President U Thein Sein leaves for PRC to pay State visit

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left Nay Pyi Taw by special aircraft of Myanmar Airways International at 10 am today to pay a State visit to the People’s Republic of China at the invitation of President Mr Hu Jintao of the PRC.

The goodwill delegation led by President U Thein Sein was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Presidents Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Union ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, Charge d’Affaires at of the Embassy of PRC Mr Wang Zong Ying and officials.

President U Thein Sein was accompanied by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development and for Livestock and Fisheries U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint.

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PERSPECTIVES
Friday, 27 May, 2011

From free to compulsory primary education

Nowadays, progress can be witnessed at panoramic scene of education sector. Literacy campaigns are being carried out with added momentum in the country in accord with the vision “Education for All”. As a result, modern educational environs and highly-qualified human resources have emerged.

New academic year for 2011-2012 will come soon. School enrolment ceremonies have been held at basic education schools in townships of respective regions and states. Schools admit students in the School Enrolment Week designated between 25 to 31 May this year. Strenuous efforts are being made for raising enrolment at basic education level and completion of basic education for all school-going age children.

Thanks to collaborative efforts of the Ministry of Education and wellwishers, enrolment rate of kindergarten increases yearly, accounting for 98 per cent in 2010-2011 academic year compared with 91 per cent in 1999-2000.

Government has planned to distribute free exercise books worth K 2400 million to over five million primary school students in 2011-2012 academic year. Some Basic Education High Schools have provided free exercise books to students. Arrangements have been made for distributing exercise books to students at basic education schools.

We heartily welcome the plan of government for free distribution of exercise books to primary level students beginning 2011-2012 academic year. It is an effort for upgrading free primary education system to compulsory primary education. Only when educational staff, social organizations and wellwishers join hands with the government for their contributions to distribution of free exercise books, will all students have higher proficiency in better learning opportunity.

Discussion on Hluttaw procedures among Pyithu Hluttaw/Amyotha Hluttaw Committees members, Region/State Hluttaw Speakers continues for fourth day

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—Discussion on Hluttaw procedures among Pyithu Hluttaw/Amyotha Hluttaw Committees members, Region/State Hluttaw Speakers continued for the fourth day at Hluttaw Hall here 9.30 am today.

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein held discussion on Hluttaw procedures.

After that, the master of ceremonies read out the topics submitted by Pyithu Hluttaw/Amyotha Hluttaw Committees members and Region/State Hluttaw Speakers.

Hluttaw representatives discussed the topics and works.

The four-day session came to an end after the Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and the Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker reviewed the discussion of Hluttaw representatives.

Pyithu Hluttaw/Amyotha Hluttaw Committees members and Region/State Hluttaw Speakers discuss Hluttaw procedures at fourth day session.— MNA

Union Minister receives American professor

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin received Professor David I Steinberg from Georgetown University in Washington, the United States of America, at his office here this afternoon.

They discussed matters on further cooperation with INGOs, technical support in the medical field, and boosting rural health care.— MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Vladimir Halgas as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Vladimir Halgas was born on 1955 in Banska Bystrica. He obtained the Faculty of International Law from the Moscow Institute of International Relations. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1979 and served in various capacities at the ministry and embassies in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Finland.

He served as Slovak Ambassador to Ireland from 2002 to 2003. At present, he is serving as Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the Kingdom of Thailand.

He will be concurrently accredited as Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in Bangkok, Thailand. He is married with two daughters.—MNA

Experiences of MMCWA Annual General Meeting clarified


Chairperson of the supervisory committee Daw Khin Thenin Win made further clarification to the experiences she had gained at the meeting.—MNA

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin receives Professor David I Steinberg from Georgetown University in Washington, the United States of America.— MNA
Bomb blast kills coalition service member in northern Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 May—A coalition service member was killed on Wednesday when a bomb exploded in northern Afghanistan, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) confirmed.

ISAF said one of its service members was killed in northern Afghanistan as a result of an improvised explosive device (IED) attack, but provided no other details.

The nationality of the service member was also not immediately disclosed.

“It is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification pro-cedures to the relevant national auth-orities,” a brief statement said.

Coalition casualties in Afghanistan have been rising sharply in recent years, with a total coalition death toll of 709 in 2010, making it the deadliest year for international troops since the war began in response to the 11 September, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States.

So far this year, a total of 190 coalition service members have been killed in Afghanistan. Most troops are killed in the country’s south, which is plagued by IED attacks on troops and civilians.

25 killed, over 50 injured in suicide car blast in Hangu, NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 May—At least 25 people including an unknown number of policemen were killed and over 50 others injured in a suicide car bomb attack that took place Thursday evening in Pakistan’s northwest city of Hangu, some 70 kilometers southwest of Peshawar, reported local Urdu TV channel Samaa.

According to sources of Xinhua in the city and local media reports, the blast took place at about 18:15 pm local time near a district police officer’s building on the Kohat road of the city, where a lot of police and government buildings are located.

The office of the district police officer was damaged in the blast, said the local media reports, but it is not known whether the district police officer was hurt or not.

Most of the people killed in the blast are police, said hospital sources. Sources of Xinhua in the city said at least ten policemen were killed.

An estimated 15 shops nearby the blast site were damaged, said the local media reports, adding that one small hotel where many police are said to be eating inside was completely destroyed and six shops surrounding the hotel also collapsed following the blast.

Many people are feared buried under the collapsed buildings, said rescue team members.

An estimated 450 kg of explosives were used in the blast, said police sources.

Suspected explosives found after bomb threat grounds Indonesian flight

JAKARTA, 26 May—Bomb threats forced a Garuda Indonesia flight to be grounded in the country’s East Java Province on Wednesday, as airport officials confirmed finding suspected bomb packages.

Supraputro, the commander of Juanda International Airport, which is located in the capital of the East Java Province, Surabaya, said a bomb threat had been faxed to airport authorities by an unidentified person, Antara news agency reported.

“The general manager of state airport operator Angkasa Pura I phoned me, saying he had received a fax containing a bomb threat,” Supraputro said.

“According to the fax, two Garuda planes serving the Surabaya-Jakarta route would be blown up.”

As a result, Garuda flight GA-313 was grounded shortly after 11 am local time for over two hours. Airport personnel removed passengers from the aircraft, which was later taken to an isolated area where a bomb-defusing squad checked the plane.

According to reports, a plastic bag containing liquid material used to make explosives was discovered in the aircraft, which was later cleared and departed to Jakarta at 1:40 pm local time.

Security personnel also found three packages containing suspected explosive material in different areas of the airport, including one outside the terminal waiting room between national departures and arrivals.

Blast in Istanbul, police say at least one wounded

ISTANBUL, 26 May—An explosion wounded at least one person in the Turkish City of Istanbul on Thursday, police said.

The cause of the blast, which happened near a bus station in Esenler, a residential and shopping district in the City, was unknown.

