US adults don’t know potatoes are an excellent choice for those seeking gluten-free foods, a gluten-free cooking expert says.

Jen Cafferty, founder of the Gluten-Free Cooking Expo and president of Gluten-Free Life with Jen, says the National Foundation for Celiac Awareness says an estimated 3 million Americans suffer from side effects associated with eating foods containing gluten.

To make it easier, Cafferty reviewed the United States Potato Board’s database of 80 gluten-free potato recipes and provided tips for eating gluten-free.

The recipes, several from ethnic cuisines and many that can be prepared in 30 minutes or less, are at the Web site: www.potatogoodness.com.

“Potatoes are a great choice for people who otherwise have to cut carbs out of their diet,” Cafferty says in a statement. “Potatoes are a gluten-free dieter’s dream. They are fresh, natural and versatile, plus you know your whole family will enjoy them.”

One medium-size, skin-on potato contains 110 calories per serving, had more potassium than a banana, provides almost half the daily value of vitamin C and contains no fat, sodium or cholesterol, Cafferty says.

Chinese coal producer reaps huge profits from CTL project

H EF E I , 15 May—Shenhua Group, China’s largest coal producer, has made huge profits from its pilot coal-to-liquid (CTL) project in north China in the first three months of this year, a company executive said Saturday.

Zhang Yuzhuo, general manager of Shenhua Group, said at a forum held in east China’s Anhui Province that the group’s CTL project in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region produced 216,000 tonnes of refined oil products in the first quarter of this year, which brought more than 100 million yuan (15.38 million US dollars) in profits.

The CTL project, which is seen as an important way to provide an alternative to petroleum, was completed in late 2008 as the world’s first large CTL gas plant.

With annual capacity expected to reach one million tonnes, the pilot project operated for 5,000 hours last year and produced 450,000 tonnes of oil products, according to Zhang.

Sources with the group had said that Shenhua was considering injecting the assets of the CTL project into China Shenhua Energy Co, the group’s listed arm, after it begins to accumulate profits.

Berlin to pay bln euro subsidy for electric cars

BERLIN, 15 May—The German government is prepared to pay a billion euros ($1.4 billion) in subsidies over the next two years to help its industry develop electric cars, Welt am Sonntag newspaper said Sunday.

Chancellor Angela Merkel, in her weekly podcast Saturday, called for Germany to become the market leader in the new technology with a view to “having a million electric cars on our roads by 2020”.

The cabinet is to discuss financial support for the industry as early as Wednesday on the strength of a report, due out Monday, in which the National Electro-mobility Plattform”, a government-sponsored commission of industry experts, recommends such a move, according to Welt am Sonntag.

The government is considering granting tax relief to the owners of electric cars, along with non-monetary measures such as special fast lanes and priority parking for such cars, the paper said.

“Contrary to what was earlier envisaged, there will be a very quick decision on government help”, an unnammed source close to the government told the paper.

The economic Wirtschaftswoche magazine reported earlier this month that the National Electro-mobility Plattform was expected to ask for “several billion euros’ worth” of government support to spearhead the development of the new technology, seen as crucial to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions along with dependency on foreign oil imports.
Russian president voices concerns over European missile defence system

MOSCOW, 15 May—Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has sent a letter to the Russia-NATO Council, voicing Russia’s concerns over the European missile defence project, the official Kremlin press service said Saturday.

In his letter, Medvedev attached great importance to Russia’s participation in the European missile defence system and asked for guarantees that the system would not target his country.

“The letter said the European missile defence shield would only be truly effective and feasible if Russia is involved in the project on an equal basis and (Medvedev) asked for reliable guarantees that the missile shield in Europe would not undermine strategic stability or be targeted at any of the parties,” the Kremlin press service said.

Moscow has long opposed the deployment of NATO missile defence facilities near its borders, saying they would be a security threat to the country and upset the strategic balance of power in Europe.

Deadly Ebola breaks out in Uganda, kills one, 30 monitored

KAMPALA, 15 May—The deadly Ebola hemorrhagic fever has broken out in Uganda, killing one person and leaving over 30 others being monitored by health officials, ministry of health announced here on Saturday.

The epicentre of the outbreak is in the central Ugandan District of Luwero located about 50 km north of the capital Kampala.

According to Anthony Mbonye, head of the community health department at the ministry of health, a 12 year old girl in Zirombwe Sub-county developed symptoms of Ebola and when she was admitted at a military hospital in the district, laboratory test confirmed that it was Ebola.

The Ebola virus is highly contagious and causes a range of symptoms including fever, vomiting, diarrhea, generalized pain or malaise and in many cases internal and external bleeding.

The girl died on 6 May and about 30 people who got contact with her are being asked not to get in contact with the public as health officials monitor them for about 21 days. The 30 people have not yet developed the symptoms but if they do, they will be isolated from the public.

Mbonye said that preliminary investigations have showed that this Ebola virus is similar to the one that broke out in Sudan, thus named Sudan Ebola. The epicenter of the outbreak is also located along the high way to southern Sudan.

Three arrested over S Korea blasts

SEOUL, 15 May—South Korean police said Sunday they had arrested three men suspected of making homemade explosives that caused two minor blasts in Seoul last week.

The three men aged from their late 30s to early 50s are suspected of making two time bombs with butane gas canisters and putting them in luggage lockers at Seoul train station and an express terminal in the south of the capital.

No casualties were reported from the blasts that occurred about 30 minutes apart on Thursday, and damage was minor.

“The suspects aren’t telling us about motives yet... the probe is still under way,” a Seoul police officer told AFP, adding police examined footage from surveillance cameras and traced origins of explosive materials left at the scenes.

The rare explosions on Thursday prompted a nationwide search of major public transport hubs involving police commandos and sniffer dogs.—INTERNET

Turkish troops kill 12 Kurdish rebels

ANKARA, 15 May—Turkey’s military says troops have killed 12 Kurdish rebels trying to infiltrate the country from northern Iraq.

