Established 1914
Volume XIX, Number 40
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Tuesday, 31 May, 2011

**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 accordance 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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**True patriotism**
- It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

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**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham pays homage to Shwedagon Pagoda**

YANGON, 30 May—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visited the Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday and left instructions on all-round renovation of the pagoda for its durability.

Accompanied by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Dr Maung Maung Htay, Yangon Region ministers and officials, the Vice-President arrived at the Shwedagon Pagoda at 4.30 pm. First, they paid homage to the 45 inches high Shwe Pagoda on the platform.

The Vice-President offered lights, flowers, water and scented sticks and paid homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda and made cash donations. The pagoda board of trustees presented a Dhamma gift to the Vice-President. In meeting the members of the pagoda board of trustees, the Vice-President said the Shwedagon Pagoda has remained intact till today for public obeisance thanks to the continued maintenance and renovation in the successive eras. So, responsible people are to continue to maintain and renovate the pagoda for its durability.

Member of the pagoda board of trustees U Sein Win Aung reported on maintenance and renovation of the pagoda in the successive eras, all-round construction tasks in 1989—construction of Theingottara Garden, Maha Buddha Gin Museum, Pitakattaik and Mawgontaik, repairs to the pagoda caused by storm Nargis, tasks being carried out by nine subcommittees for offering Shwethingan, durability of Shwehtidaw and maintenance and renovation of religious buildings.

The Vice-President asked the board members some questions, including daily visits of pilgrims, Pitakattaik and Mawgontaik, repairs to the pagoda caused by storm Nargis, tasks being carried out by nine subcommittees for offering Shwethingan, durability of Shwehtidaw and maintenance and renovation of religious buildings.

The Vice-President also stressed the need to implement all-round renovation tasks in accord with Ovadakatha of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees Ovadacariya Sayadaws, related rules and regulations, financial rules and religious procedures. He then signed the visitors’ book. The Vice-President climbed the upper terrace and paid homage to the Padamyamyetshin Buddha Image. They also paid homage to the jade Buddha image.

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The Vice-President and party inspected renovation of Rakhine stairways and Daw Dagon Khin Khin Lay stairways. Later, they studied Mawgun photo gallery and King Thayawady’s bell.—MNA
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Tuesday, 31 May, 2011**

**Refrain from smoking**

World Tobacco Day (31 May) is celebrated worldwide to step up anti-tobacco campaigns.

Myanmar is beefing up health campaigns to raise public awareness about dangers of smoking, second-hand smoke and using tobacco products.

Smoking cheroot, cigar and cigarette cause cardiovascular disease, heart failure, paralytic stroke, swollen lungs, lung cancer, oral cavity cancer, tongue cancer, gullet cancer, and respiratory cancer.

If a woman smokes while pregnant, it is detrimental to the health of the baby and she may suffer miscarriage or give premature birth, give birth to an underweight or physically-handicapped baby.

Smoking has a wide range of negative effects on health, social affairs and economy of smokers. So, everyone should abstain from smoking. The overwhelming majority of smokers are those who are addicted to smoking since young.

Parents, teachers and the people have to work in harmony to combat smoking, a threat to the youth in whose hands is the future of the nation.

Therefore, the entire people should keep off smoking to be able to lead a healthy life and serve national interests and help improve the health standard of the nation.

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**UNDP representatives call on RUMFCCI President**

**Yangon, 30 May**—President U Win Aung of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry received United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Lead Consultant Dr Satish Chandra Mishra, Consultant Mr Keith Hargreaves and Senior Policy Advisor of UNDP Yangon Office Mr Shafique Rahaman, at the federation office here on 24 May.

They discussed matters related to assistance and measures for rural development and poverty reduction and joint conducting of workshops and courses on human resource development. —MNA

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**Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanma Industrial Development receives German Ambassador**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 May — Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanma Industrial Development Maj-Gen Thein Htay received German Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Julius Georg Luy at the Ministry of Border Affairs here this afternoon.

Officials from Ministry of Border Affairs and Ministry of Myanma Industrial Development attended the meeting. —MNA

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**FM receives German delegation**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 May — Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received a German Foundations Delegation led by Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Julius Georg Luy at his office here this afternoon at 5 pm.

The meeting focused on strengthening of bilateral ties and cooperation between Myanmar and Germany. —MNA

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**Deputy Energy Minister inspects oilfields in Magway Region**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 May — Deputy Minister for Energy U Soe Aung visited Mann Oilfield, Htaukshabin and Kanni Oilfield of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and Liquefied Petroleum Gas Factory (Minbu) of Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise on 28 and 29 May. The deputy minister supervised digging of new wells in the oilfields and inspected production process at LPG Factory (Minbu). In meeting with personnel concerned, the deputy minister called for boosted production of oil and gas, all-out efforts for increased production of LPG, minimization of wastes, corruption-free and safe working environment. —MNA
More rain, snow, National Guard troops for Mont

MONTANA, 30 May—More rain began falling Sunday on soaked Montana communities after more than a week of floods in the region, along with a heavy mountain snowpack and burgeoning dams, prompted states downstream to also prepare for flooding.

A break in rainy weather at the start of the long holiday weekend allowed Montana residents to clear flood debris from homes and roads, but the respite wasn’t expected to last long. The National Weather Service predicted up to 3 inches of rainfall from Sunday to Monday in the wake of a previous storm that brought as much as 8 inches to some areas of the state.

Officials warned ongoing flooding could ultimately be the worst in decades for the state, with an unusually heavy snowpack in the mountains, persistent spring rains and waterlogged ground incapable of soaking up any more moisture.

As much as 18 inches of snow is predicted for the region’s Beartooth Mountains this week, said Marc Singer of the National Weather Service in Billings, and temperatures at lower elevations could be above 70 degrees by Thursday.

“No part of the state is expected to not have some type of flooding,” Monique Lay, spokeswoman for the state Emergency Coordination Centre, said in anticipation of more rain and melting snowpack.

Flooded homes and vehicles near Crow Agency, Mont are seen on 27 May, 2011.—INTERNET

NATO apologizes for Afghan civilian deaths

KABUL, 30 May—The top US generals in Afghanistan are apologizing for an air strike that killed civilians in southwestern Afghanistan.

Gen David Petraeus, Lt Gen David Rodriguez and the commander of the southwest say NATO’s top priority is to prevent civilian casualties and that it takes such cases very seriously.

In a joint statement issued early Monday by US Marine Maj Gen John Toolan, they said the air strike took place after a US Marine was killed and five militants took cover in a compound and kept fighting. It said the compound had civilians inside. Toolan said the air strike resulted in nine civilians deaths. The number differs from that given by some Afghan officials, who say as many as 12 children and two women were killed.—INTERNET

Gunmen kill two police in southwest Pakistan

QUETTA, 30 May—A Pakistani police officer says gunmen have killed two Shi'ite policemen in southern Afghanistan.

He says both the dead men belong to minority Shi'ite community often targeted by al-Qaeda linked Sunni militant groups.

Baluchistan, rich in resources, has seen a low-level militancy by nationalist groups who want a bigger share of the revenues.

Two killed, 11 wounded in twin bomb attacks west of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 30 May—An Iraqi soldier and a firefighter were killed and 11 other people were wounded in two bomb explosions in west of Baghdad on Sunday, a local police source said.

