Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

President U Thein Sein leaves for Cambodia to attend 20th ASEAN Summit

President U Thein Sein and party being seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Presidents Thida Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and Dr Sai Maung Kham, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and officials on their departure for Cambodia to attend 20th ASEAN Summit.—MNA

The delegation led by President U Thein Sein was seen off by Vice-Presidents Thida Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and Dr Sai Maung Kham, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

MNA

Education and Training Department concludes special courses

YANGON, 2 April—Director-General of Education and Training Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs U Myo Hlaing delivered an address at the concluding-ceremony of the special course No. 24 on financial regulations and the course No. 1 for storekeeper-4, held at the central training school of Education and Training Department under the ministry in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, here on 30 March morning.

There were a total of 87 trainees; 56 trainees for the course No. 24 and 31 trainees for the course No. 1. The courses lasted about 6 weeks.

After the concluding-ceremony, the director-general looked around mess and plantation of perennial and seasonal crops.

MNA

Corals ‘could survive a more acidic ocean’

SCIENCE DAILY, 2 April—Corals may be better placed to cope with the gradual acidification of the world’s oceans than previously thought—giving rise to hopes that coral reefs might escape climatic devastation.

In new research published in the journal Nature Climate Change, an international scientific team has identified a powerful internal mechanism that could enable some corals and their symbiotic algae to counter the adverse impact of a more acidic ocean.

As humans release ever-larger amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, besides warming the planet, the gas is also turning the world’s oceans more acidic—at rates thought to far exceed those seen during past major extinctions of life. This has prompted strong scientific interest in finding out which species are most vulnerable, and which can handle the changed conditions.

In groundbreaking research, a team of scientists from Australia’s ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, at the University of Western Australia and France’s Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l’Environnement, has shown that some marine organisms that form calcium carbonate skeletons have an in-built mechanism to cope with ocean acidification—which others appear to lack.

Internet

Dams and reservoirs supplying potable and irrigation water to local national people in Mon State

Myanmar Tea Culture
Develop receptive skills first

With information explosion alongside globalization process, more and more people in non-English speaking countries are learning English that helps them get a well-paid job in every field.

In Myanmar also, English language learning has come into fashion in recent years. We can now see English language classes everywhere, and it is an encouraging sign at a time when our country is beginning to attract foreigners to come and invest because of her significant changes and reforms.

However, we could not have reached a level as expected in our learning English. Indeed, it is not easy to improve all skills of English simultaneously. So, learners usually have a desire to speak English, which is the first impression in an English-speaking work environment. So, most learners go to spoken English classes.

Actually, every language has receptive and productive skills. Receptive skills mean listening and reading whereas productive skills mean speaking and writing. To be able to speak, we need to listen. For example, a child beginning to speak can utter words only after copying them from their parents and those around. Likewise, we have to read to be able to write. There is no writer who does not read. Although every reader may not write, every writer has to read so that he can produce his own writings.

All the four English skills therefore go together. We cannot speak fluently without listening. We cannot write very well without proper reading. Despite the fact that English language classes are mushrooming in the nation, most learners have yet to improve their English. Some language teachers even offer spoken English classes to learners boasting that they will be able to speak within days or weeks, and it is out of the question. To master English, we will be able to speak within days or weeks, and it is not easy to improve all skills of English simultaneously. To master English, we need to take a proper amount of time, and that is out of the question. To master English, we need to take a proper amount of time, and that is out of the question. To improve all skills of English at once, it is out of the question. To master English, we need to take a proper amount of time, and that is out of the question.

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Iraq death toll for March lowest since 2003 invasion

Iraq says death toll for March lowest since 2003 invasion

Iraqi security forces set up checkpoints on streets leading to fortified Green Zone in Baghdad on 27 March, 2012. — Internet

London, 2 April — The number of Iraqis killed in violence in March, when Baghdad hosted a landmark Arab summit, was the lowest monthly figure since the 2003 US-led invasion, official figures showed on Sunday. In total, 112 Iraqis 78 civilians, 22 policemen and 12 soldiers — died in attacks nationwide, according to figures compiled by the ministries of health, interior and defence. The previous low for a month was in November 2009, when 122 people died.

March’s death toll is markedly lower than the figure for February, when 150 Iraqis were killed, and is less than half the toll for the same month a year ago, when 247 people died. A total of 357 people were wounded in violence last month, including 230 civilians, 85 policemen and 52 soldiers. The figures also showed that 30 insurgents were killed and 152 arrested. Iraq’s deadliest violence last month included a wave of attacks on 20 police stations in Baghdad, rocked 18 cities and towns nationwide, killing 50 people, and wounding 2600, according to the Interior Ministry. Crucially, the Iraqi capital played host to a landmark Arab summit, the first to be held in Baghdad since the now-executed dictator Saddam Hussein’s 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The summit passed largely without violence, though a mortar landed near the Iraqi embassy as the meeting of Arab leaders opened on Thursday, and a suicide attack in west Baghdad killed a policeman on Tuesday, when regional economy and finance ministers were meeting. US forces, who led the invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein, completed their withdrawal from Iraq at the end of last year. Now, just 157 soldiers remain under the US embassy. Charged with limited training of Iraqi forces, along with a marine detachment and a police unit, the mission’s mandate is to support the Iraqi government’s efforts to create a civilian police force capable of investigating and arresting criminals. The flexible US mandate is aimed at a handover to the Iraqis this year, a delay from last summer’s official deadline. But the Iraqi forces have yet to prove their ability to protect, reinforce or retake the South Atlantic islands, largely due to the lack of aircraft carrier strike capability.