The military said in a statement Saturday the rebels of the Kurdistan Workers’ Party, or PKK, were killed in two separate incidents that erupted in Sirkak Province, near the border with Iraq.

The clashes occurred early Friday and Saturday. The troops were backed by helicopter gunships. Earlier, the Anatolia news agency reported that a soldier was killed in a land mine explosion, in the neighbouring Province of Hakkari.

The PKK is believed to have about 4,000 fighters mostly in bases in northern Iraq.

Kurdish rebels are fighting for autonomy in Turkey’s southeast. The conflict has killed tens of thousands of people since 1984.—INTERNET

Three aftershocks hit New Zealand South Island’s Canterbury region

WELLINGTON, 15 May—Three aftershocks rattled New Zealand central South Island’s Canterbury region early Sunday in quick succession.

A magnitude 4.6 quake shook Canterbury at 2.25 am (1425 GMT Saturday), at a depth of 10 km, 20 km east of Christchurch, the New Zealand government geological agency GNS Science reported.

That was followed by a magnitude 4 quake just 15 minutes later, recorded as 9 km deep and also centered 20 km east of Christchurch.

Earlier, a quake of magnitude 4 struck 30 km southwest of Christchurch at a depth of 11 km just after 1 am GNS Science said the quakes would have been felt in Canterbury. A 6.3 magnitude earthquake hit Christchurch on 22 Feb, leaving 181 people dead.

5.9-magnitude quake hits Hindu Kush region, Afghanistan — USGS

KABUL, 15 May—An earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale jolted Afghanistan’s Hindu Kush region at 21:07:22 GMT on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 207.40 km, was initially determined to be at 36.4414 degrees north latitude and 70.7419 degrees east longitude.

Fire fighters hose down fire at Hongqi Township of Dalian, northeast China’s Liaoning Province, on 14 May, 2011. The forest fire, which spotted at about 9 am Saturday, was put out so far. No casualties were reported. More than 300 mu (about 20 hectares) of forest were burnt.—Xinhua
Convicted CA school bomber sent to mental hospital

REDWOOD City, 15 May—A teenager convicted in a 2009 attack at his former Northern California high school pleaded no contest to more charges Friday and will be sent to a mental hospital.

Alex Youshock, 19, entered his plea in San Mateo County Superior Court to a second attempted murder charge and six counts of possessing a bomb on school grounds, the San Mateo County Times reported. In March, he was convicted of six counts, including the attempted murder of a chemistry teacher.

Jurors, however, had deadlocked on whether Youshock was sane at the time of the August 2009 attack, and prosecutors had vowed to retry the sanity phase of the trial.

Investigators said Youshock set off two pipe bombs at Hillsdale High School after his chainsaw failed in a plot to hack to death teachers who had given him bad grades. He was tackled by a teacher, and no one was seriously hurt. Youshock’s lawyers argued the teenager is schizophrenic and should be held criminally responsible for the attack, which prosecutors said was planned for months and detailed in a journal, a hit list and a videotaped manifesto.

After Friday’s plea, Judge Stephen Hall ordered Youshock sent to Napa State Mental Hospital indefinitely. If doctors ever decide that he’s recovered his sanity, he’ll have to serve nearly 25 years in prison.

India mothers accused in honor killing of 2 brides

NEW DELHI, 15 May—Two Muslim mothers in a northern Indian town have been arrested on accusations they killed their daughters for dishonoring the family by eloping with Hindu men, police said Sunday.

Newlyweds Zahida, 19, and Husna, 26, were strangled when they returned home after getting married to men of their choice, said Anil Kumar Kusan, a police officer.

Marriages between Hindus and Muslims are not common in India and are frowned upon by both communities, although there are more instances of interreligious marriages among the educated urban population.

Across India, many marriages are still arranged by families. But with the booming economy and more women entering the work force, such traditions are slowly giving way to love marriages.

However, centuries-old caste and community barriers still come into play, and there has been a spurt in “honor killings” in recent years across northern India.

Zahida and Husna were neighbours in Baghat, a town in India’s Uttar Pradesh state, when they fell in love with two construction workers. They eloped and got married last week before returning home to make peace with their families, Kusan said.

The girls belonged to Muslim families and their mothers, both widows, were furious, Kusan said.

Initial investigations showed that the mothers helped each other to strangle the girls.

The mothers were unrepentant saying the girls had brought shame and dishonor to their families, police said.—INTERNET

Gov’t revenue collection from liquor sale surges in Indian capital

NEW DELHI, 15 May—Indian capital New Delhi government’s revenue collection from sales of liquor has surged by an impressive 23 percent in the 2010-11 financial year compared to what it earned in 2009-10, according to a report by Press Trust of India on Sunday.

The government collected 20.27 billion rupees (74 million US dollars) as excise tax between April 2010 and March 2011 as against its collection of 16.44 billion rupees (37 million US dollars) in the same period in the preceding fiscal, said the report.

In India, most liquor shops, also known as Wine and Beer Shop, is government-owned assets.

Somali pirates carrying out preparations in northeastern Somalia in 2010. Somali pirates received a ransom of seven million dollars (five million euros) for the release of two Spanish officers, a pirate said.—INTERNET

Guilty verdict in microwave baby killing

DAYTON, 15 May—The Ohio jury that convicted a woman of killing her baby daughter in a microwave oven must now decide whether to sentence her to death.

The penalty phase of China Arnold’s trial is scheduled to begin Monday, the Dayton (Ohio) Daily News reported. Jurors found her guilty Friday of aggregated murder.

Paris Talley was 28 days old when she died in the microwave in Arnold’s Dayton apartment in August 2005.

The trial was Arnold’s third. The first ended in a mistrial when a 5-year-old boy came forward during the proceedings and said he saw another child put the baby in the oven. She was convicted in the second trial but an appeals court overturned the verdict, ruling testimony from a former cell mate should not have been allowed.

The jury at the second trial was unable to agree on the penalty so she received a life sentence.