“The latest reports said that an Iraqi army soldier and a firefighter were killed by two bombings in the town of Abu Ghraib,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

A bomb planted in a liquor store at a market of Abu Ghraib Town, some 20 km west of Baghdad, detonated at about 6:30 am (0330 GMT), setting the store on fire, the source said. Iraqi security forces and a fire engine rushed to the scene of the first blast, but were hit with a roadside bomb at the site, the source added. “Six soldiers and five firefighters were also wounded by the twin bomb explosions,” he said. Earlier, the source put the toll at a policeman killed and six security members wounded.—Xinhua

800 tons of fish die, rot on Philippine fish farms

TALISAY, 30 May—More than 800 tons of fish have died and rotted on fish farms in a lake near Taal volcano south of Manila, with authorities blaming it on a sudden temperature drop.

The massive fish deaths started late last week but have eased. Officials have banned the sale of the rotting fish, which are being buried by the truckload in Batangas Province, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources official Rose del Mundo said Sunday.

The deaths are unrelated to recent signs of restiveness in Taal volcano, which is surrounded by the lake where many villagers have grown milkfish and tilapia — staple foods for many Filipinos, officials said. The volcano and lake are a popular tourist draw.

Government volcanologist Allan Loza said Monday that 115 earthquakes were detected in Taal in the past 24 hours compared to an average of 10 to 15 quakes daily in recent weeks, a sign that magma is rising from within the small volcano.

A fish pond worker scoops up dead milkfish locally known as Bangus after thousands of them were found floating on Taal Lake in Batangas province, south of Manila, Philippines, on 29 May, 2011.—INTERNET

Sudan fighting displaces 35,000 children

LONDON, 30 May—A leading charity has warned that a new wave of violent conflict has displaced up to 35,000 children in Sudan’s contested border region of Abyei.

Northern Sudanese tanks rolled into Abyei last weekend and forced residents to flee, igniting a conflict that many fear could escalate into civil war.

Both northern and Southern Sudan stake a claim to Abyei, a fertile grassland near several oil fields.

Save the Children’s UK office says children who have been separated from their families since fighting broke out are at “grave risk” of being targeted for sexual and physical abuse or recruited into the armed conflict.

Relatives tend to an injured man at a hospital after a suicide bomber blew himself up inside the provincial governor’s compound in Taloaun, Takhar Province, north of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 28 May, 2011.—INTERNET

Roadside bomb kills four Afghan police

KABUL, 30 May—The Afghan government says a roadside bomb has killed four police officers in southern Afghanistan.

The Interior Ministry said in a statement Monday the officers were on a convoy patrol with NATO forces when their vehicle struck a bomb laid in the road. The blast happened Sunday evening in Nad Ali District of Helmand Province, a former Taliban stronghold where US Marines have poured in to try to establish peace and a functioning government.

In this 23 May, 2011 file photo, Pakistani troops drive past wreckage of a gutted aircraft destroyed by militants attacks at Pakistan Navy base in Karachi, Pakistan. Facing a surge in violence after the killing of Osama bin Laden, Pakistanis are taking comfort in conspiracy theories that allege Indian or American agents, not fellow Muslim countrymen, are behind the attacks, especially this week’s brazen assault on a naval base.

A former Taleban stronghold where US Marines laid in the road. The blast happened Sunday evening in Nad Ali District of Helmand Province, a former Taliban stronghold where US Marines have poured in to try to establish peace and a functioning government.
Shuttle Endeavour leaves space station — forever

CAPE CANAVERAL, 30 May—Space shuttle Endeavour is on its way home. The shuttle undocked from the International Space Station late Sunday night, ending nearly two weeks of joint flight. Endeavour is due back on Earth early Wednesday. Endeavour is being retired after this mission. Only one other shuttle flight remains, by Atlantis this summer. Shuttle commander Mark Kelly got a special musical send-off from his wife, Rep Gabrielle Giffords. The Arizona congresswoman is recuperating in Houston from a gunshot wound to the head. Sunday night’s wakeup call was a song by a Tucson, Ariz. band. Kelly says the song references places in Tucson that his wife “really, really” wants to get back to. He says that’s coming soon.—INTERNET

Glaciers account for half of rising sea levels

WASHINGTON, 30 May—Glaciers and ice caps make up for a mere three percent of ice on our planet, yet they account for about half of rising sea levels. A place like Alaska, with a multitude of glaciers and ice spread over 34,000 square miles, does have a global impact, experts say. “We have used satellites to measure the mass changes of all of Alaska’s glaciers, but there are also many glaciers that need to be measured in the field,” said Anthony Arendt, assistant research professor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Geophysical Institute. Glacial patterns are difficult to predict - even for current computer models. Alaska glaciers often behave independently of one another, says Arendt, who led the study, according to a Fairbanks Institute statement. “Alaska glaciers have been losing mass more rapidly since the mid-1990s than they were several decades earlier,” added Arendt.

Now, corkscrew-drive robot to easily roam rough terrain

WASHINGTON, 30 May—An engineer in Cumberland, Wisconsin has successfully built an omni directional, all-terrain rover with corkscrew “wheels.” Tim Lexen’s corkscrew-drive robot could find application in roaming the Martian landscape or aid soldiers on earthly battlefield. The underbelly of his prototype includes a flat, triangular compartment made from PVC, that houses three electric servomotors, battery packs and electronics. These independently operate three 8-inch stainless steel helical coils, which have a low-friction outer coating to keep the device from getting stuck in rough terrain. The corkscrew motion of the coils allows them to push or pull against rugged surfaces, making the robot ideal for roving on textured surfaces such as dirt, sand or gravel.

“While significant progress has been made in the development of sensor and control technology, one of the major challenges is that of mobility — that is, physically traversing obstacles, soft and rocky soil and other hazards in complex, unstructured and high-risk environments,” Lexen told the Discovery News.

“Most current rover design solutions are improvements over the basic four-wheel tracked vehicle designs. But these still can be easily foiled in the rover mission,” he added.

The obstacles are taken care of by the prototype’s Y-shaped layout and low-friction, rounded edges of the coils. These give the device the ability to move in any direction.

Soon, ‘digital ants’ will protect computer networks against virus

WASHINGTON, 30 May—Scientists are working on a technology to detect viruses trying to wreak havoc in the highly complicated Internet system controlling power grids, transmissions lines and even a microwave. Errin Fulp, a professor of computer science at Wake Forest University, is training an army of ‘digital ants’ to turn loose into the power grid to seek out computer viruses damaging the system.

The research, if successful in safeguarding the power grid could have wide-ranging applications in protecting anything connected to SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) networks. SCADA is referred to as computer systems that control everything from water and sewer management systems to mass transit systems and manufacturing systems.

According to him, the digital ants technology could transform cyber security because it adapts rapidly to changing threats.

Unlike traditional security approaches, which are static, digital ants wander through computer networks looking for threats such as computer worms, self-replicating programmes designed to steal information or facilitate unauthorized use of computers. When a digital ant detects a threat, it summons an army of ants to converge at that location, drawing the attention of human operators to investigate.

“The idea is to deploy thousands of different types of digital ants, each looking for evidence of a threat,” said Errin Fulp.