“Even in the most favourable circumstances... the deployment of additional fighters and a reasonable war-fighting force would take approximately a week,” the report said. “In effect, this means that the British garrison would have to hold a forward landing zone at most and airbase at least. There is no other way to service the island’s airfield beyond the three or four hours that the mission could be sustained with the fuel for the aircraft on the ground and no further air refueling available. There is no question of providing air support using Royal Air Force fighters.”

“The best that we could do is to hold Mount Pleasant airfield and its environs for a week before help arrived. Then would be no friendlier cover for the landing force and support. There is no other option.”

Somaliland troops and separatists clash, five killed

Hardhisa, 2 April — At least four Somaliland troops and one rebel fighter loyal to the breakaway enclave’s secessionists were killed during clashes on Sunday, both sides said. The fighting first erupted in January after the leaders of the northern regions of Sool, Sanaag and Cayn decided to band together into a new state called Khatumo and declared they wanted to be an independent region within Somalia.

Somaliland’s troops have since clashed with militia fighters loyal to Khatumo, with reports of dozens of casualties. Somaliland is an internationally unrecognized state that declared independence from Somalia in 1991. The newly declared Khatumo state is near the border with Ethiopia and is a disputed area that Somaliland seized from Puntland in 2007, though relations between the two territories have improved since.

“Militia loyal to anti-Somaliland groups in Buhodle and South Sool simul-taneously began fighting (firing) in the early hours of dawn. The army repulsed attacks on both fronts,” said Osman Abdillahi, a spokes- man for Somaliland’s defence ministry. Abdillahi said four Somaliland government soldiers were killed and 16 injured during the fighting. Mohamed Youssuf, a spokesman for the Khatumo group, said one of their fighters was killed and two were injured. — Reuters

Somali nationalism, once central to the struggle against colonial rule and now spreading to the Horn of Africa, has been a cause of friction between the two states. The Somaliland region, which broke away from Somalia in 1991, has been fighting for independence.

Russian plane crashes, kills at least 31

Moscow, 2 April — At least 31 people were killed and 14 were rescued from a plane that crashed in Siberia, Russia’s state-run Itar-Tass news agency said on Monday, citing regional Emergency Situations Ministry official. The ATR 72, a twin-engine, turbo-prop plane, with 43 people on board, crashed some 30-35km (18-22 miles) from the western Siberian city of Tyumen, Emergency Situa-tions Ministry spokeswoman Irina Andrianova said.

The mid-range plane belonging to Russian airline UTair crashed after taking off from Tyumen on a flight to Surgut, an oil town farther north in Siberia. There were 39 passengers and four crew on board, according to pre-liminary information, Andrianova said.

Injured survivors were flown to hospital by helicopter after the plane caught fire following the crash, the news of which was not immediately known, Russian news agencies reported. At least 26 survivors were in critical condition, state-run RIA news agency and a local hospital officials in Tyumen, some 1,720 km (1,070 miles) east of Moscow. UTair has three ATR-72s, made by the French-Israeli manu-facturer ATR, according to the airline’s website. ATR is an equal partnership between two major European aerospace companies, Alenia Aermacchi, a Finmeccanica company, and EADS.

The crash was the deadliest air disaster in Russia since a 40-seat plane crashed into a riverbank near the city of Yaroslavl after taking off on 7 September, 2011, killing 44 people and wiping out the Lokomotiv Yaroslavl ice hockey team.

Reuters

Five die, 13 injured in Kansas truck crash

Kansas City, 2 April — Five people died and 13 were injured on Sunday when a large truck, equipped as a motor home they were riding in left a rural Kansas freeway and careened into a creek, the Kansas Highway Patrol said.

The rig involved in the crash was towing a trailer north on Interstate 35 in Osage County. The drivers were taken to area hospitals, the patrol said. The cause of the crash remained under investigation. The names of the dead and injured were being withheld pending notification of relatives, the patrol said. — Internet

Pakistani boy who burned himself over uniform dies

Peshawar, 2 April — Like many in Pakistan, 13-year-old Kamran Khan’s family did not have enough money to send him to school. He was such a promising student that a local private school allowed him to attend for free, according to his older brother. Kamran never asked for anything, his brother Saleem Khan said. But last month, he pleaded with his mother for days to buy him a new school uniform, a white shalwar kameez, the loose-fitting shirt and pants worn by both men and women in Pakistan. He was embarrassed that he left one was worn out and patched up.

His mother sympathized with him but repeatedly told him the family didn’t have the money. She finally lost her patience a week ago and slapped the boy, according to the brother’s account.

The youth responded by threatening to kill himself if his parents could not buy him the uniform. Kamran then stormed out of the house, doused himself with gasoline and lit himself on fire. He suffered burns on 65 percent of his body and died of his wounds on Saturday, family and officials said Sunday. He was in an army-run hospital in Punjab province, but the family could only raise one-tenth of the roughly $5,300 he needed for his treatment and so he did not get the care he needed. His family had been struggling to get by and provide for their children, even with the school fees waved. Khan’s father borrowed money from relatives to buy a work visa to Saudi Arabia four months ago, but has not managed to find a job there, said Saleem Khan. The mother works as a maid. — Internet

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Itar-Tass

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In this 28 March, 2012, photo, an Arcit Copter 5 drone flies over a waterfront park in Berkeley, Calif. Interest in the civilian use of drones by the US military is pushing law enforcement and other agencies to seek ways to further regulate and control drone activity, raising serious privacy concerns. —INTERNET

Japanese electronics giant Sharp’s newly appointed president Takashi Okuda announces the company’s tie-up with Taipei’s Hon Hai Precision as part of a LCD panel tie-up, as Sharp looks to reverse recent losses, at a Press conference in Tokyo on 27 March, 2012.