A gag order barred lawyers from both sides from commenting on the verdict.
Sugarcane per acre yield to hit over 50 tons

Nay Pyi Taw, 15 May—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing urged Sugarcane Factory Manager and officers from Myanmar Economic Corporation to collect enough sugarcane for sugar factories and to increase sugarcane price compared with those of other crops in an attempt to encourage farmers to grow more sugarcane.

He met them at the sugarcane plantation near integrated farm in Nyaungbingyisu village in Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw District, yesterday. The Minister also explained methods of sugarcane growing from land preparation till harvest to meet the ministry’s target of over 50 tons per acre yield. He inspected test-running of paddy transplanter invented by Agriculture Mechanization Department at the 20-acre model plantation and cultivation of paddy.—MNA

Region-wise National Immunization Days held in Shan State

Nay Pyi Taw, 15 May—Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat attended and delivered an opening address at National Immunization Days held in Taunggyi yesterday morning. Shan State Minister for Education and for Health Dr Myo Tun explained region-wise National Immunization Days.

After that, the Chief Minister and wife and the Minister gave oral polio vaccine to children under five. Oral polio vaccine will be given to children in 17 Townships in Shan State on region-wise National Immunization Days.—MNA

Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat giving Polio vaccinations to under-five.

Yaybu Checkpoint on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse ... (from page 1)

With the aim of preventing the smuggling of goods and collecting due taxes on imported or exported goods for the nation, Yaybu Checkpoint of the One Stop Services (OSS) group has been set up in near Yaybu Village, Hserwi Township, Lashio District, Shan State (North), since 14 August 2006. It is constituted with six departments: the Border Trade Department, the Customs Department, the Immigration and National Registration Department, the Internal Revenue Department, the Myanmar Economic Bank (Branch) and the Myanmar Police Force. However, the checkpoint does not have to deal with monetary services. So, it runs with the five remaining departments.

On average, Yaybu Checkpoint copes with about trucks, 1500 passenger buses and 6500 passengers a day. It carries out its tasks briskly and correctly from 6 am until 6 pm due to the conditions of regional security and no supply of electric power supply. Bring situated at the place where trucks pass through to Chin Shwe Haw and Muse 105th mile border trade zones, the checkpoint has to prevent not only flows of goods into and outside the nation with paying taxes, but also smuggling of narcotic drugs and trafficking in persons.

From 1 to 30 April 2011, it seized illegal goods worth about 104.2 million kyats including an unlicensed truck, 16 unlicensed motorcycles, 29,250 stimulant tablets and 320 grams of heroin. For passengers, Yaybu Checkpoint is a place where they can take a break in their trips. It prevents evasions of taxes that will have to go to the funds of the State. It also helps ensure security of regions and the nation and prevent the smuggling of narcotics and human trade.

***** Translation: MS
Kyemon: 8-5-2011

Yangon Region Chief Minister inspects People’s Hospital in Seikkyi Khanaungto Tsp

Yangon, 15 May—Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe visited People’s Hospital in Seikkyi Khanaungto Township this morning. He comforted patients there and provided them with food stuff. He also inspected sites for construction of 1600-gallon water tanks in the hospital and at the Basic Education High School.—MNA

Children in Mandalay vaccinated against polio

Nay Pyi Taw, 15 May—Over 200 children Rarkkon ward and neighborhoods in Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay Region were vaccinated against polio yesterday, the first National Immunization Day 2011.

On the day, above 68,000 children under five in Aungmyethazan, Maha Aungmye, Chanmyathazi, Chanayethazan, Pyigyidagun, Amarapura and Pathengyi Townships in the Region were vaccinated against polio. Gifts were presented to the children who received the vaccination.—MNA
Sony to resume network services after hacker attacks

Tokyo, 15 May—Sony said it would start today a “phased restoration” of network services that came under hacker attacks in one of the biggest data breaches since the advent of the Internet. The cyber attacks in recent weeks involved the theft of personal data that include names, passwords and addresses from more than 100 million accounts on its PlayStation Network and Sony Online Entertainment services.

Sony has said it cannot rule out additional security measures that it has implemented new and cooperation between development of agro-based industries step by step.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Union Mines Minister receives Vietnamese Ambassador Mr. Chu Cong Phung and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Union Mines Minister U Thein Htaik received Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Chu Cong Phung and party at the ministry here at noon on 13 May.

They frankly discussed matters related to investment and mining development. —MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister on inspection tour of Kangyidaunt Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung met departmental officials, townsedlers, social organization members and ward and village administrators at Ayeya Thiri Thukha Hall in Kangyidaunt Township this morning.

At Kangyidaunt Township People’s Hospital, the chief minister presented a facility worth K 0.5 million for the labour room and cash assistance to patients.

Then, the chief minister visited the 1000-acre plantation at the entrance to the township, explained formation of agricultural produce association and greeted the farmers.—MNA

Refresher courses for staff conclude

YANGON, 15 May — The Refresher Course for Junior Engineer-2 (Water and Sanitation) and Electrical and Mechanical Course for Technician Grade-5 concluded at Central Training School (Thuwunna) of the Ministry of Construction here this morning with an address by Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint.

Thirty Junior Engineers and 19 technicians took part in two-week courses respectively. —MNA

Union Mines Minister receives Vietnamese Ambassador

Union Mines Minister U Thein Htaik receives Vietnamese Ambassador Mr. Chu Cong Phung and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik received Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Chu Cong Phung and party at the ministry here at noon on 13 May.

They frankly discussed matters related to investment and mining development. —MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Construction of Nay Pyi Taw Ring Road inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May — Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin oversaw progress of construction of 12 feet wide tarred road (Nay Pyi Taw Ring Road) yesterday.

After inspecting site chosen for road construction from Mile Post Nos (11/5) to (11/7) and alignments for bridge construction, the deputy minister gave necessary instructions.

Next, he looked into condition of box culvert near mile post No (18/4) and stockpiling of gravels.