Turkey is due to vote in a parliamentary election on 12 June. Security forces are on edge as there has been a rise in militant activity in recent weeks related to the long-running Kur-dish separatist militancy.

S Korea to export T-50 supersonic jets to Indonesia

SEOUL, 26 May—South Korea has struck a multi-million-dollar deal to export T-50 supersonic trainer jets to Indonesia, state-run aircraft company Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI) said Thursday.

The deal to sell 16 supersonic jets worth 400 million US dollars to Indonesia was signed in Jakarta Wednesday, the first time for South Korea to export its T-50 Golden Eagles, jointly produced by the KAI and US defence firm Lock- heed Martin, officials at the KAI said.

“I believe the cooperative atmosphere currently building up between South Korea and Indonesia in various sectors, including the economic (sector), was fundamental to (winning the contract),” said KAI president Kim Hong-kyung.

The jet maker was named a preferred bidder in April, as Jakarta sought to replace its old Hawk Mk-53 trainer jets.

South Korea has pledged to deliver the 16 jets in 2013, within 18 months after the contract takes effect, Kim added.

Afghan men weep outside a hospital after a roadside bomb blast in Panjwai District of Kandahar on 24 May, 2011. Ten Afghan construction workers were killed and 28 wounded when their truck hit a roadside bomb in the Panjwai District of southern Kandahar Province, said Kandahar health official Abdul Qayum Pakhla.

Afghans try to carry a wrapped victim of bomb attack in Jalalabad, Nangarhar Province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan recently. Afghan officials say at least 10 people have been killed in a bomb attack on a police bus that was carrying people to a police academy in eastern Afghanistan.
NASA to launch asteroid-sampling spacecraft in 2016

WASHINGTON, 26 May—NASA will launch a sample-return mission to an asteroid in 2016, agency officials announced on 25 May.


The unmanned spacecraft will use a robotic arm to snap some samples. According to the plan, the probe will return these bits of space rock to Earth in 2023 so scientists can study them for clues about the solar system’s origin and possibly, how life may have begun on our planet.

The $800 million OSIRIS-Rex will be the United States’ first asteroid sample-return effort and only the second mission in history to retrieve samples from an asteroid. Japan’s Hayabusa spacecraft successfully returned tiny grains of the asteroid Itokawa to Earth in June 2010.

Itokawa is a relatively run-of-the-mill stony asteroid. 1999 RQ36, however, appears to be packed full of carbon-based material. If an asteroid seeded Earth with life’s building blocks long ago, as many scientists suspect, it likely looked a lot like 1999 RQ36.

“We’re going for something rich in organics, which might have had something to do with life getting started,” OSIRIS-Rex principal investigator Mike Drake, of the University of Arizona, told reporters today.

“That’s the idea — time capsule, containing probably the building blocks of life.”

There’s also likely another reason asteroid 1999 RQ36 has drawn the attention of scientists: The space rock has been classified as a potentially hazardous asteroid, since its orbit brings it close to Earth in 2182.

Satellites reveal ‘lost’ Egyptian pyramids

CAIRO, 26 May—A satellite survey of Egypt has revealed 1,000 tombs and 3,000 ancient settlements in infrared images that can detect underground structures, scientists say. Seventeen lost pyramids are among the structures identified in the survey, two of which have already been confirmed with initial excavations, the BBC reported Wednesday. “To excavate a pyramid is the dream of every archaeologist,” US Egyptologist Sarah Parcak, a pioneer of space-based archaeology, said. Working at the University of Alabama, she and a team of researchers analyzed images from satellites orbiting 435 miles above the earth, equipped with cameras that can capture images of objects less than a yard in diameter on the earth’s surface. Structures under the earth such as houses, temples and tombs were revealed using infrared imaging, as ancient Egyptians constructed their buildings out of mud brick, which is much denser than the soil that surrounds it. “These are just the sites (close to the surface),” Parcak said. “There are many thousands of additional sites that the Nile has covered over with silt. This is just the beginning of this kind of work.”

Robots develop own lexicon independent of human language to talk to each other

LONDON, 26 May—The new age robots are developing their own language to communicate with each other, and it is independent of the human lexicon which is difficult to understand by the machines. The Lingodroid research project allows its robots to generate random sounds for the places they visit in both simulations and a real office. This way, they navigate and improve their intellectual ability.

The robots share “words” and play games to establish which sound represents which location. “Robot-robot languages take the human out of the loop,” the BBC quoted Dr Ruth Schulz, project leader from the University of Queensland as saying.

“This is important because the robots demonstrate that they understand the meaning of the words they invent independent of humans,” he added. The wheeled robots travel about and when they reach a place that does not have a name, they generate a random combination of syllables that represent that place.

Twitter buys British startup TweetDeck

SAN FRANCISCO, 26 May—Micro-blogging service Twitter on Wednesday confirmed that it has bought TweetDeck, a London-based startup that develops application to help people organize information from social media services including Twitter in a single concise view.

“Change may well be inevitable, but we remain the same team, staying in London, with the same focus and products, and now with the support and resources to allow us to grow and take on even bigger challenges,” Iain Dodsworth, founder and CEO of TweetDeck, noted in a separate blog post.

The deal is a defensive move for Twitter aimed at preventing TweetDeck from being purchased by rivals, some analysts said.
Health

Nearly one in five young US adults has high blood pressure

WASHINGTON, 26 May—The number of young adults in the United States with high blood pressure may be much higher than previously reported, according to a new study by researchers at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill.

Researchers analyzed data on more than 14,000 men and women between 24 and 32 years old in 2008 from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, known as Add Health. They found 19 percent had elevated blood pressure, also referred to as hypertension. Only about half of the participants with elevated blood pressure had ever been told by a health-care provider that they had the condition.

“The findings are significant because they indicate that many young adults are at risk of developing heart disease, but are unaware that they have hypertension,” said Quynh Nguyen, a doctoral student at UNC’s Gillings School of Global Public Health and the study’s lead author. Hypertension is a strong risk factor for stroke and coronary heart disease, the leading cause of death for adults in the United States.

The findings were published this week in the journal Epidemiology.

Kathleen Mullan Harris, Add Health’s principal investigator and a co-author of the paper, said the findings were noteworthy because they were from the first nationally representative, field-based study of blood pressure to focus on young adults.

“The message is clear,” said Harris. “Young adults and the medical professionals they visit shouldn’t assume they’re not old enough to have high blood pressure.”

Asian stocks rebound following Wall Street rally

HONG KONG, 26 May—Asian stocks rebounded Thursday following gains on Wall Street that were led by commodity companies on higher oil prices. Japanese shares rose on a share buyback plan from Canon and layoff announcement by Ricoh.

Tokyo’s Nikkei 225 jumped 1.3 percent to 9,544.68 in morning trading. Office equipment maker Ricoh’s stock surged 7.2 percent after it said it would slash 10,000 workers, or nearly 10 percent of its group work force, over the next three years in a bid to boost efficiency and profitability.