A showroom employee displays a tablet computer from one of Taipei’s top PC vendors Acer Inc in Taipei, on 28 May, 2011. —INTERNET

This November 2010 photo provided by Altaeros Energies shows Adam Rein holding a prototype airborne power turbine shroud at Cider Hill Farm in Amesbury, Mass. Several companies are pursuing designs that can capture power from some of the most powerful winds on earth, blowing thousands of feet above the world’s tallest turbines. —INTERNET

The space shuttle Endeavour (top) is seen with the International Space Station in the foreground and the earth in the background after the undocking of the two spacecraft in this image from NASA TV on 30 May, 2011. —INTERNET

In this photo, a computer screen display various furniture items with selling price while Chinese shop inside the newly opened Taobao Mall in Beijing, China. China’s e-commerce giant is stepping up its heated rivalry with bricks-and-mortar retailers with the launch of a five-story home furnishings showroom in Beijing.—INTERNET
Now, a ‘Mouse Phylogeny Viewer’ to treat genetic changes that cause cancer, heart disease

**London, 30 May—**Researchers have found an online resource dubbed the ‘Mouse Phylogeny Viewer’ to help in finding ways to prevent and treat the genetic changes that cause cancer, heart disease and a host of other ailments.

It will also overcome the problem of laboratory animals, bred from a limited genetic foundation, not providing a good representation of how genetic diversity manifests in the broader human population.

A team led by Fernando Pardo-Manuel de Villena from the UNC Department of Genetics and Gary Churchill from The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine conducted the study.

“The viewer provides scientists with a visual tool where they can actually go and look at the genome of the mouse strains they are using or considering, compare the differences and similarities between strains and select the ones most likely to provide the basis for experimental results that can be more effectively extrapolated to the diverse human population,” said Villena.

“As scientists use this resource to find ways to prevent and treat the genetic changes that cause cancer, heart disease, and a host of other ailments, the diversity of our lab experiments should be much easier to translate to humans,” he added.

Internet

Cambodia to launch stock market on 11 July

**Phnom Penh, 30 May—**Cambodia is scheduled to inaugurate the long-awaited Cambodia Securities Exchange (CSX) on 11 July, according to the statement of the finance ministry released to the media on Monday.

And the first securities trading will begin towards the end of 2011, added the statement dated on 26 May.

The ministry explained that the above two different dates being planned are based on the experience of some countries, which scheduled the start of the securities market operator first, in order for this operator to have enough time in preparing the process of the first securities trading.

The CSX is a securities market operator, a securities clearing and settlement facility operator, and a depository operator.

The head-office of the CSX is located in the kingdom’s tallest building, Canada Tower in Phnom Penh.

Three state-owned enterprises—Sihanoukville Autonomous Port, Telecom Cambodia and Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority—have been preparing IPO (Initial Public Offering) to list in the upcoming CSX.

The plan to open CSX was initiated by Korean Exchange in 2007.

Xinhua

Solar power vital to Asia’s future growth

**Bangkok, 30 May—**Asia must expand solar energy generation if the region is to stay on its strong economic growth path and reduce carbon emissions, Asian Development Bank (ADB) vice president said on Monday.

ADB Vice-President Xiaoyu Zhao addressed at the opening of the 3rd meeting of the Asia Solar Energy Forum in Bangkok, which is gathering over 300 government officials, private companies, and solar energy experts.

The forum, set up to promote knowledge exchange, is part of the Asia Solar Energy Initiative, established in May 2010 with support from ADB. The initiative aims to boost solar power use in the region by identifying and developing suitable projects.

“Asia could account for half of global output, trade, and investment by 2050,” said Zhao. “To sustain its impressive growth momentum, Asia must manage its energy security and innovate away from the traditional, high-resource, high-carbon development path toward sustainable, low carbon growth,” ADB Press release quoted him as saying.

Many countries in Asia have a natural solar energy advantage given they are both sunny and have large areas of land unsuitable for other uses. However, large-scale solar power generation has been hampered by a lack of suitable project financing mechanisms, institutional and policy constraints, and knowledge gaps, he said.

Xinhua

Researchers at the University of Liverpool showed a picture of a slim young woman named Jane to more than 200 people, accompanied by a short biography.

On being asked what they thought about Jane once having a weight problem, women marked her down on self-discipline, friendliness and personal hygiene.

Researchers explained that the fierce competition between women in terms of weight and attractiveness means that they often look for reasons to dislike others.—Internet

Women boasting about weight loss attract dislike from their fatty peers

**London, 30 May—**A new British study has suggested that women who have won the battle of losing weight should be wary of boasting about it, as other women may take her as a competition, leading to dislike.

It explains that even though the woman has shed the kilos, the stigma of being fat stays with her. In most cases, her peers looked down on her.

Men, on the contrary, are likely to be more interested in a woman if she once had a weight problem because they think they have a better chance of dating her.

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**Internet**

A supply of antiretroviral drugs, seen here prepared for free distribution to HIV patients at a government hospital in Jakarta. As the war on AIDS heads into its fourth decade, the need for funds is spiralling relentlessly higher, prompting a quest for new resources from consumer levies to contributions from developing giants.

**Internet**

The plan to open CSX was initiated by Korean Exchange in 2007.

**Philippine President believes local economy to improve**

**Manila, 30 May—**Philippine President Benigno Aquino III expressed belief Monday that the economy will improve as his administration will make pump priming efforts amid the 4.9 percent gross domestic product (GDP) growth during the first quarter of this year.

Aquino blamed the unrest in the Middle East and the North African countries and the tragedies in Japan for the economic slowdown from January to March.

“We believe that we can still pump prime (the economy), especially in the second quarter,” Aquino said. “So we think these numbers will still improve.”

The government is targeting 7 to 8 percent GDP growth for this year, but officials have said that the figures are a challenging target.—Xinhua

**INTERNET**

**Australian miner Resourcehouse has revived plans to list on the Hong Kong stock exchange, in a share sale that it hopes will raise up to $3.6 billion, company officials said Monday.**

**INTERNET**

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**Xinhua**

**Business**

**Health**

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**Xinhua**
Having killed 100 million people during the 20th century, the epidemic of tobacco use could rise to 8 million by 2030. Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death. This year, more than 5 million people will die from a tobacco-related heart attack, stroke, cancer, lung ailment or other disease. That does not include the more than 600,000 people—more than a quarter of them children—who will die from exposure to second-hand smoke. The annual death toll from the global epidemic of tobacco use could rise to 8 million by 2030. Having killed 100 million people during the 20th century, tobacco use could kill 1 billion during the 21st century. Tobacco users who die prematurely deprive their families of their care, and result in an economic cost of health care and hinder economic development.

History of the WHO FCTC process

The WHO FCTC was developed in response to the globalization of the tobacco epidemic. The spread of the tobacco epidemic is facilitated through a variety of complex factors with cross-border effects, including trade liberalization and direct foreign investment. Other factors such as global marketing, transnational tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship, and the international movement of contraband and counterfeit cigarettes have also contributed to the explosive increase in tobacco use. The world needs the WHO FCTC as much as, if not more than, it did in 1996 when the World Health Assembly adopted a resolution calling for an international framework convention on tobacco control.

The idea of an international instrument for tobacco was initiated with the adoption of Resolution WHA 48.11 in May 1995, requesting the Director-General to report to the Forty-ninth Session of the World Health Assembly on the feasibility of developing an international instrument, a treaty, a declaration, or an international convention on tobacco control. As a result of Resolution WHA 48.11, WHO was requested to draft a feasibility study which was presented by the Director-General to the Ninety-seventh Session of the WHO Executive Board. “The Feasibility of an International Instrument for Tobacco Control” (EB97/INF. DOC. 4). During that same session, the Executive Board adopted Resolution EB97/RS. “International framework convention for tobacco control.”