The deputy minister also inspected condition of box culvert at mile post No (9/2) on Nay Pyi Taw-Taunggyo-Myothit-Kanbya road and box culvert of Htantabin creek.—MNA

RUMFCCI President receives foreign guests

RUMFCCI President U Win Aung receives Japanese delegation led by Chairman Mr. Takashi Fukai of Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd.—MNA

YANGON, 15 May — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung received a delegation led by Chairman Mr. Takashi Fukai of Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd at RUMFCCI office here on 11 May evening.

Both sides discussed matters related to development of information technology, holding more discussions between entrepreneurs and the public, cooperation between brokers and farmers, and implementation of development of agro-based industries step by step.—MNA

Sagaying Region Chief Minister supervises regional development tasks in Homalin, Phaungpyin

NAY PYI TAW, 15 May—Sagaying Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye on 12 May morning attended an opening ceremony of a Basic Education High School in Shwe Pyi Aye in Homalin Township of Khamti District.

The Chief Minister and party then attended an opening ceremony of a station hospital (16-bed) and unveiled stone inscription of the building, after inspecting construction site of Kyezuchaung (2) Reservoir.

Afterwards, Sagaying Region Minister for Health Dr Myint Thein presented the purpose of the building and accepted donations amounted to K 10.13 million.

The Chief Minister proceeded to Natnatan Village in Homalin Township, Lwinkyee and Harpar Villages in Phaungpyin Township, where he met locals who were given instructions on boosting of agricultural sector, improving education of the students and getting healthier.

He comforted the patients and presented gifts to them at Phaungpyin People’s Hospital. —MNA

Internet

Australia, New Zealand, and Middle East,” the Sony group said in a statement. Services in other areas would follow.

“Working closely with several respected outside security firms, the company has implemented new and additional security measures that strengthen safeguards against unauthorised activity, and provide consumers with greater protection of their personal information,” Sony said.
**‘Planking’ craze claims life in Australia**

Brisbane, 15 May—A new craze sweeping the Internet known as “planking” has claimed a life in Australia with a man attempting thefad plunging to his death from a balcony Sunday.

Planking involves someone lying flat on their stomach with their arms against their bodies in unusual and sometimes dangerous situations, with photographs of their exploits shared through social media sites.

It has gone viral in recent weeks with Facebook page Planking Australia boasting almost 10,000 fans and hundreds of photos of people lying on train tracks, escalators, fire hydrants, motorbikes, and other objects.

Police last week warned “plankers” of the dangers they faced and their worst fears have been realised with the death of a man in Brisbane who plummeted from the seventh story of an apartment block and died at the scene.

“This morning we have seen a young man take this activity a step further and attempt to plank on a balcony. Unfortunately he has tragically fallen to his death,” Queensland Police Deputy Commissioner Ross Barnett told reporters.

The man and another person had been out during the night and were planking in various locations on their way home.—Internet

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**Key facilities in Fukushima plant could have collapsed before tsunami**

Tokyo, 15 May—Key facilities at the Fukushima No 1 nuclear power plant may have been damaged by the quake itself that day rather than tsunami-caused power loss that failed the cooling system at the plant.

Data taken by workers entering the No 1 reactor building at the crippled plant on the night of 11 March showing the radiation level was as high as 300 millisieverts per hour suggest a large amount of radioactive materials from nuclear fuel in the reactor was already released.

The findings may call for a review of preparedness against quakes at various nuclear power stations in Japan as they have primarily focused on securing auxiliary power supplies and embankment enhancement against tsunami after the Fukushima plant crisis, assuming that reactor cooling would be maintained against tsunami after the Fukushima quake's trembling may have caused key facilities having been compromised before the tsunami waves, saying, “The quake’s trembling may have caused damage to the pressure vessel or pipes.”—Xinhua

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**Heavy rain hits Wellington**

Wellington, 15 May—Heavy rain has flooded roads and kept emergency services busy in the New Zealand’s Wellington region on Sunday.

The Fire Service said flooding has occurred right through the Wellington area with surface flooding, and flooding has also set off alarms.

Lower Hutt seems to be affected, right through to the Wellington business district and the eastern suburbs, the New Zealand news agency NZPA reported.

Police had received about 40 calls on Sunday morning because of the flooding, much of it localised and particularly in Lower Hutt, police shift commander Marty Edghill said. Heavy rain in Wellington has caused the closure or blockage of parts of two state highways.

State Highway 1 southbound between Whitford Brown and Porirua was partly blocked by flooding.

State Highway 2 northbound at Melling was closed and there is flooding northbound on Carter Street.

The wet weather looks set to continue and MetService has issued a weather watch for much of the North Island as several lines of thunderstorms move across the country. MetService has issued snowfall warnings for the South Island with Milford Road, the Lindis Pass and Arthurs Pass affected.

MNA/Xinhua

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**New dinosaur species found in east China**

Jinan, 15 May—Chinese scientists said Saturday that they have found a new species of giant theropod dinosaur in the eastern province of Shandong.

The new species, described as a close relative of Tyrannosaurus rex (T. rex), has been named “Zhuchengtyrannus magnus”. Paleontological experts found it has unique upper jawbones after examining the skull and jawbones discovered in the city of Zhucheng.

It was estimated to be about 11 meters long and 4 metres tall, weighing close to 7 tonnes.

“We discovered two kinds of tyrannosaurs fossils here and the identity of the other one still remains unclear.”—Xinhua

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**Gunmen kill UN worker in Ethiopia’s Somali region**

Addis Ababa, 15 May—Gunmen have killed a UN driver in Ethiopia’s Somali Region in an ambush that also injured another staff member, the World Food Programme said on Saturday.

The province, also known as Ogaden, is home to a low-key militancy led by the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF), which has fought for independence since 1984. “Farhan Hamsa Aw, a WFP driver and jeep was killed in an ambush on 13 May by unknown assailants in the Somali Region of Ethiopia,” the UN agency said in a statement. “One other WFP staff member was injured in the attack and two remain missing.”

The Horn of Africa nation signed a peace deal with one faction of the group last year, but has acknowledged skirmishes in the region with “other remnants” in 2010.