Shares in Canon rose 5.5 percent a day after the camera maker announced it would spend as much as $50 billion (yen183 million) buying back up to 1.2 percent of its shares.

South Korea’s Kospi leaped 1.3 percent to 2,061.75 and Hong Kong’s Hang Seng was 0.4 percent higher to 22,830.66. Australia’s S&P/ASX 200 was 1 percent higher at 4,629.90. Benchmarks in Taiwan and mainland China also rose.

The gains in Asia came after stocks in New York closed higher Wednesday as rising oil prices offset worries about

UBS plans to move investment bank from Switzerland

ZURICH, 26 May—Swiss bank UBS (UBSN.VX) is planning to separate its investment bank and incorporate it outside of Switzerland to placate regulators, the Wall Street Journal reported on Thursday.

UBS is considering incorporating its investment bank, which lost billions during the financial crisis and was rescued by the Swiss central bank, in London, New York or Singapore, where it would have its own capital and be overseen by local regulators, the WSJ reported.

UBS could not be immediately contacted for comment.

Last month, UBS called for a year’s delay to stringent Swiss capital rules to allow more clarity on international regulation, while striking a more conciliatory note by vowing to keep its base in Switzerland.

Chairman Kaspar Villiger told the bank’s annual shareholders’ meeting that UBS was not threatening to relocate abroad and was aware of the advantages of being based in Switzerland, but wanted to highlight the risks of tightening rules.

In April, the Swiss government pushed ahead with plans to make UBS and Credit Suisse (CSGN.VX) (C.S.N) reach tough new capital standards, saying the benefit to the economy outweighed costs to the banks.

UBS Chief Executive Oswald Gruebel has said the stiff Swiss standards could force the most units abroad.—Reuters

Good gut’s bacteria may help fight obesity

LUND, 26 May—Daily intake of lactic acid bacteria—Lactobacillus plantarum HEAL19 — may help prevent obesity and reduce low-level inflammation, Swedish researchers say.

“Rats who were given this specific lactic acid bacterium from their time in the uterus up to adult age put on significantly less weight than other rats,” Caroline Karlsson, a researcher in food hygiene at Lund University, Sweden, says in a statement. “Both groups (of rats) ate the same amount of high-energy (high-calorie) food.”

The study, published in the British Journal of Nutrition, found the rats, given lactobacilli had a richer and better composition of the bacteria which occur naturally in the intestines.

A healthy gut flora should contain a large proportion of “good bacteria,” such as lactic acid bacteria — found in yogurt, cheese, sauerkraut, pickles, beer, wine, cider, chocolate and other fermented foods — to keep the inflammation-causing bacteria in check, the study says.—Xinhua

Health Tip: Suggestions to prevent heat rash

Heat rash occurs when an infant’s pores become blocked, usually during hot, humid weather.

The University of Maryland Medical Centre offers these suggestions to help prevent heat rash:

* Dress baby in clothes that are lightweight and made of cotton.
* Keep baby in an air-conditioned room during hot weather. Turn on a fan in baby’s room when air conditioning isn’t available.
* Skip ointments, creams or powders on baby’s skin.
* Do your best to make sure that baby doesn’t get too warm, and that the skin stays dry.
Powerful storms pound several central US states

ST LOUIS, 26 May—Powerful storms roared through middle America again on Wednesday, with weak tornadoes touching down in isolated spots and severe thunderstorms threatening such strikes in several states.

The National Weather Service issued tornado watches and a series of warnings in a dozen states, stretching northwest from Texas though the Mississippi River valley to Ohio.

“Everybody’s working as fast and furious as possible,” said Beverly Poole, the chief meteorologist at the National Weather Service’s office in Paducah, Ky, which covers southeastern Missouri and southern Illinois. “This is just a wild ride.”

There were no immediate reports of deaths from the new round of storms, though authorities reported dozens of minor injuries following brief tornado touchdowns in Missouri and Indiana.

Wednesday’s storms followed a deadly outbreak Tuesday in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas that killed at least 15 people.

The nation’s deadliest single tornado since 1950 killed 125 on Christmas Day 1981 in the southwest Missouri City of Joplin.

Police shut down prison bar in Mexico

CHIVAS JUAREZ, 26 May—Mexican police have dismantled a fully-stocked bar — complete with two billiards tables — that had been operating inside a jail.

Authorities announced late Tuesday that they had seized some 200 bottles of beer, 12 bottles of tequila and 20 bottles of vodka, as well as firearms, marijuana and heroin from what they said was a low-security prison.

Carlos Gonzalez, a spokesman for the northern Chihuahua state where the raid took place, did not provide details as to how the prisoners had concealed the watering hole from authorities.

But he said at least one prison administrator had been fired over the incident and may face charges.

Mexico’s jails, which house some 222,000 prisoners, are notoriously overpopulated and often the scene of riots as well as mass breakouts, many of which are believed to be carried out with the help of corrupt guards.

At least 17 prisoners escape from prison in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 26 May—At least 17 prisoners escaped from a prison in Reynosa city of Tamaulipas State in Mexico, bordering the United States, Tamaulipas Public Security Bureau said on Wednesday.

The bureau said in a statement that the prisoners escaped through a tunnel on Tuesday at 10:00 am (1500 GMT) when the guards were changed.

The director of the prison and eight guards have been detained, the bureau said.

The tunnel begins at the laundry section of the prison and leads to the outside of the prison.

The security of the prison has been with reinforced with federal police officers and soldiers, the statement added.

China to increase job opportunities for new grads

BEIJING, 26 May—The State Council launched a series of measures on Wednesday to increase employment opportunities among this year’s college graduates.

Through the initiatives, the government is encouraging graduates to consider setting up their own businesses. Grads seeking self-employment can apply for loans of up to 100,000 yuan (15,400 US dollars), said the State Council, China’s Cabinet.

Provincial governments are being urged to provide favourable policies for graduates wanting to start up enterprises, such as offering subsidies or tax rebates.

The country will also boost employment by encouraging graduates to teach at rural schools. This will be supported by favourable policies. Research institutes will also be required to hire more graduates as research assistants. And graduates will be urged to join the army, the State Council said.

Measures will be taken to ensure medium-sized and small companies offer jobs to graduates. A total of 6.6 million students will graduate from college this year, 300,000 more than last year.

Chen Yu, director of the China Institute for Occupation Research at Peking University, said the raft of steps the government is taking shows its commitment to finding jobs for young people.

“Rural areas, especially in the western regions, are demanding college graduates. In the face of the tough employment situation elsewhere, graduates should be practical.”

