**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

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**Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State**

**Union FM receives US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State**

**Chinshwehaw gets Pre-Primary School**

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**A Chinese high-speed train arrives in Beijing**

**Space Shuttle Atlantis STS-135 is at Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 17 May, 2011.**
Advanced technology—a gateway to success

Exploiting its natural resources, Myanmar is striving for national economic development.

Strength of intellectuals and intelligentsia and advancements of technology is playing an important role in endeavours for national development. Technology is essential for modernizing the industrialized nation by developing agricultural sector.

In raising momentum for improvement of information technology in Myanmar, technological universities, colleges, institutes and government technical high schools have been built in Regions and States to turn out excellent students. Moreover, Technological University (Yatanarpon Cyber City) which emphasizes research-based technology has been inaugurated to train the students.

ICT Exhibitions were held for enabling the enthusiasts to study international level technologies for enhancement of technology. The exhibitions are aimed at contributing to the development of the nation through IT, providing the IT to development of daily socio-economic life of the people and broadening the horizons of the IT enthusiasts.

As the State is focusing on development of human resources, improvement of ICT sector and enhancement of research works, the advanced technology will lead the nation into brighter future.

Professional technicians will have to apply their knowledge in practical field for achieving greater success.

Yangon Region Chief Minister receives DPRK, Singaporean Ambassadors

Yangon, 18 May — Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe received Ambassador of Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr. Kim Sok Chol and Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Robert Chua Hian Kong at 2 pm and 3 pm separately at the Yangon Region Government Office today.

Also present at the calls were Region Education, Health, Foreign Affairs and Immigration Minister U Nyan Tun Oo, Region Secretary U Khin Maung Tun and Deputy Director-General U Win Naing of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe receives Singaporean Ambassador Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong.

Union Mines Minister receives Thai guests

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May — Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik received Chairman Mr Som Pong Chavaltanpipat of Thailand-based Myanmar Pongpipat Company Ltd at the ministry, here, this morning.

Both sides focused on investment in tin sector and production.

MNA

Mangrove forests, plantations thrive in Bogale Township

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May — Union Minister for Forestry U Win Tun inspected landscaping of Myoma Nursery of the Forest Department of Bogale Township in Ayeyawady Region on 15 May and nurturing of saplings in it.

Next, the Union Minister looked into thriving mangrove forest, extended growing of mangrove plantations and Maimmahlaykun sanctuary, and viewed documentary photos on display at the booth of ASEAN Heritage Garden.

On his arrival at Byonymewkyun Nursery and Kadon Kani Modern Forest Reserve, the Union Minister oversaw mangrove saplings, 50-acre mangrove plantations and nurturing of saplings in the area of 150 acres.

At the rainy season monsoon tree plantation ceremony for 2011 at Ma Kyin Myine village of Bogale Township, the Union Minister explained benefits of mangrove forests to socio-economic life, environmental conservation, ecosystem, reduction of carbon emission, ecotourism and prevention against disasters to a certain extent.

The Union Minister also inspected thriving 1000-acre mangrove plantations, Thayakon Nursery, naturally-grown mangrove forest and establishment of mangrove plantations. — MNA

Myanmar Golfers Team leaves for Malaysia

YANGON, 18 May — Myanmar Golfers Team left for Malaysia yesterday to take part in 109th Malaysian Amateur Open (Men & Ladies) golf tournament to be held at Alamosa Golf Resort, Melaka from 19-22 May 2011, Kurnia Saujana Amateur Championship golf tournament, at Palm Course Saujana Golf & Country Club from 24-26 May and Serembam Amateur Open (Men & Ladies) golf tournament, at Seremban Golf Club from 26-29 May.

They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by officials from Myanmar Golf Federation. The aim is to develop Myanmar golf sport, get success in XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar and obtain international experience. — MNA

Geotechnical Engineering Course on 27 May

YANGON, 18 May — The Geotechnical Engineering Committee of the Myanmar Geological Science Society will conduct 6th Geotechnical Engineering Course (Level I) on 27 May.

The three-month course in which local and foreign scholars will lecture is for holders of B.Sc (Geology), B.Sc Engg (Gem & Gem Mining) and B.Tech/B.E (Civil or Mining). Those interested may sign up at Myanmar Geological Science Society at No 303, MES Building, Hlme University Campus. — MNA
Mississippi River continues to flood

BANGKOK, 18 May—As the Mississippi River continues to rise in the US, land and homes along one of its main tributaries have been completely submerged. The water level has reached 17.28 meters in the town of Vicksburg, obliterating businesses along one of its main tributaries have been completely submerged. The waterway is still surging, as it moves south through Mississippi and Louisiana.—Xinhua

100 Afghan army personnel killed in two months

KABUL, 18 May—A total of 100 personnel of Afghan army had been killed in the past two months in the militancy-hit country, Defence Ministry spokesman said on Wednesday.

“Over the past 60 days, a total of 100 Afghan National Army (ANA) personnel including officers and soldiers had been killed in security incidents and fight against militants all over the country,” General Zahir Azimi told reporters in weekly press briefing here.

According to Azimi, the army had conducted some 108 operations including several joint military operations with the NATO-led forces over the past two months.

He also said as many as 717 militants had been killed and 122 injured over the mentioned period of time.—Xinhua

20 militants killed in checkpost attack in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 18 May—At least 20 militants were killed and several others injured as some 100 militants attacked a checkpost early Wednesday morning in Pakistan’s northwestern city of Peshawar, reported local Urdu TV channel Dawn.

According to the report, the attack took place in the wee hours of Wednesday when 100-plus militants reportedly attacked the Manzor Shaheed checkpost in the city.

Security forces there fought back, killing over 20 militants and injuring several others, said the report, adding that two security personnel were also killed in the crossfire. Other details about the incident are not immediately available.—Xinhua

US and allies kill, injure Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 18 May—There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 18 May reached 705811 and the total number of seriously injured people reached 1278430, according to the news on the Internet.

No. Subject Number
1. Death toll of Iraqi people 705811
2. The total number of seriously injured people 1278430

According to the Internet news, a total of 33881 Afghan people were killed and 41358 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 18 May.