Ethiopian forces waged an offensive against the rebels in late 2007 after the ONLF staged a pre-dawn attack on a Chinese-run oil facility, killing 74 people.—Reuters

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**Participants crawl through mud under the barbed wire during the gladiator-style event of Spartan Race in Vancouver, Canada, 14 May, 2011. Billed as “not your average five K” race, the test of endurance was anything but a fun run as both male and female participants were required to navigate 12 obstacles of varying difficulty set up around a five-kilometer course in North Vancouver’s Inter River Park.—Xinhua

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**Ambulances in Cairns. A new craze sweeping the Internet known as “planking” has claimed a life in Australia with a man attempting thefad plunging to his death from a balcony Sunday.**

**INTERNET**
Obama announces new oil drilling

WASHINGTON, 15 May—President Barack Obama, under pressure over high gasoline prices, Saturday committed to annual oil and gas lease sales in Alaska’s National Petroleum Reserve and to speeding up production in other areas.

In his weekly radio and Internet address, the US leader admitted that one of the biggest burdens for US consumers in recent months had been the high price of gasoline — which is more than four dollars a gallon in some areas.

“These spikes in gas prices are often temporary, and while there are no quick fixes to the problem, there are a few steps we should take that make good sense,” Obama said.

The president vowed to increase safe and responsible oil production from US resources, at the same time as enhancing safety and environmental standards.

“To do this, I am directing the Department of Interior to conduct annual lease sales in Alaska’s National Petroleum Reserve, while respecting sensitive areas,” Obama said.

Nepal starts census 2011 from Sunday

KATHMANDU, 15 May —The first phase of Nepal’s census 2011 to be conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) is starting from Sunday.

According to Rudra Suwal, Chief of Population Unit at CBS, in the first phase only general information like number of household, number of family members and head of family and their occupation will be gathered for the next 18 days. Based on the preliminary information, the detailed census will start from 17 June. Some 34,000 trained persons will be deployed in 3,900 Village Development Committees and 58 municipalities. The census will be held in two phases. The first phase begins on 15 May and will go on until 1 June. The second phase begins from 17 June and will go until 27 June. Around 8,500 supervisors have been deployed in the first phase of the census that is held every 10 years.

INTERNET

International Sedan Chair race starts in Toronto

TORONTO, 15 May—Markham International Sedan Chair Challenge race was held on Saturday in Markham, a satellite city of Toronto, and attracted 22 teams.

The event covers a 1.6-km race and a 3-km race. Teams are from university, high school, corporate, government and non-governmental organizations, financial institutions, media, and telecommunications companies.

The unique cultural event had attracted thousands of people to come despite downpours.

“What’s wonderful about sedan chair race is, it’s cross over into many cultures. This is the first year, and I know it’s going to continue to grow. I am amazed how many people we have here, thousands of people who come out to enjoy this event,” said Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti, adding, “This is going to continue to grow, and will be the premier sedan chair event in all of North America.”

Markham is a town in the Regional Municipality of York, is the largest town and fastest growing municipality in Canada. The current population of Markham is 261,573, and more than 63,000 are of Chinese origin.

INTERNET

Russia starts 1,000-day countdown for Sochi Winter Olympics

MOSCOW, 15 May—The Russian authorities on Saturday started a 1,000-day countdown clock in the country’s Black Sea city of Sochi for the opening of the Winter Olympic Games due on 7 Feb, 2014, according to local media.

The mountain-shapped clock, 4.15-metre high and 4.408-meter wide, reflects the dynamic spirit of the Sochi region, said the Sochi 2014 Organizing Committee.

According to Sochi Mayor Anatoly Pukhmov, the start of the clock marked the moment when “we have really entering the finishing line in the preparation for the Olympics.”

Meanwhile, the mayor also admitted that much work still remained to be carried out, saying “time has already passed. We must not be slow down — only move forward.”

Sochi 2014 on Saturday, some thousands of Russian people all over the country have participated in events that marked the 1,000-day countdown of the Sochi Olympic.

INTERNET
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Monday, 16 May, 2011

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Monday, 16 May, 2011

A tractor shovel is seen at the construction site of the rebuilding work on a 3,600-year-old city wall in Zhengzhou, central China's Henan Province, on 13 May, 2011. The restoring work has triggered controversies in China.— Xinhua

Replica ancient walls stakes public suspension in central Chinese city

ZHENGZHOU, 15 May— A central Chinese city's efforts to restore one of the country's oldest city walls has ignited public outrage after tonnes of dirt were piled up in the downtown to replicate the disappeared walls. Spending lavishly in restoring past grandeur often triggers controversies in China.— Xinhua

Children abandoned at Port Authority bus depot in New York

NEW YORK, 15 May — A baby girl and toddler boy were abandoned in their strollers in the dead of night on Friday at one of New York's busiest bus terminals. The 10-month-old girl and two-year-old boy, believed to be her brother, were found at the Greyhound gate of the Port Authority Bus Terminal in midtown New York after a man who was earlier seated with them jumped on a bus heading for Washington.

The man — described only as black, with long dreadlocks, white pants, gray jacket and a red T-shirt — was with the children in the depot for about two hours, a witness told police. After the man left, the police were called. Neither showed signs of abuse after being examined at Bellevue Hospital, the New York Post reported. The children are now in the care of child-welfare officials.— Internet

Moderate earthquake rocks eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 15 May — An earthquake with magnitude of 5.7 jolted Papua in eastern parts of Indonesia on Sunday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The quake hit at 13:47 pm Jakarta Time (0647 GMT) with epicenter at 162 km southwest Jayapura of Papua and with the depth at 23 km, an official of the agency told Xinhua by phone.

The USGS also reported on its website that the quake was at 5.7 magnitude.

There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.— Xinhua

Australia arrests 1,600 ‘boozed-up idiots’

SYDNEY, 15 May— Australia’s binge-drinking culture has been starkly highlighted with 1,600 “boozed-up idiots” arrested by police in a hardline weekend crackdown on alcohol-fuelled violence and crime. The trans-Tasman “Operation Unite”, a two-day blitz on public alcohol abuse and related crime that ended Sunday, was the latest attempt to hammer home the message that drunken thugs will not be tolerated.