Although work in the western areas of the nation can be difficult, such jobs offer graduates more options and such grassroots work experience will be a great treasure for their entire lives, he said.—Xinhua

Gunman opens fire at Los Angeles high school, injuring one

LOS ANGELES, 26 May—One person was wounded when an unidentified gunman opened fire at a high school in the US metropolis of Los Angeles on Wednesday, authorities said.

The shooting took place near San Pedro High School in the 1000 block of West 15th Street at about 2:45 pm, police said.

Los Angeles Unified School District spokeswoman Susan Cox said the shot was believed to have been fired from off campus.

A bullet fired near San Pedro High School ricocheted off a wall and lodged in the leg of a 15-year-old girl, authorities said.

The girl, whose name was withheld, was not believed to have been seriously wounded. Police reportedly picked up the suspect in the shooting at 1001 W 15th St shortly after the incident occurred.

The roughly 3,400 students at the school were held in classrooms until about 4 pm. The motive for the shooting is unknown and it is also unclear if the suspect is a student at the school.

Xinhua

Bottles of liquor sit on a shelf in a bar. Mexican guards were changed.

A line of severe storms cross the Mississippi River in Memphis, Tenn, passing by the Memphis Pyramid on 25 May, 2011. The dark formation was reported a few minutes earlier as a tornado in West Memphis, Ark.

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The security of the prison has been with reinforced with federal police officers and soldiers, the statement added.

Xinhua

Japanese office equipment and camera maker Ricoh has said that it plans to cut about 10,000 jobs worldwide over three years as it streamlines its business operations, media reports said.—INTERNET
Two traders manipulated oil market

New York, 26 May—The US Commodity Futures Trading Commission filed a civil lawsuit Tuesday against two traders, accusing them of manipulating the oil market.

The suit names James T Dyer of Australia, Nicholas J. Wildgoose of Rancho Santa Fe, Calif, and three companies, Parnon Energy of California, Arcadia Petroleum of Britain and Arcadia Energy, a Swiss company, The New York Times reported. It was filed in federal court in Manhattan.

The commission charges Dyer and Wildgoose acquired a large position in oil futures and also bought millions of barrels of crude oil at Cushing, Okla, at one point owning about two-thirds of the excess oil there. This was allegedly done to create the illusion of an oil shortage.

After Dyer and Wildgoose sold their futures, the complaint says they began selling the crude oil as well and at the same time began betting on a decline in oil prices. They allegedly went through the routine twice in January and March 2008 and were planning a third round when they learned they had attracted the attention of regulators.

Dyer and Wildgoose deny the government’s claims, the Times said. If they lose the case, they might have to disgorge $50 million in allegedly illegal profits and pay $150 million in penalties.

Beijing construction waste landfill to become garden almost twice as large as Summer Palace

BEIJING, 26 May—A garden, almost twice as large as the famed Summer Palace, will be built on a construction waste landfill in order to host the Ninth China International Garden Expo in 2013, according to local authorities.

The ninth expo, with the theme “A Green Symphony, A Green Garden”, will be held along the Yongding River in Beijing from April to October of 2013, jointly by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and the municipal government, said government officials at a promotional meeting on Wednesday.

The construction of the new garden, including a garden museum, main exhibition hall and Yongding Tower, has begun and is expected to finish by the end of 2012, said officials.

The new garden will cover 513 hectares, while the famous Summer Palace takes up 300 hectares. The Summer Palace once served as a summer resort for Empress Dowager Cixi and was named to the World Heritage List in December 1998.

The expo will be held to showcase the landscaping development and raise public awareness about harmony among people, resources and the environment, to make the world a more beautiful, harmonious place, said the officials.

The biannual expo has been held seven times since 1997 in cities including Dalian, Nanjing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Xiamen and Jinan. The upcoming 8th expo will be held in Chongqing municipality this year.

Sony loses 171 million dollars for hacker’s attack

BEIJING, 26 May—The PlayStation Network’s shutdown caused by hacker’s attack has cost Sony 14 billion Japanese yen, or 171 million US dollars.

Sony revealed the figure on Monday as a part of its overall loss in the massive earthquake and tsunami, 3.2 billion US dollars, in the company’s fiscal year ending on 31 March, 2011.

The 171 million US dollars cover the lost revenue, the customer compensations, the security and legal enhancement fees and the free games the company offered as a goodwill gesture. The cyber-attacks, which kept the PlayStation Network offline from 20 April to 15 May, involved the theft of personal data from more than 100 million accounts of the gamers. But the crisis was far from over yet.—Internet

Yongxin said many of Shaolin’s ancient scripts were destroyed in a fire in 1928, but the temple has began an endeavor to rebuild its library in recent 30 years, and has managed to find 3,600 ancient books in the temple.

In giving the books to the Library of Congress, Master Yongxin also said he is keen to learn about the modern management of libraries, and put it to use in the temple’s own library.

Gang attacks paparazzi outside Giggs’ home

LONDON, 26 May—Masked men attacked cars belonging to the paparazzi outside Manchester United star Ryan Giggs’ home on Tuesday. Sky News reported that photographers were attacked outside the Manchester United footballer’s mansion. The attackers damaged body work, slashed tyres and threw eggs at six vehicles. Greater Manchester Police confirmed they had been called to Chatsworth Road, Worsley, shortly after 3.20 pm local time on Tuesday.

Giggs has been under intense media scrutiny after he was named in Parliament by MP John Hemming as a footballer player identified on Twitter as fighting a legal privacy battle. A number of paparazzi photographers have since been camped outside the home of the most decorated player in the British game, which he shares with wife, Stacey, and their two children.—Internet

Germany has warned consumers to be especially careful when eating tomatoes, lettuce, and cucumbers which are believed to be responsible for an outbreak of food poisoning that has left three dead.—Internet
President U Thein Sein leaves for PRC to pay... 

Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min, deputy ministers, the Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar and departmental heads.

**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.

Union Defence Minister receives Indian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—Indian Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri called on Union Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Hla Min, at the minister’s office here this morning. Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt and Captain Aung Thaw.—MNA

Union Religious Affairs Minister receives Vietnamese Ambassador

YANGON, 26 May—Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung received Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Chu Cong Phung at his Yangon branch office this afternoon. Also present at the call were Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department U Myo Kyaw, Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Khaing Aung and officials.—MNA

Kayah State holds school enrolment day

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—Kayah State held its school enrolment day for 2011-2012 academic year at No. 1 Basic Education High School in Loikaw yesterday. Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo called for cooperation for school education of needy children and school-age children without access to school education due to various reasons. He handed over primary school textbooks worth K 13,997,000 donated by the Ministry of Education to Kayah State Education Department. Social organizations and well-wishers presented cash donations and stationery. He inspected school enrolment activities in basic education schools in Loikaw.—MNA

Talks at RUMFCCI on 28 May

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will organize educative talks at its tower in Lanmadaw Township at 2 pm on 28 May. Director Ms Leena Wokeck of the CSR Asia Center of Asian Institute for Technology (AIT) will give talks on Practices for Sustainable Development. Any person may attend it.—MNA

Hlawga Park opens daily

YANGON, 26 May—Hlawga Wildlife Park of Forest Department in Mingladon Township, Yangon Region, is kept open daily starting from 1 June for public recreation.—MNA
Textbook Printing and Distribution Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—The Textbook Printing and Distribution Committee held the coordination meeting No. 1/2011 at the hall of the Ministry of Information, here, this afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of the Committee Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan said that as school textbooks for 2011-2012 academic year have been sent to various regions, it is necessary to distribute the textbooks to students in time. He stressed the need to complete the printing of school textbooks for 2012-2013 academic year on 15 March 2012, systematically transport the textbooks with print quality to the warehouses, prevent damage of textbooks and urge the students to widely practise the system of handing down textbooks to new students.