When dinosaurs roamed, wildfire was a foe

Fierce dinosaurs may not have allowed their exporters much advantage keep catching up with Taipei’s Hon Hai Precision as part of a LCD pact. While regional powers such as South Korea have managed to sign, Japan’s politicians have not helped. Sony, long a war champion, is struggling. Their own mis-steps have not helped. Sony, long the mightiest of Japan’s post-war champions, is struggling to match the innovation of rivals such as Apple, which has also stolen a march by sewing up a huge range of content. Japan’s politicians are also blamed because of the paucity of free trade deals they have managed to sign, while regional powers such as South Korea have aggressively sought pacts that allow their exporters much access to the market.

The rescue of Russian fishermen off the coast of Sakhalin Island.

The use of drones in the US by law enforcement and other agencies and private citizens alike, including a thriving DIY drone community, is generating much data that’s worth harvesting. To do that in a way that doesn’t consume a massive amount of energy, IBM will need to develop some entirely new processing architectures before construction on the telescope begins in 2017. “We need to be very creative,” says Lujten. “If we were to use standard servers of today, we’d need millions of them.”

Washington monument surveyed for quake effects

WASHINGTON, 2 April — Teams of surveyors have descended on the area around the Washington Monument in recent weeks to search for any minute changes in ground level wrought by the 5.8 magnitude earthquake that rattled huge swaths of the East Coast last 23 Aug. The surveyors with the National Geodetic Survey are equipped with the modern tools that have only increased the accuracy of the centuries-old practice of “leveling,” and they are taking measurements that can reveal even sub-millimeter changes.

Drones coming to a sky near you as interest surges

BERKELEY, 2 April — Sharp-eyed dog walkers along the San Francisco Bay waterfront may have spotted a strange-looking plane zipping overhead recently that that looked strikingly like the US stealth drone captured by Iran in December. A few key differences: The flying wing seen over Berkeley is a fraction of the size of the CIA’s waspy aircraft. And it’s made of plastic foam. But in some ways it’s just like a real spy plane.

Japanese inc faces ‘tectonic changes’: analysts

Japan Inc faces ‘tectonic changes’: analysts

Tokyo, 2 April — Sharp’s announcement that it will team up with Taipei’s Hon Hai Precision on a liquid-crystal display deal is the latest example of the “tectonic changes” rippling through hard-hit Japan Inc. Once the world’s top makers of home appliances and electronics, Japanese producers have lost much of their lustre as they bled red ink in the face of a feared attack from rising Asian rivals. Top names include Sharp, Panasonic, and Sony, which had little trouble staying ahead of US rivals in decades past, “are now exposed to greater tectonic changes,” Daito Institute of Research economist Satoshi Osani told AFP.

IBM’s big data challenge: A telescope that generates more data than the whole Internet

“Japanese manufacturers are facing a structural challenge in making products by themselves,” he added. “No matter how sophisticated technologies they have, Asian rivals with a great price advantage keep catching up.” Japanese firms have suffered deep losses, partly due to their unprofitable television units as the strong yen makes their products more expensive abroad and as tough competition from foreign rivals, including South Korea’s Samsung, also cheapens. They are also beset by Japan’s relatively high cost of labour, electricity, imported fuels and raw materials. Their own mis-steps

Russian anglers rescued as Sakhalin ice floe

Japanese Inc faces ‘tectonic changes’: analysts

Moscow, 2 April — More than 600 anglers stranded on an ice floe in the Russian Far East have been rescued as the operation to airlift them off the ice involved 48 people, two helicopters and 11 ships, the emergencies ministry said. Some of the rescued anglers were carried rescue workers. The ice floe, off the island of Sakhalin, broke free. Fishing through bore-holes on ice–bound waters is a popular winter pastime in Russia. None of the rescued anglers airlifted off the ice floe needed medical assistance, the ministry said in a statement. The ice floe had drifted 500m away from the coast before running aground again.

The use of drones in the US by law enforcement and other agencies and private citizens alike, including a thriving DIY drone community, is generating much data that’s worth harvesting. To do that in a way that doesn’t consume a massive amount of energy, IBM will need to develop some entirely new processing architectures before construction on the telescope begins in 2017. “We need to be very creative,” says Lujten. “If we were to use standard servers of today, we’d need millions of them.”
Laughter clubs catch on in stressed-out Hong Kong

Dick Yu (C) leads participants in “laughter yoga” in a park in Hong Kong, in February. The 35-year-old trained hypnotherapist set up Hong Kong’s first laughter club in 2007, after he discovered the concept of laughter yoga — made popular as an exercise routine by Indian physician Madan Kataria in 1995. — INTERNET

Long use of any hormones poses cancer risk

WASHINGTON, 2 April — New research suggests that long-term use of any type of hormones to ease menopausal symptoms can raise a woman’s risk of breast cancer. It is already known that taking pills that combine estrogen and progesterin — the most common type of hormone therapy — can increase breast cancer risk. But women who no longer have a uterus can take estrogen alone, which was thought to be safe and possibly even slightly beneficial in terms of cancer risk.