Almost two-thirds of the arrests were made in New South Wales state, followed by Western Australia, and included numerous assaults on police officers.

Other offences included drunk-driving, urinating in public, failing to quit a licensed premises when asked and resisting arrest.

IMF chief accused of sexual assault at NYC hotel

NEW YORK, 15 May — The leader of the International Monetary Fund and a possible candidate for president of France was arrested Sunday in the violent sexual assault of a hotel maid after being yanked from an airplane moments before it was to depart for Paris, police said.

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, 62, was arrested on charges of a criminal sex act, attempted rape and unlawful imprisonment and was awaiting arraignment. He had been taken off the Air France flight at John F. Kennedy International Airport on Saturday afternoon by officers from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and was turned over to New York police.

A member of the NYPD crime scene unit enters the Sofitel hotel in New York, on 14 May, 2011. — Internet

Triple stabbing at St Albans teenage birthday party

MELBOURNE, 15 May — Three youths have been stabbed in a brazen attack at a teenage birthday party, in which the alleged group of offenders have returned to the home to continue stabbing. A St Albans man was celebrating his birthday at his Occold Court home in Melbourne’s west when a fight broke out in the front yard between some of the 30 guests and a group of up to 10 young men. Police do not yet know if the group was originally invited to the party, but all parties knew each other.

Police say members of the group turned on a 22-year-old male guest, who received serious stab wounds to the head, and a 21-year-old woman was hit on the head with a glass bottle.— Internet

Wellington, 15 May — While it’s long been known that a little sunshine can spread happiness, researchers in New Zealand have found that it can also save the lives of pneumonia patients.

Medical scientists have found that vitamin D, which is absorbed through the skin and produced with exposure to sunlight, is a major factor in the survival rate of pneumonia patients.

Researchers at Waikato University collaborated with doctors at Waikato Hospital, both Hamilton-based institutions, to study blood samples of 112 patients admitted to the hospital with pneumonia during the winter. They found that those with severe vitamin D deficiency 17 of the patients were more likely to die within a month, compared with patients with normal or slightly low vitamin D levels.

A patron lifts a glass of beer at a bar in Sydney in February.— Internet

Beheading victim was grandmother of five

TENERIFE, 15 May— The British woman stabbed and beheaded in a shop on the island of Tenerife on Friday was named last night as Jennifer Mills-Westley, a 60-year-old grandmother. Mrs Mills-Westley, who came from Norwich and had two children, was living on the Spanish island after retiring from her job as a road safety officer, her family said last night. Her daughter Sarah described her mother as “full of life, generous of heart”, and someone who “would do anything for anyone”.

She added: “Mum retired a number of years ago and was fully enjoying her retirement travelling between Tenerife and France, where she spent time visiting her daughter and grandchildren, and her other daughter in Norfolk. We now have to find a way of living without her love and light, and we would ask at this difficult time for some privacy as we try to come to terms with our loss.” Mrs Mills-Westley had five grandchildren.— Internet

Jennifer Mills-Westley was killed in a supermarket in Tenerife on Friday.— Internet

Sunshine could save lives of pneumonia patients

Wellington, 15 May — While it’s long been known that a little sunshine can spread happiness, researchers in New Zealand have found that it can also save the lives of pneumonia patients.

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A patron lifts a glass of beer at a bar in Sydney in February.— Internet
Italian ham slice dispute lands four in hospital

Four people were on Saturday hospitalised in Italy after a dispute over the thickness of a supermarket’s ham slices turned violent, the ANSA news agency said in a report.

The row broke out when a 50-year-old woman shopping in the Tuscany town of Livorno in central Italy protested that the ham slices being cut by a counter assistant were too thick.

A scuffle unfolded involving the shop assistant’s father as well as the woman’s husband and two sons. Police were called and three ambulances were also sent to the scene.

The shop assistant, the disgruntled ham shopper and her husband all suffered bruises and were treated in hospital. The shopkeeper’s father was also hospitalised after feeling ill, the news agency said.

Carefully groomed men compete for top facial hair honours

More than 100 men, some who have spent hours manicuring their facial hair, will compete this weekend in Norway at an international championship for moustache and beard growth.

“It is definitely an art - a vanity art,” said Ole Johan Loekberg, secretary of the Norwegian Moustache Club, which is hosting the bi-annual competition this year.

Based on past performance, American and German challengers are favoured among the 163 contestants from 15 different countries who will compete in a range of categories.

Those sporting moustaches are divided into six groups: natural, English, Dalí, Hungarian, imperial and freestyle. Contestants with a cultivation deemed a “partial beard” will challenge for top honours in the natural, Chinese, Imperial, Musketeer, sideburns, and freestyle categories.

Twins prepare to take part in a contest in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, on 14 May, 2011. Some 100 pairs of twins participated in the contest at Qingdao Polar Ocean World on Saturday.

Old lady theft ring at large in Detroit

A criminal cadre of older women in hats, The Mad Hatters, have long been sought for numerous wallet thefts in the Detroit area, police say. “We may never find who they all are, but we’ve got some good leads, and we’re going to identify some of them, at least,” Sterling Heights police Lt Luke Riley told the Detroit Free Press.

He said it appears the supposed ring may have begun nabbing money and checks from unattended purses about a year ago, though one such report fitting the Hatters’ profile exists from 2008, he told the paper.

Riley estimated the group seen on surveillance footage has stolen between $400,000 and $500,000, with banks losing the bulk of that in checks.

Azeri romantic ballad wins Eurovision Song Contest

DUESSELDORF, 15 May—Azerbaijan won the annual Eurovision Song Contest with the romantic ballad “Running Scared” on Saturday, watched by a television audience of more than 100 million people.