No. Subject Number
1. Number of Afghan people killed 33881
2. Seriously injured Afghan people 413358

Floodwaters surround businesses along the Mississippi river in Vicksburg, Miss, on 17 May, 2011.—INTERNET
World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, 17 May 2011

Message from Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General

Better Life in Rural Communities with ICTs

ICTs are constantly reshaping the way the world communicates while creating opportunities for a better life through long-term, sustainable development, not least among the most disadvantaged sections of our society.

This year, as we celebrate ITU’s 146th anniversary, we focus our attention on the world’s rural communities in our quest to connect the remotest corners to the benefits of ICTs.

Today, ICTs are the powerhouses of the global economy and offer real solutions towards generating sustainable economic growth and prosperity. ICTs also act as catalysts in accelerating progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

In the rural context, ICTs provide enhanced opportunities to generate income and combat poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy. ICTs and related e-applications are key instruments in improving governance and rural services, such as providing community health care, safe drinking water and sanitation, education, food and shelter; improving maternal health and reducing child mortality; empowering women and the more vulnerable members of society; and ensuring environmental sustainability.

Half the world’s population — nearly 3.5 billion people — resides in rural districts and far-flung communities, representing the poorer, less educated, and more deprived cousins of the world’s urban citizens. Among them are as many as 1.4 billion of the world’s extremely poor people, who are also among the least connected to the benefits of ICTs. We cannot allow this situation to continue. It is time for global action to connect rural communities to the opportunities offered by ICTs.

ITU is committed to connecting the world and to ensuring that the benefits of ICTs reach the remotest corners as well as the most vulnerable communities. I am proud to say that our work at ITU in developing the standards for ICTs, managing vital spectrum and orbital resources, mobilizing the necessary technical, human and financial resources, and strengthening emergency response in the aftermath of devastating natural disasters has met with unprecedented success as we enter the second decade of this millennium.

Although mobile penetration has spread rapidly with over 5.3 billion subscribers worldwide, the thrust now is to drive content through enhanced broadband access aimed at establishing the information and communication highways — networks that will feed both rural communities and urban centres with the means to meet their development goals and aspirations.

ITU’s leadership role in the Broadband Commission for Digital Development is aimed at increasing the roll out of this state-of-the-art technology to firmly establish a universally accessible knowledge-based information society.

I urge you to celebrate World Telecommunication and Information Society Day this year by focusing on connecting people around the world and harnessing the full potential of ICTs so that we can all enjoy a more productive, peaceful and — in every way — a better life, particularly in rural areas.

Hamadoun I. Touré
ITU Secretary-General

Gates says vaccine investment offers best returns

GENEVA, 18 May—Bill Gates called on Tuesday for strengthened immunization programs against infectious diseases to save 4 million lives by 2015 and 10 million lives by 2020, saying it was the best possible investment in global health.

‘Inter-state jealousies’ over social performance are contributing to increased focus on health, Gates said during a press conference in Geneva. Microsoft founder Bill Gates has called on governments to boost their investments in vaccines and immunisation, saying it could save up to 10 million lives by 2020.—Internet

A Chinese high-speed train arrives in Beijing

BEIJING, 18 May—A Chinese high-speed train arrives at Beijing’s new, southern railway station on 17 May, 2011.

China’s expanding network of ultramodern high-speed trains and rail networks have come under growing scrutiny over costs because of concerns that builders ignored safety standards in the quest to build faster trains in record time.

What began with the firing and detention of the country’s top railway official has spiraled into a corruption case that has raised questions about the project’s future.—Internet

Apple supplier TPK to expand touch panel business with Cando

TAIPEI, 18 May—TPK, a major supplier of touch panels to Apple, will pay T$5.6 billion ($194 million) for 19.9 percent of touch panel maker Cando in a bid to lift its market share.

Cando is a touch panel unit of top LCD maker AU Optronics. It had said last November that it would invest in four new touch panel plants in Taiwan.

A Chinese high-speed train arrives at Beijing’s new, southern railway station on 17 May, 2011.

Clam boat with five aboard sinks in Alaska

KODIAK, 18 May—Three members of an Alaska clam-digging crew have been found dead and two others remain missing Tuesday night, the US Coast Guard said.

A 20-foot skiff with five employees of Pacific Alaska Shellfish was reported missing Tuesday near Kalgan Island in Cook Inlet.

The Coast Guard said in a written statement a search party sent out by the company recovered one body. Two others were spotted by a Coast Guard helicopter shortly before sunset. An MH-60 helicopter remained on the scene Tuesday night, but a C-130 plane returned to its base in Kodiak.—Internet
Probes into banks’ mortgage lending grow

NEW YORK, 18 May—The New York attorney general’s office has requested meetings with the banks over the next couple of weeks. Spokesmen for Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley declined to comment. Bank of America did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

The probe, which was first reported by The New York Times, is the latest in an expanding series of investigations by state and federal agencies into banks’ mortgage operations, which were at the heart of the worst global financial crisis since the Great Depression.

“It’s not surprising to see everyone wants a piece of the action while they can get it,” said Adrian Cronje, chief investment officer at Atlanta-based Balentine, an investment advisory firm with $800 million in assets.

Last fall, nearly a dozen state and federal agencies began the largest ongoing investigation into banks’ foreclosure practices after critics said the industry used robo-signers and other tactics to cut corners.

The allegations resulted in settlement talks between bank regulators, a coalition of 50 state attorneys general, and federal agencies that included the Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Schneiderman is taking part in those talks, but he has recently expressed concern about any deal that would prevent additional investigations into mortgage practices at the banks.

Shares of Bank of America and Goldman were nearly unchanged in afternoon trading, while Morgan Stanley was up 0.7 percent.

Gene variation linked to infertility in women, study finds

WASHINGTON, 18 May—A variation in a gene involved in regulating cholesterol in the bloodstream also appears to affect progesterone production in women, making it a likely culprit in a substantial number of cases of their infertility, a new study from Johns Hopkins University researchers suggests.

The Hopkins group has also developed a simple blood test for this variation of the scavenger receptor class B type 1 gene (SCARB1) but emphasized there is no approved therapy yet to address the problem in infertile women.

Following up studies in female mice that first linked a deficiency in these receptors for HDL — the so-called “good” or “healthy” cholesterol — and infertility, researchers report finding the same link in studies of women with a history of infertility.