The new study suggests otherwise, if the pills are used for many years. It tracked the health of about 60,000 nurses and found that use of any kind of hormones for 10 years or more slightly raised the chances of developing breast cancer. “There’s a continued increase in risk with longer durations of use and there does not appear to be a plateau,” said study leader Dr. Wendy Chen of Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. — INTERNET

Childbirth takes longer now than 50 years ago

WASHINGTON, 2 April — Many tasks can be tackled more quickly now than 50 years ago, but delivering a baby naturally it seems is not one of them, according to a US government study. Compared with the 1960s, US women have in recent years spent two to three hours longer in labour, according to researchers at the US National Institutes of Health, who said the findings suggest that doctors may need to rethink the definition of “normal” labour. The extra time is spent in the first stage of labour—the longest part of the process, before the “pushing” stage, according to findings published in the American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology.

Mothers are different as well. On average, they’re older and weigh more, and their newborns are bigger too. “But even when we take these changing demographics into account, labor is still longer,” said lead researcher Katherine Laughon, at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Though Laughon said the study wasn’t able to fully address the potential reasons for the difference, one partial explanation may be epidermal pain relief, which is far more common now than 50 years ago. Epidurals are known to slow labor down by about 40 to 90 minutes.

US automakers expect sizzling sales for March

DETROIT, 2 April — US auto sales are expected to continue at a strong pace in March, capping the best quarter in four years for new vehicle purchases as the overall US economy improved and new car buyers found easier financing. The strong first quarter in the US market could temper the impact of weak auto sales in Europe, where General Motors Co and Ford Motor Co have lost money.

“The strong US data should help support first-quarter earnings and valuations, even if US sales aren’t as strong as expected softness in Europe,” RBC Capital Markets Analyst Joseph Spak said in a research note. On average, 34 analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters expect March sales to hit an annualized pace of 14.75 million vehicles. That would be up from 13.3 million a year ago but down from 15.1 million in February. Strong sales in March would be the most convincing evidence yet this year of a sustained recovery in the US auto sector. Analysts said unseasonably warm weather last month and a potential offset from low gas prices and high used car prices also prompted some consumers to buy new vehicles earlier than planned.—Reuters

A pregnant woman receives an ultrasound during a prenatal exam at the Maternity Outreach Mobile in Phoenix, Arizona. Outreach.— INTERNET

The findings were based on two government studies done decades apart. One, between 1959 and 1966, included about 39,500 women who delivered a full-term baby, while the other tracked more than 98,000 women who had a full-term baby between 2002 and 2008. All of the women had a spontaneous labour—that is, not induced. When it came to length of labour, first-time mothers in recent years typically spent 2.6 hours longer in the first stage, compared with their counterparts in the 1960s. The difference dropped to two hours with women who had given birth before.—INTERNET

Temporary outage of Visa card network on Sunday

WASHINGTON, 2 April — A technical problem affecting the Visa network barred some people around the United States from using their credit and debit cards for about 45 minutes on Sunday, the company said. The outage was caused by a recent update Visa has made to its system, said Visa Inc spokeswoman Sandra Chu. She said Visa had trouble processing some transactions as a result, but the system is operating normally now.

Chu said the problem Sunday was unrelated to the security breach potentially affecting Visa and MasterCard customers reported on Friday by boasting Global Payments Inc. The outage occurred from around 2:40 pm to 3:20 pm EDT, a person from a major bank said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because bank employees were not authorized to speak publicly. Visa had notified the banks that are members of its network of the problem.

Consumers and merchants reported having Visa cards rejected on Sunday. At the Shoot Smart gun range in Fort Worth, Texas, manager Jared Sloane said credit and debit transactions stopped working early in the afternoon. Sloane said a few customers walked out when they could only pay with cash or check, but otherwise the problem wasn’t yet much of a disruption. Shoot Smart said problems with transactions were persisting at about 6:40 EDT. Chu said Visa’s system was fully up and operational.—INTERNET

Asia stocks mostly up as

BANGKOK, 2 April—Asian stock markets rose Monday after a Chinese survey showed that manufacturers in the world’s No.2 economy boosted production for a fourth straight month. Japan’s Nikkei 225 index gained 0.8 percent to 10,163.59, while General Motors Co and Ford Motor Co have lost money.

Hong Kong’s Hang Seng fell 0.7 percent to 20,419.84. The 35-year-old trained hypnotherapist set up Hong Kong’s first laughter club in 2007, after he discovered the concept of laughter yoga — made popular as an exercise routine by Indian physician Madan Kataria in 1995. — INTERNET

March was 48.3, down from 49.6 in HSBC Index, which tends to reflect trends in the export sector more strongly than the official index, has remained below 50 for five straight months, and recorded its lowest average reading in three years in the first quarter, HSBC said. Analysts at Agricole CIB in Hong Kong said the official reading on China manufacturing “surprisingly upbeat” and said set the stage for a strong week in stock markets.