Later that year, the Forty-ninth Session of the WHA adopted Resolution WHA49.17, “International framework convention for tobacco control”, requesting the Director-General to initiate the development of a Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. As a result of this resolution, WHO’s first treaty-making enterprise was formally launched.

In May 1999, the Fifty-second World Health Assembly paved the way for multilateral negotiations on the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and possible related protocols. Resolution WHA52.18 established two bodies to draft the framework convention, to complete negotiations and to submit the final text for consideration by the Fifty-sixth World Health Assembly. The working group held two sessions in Geneva (25-29 October 1999 abd 27-29 March 2000). Its output was a document with provisional texts of proposed draft elements for the Framework Convention, submitted to the Fifty-third World Health Assembly with the comments of the working group. The first session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (Geneva, 16-21 October 2000) was preceded by a public hearing on issues surrounding the Framework Convention. In further preparation for the second session of the Negotiating Body, regional intersessional consultations were convened in most regions and sub-regions. Additional regional and sub regional intersessional consultations took place in preparation for each of the subsequent sessions of Negotiating Body. At the third session (Geneva, 22-28 November 2001), two working groups issued revised texts and Working Group One later drafted a text. These documents were used to further negotiations during the fourth session. The first four sessions of the Negotiating Body had considered numerous textual alternatives. Concerted deliberations at the fifth session narrowed the options, resulting in more focused negotiations. The sixth and final sessions of the Negotiating Body ran from 17 February—1 March 2003. The negotiations were intense and broad ranging.

Two important issues, advertising, promotion and sponsorship and financial resources, were discussed in two informal groups Resolution WHA52.18. On 21 May 2003, the 56th World Health Assembly, unanimously adopted the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The Convention was opened for signature, for a period of one year, from 16 June 2003 to 22 June 2003 at WHO headquarters in Geneva and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 30 June 2003 to 29 June 2004. The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control is a landmark for the future of global public health and has major implications for WHO’s health goals. The conclusion of the negotiating process and the unanimous adoption of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, in full accordance with Health Assembly resolutions, represents a milestone for the promotion of public health and provides new legal dimensions for international health cooperation.

Objectives of the WHO FCTC

The objective of this Convention and its protocols is to protect, present and future generations from the devastating health, social, environmental and economic consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke by providing a framework for tobacco control measures to be implemented by the Parties at the national, regional and international levels in order to reduce continually and substantially the prevalence of tobacco use and exposure to tobacco smoke.

The main Features of the WHO FCTC

From the first preambular paragraph, which states that the “Parties to this Convention [are] determined to give priority to their right to protect public health”, the WHO FCTC is a global trendsetter. The core demand reduction provisions in the WHO FCTC are contained in articles 6-14. Price and tax measures to reduce the demand for tobacco, and Non-price measures to reduce the demand for tobacco, namely:
- Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke;
- Regulation of the contents of tobacco products;
- Regulation of tobacco product disclosures;
- Packaging and labelling of tobacco products;
- Education, communication, training and public awareness;
- Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; and,
- Demand reduction measures concerning tobacco dependence and cessation.

The core supply reduction provisions in the WHO FCTC are contained in articles 15-17: Illicit trade in tobacco products; Sales to and by minors; and, Provision of support for economically viable alternative activities. Another novel feature of the Convention is the inclusion of a provision that addresses liability. Mechanisms for scientific and technical cooperation and exchange of information are set out in Articles 20-22.

Myanmar and the WHO FCTC

In May 1999, the World Health Assembly the governing body of the World Health Organization adopted a resolution (WHA 52.18) which paved the way for starting multi-lateral negotiations on the WHO FCTC and possible related protocols. Myanmar along with fellow Member status actively participated in the negotiating process of the WHO FCTC and strongly supported the convention. Myanmar delegates expressed their strong commitment towards comprehensive tobacco control measures and voiced the need for a comprehensive ban on all forms of tobacco advertisement including cross-border advertising.

Myanmar proudly hosted the 4th Inter-country Consultation Meeting of Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in August 2002, where the countries of South-East Asia Region issued the “Yangon Declaration”. Myanmar became a signatory to the FCTC on the 23rd of October 2003 and became a Party to the convention on the 20th of April, 2004; it was the 11th country to become Party to the Convention.

Myanmar and the Global Tobacco Surveillance System

Ministry of Health has been implementing tobacco control activities in collaboration with related ministries; school-based tobacco control activities are being conducted in coordination with the Ministry of Education. Myanmar has been participating in the
World No Tobacco Day...


The GYTS is a school-based survey of students aged 13-15 years. The GSPS is also a school-based survey of all school personnel from the schools that the GYTS was conducted. The GYTS and GSPS were conducted as a nation-wide survey in Myanmar. Between 2001 and 2007, a significant reduction in the proportion of students currently smoked cigarettes is observed (a fall from overall prevalence among 13-15 years old of 10.2% to 4.9%) but reported use of other tobacco products had increased during the period from 5.7% to 14.1%. There was relatively high prevalence of tobacco use among male school personnel (17% daily chewers, 22% occasional chewers) (7.4% daily cigarette smokers, 29% occasional cigarette smoker) (15% daily cheroot smokers and 18.4% occasional cheroot smokers).

The GYTS 2007 has shown that although there is a reduction in youth cigarette smoking, there is an increase in use of other tobacco products. A positive trend was seen in access to cigarettes which had declined over the years. Exposure to second-hand smoke still remains high both at home and in public places. The GSPS data shows the need to enforce school policy on tobacco and the need to provide training to school personnel on prevention of tobacco use among the youth.

Specifically youth-focused programmes should be implemented as joint efforts between Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education in collaboration with related ministries.

Tobacco Control in Myanmar

In July 1998 when WHO reorganized efforts within a new structure, the Tobacco Free Initiative (TFI), this movement greatly enhanced the momentum of the anti-tobacco activities in Myanmar. The National Health Committee which is the highest inter-ministerial at the national level issued guidelines for prevention and control of smoking related diseases at its 26th meeting held in September 1998.

The National Programme on Tobacco Control was officially launched in January 2000 with the drafting and approval of the National Policy on Tobacco Control and Plan of action. The National Tobacco Control Committee was formed in March 2002, headed by the Minister for Health and included heads of related departments and chairpersons of several national NGOs as members. The Committee set guidelines for the tobacco control measures to be implemented in the country. In collaboration with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health has launched the Tobacco Free School Programme in 2003. The Tobacco Free Youth Programme was also implemented by School and Youth Health Project since 2009.

The Ministry of Information prohibited advertisement of tobacco on television and radio and from all electronic media in the year 2000. Tobacco advertising billboards were banned form the vicinity of schools, hospitals, health facilities, sports stadiums and maternity homes in May 2002 and from other places in April 2003. Tobacco advertisements were also banned from the newspapers, journals and magazines in early 2003. Smoking was prohibited at all hospitals and health departments, at all basic education schools, all stadiums and sports fields and at some workplaces.

Myanmar has been participating in the World and Asia-Pacific Conferences on Tobacco or Health. A research paper relating WHO FCTC, ‘Linking global youth tobacco survey (GYTS) data to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC): the case for Myanmar’ was presented in the Asia Pacific Conference on Tobacco or Health, 6-9 October, 2010, Sydney, Australia.

The Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law

The Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law was adopted on 4th May, 2006 under the State Peace and Development Council Law 5/2006. The adoption of the law was a very significant milestone in the history of public health of Myanmar and was highly appreciated by the World Health Organization and anti-tobacco advocates.