Health Tip: Better sleep can mean less arthritis pain

Getting plenty of sleep each night can help you better manage arthritis pain, the Arthritis Foundation says. Here are recommendations to help you get enough rest:

- Exercise regularly at a moderate intensity, and remember to schedule it well before bedtime.
- Don’t consume caffeine or alcohol, particularly close to bedtime.
- Create a consistent schedule of sleep and wake times, and stick to it daily.
- Soak in a warm bath before bed, or listen to some soft music.
- Enjoy quiet time before bed, or read a relaxing book.
- Don’t use sleeping pills, unless your doctor suggests them. — Internet

BrainStorm to start adult stem cell trial for ALS

Tel. Aviv, 18 May—BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc received approval from Israel’s Health Ministry for a clinical trial of its adult stem cell therapy for patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

“The trial represents a significant step forward in our goal of using stem cells with neuro restoration capabilities to treat ALS,” Adrian Harel, acting CEO of BrainStorm, said on Tuesday. BrainStorm expects to begin treating patients in the coming weeks and will work with Jerusalem’s Hadassah Medical Centre.

The US Food and Drug Administration in February granted orphan drug designation to the company’s NurOwn adult stem cell product for the treatment of ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. The initial phase of the study is designed to establish the safety of NurOwn and will later be expanded to assess efficacy.

Patients will be transplanted with stem cells derived from their own bone marrow and treated with the NurOwn stem cell technology. The trial will include 24 patients, 12 in an advanced stage of the disease and 12 in an early stage.

The patients will be examined at regular intervals and followed for six months post transplantation. ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord.

According to the ALS Association, 5,600 people in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each year and it is estimated that as many as 30,000 Americans may have the disease at any given time. — Reuters

Nurses give aid to a pregnant woman before delivering a baby in Freetown in 2009. Twelve women died every month giving birth in a Freetown hospital in 2010, in a country with one of the world’s worst maternal mortality rates, a government study showed Tuesday. — Internet

1 World Trade Centre lands Conde Nast

NEW YORK, 18 May—The ground zero address 1 World Trade Center in New York has landed a critical corporate tenant, Conde Nast Publications, developers and public officials said.

Conde Nast—publishers of 18 magazines, including The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, Vogue, Bon Appetit and Architectural Digest — gave a legitimate corporate flavor to a building that some feared would be occupied only by government agencies in a neighbourhood dominated by financial firms, The New York Times reported Tuesday.

Conde Nast has signed a 25-year lease valued at $2 billion, but the negotiations for the lease agreement included more than monetary considerations.

The publisher was especially concerned with smooth entrances and exits of its fleet of more than 100 executive cars and for the celebrity-occupied limousines that visit the company. The lease calls for Conde Nast to rent 1 million square feet of the new 1,776-foot tall tower, for $60 per square foot per year, taking up floors 20 through 41 of the building beginning in 2014. — Internet
Coronary disease seen in Egyptian mummy

AMSTERDAM, 18 May—An Egyptian princess who lived 3,500 years ago is thought to be the first known person with diagnosed coronary artery disease, researchers say. The coronary arteries of the mummmified Princess Ahmose-Meryet-Amon, who lived in Egypt between 1580 and 1550 BC were visualized using whole body computerized tomo-graphy scanning.

The finding was presented at a medical conference in Amsterdam, the European Society of Cardiology said in a release Tuesday. The CT scan showed the princess, who died in her 40s, had atherosclerosis in two of her three main coronary arteries.

“Today,” Dr Gregory S Thomas, the principle investigator from the University of California, Irvine, said, “she would have needed by-pass surgery.”

“Overall, it was striking how much athero-sclerosis we found. We think of atherosclerosis as a disease of modern lifestyle, but it’s clear that it also existed 3,500 years ago. Our findings certainly call into question the perception of atherosclerosis as a modern disease.”

Diet may have been a factor, Thomas said, since Ahmose-Meryet-Amon was from a noble family, daughter of a pharaoh, and her diet would not have been that of a common Egyptian.

Scientists tackle hurdle of moose on roads

MONTREAL, 18 May—Millions of vehicles collide with moose, elk and caribou in North America annually and moose seeking salt from pavement deicing are a problem, researchers say. Moose are the largest animal in the deer family, with males weighing up to 1,500 pounds, so their salt cravings can pose significant risks to human and vehicle safety, a release from Concordia University in Montreal reported Tuesday.

“The most effective management strategy is to remove all salt piles, without creating any compensatory ones, and let moose return to foraging for aquatic plants to satisfy their sodium dietary require-ment,” Grosman said.

An odorous house ant, otherwise known as *Technomyrmex*, courtesy of JJ Harrison via Wikimedia Commons. Internet

Could the Internet spell the end of snow days?

PARKVILLE, 18 May—Could the Internet mean the end of snow days? Some schools think so, and they are experimenting with ways for students to do lessons online during bad weather, potentially allowing classes to go on during even the worst blizzard.

“Virtual snow days” would help ease pressure on school calendars. Because districts are required to be in session for a certain number of hours or days, losing teaching time to winter weather can mean extending the school day or cutting short spring break or summer vacation.

And canceling school in the winter, when some of the most difficult material of the year is covered, risks leaving students with a learning deficit or days, losing teaching time to winter weather can mean extending the school day or cutting short spring break or summer vacation.

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Chin State Chief Minister expedites regional development tasks in Mindat Township

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Chin State Chief Minister U Hong Ngai and his entourage this morning made an inspection tour of public services of Mindat—Women’s Domestic Training School, Youths Training School, People’s Hospital, Government Technical High School, Eye Hospital, Maungchaung suspension bridge and farms in Hтинchaung Village. After that the Chief Minister attended first coordination meeting for holding International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and destruction of seized narcotic drugs, at State General Administration Department.

Shan State Chief Minister attends coordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Discussion on Shan State Budget was held at Taunggyi on 16 May with an address by Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat.

Receptionist course for restaurants of Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Ministry of Hotels and Tourism launched Receptionist Course No 1/2011 for waiters and waitresses serving in restaurants of Nay Pyi Taw at the assembly of the ministry here this morning, with the address of Deputy Minister of Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung.

A total of 30 trainees of nine restaurants from there are taking the one-week course. The similar course on schedule will be opened for ones from there. The project upstream the Second Defile of the Ayeyawady River was launched on 7 May 2009.