“Investors still watch PMI readings from other regional economies, including Korea, Taiwan and India. If they also improve, the story of Asia regaining momentum ... would provide more lasting support for markets,” Credit Agricole said in a report. The data from China boosted Australia’s raw materials sector, whose fortunes are largely tied to Chinese demand. IBHP Billiton, the world’s largest mining company, jumped 2.3 percent. Fortescue Metals Group gained 1.7 percent. Rio Tinto Ltd rose 1.6 percent.—INTERNET

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Asia stocks mostly up as
Dams and reservoirs supplying potable and irrigation water to local national people in Mon State

Wapa Dam in Thaton of Mon State supplying potable and irrigation water to local people.

Yinnyein Sluice Gate, one of the irrigation facilities built so as to develop the agricultural sector of Mon State, facilitating the cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy as well as beans and pulses.

Seikkyun Sluice Gate near Seikkyun Village in Thaton Township, Thaton District, Mon State, supplying water for growing monsoon and summer paddy.

As networks of irrigation facilities are being built in Mon State like in other states and regions, Kataik Dam near Kataik Village in Paung Township is one of those facilities to enable local people to engage in cultivation in all weathers.

Australia targets Americans to fill skills shortages

CANBERRA, 2 April — Australia unveiled measures Monday targeting Americans as it looks to fill a jobs shortage in the resources sector during boom time for the industry thanks to demand from China and other parts of Asia.

Surging commodities exports to Asia helped Australia avoid a recession during the global downturn and the government has a massive pipeline of investments but it is struggling to find enough labour.

Skills, Science and Research Minister Chris Evans said the demand for skilled workers was likely to peak over the next three to five years, and the United States had the supply to fill the gaps.

The announcement comes with unemployment in the United States remaining at a painfully high 8.3 percent — despite a recent run of improvement in the jobs market — as the economy struggles to recover from the financial crisis. — Internet

The world’s largest display manufacturer, Samsung display is launched

SEOUL, 2 April — Samsung Display Co, Ltd, a global leader in display panel technologies and products, announced today that it has been officially launched as a new corporation, spun off from Samsung Electronics. Samsung Display held its inauguration ceremony yesterday and will begin business operations in earnest after carrying out incorporation registration on 3 April.

Donggun Park, executive vice president and head of the former Samsung Electronics’ LCD Business was elected CEO of Samsung Display. The company, which recorded 22.7 trillion KRW (approximately 20 billion US dollars) in annual revenue in 2011 as Samsung Electronics’ LCD Business, became the world’s largest display manufacturer overnight, based on its 20,000 employees and five production facilities worldwide. — Internet
Myanmar Tea Culture

Either in busy big towns or sleepy small ones in Myanmar, crowded teashops, big or small, tidy or shabby are common scenes among other landmarks. Since dawn after dusk, you can see different ages of people sitting there chatting in groups or gazing alone. Tea has long been everyday beverage of all social classes and is an inseparable part of life here in Myanmar.

Myanmar tea culture is often misunderstood as wasting time by people in Myanmar. Crowded teashops, big or small, tidy or shabby are common scenes among other land- marks. Since dawn after dusk, you can see different ages of people sitting there chatting or gazing alone. Tea has long been everyday beverage of all social classes and is an inseparable part of life here in Myanmar.

Installation of GSM-UMTS system launched in Kyaukse

Kyaukse, 2 April—According to the implementation of the GSM-UMTS extension project of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, a ceremony to launch the GSM-UMTS system was held at the Kyaukse Auto-Exchange in Mandalay on 28 March morning. Mandalay Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Hsan, Region Minister for Forestry and Mines U Than Soe Myint, Region Telecommunications, the deputy commissioner of Kyaukse District and departmental officials and responsible persons of Asia Mega Link Co Ltd that is cooperating with Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications in implementing the project.

OG specialists leave for Malaysia to attend training course, workshop

YANGON, 2 April—With a view to promoting the gynaecological endoscope surgery, a team comprising Associate Professor Dr Daw Thin Aung Aung, Associate Professor Dr Daw Khin May Thin, OG Specialist Dr Daw Kyin Kyin San, Assistant Lecturer Dr Daw Cherry Khaing, Assistant Surgeon Dr Daw Ei Shwe Sin and Assistant Surgeon Dr Daw Phyu Phyu and Assistant Surgeon Dr Daw Mya Pwint Phyu of Myanmar OG Surgeons Association left Yangon International Airport on 29 March to attend the endoscope surgical course and the workshop to be held in Malacca of Malaysia on 30 March.

The training course and workshop will be supervised by Chairmen of Malaysian OG Surgeons Association Dr S Selva.
Workshop on Inlay Lake Conservation Project held

Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun delivers an address at workshop on launch of Inlay Lake Conservation Project.—MNA

Sagai Region Chief Minister attends hospital opening ceremonies in Monywa

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Sagai Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye unveiled the signboard of upgraded 50-bedded Monywa Traditional Medicine Hospital on 30 March morning. Deputy Health Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Sagai Region Hluttaw Speaker U Thin Hlaing and Head of Region Traditional Medicine Department U Kyaw Swe formally opened the hospital.

The deputy minister, the region social affairs minister, Amyotha Hluttaw representative Dr Win Myint Aung, the director of Traditional Medicines Department and donors formally opened the extended wards. The region chief minister sprinkled scented water on the inscription.

The deputy minister, the region minister and Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Khin Maung Oo formally opened 200-bedded extended wards of Monywa People’s Hospital. The region chief minister unveiled the signboard of the hospital and sprinkled scented water of the inscription.

Raising reading habit, book donations held in Lashio

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—A ceremony to donate books and publications organized by Shan State Information and Public Relations Department was held at the city hall in Lashio on 28 March.