The tobacco control law which came into force one year after its adoption strictly prohibits tobacco advertisement in all forms: it also prohibits sale of tobacco and by minors, sale of cigarettes singly or in a package containing less than 20 to enable easy purchase and smoking. The law also states that it is an offence to produce, distribute or sell cigarette and other smoking tobacco products without a health warning in Myanmar language.

WHO’s call for Action

2011 World No Tobacco Day campaign will focus on the following key message: that countries must fully implement the treaty to protect present and future generations from the devastating health, social, environmental and economic consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke. Other key messages will include:

* The treaty embodies the desire and commitment of scores of governments and millions of people to have a tobacco-free world.
* The Parties to the treaty should fulfill their obligation to fully implement it.
* Individuals should encourage and help their governments to fulfill that obligation.
* The treaty should be duly appreciated by institutions and individuals alike as a landmark in the history of public health and the world’s foremost tobacco control instrument.
* WHO and the Conference of the Parties stand ready to help countries meet their obligations under the treaty and its related guidelines.

Working Together for a Tobacco Free World

Currently, the Ministry of Health is committed to promoting and maintaining the health status of Myanmar people through various health care services, with the support and participation of the related ministries and sectors, international and local NGOs and the community as a whole.

Myanmar, as a party of WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), has undertaken a number of initiatives towards reducing tobacco use over the last decade. With the adoption of The Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law in 2006, and the multisectoral efforts towards effective enforcement of the law, we are seeing a significant decline in the prevalence of smoking across all ages. However, tobacco use has been socially and culturally accepted since ancient times in Myanmar culture. It is being used as a well-wishing gift to house guests and at weddings and donation ceremonies. This social and cultural acceptance of tobacco use as a social norm greatly challenges tobacco control programmes and calls for widespread education and information activities to promote community awareness on dangers of tobacco use. Students are still exposed to cigarette advertisement. Enforcement of the national legislation on tobacco control needs to be strengthened, and the National Tobacco Control Programme needs to be more comprehensive incorporating measures to reduce smokeless tobacco use and other non-cigarette tobacco products.

By heeding WHO’s call, it is time to join hands to create a tobacco free world in line with WHO FCTC.
Vice-President attends tree-planting ceremonies...

(from page 16)

He viewed sports activities, practical room, language lab, school buildings and classrooms. Headmistress Dr Thet Thet San conducted the Vice-President. Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu gave a supplementary report.

He inspected the three-storey building and the scale model of the gymnasium. The managing director of JM Co and officials reported on the project.

The Vice-President heard a report by Principal Dr Theingi Kyaw on the school. The Vice-President inspected the school health room, school enrolment activities, school food stalls and classrooms.

He visited multimedia classroom, language lab and domestic science room. He viewed documentary photos of school health activities, prizewinning essays on nutrition week, school health week commemorative booth, computer lab, arts gallery, food stalls, school health centre and classrooms.

The principal gave accounts of the school. On his tour of basic education schools, the Vice-President called for inculcating students with a sense of self-discipline and etiquette, contribution towards the practice of free compulsory primary education system, training the youngsters both in education and in sport, improving students’ personal skills, and working closely to help promote the national education standard.

At 1 pm, the Vice-President visited the Girls’ Training Centre on Malikha Street in Mayangon Township.

Director-General of the (See page 9)
Vice-President attends tree-planting ceremonies,...

(from page 8)
Social Welfare Department U Soe Kyi reported on strength of the staff, classes of schoolchildren, nurturing processes, timetable of the centre, progress of the centre in 2010-2011 academic year, ongoing programmes to improve students’ skills, employment of students, and funds for daily meals of students.

Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi gave a supplementary report.

The Vice-President provided uniforms for the schoolgirls.

He inspected the hostel and mess.

He visited the Boys’ Training Centre on Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road. The director-general reported on the historical background and objectives of the centre, strength of the staff and students.

The Union minister and the Yangon Region chief minister reported on conditions of the schoolboys, and arrangements for moving the Kaba Aye boys’ training centre on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road. The Vice-President assessed the reports.

The Vice-President provided uniforms for the schoolboys, and inspected the mess, hostel and health room.

The Girls’ Training Centre nurtures 257 girls and the Boys’ Training Centre, 159 boys under 18.

Union Minister looks into upgrading work on Meiktila-Kyaukphaung Road

NAV P’TAW, 30 May— Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint yesterday afternoon inspected roadwork progress of Meiktila-Kyaukphaung Road being upgraded by Myatnoethu Construction Co Ltd with B.O.T system.

The Union Minister then looked into progress of construction of Box Culvert between 18/6 and 18/5 mileposts, and tarmacking work between 18/4 and 17/3 mileposts with the use of machinery.

MNA

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MNA
YANGON, 30 May — Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan visited Fine Arts High School (Yangon) of Training, Research and External Relations Division of Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township here on 28 May. He viewed students learning arts at painting, sculpture and dance campuses.

Director U Zaw Htay of the division explained about the high school.

In meeting with teachers and staff, the union minister said the Ministry of Culture is the institution uplifting national characteristics of the country and preserving Myanmar traditional cultural heritages; teachers and staff are to value their duties while assuming these responsibilities and to make traditional cultural arts to penetrate into youth populations. He said two aims — upgrading teaching methods and turning out artists from the high school and Fine Arts University whose performances reach international audience — will be realized. The union minister underlined the importance of preserving cultural arts, nurturing outstanding artists, reviving arts and facilitating the art businesses achieve success.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan proceeded to Painting and Sculpture Hall (Yangon) of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department on Koeminkoechin Street on Bahan Township and viewed painting booth displayed at the hall.

He also visited National Theatre (Yangon) of Theater Division of Fine Arts Department in Dagon Township and urged officials to be cautious about security, take fire preventive measures and renovate the National Theatre to be able to host more arts events.

NAY PYI TAW, 30 May—German Foundations delegation headed by German Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Julius Georg Luy and Councilor Mr Oliver Bientzle paid a call on Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, at his office of the SWRR Ministry here this afternoon.

The German guests put questions and discussed ongoing rehabilitation works, and future plans for social welfare activities, work programmes and potentials for cooperation.

Germany to assist Myanmar in social welfare campaigns

Myanmar athletes to partake in Mekong Countries’ Friendship Sports Tournament

YANGON, 30 May—Myanmar athletes group today left here for Thailand to participate in Friendship Sports Tournament 2011 for Mekong Countries, to be held in Nakhon Phanom Region of Thailand from 31 May to 4 June. Director U Thet Lwin of Sports and Physical Education Department led the group packed with 53 athletes.
Japan to finance quake-hit car parts makers

Tokyo, 30 May—Japan’s government-owned bank is planning to set up a 50 billion yen ($617 million dollar) fund to support auto parts makers hit by the 11 March quake and tsunami, an official said Monday.

The Development Bank of Japan will launch the fund in June, asking major commercial banks for investment, the bank official said.

The East Japan Great Disaster seriously damaged supply chains of auto parts makers, and we have been discussing possible financial support for them,” said the official, who declined to be named.

“Our negotiation is in the final stage,” the official said. “The size is likely to be as big as 50 billion yen,” he said, adding that the bank is scheduled to make an official announcement soon.

“Under the plan, the bank will offer the investment to the Japan Auto Parts Industries Association, which will then provide cash for its member firms as well as their subcontractors. Japan has 800 major auto parts manufacturers supplying interior equipment and parts such as air conditioners to the nation’s automakers.”