YCDC to grow over 275,000 saplings

YANGON, 18 May—Yangon City Development Committee has planned to grow over 275,000 saplings—91,660 shade trees, 33,912 flowering plants, 100,000 teak trees and 50,000 toddy palms in its municipal area in the 2011 rainy season.

Lakes sold through tender in Bago Region

BAGO, 18 May—A ceremony to sell guarantee lakes through auction of Bago Region for 2011-2012 was held for the first time in Bago on 12 May.

Officials explained sales of lakes through tender and replied to queries raised by entrepreneurs. Later, the lakes were sold through tender.

District News in Brief

Singaing Township gets rural concrete bridge

SINGAING, 18 May—A concrete bridge across Minye Drain was opened in Monbin Village of Singaing Township on 25 April morning. The facility was built with over K 3.7 million contributed by the local people.

Fire engine donated to rural fire brigade

SINGU, 18 May—Wellwisher U Tint Kyaw Kyu Myat of Nweyon Village in Singu Township donated a fine engine worth K 27.2 at the residence of wellwisher on 6 April.

The township administrator handed over the fine engine to the administrator of Village-tract and local fire brigade.

Daw Khin Kyu Myat of Nweyon Village in Singu Township donated a fine engine worth K 27.2 at the residence of wellwisher on 6 April.

The township administrator handed over the fine engine to the administrator of Village-tract and local fire brigade.

Fire engine donated to rural fire brigade

The township administrator handed over the fine engine to the administrator of Village-tract and local fire brigade.

Piers for Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan).

Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) to improve... (from page 16)

The project upstream the Second Defile of the Ayeyawady River was launched on 7 May 2009. It is part of the drive for improving the living conditions for residents of various national races.

Superintending Engineer U Myo Win said that the construction of the main bridge with 166 reinforced concrete bored piles started on 17 July 2009 and completed 6 May 2010; that the bored piles were 47 feet higher than the maximum current level of the river with 320 feet wide clearance area; that on completion, it would have a 28-foot-wide motorway, two three-foot-wide pedestrian walkways and a 14-foot-wide railroad on it; that the estimated tonnage of cross beams was 9495; that they were gearing up for installation of cross beams in the bored piles in the water; and that the building of 732 concrete piles for the road and 488 concrete piles for the pedestrian walkways had been completed cent per cent.

He added that Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) was part of Katha-Bhamo rail-cum-road bridge under construction; and that Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan), like Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo Road, was designed to speed up regional development.

Mandalay-Katha-Bhamo Road on the western bank of the Ayeyawady River is 48 miles and two furlongs longer than Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo (Strategic Road) (270 miles and five furlongs) on the eastern bank. However, it is an artery linking Kachin State with Mandalay Region and Sagaing Region through which we can travel to cities on the western bank such as Sagaing, Shwebo, Htigyaing and Katha. It has further improved the Network Loop of roads that pass through Mandalay, Sagaing, Shwebo, Htigyaing, Katha, Sinkhan, Bhamo, Momauk, Wamgnau, Myitkyina, Mogauing, Mohnyin, Indaw, Katha, Shwegu and Tagaung.

Translation: MS

Kyemon: 7-5-2011
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 19 May, 2011

Union EP-2 Minister receives Korean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe received Chairman Mr Chung Si Woo and party of Busan Korea Biotechnology Co Ltd of the Republic of Korea at the ministry, here, yesterday afternoon. They discussed cooperation in gas-fired power plants.

Books for BEP level students to be distributed free

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Ministry of Education will distribute books for Basic Education Primary Level students free in 2011 Academic year, said Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye at a meeting with Region/State education officers yesterday. At the meeting, the Union Minister also discussed education promotion programme of the schools, dissemination of knowledge on hygiene and health of the students, greening of school and its environs and uplift of education standard of entire nation. Ministry of Education has arranged to start scholarships programme for Grade-5 and 9 students and for university students in 2012-2013 Academic Year.

Mon State Chief Minister attends National Immunization Days-2011

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint together with Ministers of the State on 14 May morning attended National Immunization Days-2011 ceremony at the meeting hall of Mon State General Hospital in Mawlamyine.

Train blast kills 2, injuries 9

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—A blast occurred in the third coach of Yangon-Mandalay up-train (3) at mile post No. 249 between Shwemyo and Hsinthe Station in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw District, at about 3:55 pm today, leaving two dead and nine injured. The dead were one woman and one man, and the injured, five woman and four men. The explosion made a hole in the roof of the ordinary coach. Officials are rendering assistance to the injured who are now in Tatkon Township People’s Hospital.

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.

Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai of Kachin State makes donation to Kachin State Handicapped Association.

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai of Kachin State made a speech. The Chairman of Myanmar Handicapped Association explained the plan for handicapped and the general secretary organizational setup of the association and tasks. The chairman and responsible persons presented equipment for the handicapped and cash assistance, family of the Kachin State Chief Minister and seven wellwishers K 1.4 million. Officials accepted the donations.

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin receives United States Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Mr. Joseph Yuosang Yun and party.

(News on page 1) —MNA

Kachin State Handicapped Association opens office

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—A ceremony to open the office of Kachin State Handicapped Association was held in conjunction with the ceremony to provide aids for the disabled persons at the city hall in Myitkyina yesterday morning. Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai of Kachin State made a speech. The Chairman of Myanmar Handicapped Association explained the plan for handicapped and the general secretary organizational setup of the association and tasks. The chairman and responsible persons presented equipment for the handicapped and cash assistance, family of the Kachin State Chief Minister and seven wellwishers K 1.4 million. Officials accepted the donations.

Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai of Kachin State makes donation to Kachin State Handicapped Association.—MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 18 May — Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan inspected excavations of the palaces of King Anawrahta and King Kyansittha in Bagan Archaeological Region, NyaungU Township, Mandalay Region, on 15 May.

On his inspection tour, the minister highlighted systematic excavation to avert damage to the original works, need to put more roofs over the excavation site to protect it from natural disaster, weather and rains, and in-depth research to designate the periods of the artifacts.

On his arrival at Pakokku District IPRD on 16 May, the minister called on staff officers of the district and townships to work hard for libraries to meet the five standards, to ensure sustainable development of the libraries and to make field trips to villages to ensure every village has libraries.

The minister viewed educative wallpapers and posters on display in the office.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Chief Minister U Tha Aye of Sagaing Region on 14 May looked into progress of the town hall in Kalay.