Officials awarded the winners in the reading, essay and extempore talks contests held in villages of Lashio Township. Deputy Speaker of the Shan State Hluttaw U Sai Hkam Hmat, State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myo Tun and officials accepted 150 books donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation, 500 books by IRPD, 25 TVCs, 17 EVDs, 34 radio and 1350 books by wellwishers.

At the ceremony, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise (Lashio), State Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department, families of District Forest Department and Myanmar news crew donated cash for daily newspapers for one year to six villages.—MNA

44th SEAFDEC Council Meeting kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The opening session of 44th Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC) Council Meeting, hosted by Myanmar, was held at Myat Taw Win Hotel here this morning.

Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye delivered an opening address.

Deputy Director-General of Malaysian Fisheries Department Haji Ismail bin Abu Hassan extended greetings.

Director-General of Fisheries Department U Khin Ko Lay presided over the meeting. Directors-general of the Fishery Departments from 10 ASEAN countries and Japan and Singapore, council directors, high-level officials, officers from SEAFDEC Secretariat and four divisions, FAO and ASEAN Secretariat local NGOs and observers attended the meeting.—MNA

Students take scholarship exams

YANGON, 30 March—Yangon Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein visited Kyauktada Township Basic Education High School, BEHS No.1 in Lanmadaw Township and BEHS Nos.6&2 in Basic Education High School No.4 in Sittway. —MNA

Hoisting golden umbrella atop Gandakuti Chamber

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin made a speech at the coordination meeting for hoisting golden umbrella atop Gandakuti Chamber of Maha Muni Buddha Image in Kyauktaw Township on 28 March.

He inspected thriving 50-acre summer paddy plantation near Zeeardaw Dam in Kyauktaw Township.

On 29 March, he delivered an address at the opening ceremony of first-aid (trainer) course for basic education teachers at the hall of Basic Education High School No.4 in Sittway. —MNA

Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye addresses opening of 44th Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC) Council Meeting.—MNA

Publications donated for village libraries in Myeik District

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Organized by Myeik District Information and Public Relations Department, a ceremony to raise reading skill and donate publications took place at Aungmingalar Youths Library in Myeiktaung Village in Myeik Township on 28 March morning.

Then, the Ministry of Information contributed publications to a total of 10 village libraries and the region libraries, a total of 5 village libraries. —MNA
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Announcement No. 19/2012
11th Waxing of Tagu, 1373 ME
(2 April, 2012)
Announcement of names of Region Hluttaw Representatives

According to announcements of respective Region and State Subcommissions that the following persons were elected in first Region Hluttaw by-elections held on 1 April, 2012, under Section (49) Subsection (b) of Region Hluttaw Election Law, these persons are announced as Region Hluttaw representatives of Region Hluttaw constituencies shown against each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. Name</th>
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<td>for Democracy</td>
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<td>No. 10 NLD</td>
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Chairman
Union Election Commission

Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Myat Hein warmly welcomes Chief of the Air Staff of Bangladesh

The Chief of the Air Staff of Bangladesh introduced his entourage to the Commander-in-Chief (Air). The Commander-in-Chief (Air) also introduced his entourage to the Chief of the Air Staff of Bangladesh. —MNA
**MANDALAY, 2 April—**

Mandalay City Development Committee is striving in shaping Mandalay City as a hygienic city. The committee cooperates with the Food and Drug Administration of the Ministry of Health checked supermarkets and markets not to import and sell unregistered medicines, low quality medicines and damaged pharmaceuticals at the market. The committee also seized all damaged medicines of the market and destroyed them.

At 9 a.m. on 10 March, a ceremony to destroy medicines, foodstuffs, personal goods, various sorts of cosmetics, spices, foreign-made biscuits, various items of snacks, soft drinks, bottles of Pseudophedrine medicine was held at Kyangyan Cemetery in Pathemyi Township.

These goods were worth K 6,065,470. Workers of the Sanitation Department of Mandalay City Development Committee and staff of Mandalay Region Health Department participated in incineration of the seized goods.

It was supervised by the Mandalay Mayor—Thitha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

**Children injected measles vaccine in Toungoo**

**TOUNGOO, 2 April—**
The age-wise measles vaccination was held at the administrative offices of Ward 8 in Toungoo on 23 March. Nurse Daw Khin Khin Hlanig and party injected over 70 children from nine months to five years old from the ward. The work was supervised by Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Gyi Maung of Traditional Medicine Hospital and Head of District Health Department Dr Khin May Thwin.

In Toungoo Township, the age-wise measles vaccination was campaigned in 23 wards to inject vaccine to 17,805 children from 22 to 31 March—Myanma Alin

**Thanlyin Township observes World TB Day 2012**

**YANGON, 2 April—**
The ceremony in commemoration of the World TB Day 2012 was observed at Shin Saw Pu Hall in Thanlyin on 26 March afternoon.

Deputy Commissioner U Sai Than Win of the District General Administration Department made a speech.

Deputy Head of Yango Region Health Department Dr Wai Mar Mar Tun read the message to the World TB Day sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein. Head of District Health Department Dr Nilar Soe read the address to be delivered by Vice-President Dr Sai Maik Kham at the ceremony to mark the World TB Day.