Secretary of the School Textbook Printing Subcommittee Managing Director U Ye Tint of Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information reported on the minute of previous meeting held on 24 May 2010, resolutions and accomplishments, and printing and distribution of textbooks.

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye Kyu reported on progress of works for timely distribution of school textbooks to students.

Chairman of the School Textbook Distribution Subcommittee Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu reported on progress of works for previous year, plans for coming year and arrangements for timely distribution of the books.

Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win discussed supervision for ensuring quality of this year’s school textbooks, storage of textbooks, transport task and supply of electricity at presses.

After attending to the needs, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan gave concluding remarks.

MNA

Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivers an address at coordination meeting No. 1/2011 of Textbook Printing and Distribution Committee.—MNA

Union Minister meets ROK Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay received Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Kim Hae-yong at his office here yesterday.

Their talks included matters for boosting bilateral cooperation in the energy sector, holding the 5th Myanmar-ROK energy and gas exploration committee, and greater participation of ROK companies in the Myanmar’s energy field.—MNA

Myanmar, Thailand to cooperate for electric power

NAY PYI TAW, 26 May—Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe received Chairman of Board of Directors of Gunkul Public Group in Thailand Mr Ekapol Rakkwamsuk and party at his office here yesterday.

Their meeting focused on bilateral cooperation in the electric power field.—MNA

Ai-lya (North) Dam adds to development …

(from page 16)

Ai-lya (North) Village is about 12 miles southeast of Kyaukpaduang Township. To construct Ai-lya (North) Dam, the Hydropower Department under the Ministry of Electric Power-1 carried out feasibility study two times to choose an alignment for the dam. The project was launched 31 October 2010 with units of heavy machinery from the department and Shwe Taung Co Ltd. The groundwork was completed on 16 November 2010.

On our trip to Ai-lya (North) Dam, Staff Officer U Nyunt Win of Kyaukpaduang Township Irrigation Department accompanied us. We also met local farmers at the dam. Explaining facts about the facility to us, Staff Officer U Nyunt Win said that the Wakyooyoe Creek was dammed with a 750 feet long and 40 feet high earth dyke; that the maximum water storage capacity of the dam was 11.2 million gallons; that it had a 30 feet long and seven feet high spillway; that they dug the ground for 6,000 cubic feet of earth to construct the dam; that the dam supplied adequate safe water to residents and animals in surrounding villages — Wunmingan Village, Ai-lya (North) Village, Ai-lya (South) Village, San Myaing Aye Village, Lunbingon Village and Letpankyin Village. We found female villagers fetching water with pots from the dam. Residents said to us that they thanked officials for the dam from which they get clean water and irrigation water.

Local people get water from Kyetmauktaung Dam to grow monsoon and summer paddy. In addition, they grow beans and pulses, sesame and groundnut on a large scale. Ai-lya Village-tract put 620 acres under water.

Transation: MS

Kyemon: 16-5-2011
High winds lash Scotland’s berry crop

EDINBURGH, 26 May—A storm that lashed Scotland with high winds also destroyed much of the country’s strawberry and raspberry crops, farmers said.

Robert Sinclair, a small farmer in East Lothian east of Edinburgh, said Monday’s storm destroyed 70 percent of the crop for many of his neighbours. “This has been huge—it is the tsunami for the fruit trade,” he told The Scotsman. “The big growers in Fife and Perthshire have suffered massive losses.” Scotland produces much of the British harvest of strawberries, raspberries and blueberries. The gale-force winds destroyed the polyethylene shelters over strawberry plants and raspberry canes and then damaged the plants’ delicate flowers. In some cases, the plants may produce fruit that is misshapen and will not fetch full price. Replacing the poly-tunnels can cost farmers close to $20,000 an acre.—IANS

Small plane crashes into residence near Delhi, at least 10 dead

NEW DELHI, 26 May—Ten people, including all seven on board and three on the ground, died when a small chartered civil aircraft crashed into a residential area in Delhi’s suburban town of Faridabad on Wednesday afternoon, said local police on Thursday.

Faridabad Police Commissioner PK Aggarwal said another person was confirmed injured and the toll could go up, reported local news agency IANS.

The Pilatus PC-12 single-engined turbo- prop aircraft was flying to the Indian capital from Patna, rushing a seriously-ill patient for specialized medical treatment, when the crash occurred at 10:50 pm local time Wednesday, five minutes after it lost contact with the Air Traffic Control at the Delhi Airport, aviation officials said. The plane crashed into two houses in a thickly populated area of Faridabad, and 20 fire engines rushed to the spot for rescue operations. Local TV news channels showed pictures of flames billowing from the houses and residents of the area rushing to clear the debris. Mangled remains of the aircraft were littered all over the area.

Commenting on the possible causes of the accident, an air traffic control official said: “Apart from the difficulty of operating a single-engined aircraft, doing so in heavy wind conditions can cause a disaster. In heavy wind conditions, the backdraft from the wind hitting the tail can make the aircraft unstable and cause it to nosedive.”—Xinhua

Tourist dies of mosquito-borne virus in Australia

SYDNEY, 26 May—A 19-year-old Canadian woman has died after contracting a rare and incurable mosquito-borne virus while on holiday in Australia’s northern region, officials said. The department of health in the Northern Territory has issued a warning advising people to avoid being bitten, after the woman became the third person to contract the Murray Valley encephalitis (MVE) virus this year, the Australian Associated Press (AAP) reported Thursday.

The woman became unwell when she arrived in Canada from a holiday in the Northern Territory this month and was admitted to hospital in Calgary, where she died Wednesday.

Peter Markey, acting director of the Centre for Disease Control, said amongst the three confirmed cases of MVE is a two-year-old child. Earlier this month, a 27-year-old man died from the disease in South Australia. Markey said there was no specific medical treatment for MVE. Unlike other mosquito-borne illnesses, which are not typically fatal, about 25 percent of people who contract MVE die. Many MVE patients suffer from delirium and coma, leading to paralysis or brain damage.—INTERNET

Researcher says plant hormones safe to human health

BEIJING, 26 May—A researcher with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) said Wednesday that plant hormones, if used properly, are not a risk to human health. “Irregular use of plant growth substances may cause plants to grow excessively fast or affect the taste, but will not cause harm to human health,” Ye Zhihua said in an interview with Xinhua.