He donated stationery to Kanthaya monastic education school in Kalay. He visited 100 acres Mibamyitta rubber farm.

Dy Industry-1 Minister, Chinese guests discuss pulp, paper production

NAY PYI TAW, May — Deputy Minister for Industry-1 U Thein Aung received guests from the People’s Republic of China at the ministry here on 16 May.

Department Vice General Manager Mr. Pan Yue Wei of Xiamen ITG Group Co. Ltd called on the deputy minister at 4 pm and discussed matters on buying bamboo pulp.

After the meeting, Mr. Pan Yue Wei visited the paper and pulp factory (Thabaung) and discussed matters on planning for study tour of the factory.

Executive Managing Director Mr. Hanyawei of Tianjin Machinery Imp & Exp Corporation called on the deputy minister and discussed matters on implementation of the 60-ton newsprint factory (Thabaung) project.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—A delegation led by President Mr Zhao Shuqing of Yunnan Province TV station of the People’s Republic of China arrived in Yangon by air on 16 May morning.

They met officials of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise at the head office of MMPE on Kokkaing Avenue in Yangon and Forever Group and Family Entertainment broadcasting MRTV-4 and related channels, and Shwe Than Lwin Company that telecasts Myanmar International Channel and related TV programmes at Myanmar Radio and Television (head office) on Pyay Road.

Yesterday, they arrived in Mandalay by air and toured Sagaing, Mandalay and Yatanarpon Cyber City in PyinOoLwin Township.

The Chinese guests proceeded to Myanmar Radio and Television and Myanmar Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw today.— MNA

President Mr Zhao Shuqing and party of Yunnan Province TV station of the People’s Republic of China visit Myanmar Radio and Television in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Taninthayi Region Government organized the first Kason water pouring ceremony at Bo tree at Dhammayon of Lawkamarazein Pagoda in Dawei yesterday, Fullmoon Day of Kason, attended by Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Khin Zaw.

A similar ceremony was held at Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago yesterday morning. The Chief Minister of Bago Region, wife and officials attended the ceremony.

At Shwemuhtaw Pagoda in Pathein, the water pouring ceremony at Bo tree was attended by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and officials.

On the auspicious day, the chief ministers and officials poured water at Bo trees together with local people, and they made meritorious deeds.— MNA
No dead dolphins found in Black Sea

Moscow, 18 May—Reports by experts who said around 20-30 dead dolphins were found on the Black Sea coast were false, Russia’s environmental watchdog has said.

Reports said divers had found about 20 dead dolphins in the sea and on the shore close to the nature reserve of Bolshoi Utrish. Mikhail Polyakov, head of the sea mammals lab of the Karadag nature reserve in Ukraine, also said that about 30 dead dolphins had been found on the shore. He said the animals must have got trapped in fishing nets.

“Reports about the mass death of dolphins have not been confirmed,” a spokesman for the federal environment service said.

He said the service had spoken to the diving club whose divers reportedly found the dead dolphins. “They said their divers had found no dolphins. And the photos that have been circulated by some online media have different landscapes in the background,” the spokesman said.—Xinhua

Japan says Fukushima disaster not similar to Chernobyl

GENEVA, 18 May—The potential health consequences of the nuclear crisis at Japan’s Fukushima Daiichi plant are not equal to those caused by the disaster at Chernobyl, Japanese health officials said on Tuesday.

The levels of radioactive materials Cesium 134 and 137 are “much less than those of the accident at Chernobyl,” said Makoto Akashi of Japan’s National Institute of Radiological Sciences.

Akashi made the comparison to Chernobyl, a Soviet nuclear plant that partially exploded in Ukraine in 1986, on the sidelines of a special session devoted to the Fukushima crisis at the World Health Organization’s 64th General Assembly. “We do not think the radiation in Japan will contribute to an increase risk of cancer and leukaemia,” he said, adding that there is need “to study the issue very closely.” At the session, Japan’s vice-minister for health Kouhei Otsuka said “the number of deaths from radiation is zero for the moment,” noting that his government evacuated some 85,000 people from the area affected by the disaster.

A happy, stable marriage as good as earning 65K pounds a year!

LONDON, 18 May—A new book has claimed that a happy and stable marriage holds the same emotional value to both the partners as earning 65,000 pounds annual salary.

According to author David Brooks, couples in long-term marriages are “significantly more content” than those who are unmarried. “Marriage is tremendously important. We have a tendency to think of ourselves as rational individuals who are driven by economic motives, but in fact we are social individuals, driven by the need for relationships,” the Daily Mail quoted him as telling the BBC.

Brooks, who is a journalist with the New York Times, has calculated the “psychic benefit” of a long marriage at 65,000 pounds a year.

His estimate of the financial value of marriage is even higher than that of social researchers who look at the cash differences between married and unmarried people.

Statistics have shown that married couples are better off than others, including couples living together.

Brooks, who has authored the book ‘Social Animals’, acknowledges that relationships are more important than money and students should take study courses about who they might marry.—Internet

Two Melbourne airports get threats

MELBOURNE, 18 May—Australian police swarmed two airports in Melbourne Wednesday morning after threat letters were sent to media outlets, officials said.

The Herald Sun reported that a letter threatening the Avalon and Tullamarine Airports were sent to its office Wednesday morning.

“The threat was explicit and talked about the exact weapons that would be used,” it said.

Victoria state police requested media outlets not to reveal the contents of the letter. They have taken the letter for fingerprinting.

While passengers and staff underwent security checks at the gates, a police spokesperson said the force was “assessing the threat”. “We can’t say whether it is a hoax, we’re still assessing the situation.”

A senior security official said the incident shows the risk to the country’s airports and warned that the risk to the country’s airports was “real with 60 people living in Australia known to have trained with extremist groups overseas.

Avalon Airport chief executive officer Justin Giddings said he did not believe the scare was a bomb threat. “It’s extremely rare. It’s business as usual.”

“We have increased security. There have been no cancellations, no delays, terminal evacuations or road closures,” he said. A Qantas spokesperson also said no flights had been cancelled.—Internet

A CFS spokesman said given the widespread transmission of the pandemic H1N1 virus in humans, detection of the virus in pigs would not be a surprise. It was expected that positive findings might appear from time to time in the surveillance programme in future. The spokesman said that all imported live pigs from the Chinese mainland must come from registered farms and be accompanied with animal health certificates issued by the Chinese mainland authorities.