The song about a love-struck couple was performed by 21-year-old student Eldar Gasimov and Nigar Jamal, 30, a mother-of-two who lives in London. The duo, known as Ell-Nikki, won a total 221 points. Italy was second with 189 points and Sweden came third on 185 in the 56th edition of the contest, hosted by Germany. Widely heralded pre-contest favourites Ireland, Britain and France all had disappointing results.

The extravaganza, dubbed the world’s biggest music competition with one of television’s largest audiences, was beamed to countries from the Tuscany town of Livorno in central Italy to the American football Superbowl, with the ANSA news agency said in a report.

The contest favourites Ireland, Britain and France all had disappointing results.

“Your song is the best ever,” said the contest judge and singer Andrea Bocelli.

Ell-Nikki, Nigar Jamal and Eldar Gasimov, from Azerbaijan sing their winning song ‘Running Scared’ during the final of the Eurovision Song Contest 2011 in Dusseldorf Germany on 14 May 2011. Internet

HK director Chan has big hopes for debut martial arts film

CANNES, 15 May—Hong Kong director Peter Chan has high hopes for his first foray into martial arts cinema: he wants it to be a milestone in the venerable genre. Beautifully filmed in Yunnan, southwest China, “Wu Xia”—screened out of competition at Cannes—boasts an all-star cast led by Donnie Yen, Takeshi Kaneshiro, Wei Tang and kung fu movie legend Jimmy Wang.

It takes its title from the Mandarin term for the martial arts genre, which has undergone “a huge evolution from one form to another” and which is forever reinventing itself, Chan said on Saturday. “What we are trying to do with this film —as much as we can, to the best of our ability—is to hopefully be in that cycle of evolution and be one step ahead of our contemporaries in trying to do something that we think we could be proud of and that could extend this genre for another 30 or 40 years.”

Pirates of Caribbean sail to Cannes with star crew

CANNES, 15 May—The latest installment of the “Pirates of the Caribbean” movie franchise laid anchor at the Cannes film festival on Saturday, bringing with it a crew of big stars including Johnny Depp and Penelope Cruz.

“Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides” is the fourth film in a series which has made a fortune for Disney with a combined global box office tally so far of $2.7 billion.

Reviews of the new chapter, which hits theatres in the United States on 20 May, have been mixed, though, and some analysts predict it may struggle to match the impressive tallies of previous outings even in the 3D format.

Depp said in Cannes that there would be more ahead if the films remained popular: “If the people get tired of it or something, that’s when it stops, I think,” he told a news conference. “If people want it, I’m there.”

Spanish actress Penelope Cruz (L) and US actor Johnny Depp (C) pose for photos prior to the premiere of the film “Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides” at the 64th Cannes Film Festival, in Cannes, France, on 14 May, 2011.—Xinhua

Manfred Jansen presents his trophy after winning the first prize in the category “Moustache - Dalí” of the International German Beard Championships in Hesel 2006. More than 100 men, some who have spent hours manicuring their facial hair, will compete this weekend in Norway at an international championship for moustache and beard growth.

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Pirates of Caribbean sail to Cannes with star crew

CANNES, 15 May—The latest installment of the “Pirates of the Caribbean” movie franchise laid anchor at the Cannes film festival on Saturday, bringing with it a crew of big stars including Johnny Depp and Penelope Cruz.

“Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides” is the fourth film in a series which has made a fortune for Disney with a combined global box office tally so far of $2.7 billion.

Reviews of the new chapter, which hits theatres in the United States on 20 May, have been mixed, though, and some analysts predict it may struggle to match the impressive tallies of previous outings even in the 3D format.

Depp said in Cannes that there would be more ahead if the films remained popular: “If the people get tired of it or something, that’s when it stops, I think,” he told a news conference. “If people want it, I’m there.”

—Reuters
Magpies make Chelsea’s title blues worse

Chelsea vs Newcastle United in English Premier League soccer match. Internet

LONDON, 15 May—Chelsea’s pain at losing their Premier League title to Manchester United was compounded by Steven Taylor’s added-time header that secured a 2-2 draw for Newcastle United at Stamford Bridge here on Sunday.

Ferguson eyes Euro glory after title triumph

BLACKBURN, 15 May—Sir Alex Ferguson has set his sights on securing the Champions League trophy following Manchester United’s record-breaking 19th English title success. United won this season’s Premier League after Saturday’s 1-1 draw away to Blackburn Rovers gave them the points they needed to take sole possession of a record they’d previously shared with arch-rivals Liverpool.

A division of the spoils at Ewood Park left United an unbeatable seven points ahead of second-placed Chelsea, last season’s champions, who can only win a maximum of six points from their two remaining league matches. However it was not long before the insatiable Ferguson, winning the 36th trophy of his 25-year Old Trafford reign, was contemplating a Champions League final against Spanish giants Barcelona at Wembley on 28 May. United have been crowned champions of Europe three times, the last in 2008, whereas Liverpool have won the competition on five occasions although both clubs lag well behind Real Madrid’s record nine continental titles.

“The European Cup is an area in which we should have done better,” Ferguson said. “We should have won more, I think.” “That will be our focus now,” the 69-year-old Scot added. “Of course we will enjoy this — even though it was agony at times. But this is a great achievement and we hope to be celebrating again.” — Internet

Sabbatini, O’Hair clear the air on dispute

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, 15 May—Sean O’Hair says he and Rory Sabbatini talked by telephone the day after his side beat Stoke 1-0 at Wembley Stadium in London. — Internet

Answers to yesterday’s Crosswords Puzzle

OCHOCINCO PROVES PREDICTIVE

Man City running for Premier’s title next year

LONDON, 15 May—Roberto Mancini believes Manchester City’s FA Cup triumph can be the launchpad for an assault on next season’s Premier League. City ended their 35-year trophy drought on Saturday after downing Stoke 1-0 at Wembley to clinch a major trophy for the first time since 1976. The victory was the first tangible return City’s owners have been able to enjoy since their 2008 takeover and the subsequent lavish spending on players which has topped £300 million to date.