His remarks come after media reports in China about “exploding watermelons,” caused by the excessive use of phytohormone, have aroused public concern over the safety of hormones that stimulate plant growth.

Ye said plant hormones used to promote growth have the same or similar effects as natural plant hormones, and fruit and vegetables sold at the market carried limited residue of the hormones. More than 100 types of plant hormones, such as ethephon and gibberellin acid, are used in agriculture and forestry sectors around the world, Ye said, adding 38 types of plant hormones have been registered in China. For example, seven plant hormones including thidiazuron and nucleotide are approved for use on cucumbers in China. The purpose is to stimulate the growth of female flowers and increase fruit yields, Ye said.—Xinhua

Ten killed as bus falls into river in N Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 May—At least ten people were killed as a bus carrying an estimated 30 to 40 passengers fell into a river in Gilgit in northern Pakistan Thursday morning, reported local TV channel Express.

According to the report, the accident took place at about 11:00 am local time when a bus heading from Kargarah to Gilgit fell into a river due to unknown reasons.

Ten bodies have been recovered, said the report, adding that the remaining passengers on the bus are still missing and the death toll could further rise. Located in the northern part of the country, Gilgit is a mountainous area with poor road conditions. Such accidents are often reported in this area.—Xinhua
**Smokeless tobacco to carry harsher pictorial warning**

**NEW DELHI, 26 May**—Underlining that smokeless tobacco was more harmful, Union Health Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad today said the government would soon notify a “harsher” pictorial warnings for these tobacco products.

Briefing media about the achievements of his ministry in two years, Mr Azad said the process of notifying the pictorial warnings was on and the notification could come out any day. There would be two types of warnings — for cigarettes and for smokeless tobacco, he said.

He said the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity had been asked to select some pictures.

The Health Minister said smokeless tobacco was responsible for 80 percent of mouth cancers.

According to the Global Adult Tobacco Survey carried out in 2009-2010, 35 percent of adults use tobacco in some or the other, and among them, 26 percent adults use smokeless tobacco and nine percent were smokers.—Internet

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**Cuba marks 50th anniversary of Hemingway’s death**

HAVANA, 26 May—Cuba will hold from 16 to 19 June an international conference devoted to Ernest Hemingway, marking the 50th anniversary of his death, the organizers said here Wednesday.

The event is organized by the Ernest Hemingway Museum in Havana, marking also the 80 years since the publication of his novel “ Fiesta” and 50 years of the delivery of Hemingway’s house “Finca Vigia.”

Hemingway lived in “Finca Vigia” from 1939 until shortly before his death on 2 July, 1961.

According to the organizers, the programme of the conference includes lectures, documentary films, visits to places associated with the life of Hemingway in Cuba and documents about his relations with “Cuban personalities, specially with the poet Nicolas Guillen, and the psychiatrist Franz Stettmeier.

The schedule includes talks on his plane crash, his relationships and “attitude” towards death.

Ada Rosa Alfonso, director of “Finca Vigia”, said that the meeting will be attended by US experts such as Walter Newman, director of the Presidential Library John F Kennedy, Northeast Document Conservation and Hemingway Society.

Cuban and US institutions began in 2002 collaboration to preserve Hemingway’s collection of documents stored in “Finca Vigia”.

But Alfonso stressed that the material aid from US institutions to restore the heritage of the writer in Cuba has been “tiny” because of the US economic blockade against the island.

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**Brussels metro cans French music after complaints**

BRUSSELS, 26 May—Brussels may be a largely French speaking city but the operator of its metro service has ruled out playing French music at its stations after an experiment drew complaints from Dutch-speaking Belgians.

The metro-operator decided in 2005 to pipe mostly pop hits at the 69 metro stops, but felt then French or Dutch speakers might irritate rival communities in the linguistically divided country. A new experiment has confirmed its view.

“We decided to try playing songs from an international hit list. This meant a number of French songs and practically none in Dutch and this drew complaints from Dutch-speakers,” said metro spokeswoman An Van Hamme.

The Health Minister said smokeless tobacco was responsible for 80 percent of mouth cancers.

According to the Global Adult Tobacco Survey carried out in 2009-2010, 35 percent of adults use tobacco in some or the other, and among them, 26 percent adults use smokeless tobacco and nine percent were smokers.—Internet

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**Cyber-attacks hit e-G8 web forum**

PARIS, 26 May—French President Nicolas Sarkozy’s “e-G8” summit on the power of the Internet suffered a technical hiccup when cyber-attacks disrupted the forum’s wireless connection, organizers said Wednesday.

Since Tuesday “we have been undergoing a series of attacks and attempted attacks from people outside” the wireless service providing Internet access to journalists and delegates, an e-G8 official who asked not to be named told AFP.

The cyber-attacks failed to cut off access but caused “disruption” of the wifi connection and the forum’s video streaming in the tent where politicians and the world’s top media bosses were meeting, the official added.

Sarkozy organized the e-G8 to draw up proposals to put to the G8 summit of leading powers, opening on Thursday. Media rights and civil society groups complained that their voices were not being heard at the e-G8.

Web freedom campaign group La Quadrature du Net rejected rumours that it was behind the cyber-attacks.

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**People visit the Sweets and Snacks Expo 2011 in Chicago, the United States, on 25 May, 2011. The three-day expo by the National Confectioners Association kicked off on Tuesday.—Xinhua**

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**A picture shows the poster of the e-G8 meeting gathering Internet and information technologies leaders and experts at the Tuileries gardens in Paris on 24 May. French President Nicolas Sarkozy’s “e-G8” summit on the power of the Internet suffered a technical hiccup when cyber-attacks disrupted the forum’s wireless connection, organizers said Wednesday.—Reuters**
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DIBENA EXPRESS VOY NO (132)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA EXPRESS VOY NO (132) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.5.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(1) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (387)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (387) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.5.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NP GLORY-4 VOY NO (004N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NP GLORY-4 VOY NO (004N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.5.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S FREIGHT OVERSEA EXPRESS LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

A girl poses in front of a motorcycle model made of fibrous composite during Hong Kong International Art Fair held in Hong Kong, south China, on 25 May, 2011. Hong Kong International Art Fair, one of Asia’s preeminent art events, kicked off here on Wednesday, presenting lots of art works offered by 260 galleries from 38 countries and regions for showcase and sale. —XINHUA

Beijing to host Int’l Garden Expo in 2013

BEIJING, 26 May—Beijing will be returning to nature as well as Beijing has begun preparations to host the International Garden Expo in 2013. Wednesday morning, a ceremony was held in Beijing for this event which aims to expand the garden and forestry exchange between international and domestic cities. This marks the ninth time for China to host a garden expo of this scale during 15 years. The event will be held from April to October in 2013 along the riverside of Yongding. The site will cover more than 5 square kilometres in the south-west of Beijing.