“The FEHD inspects the certifyes and health of the imported pigs at the boundary control points. Pigs also have to go through ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections in the slaughterhouses. Only pigs that pass the inspections can be supplied to the market and sold for consumption,” he said. Xinhua

Two pig samples positive for H1N1 in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 18 May—The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) of Hong Kong Special Administration Region announced on Wednesday that two pig samples taken in a flu virus test were positive for H1N1, but no significant genetic reassortment of viruses was found.

The result came from a regular influenza virus surveillance in pigs conducted by the University of Hong Kong (HKU) at Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse from February to April. Under the programme, pigs at the slaughterhouse were tested by blood, tracheal and nasal swabs twice a month.

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Seven killed in coal mine accident in SW China

KUNMING, 18 May—Seven people were killed in a coal and gas outburst at a mine shaft Tuesday night in the county of Weixin, southwest China’s Yunnan Province, authorities said Wednesday. The accident occurred at 8:30 pm Tuesday when 20 miners were working at a shaft of Nanfeng Coal Mine in Luobo Township. Thirteen of them managed to escape, said a spokesman with the county government.

By 7 am Wednesday, all bodies had been identified, and relevant managers of the mine has been in police custody, according to the spokesman.

The cause of the accident is under further investigation.—Internet

Filipino sailor dead in ship attacked by pirates

MANILA, 18 May—The Philippines says a Filipino seafarer has been found dead on a ship that was attacked by pirates at anchor in the West African nation of Benin.

The Philippine foreign affairs department says it’s not clear how Christopher Cortez Ceprado died or if the pirates were responsible.

It says he was found dead last Wednesday, four days after pirates robbed the chemical tanker MT Sea King and its 17 Filipino crewmen in the port of Benin’s main city, Cotonou. The other crewmen were not harmed.

The department said Tuesday the Philippine Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria, is coordinating with Benin authorities in investigating the death.

Filipino sailors make up a third of the world’s 1.2 million merchant seafarers.—Internet

Landslide traps eight miners in Colombia

BOGOTA, 18 May—At least eight miners were trapped in a coal mine Tuesday after a landslide blocked the exit of a coalmine on the outskirts of the country’s third largest city of Cali, Xinhua reported.

The accident occurred around 9.30 am when the miners were working in the Loma Gorda coalmine. The workers are believed to be trapped some 50 metres deep and have established contact with emergency personnel, officials said.

Cali’s Mayor Jorge Ostina told the media: “Relief agencies are removing material and fortunately the trapped miners have oxygen supply. We know that they are fine.” The mining activity in Colombia has experienced a boom in recent years, which also has led to an increase in the number of accidents, with at least 216 people reported to have died in similar accidents between 2008 and 2010, according to official data.—Internet

Man posts Facebook messages on how he killed daughter

MELBOURNE, 18 May—An Australian man who stabbed his two-year-old daughter to death and posted updates on Facebook pleaded guilty Wednesday. One message read: “I’ve killed her... She’s just lyin there... and her guts are hanging out.”

Ramazan “Ramzy” Acar, 24, kidnapped his daughter Yazmina from outside her home. He then gave her mother Rachelle D’Argent updates about his plan to murder the child, the Herald Sun reported. Yazmina was stabbed with a knife in November last year and her body was dumped in a vacant lot in north Melbourne, a court in Melbourne said Wednesday. The accused used Facebook and mobile phone messages to inform D’Argent and said the murder was in revenge for her ending their relationship.

In one phone call, Acar told D’Argent: “I’m going to do it. Do you have any last words for her?” Later, in a series of text messages he updated her murder of Yazmina. While one read, “It’s ova I did it”, another said “I hit you!”. A Facebook status update read “Pay bk u slut.”

When the woman spoke to Acar on the phone, he claimed: “I’ve killed her. She’s just lyin there next to me in her leggings and her top covered in blood, and her guts are hanging out.”

Arizona mom arrested after toddlers wander streets

PHOENIX, 18 May—An Arizona mother accused of leaving two young daughters alone in a car while she attended a party was charged with child abuse after the toddlers were found, holding hands, wandering near a busy intersection, police said on Tuesday.

Vanessa Tsinaajinnie, 25, drunk and searching a parking lot for her daughters, was arrested before dawn on Monday at about the same time that the whereabouts of the girls, aged 2 and 4, was reported to police by a passerby, said Sergeant Steve Carbajal, a Tempe, Arizona, police spokesman.

The younger girl was wearing a diaper and had no shoes, and the older one was wearing a yellow dress with a broken shoe, Carbajal said. Both were crying.

Tsinaajinnie faces two counts of felony child abuse. The girls were placed in the care of an aunt.

“This was a potentially dangerous situation that could have been tragic,” Carbajal said. “The officers were able to recover the children in relatively good condition. Fortunately, they weren’t harmed or worse.”

Tsinaajinnie told police that she left her daughters to “have a good time” at a friend’s apartment, according to court documents.

She reasoned that the girls were sleeping and “usually slept throughout the night.” Tsinaajinnie said she was planning to check on them in an hour. It was not immediately clear how long the girls were in the car before wandering out of the vehicle.

Carbajal said the mother had been drinking when she was taken into custody outside the apartment complex and that she registered a .126 blood-alcohol reading when tested. The legal limit for intoxication in Arizona is 08.

Fire-fighting personnel try to put out a wildfire in a forest under the administration of the Bailang forest bureau in the Dahinggan Mountains in the northeast area of China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 17 May, 2011. The naked flame had been extinguished Tuesday. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. —Xinhua

A staff member from Christie’s introduces an enamel and paste-set striking, musical and automaton jardiniere clock estimated 18 million to 25 million HK dollars during a media preview of Christie’s auction in Hong Kong, south China, on 17 May, 2011. —Xinhua

A visitor looks at works of prints at a museum in Moscow, capital of Russia, 17 May, 2011. The exhibition lasting to 30 June features over 50 works of prints with the theme of fairytales from the 18th century to the early 20th century in Russia.—Xinhua

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
Malaria blocks ‘super-infection’

LONDON, 18 May—The malaria parasite can ensure it keeps a host body all to itself by preventing further malarial infections, according to international researchers. The parasite initially reproduces in the liver and moves into the blood. A study on mice, published in Nature Medicine, showed the parasite can trigger iron deficiency in the liver and therefore prevent more infections. An expert said the research was “very cool and very interesting”, and improved understanding of infection.