**Stake driven for construction of village library in Ponnagyun**

**PONNAGYUN, 2 April—**A ceremony to drive stake for construction of Kundali Gama Youth Life Aminyaung Library was held in Nadaungkya Village of Ponnagyun Township of Rakhine State on 27 March morning. The library founder drove stakes for the library. Next, Township Administrator U Ni Nyi Aung, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Hla Ba Thin, Village administrator U Ba Yin and township departmental officials laid cornerstones for construction of the new building.

At the ceremony, librarian U Thein Tun Aung accepted books and publications donated by Ashin Adica of Yangon and township level departmental personnel.

**Maungdee Bridge Commissioned into service in Labutta**

**LABUTTA, 2 April—**A ceremony to inaugurate Maungdee Creek Bridge was held in Maungdee Village, tract of Ngapadaw Township on 23 March morning.

Deputy Commissioner U Aye Maung Kyi of Labutta District General Administration Department made a speech.

Maungdee Village administrator U Tun Tun Aung reported on construction of the bridge.

Member of the bridge construction committee U Kyi Shein read the financial report for the bridge. A local people spoke words of thanks for construction of the bridge.

At first, the deputy commissioner of the district, wellwisher Shwenuni! Gold Shop owner U Khin Oo of Labutta Township, Executive Officer U Tin Htut of Labutta Township Development Affairs attended the ceremony to hand over the trophy to the leader of the construction committee U Kyi Shein.

The bridge was built at a cost of K 5,119,850 as capital donation presented by the wellwisher and K 2,297,073 contributed by the local people. The facility is 57 feet long, 10 feet wide and 10 feet high reinforced concrete bridge.

**New executives elected at Artistes and Artisans Asiyayon**

**YANGON, 2 April—**The Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiyayon (Central) and election of new executives was held at the National Museum on Pyay Road in Yangon on 29 March.

It was attended by Chairman of the Asiyayon U Thaung Han and executives, and artists from various arts across the nation.

On behalf of the chairman, Vice-Chairman Artist U Thant Sin (a) Hla Tin and on behalf of the patrons, Patron Artist U Mya Han made speeches and read their respective reports.

After elections, Artist U Maung Maung Hla Myint, Secretary UNiPoOo and new executives were elected for the second four-year terms.

**Second mass sports activity trophy handed over**

**KYONPYAW, 2 April—**A ceremony to hand over the second prize in the most sports activity trophy in December mass sports the whole nation in 2011 to Kyonpyaw Township Sports and Physical Education Committee was held at Ayeya Min Hall in Kyonpyaw on 16 March.

Chairman of Township Sports and Physical Education Committee Township Administrator U Thein Sein made a speech. Technical Officer U Tin Htut handed over the trophy to the Township Administrator.

**Labutta launches age-wise measles vaccination**

**LABUTTA, 2 April—**The age-wise measles vaccination 2012 for the whole township of Labutta in Labutta District of Ayeyarwady Region was campaigned on 22 March morning.

The ceremony was held in Ward 1. Under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner U Aye Maung Kyi of District General Administration Department, Dr San Shwe Win of World Health Organization, Medical Superintendent Dr Sein Hlaing of District General Hospital, Commander of District Police Force Police Major Win Kyian and Township Administrator U Bo Bio Min Thaik, district and township level departmental personnel and members of social organizations participated vaccination of measles to the children.

They then presented snacks to the children.

**Drive Safely**
Airlines urge review as UK air passenger duty rises by 8%  

London, 2 April — Air passenger duty (APD) has risen by 8%, as announced by the government in the Autumn Statement last year. For short-haul flights, the tax has increased from £12 to £13. For long-haul flights of more than 4,000 miles, it has gone up from £85 to £92.

In light of the increase, airlines called on the Treasury to review the impact on “hard working families”. A Treasury minister said the majority of passengers will only pay an extra £1 as a result of the rise. Also as of 1 April, corporation tax in the UK falls by 1% to 24%. The changes in APD will also see it extended to private business jets for the first time.

In a joint statement the bosses of EasyJet, British Airways owner IAG, Ryanair and Virgin Atlantic said the increase would “hit millions of hard-working families and damage the wider economy.” We urge [Chancellor] George Osborne to make APD the first tax to be examined under the Treasury’s new review of the wider impacts of taxation on the economy,” they said. They added that further planned rises in the tax before 2016 would mean a family of four paying £500 in tax to fly economy class to Australia. In 2005, they said, the same family would have paid £80.

Sir Richard Branson, who owns Virgin Atlantic, told the BBC the increasing tax might put some people off visiting the UK. “Tax is all too often very low when it’s not actually costing the country money and I think it’s getting to a stage where it’s actually going to cost the country money,” he said.

The business group the CBI has also called for a lower rise in APD.

The government defended the rise by saying it had frozen APD last year. Most passengers would pay a pound more on their flights as a result of the rise, said Economic Secretary to the Treasury Chloe Smith.

Gas flare oil platform ‘extinguishes itself’  

The flare on the crippled North Sea oil platform at the centre of a gas leak has extinguished itself, the oil company Total has confirmed. All workers had been evacuated from an Elgin installation, 150 miles off Aberdeen, earlier in the week. The company said the evidence that the flame was out came from over flights and from vessels close to the exclusion zone. The leak has been ongoing since last Sunday.

A Total spokesman said: “We received the first indication that the flare may be out at 12:07 yesterday from our first surveillance flight of the day.

“The news was then reaffirmed at 13:46 following our second flight of the day.

“We received what we consider final confirmation at 08:20 this morning, when our sea vessels on location reported no further flare activity through the night.”