BP pledges to boost investment by 10 bln USD in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 30 May—British energy giant British Petroleum (BP) has committed to raise investment in Indonesia by more than 10 billion US dollars over the next 10 years, particularly in the massive Tangguh gas project in Papua and coal-bed methane in Kalimantan, a local media reported here on Monday. “BP in Indonesia has invested 7 billion US dollars and we are looking at an additional 10 billion US dollars over the next 10 years,” BP chief executive Robert Dudley was quoted by the Jakarta Globe as saying.

BP has a 37.16 percent interest in the Tangguh liquefied natural gas project in West Papua, with proven reserves of around 14.4 trillion cubic feet of gas. The company is looking to expand its LNG plant there, which now consists of two production trains with output of at least 7.6 million metric tons of LNG a year. “We talked about the commitment to build a third train and possibly fourth train for LNG at Tangguh Papua,” Dudley said here in Jakarta.

“Train designers were inspired by China’s Long March rockets series to boost CRH380A trains’ safety and improve their shape and layout, it said. Also, different technologies were applied to reduce noise inside carriages to 61 decibels when the train runs at 300 km/h, according to the report. The average noise inside a cabin of a plane while in the air is 81 decibels, compared with 76 decibels for cars traveling at 120 km/h, it said.

Xinhua

Large-scale plan of Titanic sells for $363,000

LONDON, 30 May—A large-scale plan of the Titanic, prepared for the official inquiry into the ship’s sinking, has fetched 220,000 pounds ($363,000) in a British auction. The sale price beat expectations for the 32.5-foot-long (9.9-metre) cross-section of the ship. Henry Aldridge & Son auctioneers had estimated it could fetch between 100,000 and 150,000 pounds at the sale in Devizes in southern England on Saturday. The auction house said Sunday the plan was sold by an anonymous collector to a private collector. The ship sank on 15 April, 1912, after striking an iceberg on its maiden voyage. About 1,500 people died.—Internet

Internet

Unexploded NATO projectile discovered during reconstruction work in Serbia

BELGRADE, 30 May—Workers reconstructing a section of the Fiat automobile complex in the central Serbian City of Kragujevac discovered an unexploded projectile, dating from the NATO bombing of Serbia in 1999, reported Radio Television Serbia (RTS) on Sunday.

The projectile was uncovered by a bulldozer operator, digging up a section of a parking lot near the entrance of one of the buildings in the original Zastava automobile complex.

Fiat purchased the damaged and largely defunct company in 2010. Police cordoned off the area.

According to Bojan Tomic, head of the Emergency Services in Kragujevac, an expert team is scheduled to arrive on Monday to identify the projectile and to determine how best to deactivate or dispose of the unexploded ordnance.

During the NATO bombing campaign of Yugoslavia, the Zastava facilities were targeted on two separate occasions, unleashing more than 30 missiles. On the evening of 8 and 9 April, 1999, the truck plant and the auto assembly facility sustained significant damage.

On Easter, a few days later, the forge, paint shop, an administrative building and tool crib storage facility were completely destroyed.

Xinhua

Beijing newspaper hails safety of Beijing-Shanghai high-speed trains

BEIJING, 30 May—Trains built for the Beijing-Shanghai high-speed rail line, which is scheduled to start commercial operations in about month, are very safe, the Beijing News said Monday.

CRH380A series trains to be used on the Beijing-Shanghai high-speed rail are under 0.13 derailment coefficient, far lower than the international standard of 0.8, the Chinese-language daily cited Liang Jianying, a designer for the trains, as saying. The lower the derailment coefficient figure, the less chance the train has of derailment.

Train designers were inspired by China’s Long March rockets series to boost CRH380A trains’ safety and improve their shape.

BP pledges to boost investment by 10 bln USD in Indonesia

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BP has a 37.16 percent interest in the Tangguh liquefied natural gas project in West Papua, with proven reserves of around 14.4 trillion cubic feet of gas. The company is looking to expand its LNG plant there, which now consists of two production trains with output of at least 7.6 million metric tons of LNG a year. “We talked about the commitment to build a third train and possibly fourth train for LNG at Tangguh Papua,” Dudley said here in Jakarta.

That investment would be billions of dollars and we will be bringing forward the proposal for approval in the next few months,” Dudley added, saying that BP was also tapping CBM projects in Indonesia, with its subsidiary awarded three such blocks in Central Kalimantan this year. BP, one of the top foreign investors in the country, has been operating here for 35 years.

Xinhua

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Xinhua
Xiangsheng (cross talk) actor Wang Yang (1st R), Village in Urumqi, capital of northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 29 May, Children’s Day and the 10th anniversary of the opening of the village. — Xinhua

Hamburg, 30 May — Authorities in the Czech Republic and Austria have taken some Spanish-grown cucumbers off store shelves over fears they are contaminated with E. coli. The move came after illness in Germany caused by infected cucumbers led to at least 10 deaths. The cucumbers, believed to have been imported from Spain and contaminated with E. coli, left people ill with hemolytic-uremic syndrome (HUS). Hundreds of people are said to have fallen sick. Officials in the Czech Republic said affected cucumbers may also have been exported to Hungary and Luxembourg. Austria’s Agency for Health and Food Safety said some tomatoes and aubergines had also been included in the ban. Meanwhile a European Union spokesman said two greenhouses in Spain identified as sources had ceased their activities. They were now being investigated to see whether the contamination occurred there or elsewhere.

London boy breaks Seven Summits record with Everest climb

London, 30 May — A boy of 16 has become the youngest person in the world to scale the seven summits. The aggressive form of E Coli is known to cause kidney failure and affect the central nervous system. Most of the cases have been in the area around Hamburg.

London, 30 May — Shock waves emanating from a trombone have been caught on video for the first time, researchers say. It was first suggested in 1995 that the intense pressure waves, which can briefly exceed the speed of sound, could come from trombones. Shock waves can form when energy is quickly put into a confined channel; weak shock waves can be formed as trains enter tunnels.

Researchers revealed the video at the Acoustical Society of America meeting. Shock waves are just a particular kind of pressure wave — which is what sound itself comprises. — Internet

**E coli-infected cucumber scare spreads beyond Germany**

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**99 people locked in airport terminal**

Having your flight delayed is a hassle, but being locked inside the airport terminal is worse, a Florida man said of the Daytona Beach International Airport.

Robert Rega, having sat out a three-hour weather delay in Atlanta, was one of 99 people locked inside the Daytona Airport when their flight arrived. The man-fight shows the delay in Atlanta, the Daytona (Fla.) Beach reported. The frazzled travellers were locked in the terminal Thursday just before 1 am.

“To be locked inside the gate area — it was pretty wild,” said Rega, who works for IBM. “We were all stressed to begin with from having to wait in Atlanta.”

Rega said he called 911 twice because the Volusia County sheriff’s deputy who patrols the airport couldn’t be found.

DBIA spokesman Steve Cooke — who said the passengers were only coop up for seven minutes — said the incident is an obvious breakdown in communications somewhere between the deputy, airport operations personnel and Delta Air Lines.

“It was an unfortunate mistake,” Cooke said. “It will never happen again.”

I’ve been here 12 years and it’s never happened.”

**Marine proposes on Great White Way**

Cast members say a love-struck Marine was the star performer when he proposed to his girlfriend onstage at the close of a Broadway musical in New York.