The researchers were looking at super-infections, when a patient already infected with malaria is infected with another batch of malaria parasites. People in high-risk areas can be bitten by up to 700 different malaria-infected mosquitoes each year.

In experiments on mice, researchers showed that parasites in the blood were able to stimulate the production of the hormone hepcidin, which regulates iron levels. This reduced the level of iron in the liver, preventing other malaria parasites from reproducing in the organ.

One child dead in Kentucky school bus crash

CUNNINGHAM, 18 May—A school bus swerved to miss a deer and rolled into a ditch in Kentucky on Monday, killing one child and injuring many other students and adults, authorities said.

The Carlisle County school bus crashed about 3 pm on US 62 near Cunningham in western Kentucky while the elementary school students and teachers were returning from a field trip to a sports complex, WPDS-TV reported.

Particle detector blasts off to seek hints of universe mystery

WASHINGTON, 18 May—The Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer-2 (AMS) particle detector, mankind’s most ambitious effort to date to explore the universe’s origin, kicked off its long-awaited mission on Monday, with Chinese scientists playing a crucial role in designing and manufacturing some core parts of the device.

The US space shuttle Endeavor, on its final voyage, was launched from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, carrying the 7,000-kg AMS worth 2 billion US dollars. The shuttle is set to dock at the International Space Station (ISS) early Wednesday, and will unload the AMS there to scour the universe for hints of dark matter and antimatter.

The detector will be a lasting legacy left by Endeavor, a 20-year-old space exploration veteran. —Xinhua

People can be bitten by 700 malaria-infected mosquitoes a year in some countries. —INTERNET

Now lashes for drunk driving in UAE

DUBAI, 18 May—A court in Fujairah emirate here has upheld a lower court sentence of one month jail and 80 lashes for drunk driving.

The accused, who was in an inebriate condition, was caught driving in the opposite direction of the traffic, Khaleej Times, an English daily, reported today.

Police have recently hiked the fines for traffic offences.

Drunk driving, which is punishable with jail sentences, has lamed many, including top executives, behind the bars.
Pa man survives lightning strike at campsite

Police say a Pennsylvania man has survived a lightning strike while helping set up tents for a Boy Scout outing. Police in the town of Industry say the 89-year-old man was standing by a tree hit when he was struck by a bolt of lightning at about 8:30 pm Saturday. Industry officer Aaron Lopez says the man and others were moving scouts and camping supplies off the site as a thunderstorm approached. Lopez says no children were nearby when the man was struck. The man was up and walking around when police arrived, though he was treated later at a hospital for a wound where the lightning bolt apparently exited his body. Police are not identifying the man.

Three get jail in president corpse snatch

A court in Cyprus jailed three men for up to 20 months Monday for snatching the remains of late Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos from his grave.

The defendants, two Greek Cypriot brothers and an Indian national, were found guilty of illegal entry into a burial ground and exhuming a body, in a crime which shocked the east Mediterranean island.

Papadopoulos’s grave was opened and his body snatched in late 2009 and hidden at another cemetery in suburban Nicosia, the island’s capital. The court ruled one of the defendants had asked his brother to dig up the remains, hoping he could negotiate his own release from prison where he is serving two life sentences for murder. Police discovered the corpse three months later when the Indian defendant contacted Papadopoulos’s family asking for money, and saying he felt remorse. He was jailed for a total of 18 months and the Greek Cypriot brothers for 20 months each.

Under Cypriot law, violating a grave — a crime virtually unheard of until the Papadopoulos incident — is considered a misdemeanor. Papadopoulos died of lung cancer at the age of 74 in December 2008. He died less than a year after losing a bid for re-election to President Demetris Christofias. He was best known for his vigorous campaign against a United Nations reunification blueprint for ethnically-split Cyprus in 2004.

News Album

New home for Ohio man’s pencil sharpener ‘museum’

Tourism officials have made a point of displaying the hundreds of pencil sharpeners collected by an Ohio minister who died last summer.

The Rev Paul Johnson had kept his collection in a small shed he called his museum, outside his home in Carbon Hill in southeast Ohio. A new home for his more than 3,400 sharpeners was dedicated Friday inside a regional welcome centre.

The Logan Daily News reports Johnson started collecting after his wife gave him a few pencil sharpeners as a gift in the late 1980s. He kept them organized in categories, including cats, Christmas and Disneyland. The oldest is 105 years old.

An Ohio Senate proclamation calls the new display “a fitting tribute” to Johnson, a World War II veteran.

Vietnam to host Int’l Documentary Film Festival

HANOI, 18 May—Vietnam will host the third International Documentary Film Festival during 8-14 June in the capital Hanoi and southern Ho Chi Minh City. According to the Vietnamese Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism on Tuesday, the festival will present movies from Vietnam, Belgium, Germany, France, Switzerland, Poland, Denmark and Italy.

The ministry said the movies topics are about arts (painting, dancing and music), urbanization, immigration, women’s life, gap between the rich and the poor. A Vietnamese movie and a European movie of the same topic will be shown in one night.—Xinhua
Japan withdraw from Copa America

Tokyo, 18 May — Japan has scrapped plans to play in the prestigious Copa America football tournament after initially deciding to compete in the wake of the devastating 11 March quake and tsunami. "We are sorry to inform you that the Japanese team cannot participate in the Copa America 2011 in Argentina," the Japanese Football Association (JFA) said in a letter to the Argentine Football Federation. "We apologize deeply." Japan and Mexico were invited as teams from outside South America to play in the regional tournament in July, where the Japanese had been drawn in Group A with the hosts, Bolivia and Colombia.

Pacienca warns Porto that Braga can beat the odds

Dublin, 18 May — Braga coach Domingos Pacienca has warned Europa League favourites Porto that his team can upset the odds in Wednesday's final at the Aviva Stadium in Dublin. Pacienca's side are underdogs in the showdown with the Portuguese champions, but Braga have embarrassed several supposedly superior teams already this season and the 42-year-old believes another shock could be on the cards.