Lu Kehua, director general of Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Dev’t, said, “All planning and construction are to be environmentally sustainable. We focus on rubbish recycling in the region. And what’s more, we will build a museum for presenting the culture and history of world gardens.” The expo will be an economic asset and naturally merged with urban areas that surround the site. Original ecology will be maintained as much as possible.

This is the venue of international garden expo.

Everything is under construction. This place will be built into a big garden in one year’s time.

INTERNET
S Korean oil refiners fined nearly 400 mn USD for collusion

SEOUL, 26 May—South Korea’s major oil refiners were fined 434.8 billion won (399 million US dollars) for collusion, the country’s antitrust watchdog said Thursday.

Four leading refiners, including SK Innovation, GS Caltex, S-Oil and Hyundai Oilbank, were ordered to pay a combined 434.8 billion won for colluding to refuse requests by gas stations to change their brands, the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) said in a statement.

The country’s gas stations are run under the so-called “pole-sign system,” which compels them to buy oil products from a single refiner.—XINHUA

A flag outside Telefonica headquarters in Madrid. The Spanish telecoms giant is to ramp up job cutting in Spain, shedding an extra 2,500 workers. —INTERNET

S Korean oil refiners fined nearly 400 mln USD for collusion
Briton finds 29,000 euros in case, hands in to police

A British woman living on the Greek island of Corfu on Wednesday found and returned a lost briefcase containing the equivalent of over 29,000 euros, local police said.

The 59-year-old, who was not identified, came upon the briefcase on the roadside after shopping at a supermarket a few kilometres (miles) from the island’s main town of Kerkira, the police said.

It contained 27,000 euros, nearly 2,000 pounds sterling (2,200 euros), a passport, a bank deposit book and a cellphone.

This enabled the authorities to alert the owner, a company employee, who said the money was intended for staff salaries.

It was not immediately clear if the woman was offered a finder’s fee.

Compressed air turns NZ trucker into human balloon

A New Zealand truck driver said he blew up like a balloon when he fell onto the fitting of a compressed air hose that pierced his buttock and forced air into his body at 100 pounds a square inch.

Steven McCormack was standing on his truck’s foot plate Saturday when he slipped and fell, breaking a compressed air hose off an air reservoir that powered the truck’s brakes.

He fell hard onto the brass fitting, which pierced his left buttock and started pumping air into his body. “I felt the air rush into my body and I felt like it was going to explode from my foot,” he told local media from his hospital bed in the town of Whakatane, on North Island’s east coast.

“I was blowing up like a football,” he said. “I had no choice but just to lay there, blowing up like a balloon.”

McCormack’s workmates heard his screams and ran to him, quickly releasing a safety valve to stop the air flow, said Robbie Petersen, co-owner of the trucking company.

In this 21 May, 2011 photo, New Zealand truck driver Steven McCormack gets treatment at Whakatane Hospital after an accident with an air hose in Whakatane, New Zealand.

Bees return to their hive on 21 March in Frankfurt, Germany. Berlin’s Schoenefeld international airport, located in the capital’s rural outskirts, Wednesday announced a long-term project to monitor air quality by studying local bees and their honey.

News Albums

Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux are just friends!

WASHINGTON, 26 May—Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux have nothing romantic between them, reveals the mother of the actor’s long-time girlfriend, stylist Heidi Bivens. Marilyn Bivens said Theroux and Aniston are just friends.

“It’s not true at all,” Radar online quoted her as saying.

Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux

Sibling learning from Lohan’s mistakes

LONDON, 26 May—Troubled actress Lindsay Lohan says her younger sister has learnt “what not to do” by watching her mistakes.

Lohan, who was recently sentenced to three years probation for stealing a necklace, has admitted that she has made so many mistakes that it has deferred sister Ali, 17, from behaving badly.

“She’s seen a lot of stuff that I’ve experienced and she knows exactly what not to do. So she kind of knows better through watching me,” contactmusic.com quoted the 24-year-old as saying.

However, Lohan is not worried about her younger sister getting attracted to Hollywood vices. She thinks Ali is tougher than her.

“She has a good head on her shoulders. Maybe it was different for me because I didn’t know what to expect and it just happened really fast. I didn’t have a big sister. If I’m
Frog juice powered Park’s bid for Euro glory

LONDON, 26 May—Park Ji-Sung has revealed that frog juice is the bizarre secret behind the lung-busting energy that makes the South Korean a key part of Manchester United’s bid to beat Barcelona in the Champions League final on Saturday. Park’s high-octane style will be an essential ingredient in Sir Alex Ferguson’s recipe for success against the Spanish champions at Wembley, but it is a much more unlikely concoction that laid the foundations for the midfielder’s rise to prominence.

After showing promise as a schoolboy footballer, Park’s progress was in danger of stalling because he lacked the physique required to cope with the demands on a top player’s body. In a bid to fast-track Park’s growth, his father would make the long journey from their home in Suwon to Go-heung county, where he would visit frog farms to gather the ingredients for an unusual protein drink.—Internet

Defoe pulls out of England squad

LONDON, 26 May—Jermain Defoe further reduced England coach Fabio Capello’s options for the Euro 2012 qualifier with Switzerland next week when he pulled out of the squad on Wednesday with an unspecified injury. The 28-year-old Spurs striker — scorer of 15 goals in his 26 England appearances — had looked fine when he played the whole of his side’s final Premier League match with Birmingham last Sunday.

Capello has not called up another striker and will have only the options of Aston Villa’s Darren Bent, Defoe’s Spurs team-mate Peter Crouch and Fulham veteran Bobby Zamora against the Swiss. The Italian’s possibilities had already been reduced with Wayne Rooney suspended and Liverpool’s record signing Andy Carroll injured.

England are top of Group G with 10 points, ahead of Montenegro on goal difference. Switzerland trail Capello’s side by six points and have lost two of their four qualifying matches. Internet

Seedorf extends Milan stay for a year

ROME, 26 May—Dutch veteran Clarence Seedorf on Wednesday signed a one-year contract extension that will keep him at AC Milan until the end of next season. In so doing the 35-year-old midfielder has joined fellow veterans Filippo Inzaghi, Massimo Ambrosini, Alessandro Nesta, Mark van Bommel and Flavio Roma in extending for another year.

“We didn’t negotiate for very long, we came to an agreement last week and today we needed just 10 minutes to sort out the details,” said Seedorf. “I’m very happy, Nesta, Ambrosini and Inzaghi have renewed their deals, we’re the old guard and it’s important to have us in the team.” It is the latest move by Milan to sort out their playing staff for next season.—Internet

Sao Paulo release Silva from contract

RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 May—Sao Paulo FC decided on Wednesday to release fullback Alex Silva from his contract. Unhappy with the team, the defender requested early departure from his contractual obligations. Silva’s contract with Sao Paulo was valid up to 31 July, 2011. However, the player pleaded for early release from his loan and pointed to his dissatisfaction with the behavior from the administration as the principal reason.