The next move is how the PGA Tour chooses to respond. It does not make public any discipline. O’Haire said after his second round on Friday at The Players Championship that Sabbatini sent him a text last week asking O’Haire to call so they could talk it over.—Internet

Edwards wins Nationwide race at Dover

DOVER, 15 May—Carl Edwards was sure he tapped Joey Logano. Edwards missed him and all the mayhem behind him. Logano lost control on his own and tagged the wall, triggering a wreck-filled lap that knocked out several contenders and let Edwards win the Nationwide Series race Saturday at Dover International Speedway. “Man, that’s why they call it the Monster Mile,” Edwards said.—Internet

Driver Carl Edwards celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Nationwide series 5-hour ENERGY 200 auto race, on 14 May, 2011, in Dover, Del. — Internet

Obraniak stunner ends Lille’s 56-year trophy wait

PARIS, 15 May—A stunning last-minute free-kick by substitute Ludovic Obraniak gave Lille a 1-0 victory over holders Paris Saint-Germain in Saturday’s French Cup final to end the club’s 56-year wait for silverware. The Polish international whipped a dipping shot past PSG goalkeeper Gregory

Ochocinco attempts to ride a bull named Deja Blu during an intermission at the Professional Bull Riders’ Lucas Oil Invitational bull riding event in Duluth, Ga, on Saturday.—Internet

Chad Ochocino backed up his promise to ride a 1,500-pound bull on the Professional Bull Riders circuit on Saturday night, earning $10,000 for making it out of the chute atop Deja Blu. The ride lasted 1.3 seconds before Ochocinco was bucked off with no apparent injury. Ochocinco, who wore a helmet and a standard protective vest, fell 6.5 seconds short of the time needed to win a new Ford truck and to earn the right to rename the bull after Cincinnati Bengals coach Marvin Lewis.

But the challenge that began with a tweet earlier this month ended with Ochocinco proving PBR president Sean Gleason that he was serious. The six-time Pro Bowl receiver said, however, that he would never ride a Cincinnati Bengals receiver Chad Ochocinco.

Cincinnati Bengals receiver Chad Ochocinco attempts to ride a bull named Deja Blu during an intermission at the Professional Bull Riders’ Lucas Oil Invitational bull riding event in Duluth, Ga, on Saturday.—Internet

“Ouch and done,” he said. The publicity stunt was the latest for Ochocinco, whose Twitter account has nearly 2 million followers.—Internet

Driver Carl Edwards celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Nationwide series 5-hour ENERGY 200 auto race, on 14 May, 2011, in Dover, Del. — Internet
Dortmund receives German Bundesliga trophy

BERLIN, 15 May—Bundesliga champion Dortmund received their trophy after beating Frankfurt in second division with a 3-1 victory at the final round of Bundesliga on Saturday. Relegation threatened Wolfsburg and Monchengladbach wrapped first division at a thrilling three-way battle against Frankfurt. Record champion Bayern failed to oust Leverkusen from second, a direct Champions League qualification, as the “Werkself” defeated Frankfurt fourth relegation in club history due to a deserved 3-1 win. Frankfurt threaten Wolfsburg and Monchengladbach, started absolutely harmless into their relegation battle to the 12th minute. Whereas Dortmund squandered the opportunity to start absolutely harmless into their relegation battle due to a deserved 3-1 win. Dortmund players celebrate after beating Frankfurt with the opener through midfielder Sebastian Rode who nodded home from distance, to raise hope for staying up.

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Kayah States, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Region, fairly widespread in Bago and Yangon Regions and scattered in Lower Sagaing Region, Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Mandalay Region. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Upper Sagaing, Magway Regions and Rakhine State, (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperatures in Bago, Ayeyawady,Taninthayi Regions and Mon State and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (45°C), NyaungU and Magway (41°C) each, Minbu, Pauk and Myingyan (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thabeikkyin (3.35) inches, Taungkou (2.09) inches, Myeik (1.89) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (1.81) inches,Yangon (central) (1.45) inches, Hmawbi (1.30) inches, Kambalu (1.03) inches and Aunglan (0.78) inch.

Maximum temperature on 14-5-2011 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 15-5-2011 was 78°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 15-5-2011 was (77%).

Rainfall on 15-5-2011 was (NIL) at Nay Pyi Taw, (0.94) inch at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (NIL) at Mandalay. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (10.79) inches at Nay Pyi Taw, (15.94) inches at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (8.38) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (10) mph from Southeast at (9:30) hours MST on 15-5-2011.

Bay Influence: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and East central Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 16th May 2011: Rain or showers will be scattered in Sagonay, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Chin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16th May 2011: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16th May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Nay Pyi Taw-Hsinthe (Tatkon)-Pinlaung railroad to link Shan State and Kayah State

On arrival at Yanaung Station near Yanaung Village in Pyawbwe Township, the Union Minister heard reports by officials on facts about Pyawbwe-Natmauk-Magway railroad project and Pyawbwe-Natmauk railroad section and the deputy minister gave a supplementary report.

The Union Minister looked into progress in construction of Yin Creek Bridge (Natmauk) and the site for construction of new Natmauk Station.

Myanma Railways staff are making efforts to complete Hsinthe-YeU railroad section (19.30 miles) soonest.—MNA

Vice-Chairman of Central Military Commission of China concludes visit

YANGON, 15 May — The visiting Chinese delegation led by Vice-Chairman General Xu Caihou of Central Military Commission of the People’s Republic of China left here by special flight today.

General Xu Caihou and members of the delegation were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than, Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn of the Ministry of Defence, senior military officers, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Myanmar Mr. Li Junhua and Military Attaché Senior Col Xiong Shaowei and officials from the embassy.—MNA

New calculations on blackbody energy set the stage for clocks

DELAWARE, 15 May—A team of physicists from the United States and Russia announced that it has developed a means for computing, with unprecedented accuracy, a tiny, temperature-dependent source of error in atomic clocks. Although small, the correction could represent a big step towards atomic timekeepers’ longstanding goal of a clock with a precision equivalent to one second of error every 32 billion years — longer than the age of the universe.—Internet