Roddick in doubt for French Open

Nice, 18 May — America's three-time Wimbledon finalist Andy Roddick is a doubt for the French Open after he was forced to withdraw from the ATP tournament in Nice on Tuesday because of a shoulder injury. The 28-year-old had been seeking to gain needed confidence boost after first-round exits on clay at both the Madrid and Rome Masters, but he conceded defeat and decided he would not be able to play his singles match on Wednesday against the wake of the devastating 11 March quake and tsunami. "We are sorry to inform you that the Japanese team cannot participate in the Copa America 2011 in Argentina," the Japanese Football Association (JFA) said in a letter to the Argentine Football Federation. "We apologize deeply." Japan and Mexico were invited as teams from outside South America to play in the regional tournament in July, where the Japanese had been drawn in Group A with the hosts, Bolivia and Colombia.

Manchester City's Argentinian forward Carlos Tevez (R)

Manchester City, 18 May — Carlos Tevez is set to stay at Manchester City, according to manager Roberto Mancini. The Argentina striker's future has been in doubt since he handed in a transfer request earlier in the season. Even after captaining City to victory in last weekend's FA Cup final against Stoke at Wembley, Tevez suggested he might have to move back to South America for family reasons. But Mancini, after seeing Tevez score twice in City's 3-0 Premier League win over Stoke here on Tuesday, said the forward was happy to stay put.

"He has a five-year contract and has told us he wants to stay," said Mancini. "He said that before. He never had any problem." Internet

FA Chief Sepp Blatter

Zurich, 18 May — FIFA president Sepp Blatter on Tuesday accused the English of sour grapes over their lost bid to host the 2018 World Cup. FIFA has been rocked by new allegations of graft after a British parliamentary committee last week heard testimony about bribes being offered during the bidding process to host the 2018 and 2022 World Cups.

The corruption allegations attracted widespread coverage in the British press, with reports branding FIFA officials "sleazeballs" and "rotten to the core". "The British press have always been very critical regarding football and FIFA. It didn't start with me. It's been a long time," Blatter told AFP.

"There is a sort of stubbornness against football and FIFA. Of course there is the fact that England didn't get the World Cup. But perhaps you have to analyse why. The English say: If we'd been told that the World Cup was going to new territories, we wouldn't have bid." Internet

Don't call me new Mourinho, says Porto boss Villas-Boas

Dublin, 18 May — Porto manager Andre Villas-Boas says he should not be labelled as the new Jose Mourinho, even if he emulates his mentor by winning the Europa League final against Braga.

Sporting Braga on Wednesday.

Villas-Boas has earned favourable comparisons with Mourinho during a record-breaking first season in charge of Porto.

And he will garner more rave reviews if he leads the Portuguese club to a repeat of the 2003 UEFA Cup triumph mastered by Mourinho during his time at the Dragao Stadium.

That 33-year-old has intimate knowledge of Mourinho's methodology after spending eight years working as his compatriot's opposition scout at Porto, Chelsea and Inter Milan.

New Zealand's Greg Henderson (C) took the overall lead from British teammate Ben Swift in the Tour of California cycling race by capturing a windy and crash-filled second stage.

"The English say: 'If we'd been told that the World Cup was going to new territories, we wouldn't have bid.'" Internet

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"The English say: 'If we'd been told that the World Cup was going to new territories, we wouldn't have bid.'" Internet

FA warn Ferguson and Ancelotti after ref comment

London, 18 May — Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson and Chelsea boss Carlo Ancelotti were both warned as to their future conduct by the Football Association (FA) on Tuesday in relation to recent comments about referee Howard Webb.

Both managers made complimentary remarks about World Cup final referee Webb ahead of the Premier League clash between the title rivals on Old Trafford on 8 May. However, in the process, they contravened FA regulations prohibiting managers from making any comments whatsoever about referees prior to a match.

Ferguson was warned to his future conduct on Tuesday before the FA issued an identical ruling on Ancelotti several hours later the same day.

Henderson grabs Tour of California cycling lead

Modesto, 18 May — New Zealand's Greg Henderson took the overall lead from British teammate Ben Swift in the Tour of California cycling race by capturing a windy and crash-filled second stage.

Team Sky's Henderson, who began the day 10 seconds behind stage one winner Swift, sprinted to the front in the final 500 meters and captured the 196.2-kilometer stage in 5hrs, 14mins, 29secs.

With 10 seconds of bonus time for winning the stage, Henderson seized the overall lead based upon tie-breakers with Swift second and Slovakian Peter Sagan of Liquigas-Cannondale third, four seconds adrift.
Djokovic run amazing, says tennis legend McEnroe

Parsis, 18 May—Tennis legend John McEnroe has heaped praise on Novak Djokovic, saying that the Serb’s stunning 37-match unbeaten run in 2011 is more impressive than his record-breaking run of 42 wins he achieved in 1984. The 52-year-old American said ahead of the finals of the ATP Masters Series in Canada that he has been amazed by what he has seen from the world number two in the last few months. “Given that there’s more competition, more athleticism and deeper fields now, I’d say his record is even more impressive,” said McEnroe.

“Especially given that in 1984, the major in Australia was played at the end of the year, whereas he had to win it (as part of his streak).”
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

Amnesty order frees 14,758 prisoners
Other prisoners still on detention enjoy one year exclusive of remission days

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May — The President Office of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued Order No. 28/2011 to commute death sentences to life sentences and other prison terms by one year exclusive of remission days.

Thanks to the order, 14,758 inmates from jails and labour camps were discharged yesterday.

Prisoners remained on custody, also received the commutation of prison terms by one year exclusive of remission days.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded (18-5-2011)
- Pyu (6.06) inches
- Taungdwingyi (4.09) inches
- Loikaw (3.27) inches
- Kyaukpyu (2.55) inches
- Bawlake (2.24) inches
- Bilin (2.24) inches
- Loilem (2.17) inches
- Singaing (2.05) inches
- Kyauktaw (1.89) inches
- Toungoo (1.89) inches
- Shwebo (1.85) inches

Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) to improve link between Kachin State with all parts of nation

Byline: Kayan Soe Myint; Photos: Kyaw Moe Lwin

Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) is being constructed over the Ayeyawady River near Sinkhan Village in Bhamo Township, Bhamo District, Kachin State by Special Projects (2) of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction. The rail-cum-road bridge, over 30 miles from Bhamo, is one of the road, railroad and bridge projects the government is implementing in Kachin State, the northernmost part of Myanmar.

(See page 7)