Sao Paulo was recently eliminated by Avaí in the Brazilian Cup. Silva claimed that the directors and club administration abandoned the players after the defeat, leaving the athletes to fend for themselves. Silva and Sao Paulo had previously demonstrated a healthy relationship that would eventually lead to the purchase of his player rights. Internet

Bender out of German plans through injury

FRANKFURT, 26 May—Borussia Dortmund midfielder Sven Bender on Wednesday had to pull out of Germany’s three upcoming fixtures — including two Euro 2012 qualifiers — with a knee injury, the German Football Federation (DFB) said. The 22-year-old had been hoping to press his claims for a regular place after winning just one cap to date but had surgery Wednesday on the injury which forced him to miss the German champions final league match.

German coach Joachim Loew is already without Bayern Munich midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger while Sami Khedira of Real Madrid is just coming back from injury problems of his own. Loew may now elect to call up Bender’s twin brother Lars of Bayer Leverkusen.

Germany face Uruguay in a friendly on Sunday — a repeat of their World Cup semi-final last year — before meeting Austria on 3 June and then Azerbaijan in Euro qualifiers. They already have one foot in the finals having won all five of their opening Group A encounters.—Internet

Man United banish 2009 talk ahead of Barca rematch

LONDON, 26 May—Manchester United are seeking to banish the memory of their 2009 humbling by Barcelona as they prepare for Saturday’s Champions League final at Wembley.

Two years ago, Sir Alex Ferguson’s side arrived in Rome brimming with confidence, ready to justify their status as the bookies’ favourites by becoming the first side to clinch back-to-back titles.

Ninety minutes and one passing masterclass later, and United were left dazed and confused after a dizzying evening on Barcelona’s famous midfield “carousel” as the Catalans wrapped up a 2-0 win.

Ferguson has never spoken in detail about the reasons for United’s defeat that night, and his reluctance to reflect on that chastening loss has been mirrored by his players ahead of Saturday’s re-match.—Internet

Serdar’s Novak Djokovic

PARIS, 26 May—Novak Djokovic and Juan Martin del Potro will put their close friendship aside on Friday when they clash for a place in the French Open last 16, the tournament’s biggest match-up so far. Djokovic is the overwhelming favourite not just to see off the giant 1.98m Argentine, but also go on to take the title off Rafael Nadal and assume the world number one spot.

His form makes him easily the hottest player on tour. On Friday, the 24-year-old Djokovic insists nothing will break his friendship with the injury-plagued Del Potro. Argentine 25th seed Del Potro, the former US Open champion and a 2009 semi-finalist in Paris, made the last 32 with a 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 win over Slovenia’s Blaz Kavcic. Del Potro lost last year’s Roland Garros to recover from wrist surgery and was almost forced out of this edition because of a hip injury picked up in Madrid, which forced him to scratch from his clash with Nadal.—Internet

World No 1 Wozniacki edges into French Open third round

Paris, 26 May—World No 1 Caroline Wozniacki met strong challenges from Aleksandrina Wozniak but managed to edge out the Canadian qualifier in straight sets after saving three set points. The 20-year-old Wozniacki from Denmark took the first set 6-3 but failed to split with her world No 162 opponents after 12 games in the second sets.

Wozniacki, still searching for her first Grand Slam title, put herself in danger while giving Wozniak to lead the tussle 6-3, but was tough enough to grab five points in a row to wrap it up. Wozniacki will play either Daniela Hantuchova or Sara Errani in the next round.—Internet

World No 1 Caroline Wozniacki
Kim Clijsters stunned in 2nd round at French Open

Belgium’s Kim Clijsters—INTERNET

Paris, 26 May—Kim Clijsters wasted two match points and was eliminated from the French Open on Thursday, losing to Arantxa Rus of the Netherlands 3-6, 7-5, 61 in the second round. Clijsters, who had won her last 15 Grand Slam matches after taking the titles at last year’s US Open and this year’s Australian Open, failed to convert either match point in the second set.

The two-time French Open runner-up, who was playing with her right ankle taped, made 65 unforced errors in the match and lost 11 of the final 12 games. The 114-ranked Rus finished with only 22 unforced errors and had only eight winners in the entire match. Also Thursday, five-time champion Rafael Nadal is scheduled to be back on court — two days after being stretched to five sets for the first time in his French Open career. Maria Sharapova is also set to play.

Clijsters had her first chance to close out the match when leading 5-2 in the second set, but Rus saved match point and held to make it 5-3 before breaking Clijsters to get back on serve. Clijsters then had another match point in the 10th game, but Rus saved it again and eventually pushed the score to 5-5.

With the momentum shifting, Clijsters double-faulted for the seventh time in the match and lost one of her 28 unforced errors in the set — to allow Rus to break and serve out the second set.

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Region, fairly widespread in Bago Region, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, scattered in magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Chin State and isolated in Upper Sagraing Region and Shan State, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfalls in Kayin and Mon States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Yangon and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Eastern Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, (5°C) to (6°C) above May average temperatures in Upper Sagaiing, magway and Ayeyawady Regions and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperature were Chank (43°C) and Myingyan and Magway (40°C) each.The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawkareik (3.54) inches, Mudon (3.31) inches, Thatnot (2.36) inches, Maungtaw (1.46) inches, Bago (1.38) inches, Kyaiakkhami (1.22) inches, Mawlamyine (1.14) inches and Dawei (1.10) inches.

Temperature on 25-5-2011 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 26-5-2011 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 26-5-2011 was (71%). Rainfall on 26-5-2011 was (Nil).

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 25-5-2011 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 26-5-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 26-5-2011 was (71%). Rainfall on 26-5-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 26-5-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 26-5-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 26-5-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 26-5-2011 was (Nil).

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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

Ai-lya (North) Dam adds to development of Kyaukpadaung Township
Byline & photos: Khin Than

With the five dams, Kyaukpadaung Township in Mandalay Region enjoys supply of adequate irrigation water. Of the 339 villages in it, 27 get clean water from the springs around Mt. Popa, and 312, from tube-wells.

Recently, Ai-lya (North) Village in Kyaukpadaung Township saw Ai-lya (North) Dam, from which adequate safe water and irrigation water is supplied to six nearby villages.

(See page 9)

Union Defence Minister receives Indian Ambassador

NASA to launch asteroid-sampling spacecraft in 2016

Nearly one in five young US adults has high blood pressure

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (26-5-2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kawkareik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mudon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thaton</td>
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<td>Maungtaw</td>
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A pleasant view of Ai-lya (North) Dam.