Minutes after the curtain dropped at a Saturday matinee performance of “Anything Goes,” cast members summoned Ensign Amy Sullivan and Capt Zahab Koweh up to the stage to honor them for Fleet Week, the New York Daily News reported.

Koweh, showing a flair for improvisation before an audience of 1,050 at the Stephen Sondheim Theater, grabbed the microphone, dropped to one knee and went to work in front of God and a tough New York crowd. “Amy, the last two years have been tremendous.” Koweh, 32, said. “We’ve had some really good times, some not-so-good times. But through it all, I’ve realized I’d like to spend the rest of my life with you.”

“Yes,” said Ensign Sullivan, 28, eliciting deafening cheers. “I was really surprised,” Sullivan said afterward. “I didn’t have any idea that was coming.”

**Soldier, bride wed in hospital**

A couple in Kentucky said their wedding vows in a hospital, as the groom is set for deployment to Iraq and the pregnant bride is under doctor-ordered bed rest.

Jennifer Paddock, 24, said it wasn’t the wedding she’d dreamed about but after the pregnant bride and her groom, Army Private 2nd Class Shawn Wentworth, 22, said “I do” in Suburban Hospital’s meeting room, she said the ceremony was everything she’d ever hoped for.

“It’s really an exciting day,” Paddock said. “It’s a little bit overwhelming but the hard part is over.”

After Paddock and Wentworth got engaged last fall, they planned their church wedding for later this year at Okolona’s St Rita Catholic Church, but plans changed when Wentworth received his orders he’d be shipping out to Iraq on Sunday.

The couple quickly changed their marriage plans to adapt to the situation and scheduled the nuptials for May 27. The (Louisville) Courier-Journal reported on Saturday.

“We wanted to get married before I left,” Wentworth said. “If we’re married, there will be better pay.”

**Hangover’ sequel tops box office**

**LOS ANGELES, 30 May—**The raucous comedy sequel “The Hangover: Part II” captured $86 million at the North American box office in its first weekend, blowing past another newcomer “Kung Fu Panda,” with the 3-D PG sequel featuring international acts such as Ono Lisa and Eels, a brand new Chinese music festival eyes mature audience

Kama Love Music Festival also plans to include some 20 other artists including Canadian alternative rock group Cowboy Junkies, British art-rock band These New Puritans and French bossa nova-style act Nouvelle Vague.

Zhang Yadong, Lao Lang, Hao Yun and Zuo Xiao Zouzh will also join the fun. Main organizer Zhang Youdai, also a well-known DJ with Beijing Music Radio, said he hopes to make Kama a comfortable place for a more mature audience, with musical styles drawn from blues, jazz, pop, rock, electronic, country and folk.

“When I went to the Strawberry and Midi festivals, I felt a bit old, so I want to bring some generational variety to Kama,” the 30-something told the Global Times—Xinhua.

**Who benefits most from weight-loss TV shows?**

LOS ANGELES, 30 May— Despite all the “Biggest Loser”-type shows on TV, all the pounds shed by their contestants and all the weight-loss products purchased by viewers, America continues to be the Biggest Gainer.

At least 10 weight-loss shows are airing these days, and on “The Biggest Loser” alone, this season’s three top finalists dropped a combined 365 pounds.

Yet the rest of us are just getting chubbier, with obesity rates in the United States now the highest of any industrialized nation. In fact, many people are obese today than when “Loser” premiered in 2004.

So why aren’t these reality shows helping in the fat fight? JD Roth, executive producer of “Extreme Makeover: Weight Loss Edition,” thinks they actually are.

“The first step to changing some systemic problem in society is awareness and I think (weight) awareness is at an all-time high,” says the 43-year-old producer, who is also behind “Biggest Loser.” Dr Terry Schaack, medical director of the California Health & Longevity Institute, where “Extreme Makeover: Weight Loss” participants do an introductory “boot camp,” says there can be a long delay between awareness and action.—Internet

**Soldier, bride wed in hospital**

A couple in Kentucky said their wedding vows in a hospital, as the groom is set for deployment to Iraq and the pregnant bride is under doctor-ordered bed rest.

Jennifer Paddock, 24, said it wasn’t the wedding she’d dreamed about but after the pregnant bride and her groom, Army Private 2nd Class Shawn Wentworth, 22, said “I do” in Suburban Hospital’s meeting room, she said the ceremony was everything she’d ever hoped for.

“It’s really an exciting day,” Paddock said. “It’s a little bit overwhelming but the hard part is over.”

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The critically-panned sequel, described as uninspiring and a repeat of the original, follows four men celebrating a pre-wedding brunch in Bangkok, much like the bachelor party in Las Vegas in the first movie “The Hangover” that second-take — which reprised the voice talents of Jack Black and Angelina Jolie — collecting $48 million in its opening weekend, according to box office tracker Exhibitor Relations.

The fourth installment in the Johnny Depp-starring “Pirates of the Caribbean” series finished third, taking in $39 million after pulling $90 million in its opening weekend. The Disney romp, which has earned mixed reviews, has taken in a total of $152 million in the past two weeks.

**Kama Love Music Festival eyes mature audience**

Ono Lisa, one of the featured performers at Beijing’s Kama Love Music Festival.

The Kama Love Music Festival also plans to include some 20 other artists including Canadian alternative rock group Cowboy Junkies, British art-rock band These New Puritans and French bossa nova-style act Nouvelle Vague.

Chinese musicians

Zhang Yadong, Lao Lang, Hao Yun and Zuo Xiao Zouzh will also join the fun. Main organizer Zhang Youdai, also a well-known DJ with Beijing Music Radio, said he hopes to make Kama a comfortable place for a more mature audience, with musical styles drawn from blues, jazz, pop, rock, electronic, country and folk. “When I went to the Strawberry and Midi festivals, I felt a bit old, so I want to bring some generational variety to Kama,” the 30-something told the Global Times—Xinhua.

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In this 23 May, 2011 photo, joggers make their way down Santa Monica Bike Path, in Santa Monica, Calif. —Internet
**Lyon consign Monaco to relegation**

PARIS, 30 May — Monaco were relegated from the French top division for the first time in 35 years after losing 2-0 at home to Lyon on the final day of the Ligue 1 season on Sunday. Third-bottom going into the game at Stade Louis II, Monaco needed a positive result to stand any chance of avoiding the drop but fell to second-half goals by Pape Diakhate and Lisandro Lopez.

**French champions in 2000 and Champions League finalists in 2004, Monaco — who sacked coach Guy Lacombe in January and replaced him with Laurent Banide — will play in the second tier next season for the first time.**

**Wheldon wins stunning Indy 500 when leader crashes**

INDIANAPOLIS, 30 May — Dan Wheldon was zipping toward the final corner of Sunday’s Indianapolis 500, surely figuring the best he could do was another runner-up finish. Then he came upon J.R. Hildebrand’s crumpled car, all smashed up and sliding along the wall. The rookie had made the ultimate mistake with the very last turn of the wheel, and Wheldon, not Hildebrand, made an improbable turn into Victory Lane.

**Harvick wins when Earnhardt runs out of gas**

Concord, 30 May — Dale Earnhardt Jr. was out front on the final lap with Dan Wheldon, of England, top and middle photo, as Wheldon goes on to win the Indianapolis 500 auto race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, on Sunday.

**Keegan Bradley wins Nelson in playoff over Palmer**

IRVING, 30 May — Walking down the 18th fairway during a playoff and realizing he was about to get his first PGA Tour victory, Keegan Bradley got emotional thinking about a cowbell. The one that is in the World Golf Hall of Fame. The one his grandmother rang after every win by his famous aunt, LPGA Tour great Pat Bradley, whose 31 victories included six majors. “It was like pull it to get her cowbell,” Keegan Bradley said. “The cowbell in my family is an iconic thing.”

Bradley settled himself and won the Byron Nelson championship, parring the first hole of a playoff with Ryan Palmer on Sunday. Bradley sank a 2-foot par putt at the 419-yard 18th hole in the playoff, while Palmer’s approach went into the water before a 13-foot bogye putt.

**Barca victory borne out of faith in club’s principles**

PARIS, 30 May — His 43rd consecutive victory complete, Novak Djokovic ripped off his white baseball cap, pivoted to look up at his parents, coach and other support­ers in the stands, then let out a yell. It was the sort of visceral reaction one might expect at the conclusion of a taut, tense contest, not the rather routine 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 result that followed. Roger Federer’s opponents over the years know that feeling, too. The 16-time major champion moved a step closer to a semifinal showdown against Djokovic by overcoming No 14 Stanislas Wawrinka 6-3, 6-2, 7-5, reaching the quarterfinals at a record 28th Grand Slam tourna­ment in a row.

**Djokovic, Federer close to French Open showdown**

**Germany see off Uruguay in low-key friendly**

SINSHEIM, 30 May — Germany warmed up for their up-coming Euro 2012 qualifiers with a 2-1 friendly win over Uruguay on Sunday in a rematch of last year’s World Cup third-place play-off. First-half goals by Bayern Munich hot-shot Mario Gomez and Mainz’s Andre Schuerrle put the hosts 2-0 up at the break before Napoli’s Walter Gargano pulled a consolation goal back for the guests in a low-key friendly.

Gomez is coming off his best season and the 25-year-old scored his 16th goal in his 44th international, having scored 28 times for Bayern in the Bundesliga to finish as the German league’s top scorer. Germany now face qualifiers for Euro 2012 against Austria, in Vienna on Friday, and Azerbaijan in Baku on 7 June and Gomez said his side must do more.

**Inter beat Palermo to win Italian Cup, save season**

ROME, 30 May — Inter Milan beat Palermo 3-1 at the Stadio Olimpico here on Sunday to lift the Italian Cup and rescue an otherwise disappointing season. It was Inter’s fourth Cup success in the last seven years and Palermo’s third defeat in as many trips to the Cup final. Samuel Eto’o was the hero for Inter, scoring a brace and taking his best total at Barcelona by one goal.

“Good football, the important thing is to win and without the victory my record wouldn’t have been as sweet,” said the Cameroonian captain. For Inter boss Leonardo it was his first trophy as a coach. “It’s a huge satisfaction in an entertaining year, with many changes, for me and for Inter,” said the Brazilian.

“Being able to finish the last game of the season with two trophies is fantastic,” he added referring to the Club World Cup, won in December under his predecessor Rafael Benitez.

**Serbia’s Novak Djokovic**

**Barca victory borne out of faith in club’s principles**

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**Inter’s coach Leonardo (up) holds the Italian Cup trophy after winning 3-1 Italy’s Coppa final football match against Palermo at the Olimpico Stadium in Rome.—— INTERNET**

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**Germany see off Uruguay in low-key friendly**

**Keegan Bradley wins Nelson in playoff over Palmer**

**Singer Shakira (L) dances in front of her boyfriend, Barcelona’s player Gerard Pique (2nd L) and his teammates during her concert in Barcelona on 29 May, 2011. Barcelona celebrated their Champions League final win against Manchester United on the streets of Barcelona. — INTERNET**

**S O P R T S**

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Arshavin insists he will stay with Arsenal

LONDON, 30 May—Arsenal winger Andrey Arshavin has rubbished reports that Arsene Wenger will sell him before the start of next season.

Arshavin’s future with the Gunners has been cast into doubt as Wenger prepares to overhaul his squad following the club’s failure to win a trophy last season. Wenger’s team will sell him before the start of next season.

Arshavin joined the Gunners during in January 2009 and has scored 28 goals in over 100 appearances for the club.—Internet

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon has advanced into North Bay of Bengal and Central Myanmar Areas. Weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State; rain or thundershowers may occur in Kayin State. Scattered thunderstorms may occur in Mandalay and Yangon Regions. Fairly widespread in Lower Sagain, Magway, Bago and Ayeayawady Regions and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Rakhine State. Day temperatures were (3°C) above May average temperatures in Ayeayawady and Taninthayi Regions, (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperatures in Lower Sagain, Mandalay Regions and Shan State, (5°C) to (6°C) below May average temperatures in Upper Sagain Region and Rakhine State and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyauktaw (3.45) inches, Sittway (3.04) inches, Hlaingin (2.95) inches, Haka (2.80) inches, Monywa (2.83) inches, Maungtwinyi (0.79) inches.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 29-5-2011 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 30-5-2011 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 30-5-2011 was (79%).

Rainfall on 30-5-2011 was (Nil).

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 29-5-2011 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 30-5-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 30-5-2011 was (71%).

Rainfall on 30-5-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 30-5-2011 was (Nil) at Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and Mandalay. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (12.32) inches at Nay Pyi Taw, (23.31) inches at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (12.64) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (10) mph from Southwest (12.32) hours MST on 30-5-2011.

Bay Inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and Strong in elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 31st May 2011: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in the Yangon Region, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Lower Sagain, Mandalay, Magway, Bago Regions and Kayah State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Ayeayawady Region, Chin and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltic off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increased rain in Northern Myanmar Areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 31st May 2011: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 31st May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 31st May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Local Transmission

• Opening
• News
• A Worth studying site for ancient Myanmar Heritages
• News
• Secret Places For Yummy Food Inlay Amataya
• News
• Flying Over Manaw Land
• News
• Precious Myanmar Lacquerware

Oversea Transmission

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• Water Fountain Garden (Nay Pyi Taw) “Blessed with a Variety of Beauties”

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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

Vice-President attends tree-planting ceremonies, visits schools in Yangon

YANGON, 30 May—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended the monsoon tree-growing ceremony (2011) organized by Yangon Region at People’s Park and People’s Square here yesterday morning.

Director of Yangon Region Forest Department U Win Myint in his report said that 1.2 million saplings will be planted in Yangon Region this monsoon in compliance with guideline of the chief minister of Yangon Region. Under the plan, 35,229 households will plant three teak saplings each; 12,000 households, 20 saplings of hardwood species; and 25 villages, a one acre-plantation each; related departments, 540,000 teak saplings in 1000 acres of lands in the forest reserves in Hlegu and Taikkyi townships; entrepreneurs, teak saplings of 1150 acres and saplings of hardwood species of 200 acres; Yangon City Development Committee, about 300,000 saplings; and Development Affairs Committees, about 300,000 saplings, totaling about 3 million saplings.

The Vice-President presented saplings to departmental officials.

Union ministers and the Yangon Region chief minister presented saplings to members of maternal and child welfare associations, women’s affairs organizations, war veterans organizations and Red Cross Societies.

The Vice-President planted a Gangaw (mesua ferrea) sapling.

Union Minister for Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan, Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe planted saplings of mahogany, tayoketi, gangaw, gum-kino and starflower.

The Vice-President inspected the processes of planting teak saplings.

He inspected enrolment of students from Grade 1 to Grade 11 at No. 4 Basic Education High School in Ahlon Township.

(See page 8)