Scottish Environment Secretary Richard Lochhead said: “Now that the flare is no longer burning, a key factor relating to this incident has hopefully now been removed from calculations. However, we will continue to work through the Government Interest Group to assist Total in assessing the remaining risks as effectively as possible and bring forward an effective, safe solution.”

He added: “The Scottish government recognises Total’s ongoing surveillance of the Elgin Platform throughout the incident and we ask that new developments continue to be shared. “We remain in close contact with Total, DECC, Marine Coastguard Agency and Health and Safety Executive during this time and will continue to monitor the environmental situation in the surrounding area.”

On Friday, Total UK’s managing director Philippe Guyas said the company had not found any evidence of human error.

The company believes the leak is coming from a rock formation above the main reservoir, at a depth of 4,000m. It had insisted there was no risk the flare would ignite the gas cloud beneath the platform.

The leak at Elgin platform, 150 miles off Aberdeen, had been ongoing since Saturday.

Figure skating-Kostner ends Italy’s wait, champion boomed  

Nice, 2 April — Canadian Patrick Chan crashed so hard during his free program on Saturday that an hour later he was still holding an ice pack to his bruised body.

It was a scene all too familiar to Carolina Kostner but the Italian finally ended a decade of disappointment as she and Chan were crowned champion at the world figure skating championships on Saturday.

Kostner has long been the standout female skater in Europe, winning four continental titles in the last six years, but is equally known for some spectacular meltdowns. None was more painful than the one she suffered a hop, slip and jump away from the French Riviera at the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics, when she became the butt of jokes in the country after falling on practically every jump she attempted.

On Saturday, she finally won the title on her ninth attempt with a career-best score of 128.94 in the free skate to give her a total of 198.94 as she became the first Italian woman to win the global title. “Being here reminded me so much of Torino but this time I was determined to make amends,” Kostner told reporters.

The 25-year-old beat her closest rival, Russian Alena Leonova, by more than five points, while Japan’s Akiko Suzuki trailed in third with 180.68. “I just wanted to skate my best, straight from my heart,” added Kostner. She was in tears.

Former Spice Girl Melanie Brown wants to become an Aussie  

London, 2 April — Former Spice Girl Melanie Brown says she is considering turning her back on Britain to become an Australian citizen. The singer, 36, has spent much of the past 18 months commuting between London, Los Angeles and Sydney and recently made Australia her permanent base. She is a judge on the hugely popular talent show ‘X Factor Australia’.

“I would love to become an Australian citizen,” she told Sydney’s Daily Telegraph, adding that her 15-year-old daughter was at a local school and doing well. “I’ve set up shop here. We are really happy and settled. Hopefully you are going to want me here for a long time.”

Brown, or Mel B, made her name as ‘Scary Spice’ in the massively popular 1990s girl group Girls, which featured Victoria Beckham, wife of English footballing superstar David Beckham.

Truckers driving on Class A drugs to ‘relieve boredom’  

London, 2 April — A culture of Class A drug taking is common among some drivers working in the UK road haulage business, a lengthy industry insiders. Truck drivers are resorting to cocaine, speed and ecstasy to help keep themselves awake on long journeys. Drug testing firms say to have around 10% of drivers in an haulage firm tests positive for drugs was “not unusual”. Road safety minister Mike Penning insists Britain’s roads are among the safest in the world. Theorry driver speaking to the BBC’s 5 live Investigations programme, who works for a major international haulage company, claims he regularly sees users drive ecstasy, cannabis, speed and cocaine to relieve the boredom of lengthy trips. The highly experienced driver has tried to raise the issue with managers at his firm but says nobody wants to take responsibility and pass the buck to another department.

Trucks carry out drug testing for hauliers suggest around 1 in 10 drivers take drugs.
Ten bowling champion offers bowling tips to Rick Santorum: ‘You can definitely tell he doesn’t do it for competition’

BRISTOL, 2 April — Rick Santorum has visited a different bowling alley every day during his weekend campaign swing through Wisconsin, but this time, he had some competition.

Tyler Buechel, a high school bowling champion whose father owns the alley where Santorum and his family played on Saturday night, was a New Jersey politician’s competition.

Buechel joined Santorum on the hardwood, and while Santorum’s not a bad amateur bowler, the kid schooled him. “I’ve been bowling for 13 years and I’m 15,” Buechel, who lives in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, said. “I’ve been bowling since I was two and a half.”

As for Santorum’s bowling skills, Buechel said he could use some more practice. “You can definitely tell he doesn’t do it for competition,” he said.

Motor home crash kills five in northeast Kansas

YORK, 2 April — A motor home carrying a family of five flipped over on the Kansas Highway 39 near Leeds on Monday. The Kansas Highway Patrol said the northbound Freightliner motor home was carrying 18 people and pulling a trailer when the driver lost control at 9 am Sunday on Interstate 35.

The Kansas Highway Patrol reported that the motor home crashed into a ravine. Trooper Don Hughes said the victims included adults and children. He said he didn’t know how many people were injured. The crash is under investigation and the names of the victims weren’t immediately released.

Football turns to helmet technology to tackle head injuries

BOSTON, 2 April — As Americans grow more aware of the risk of brain injury tied to football—the country’s most popular sport—players and coaches are experimenting with the latest technology in a bid to make the game safer.

Advances in training have led to bigger, faster players who have made the high-impact sport more dangerous, particularly at the college and professional level. Football fans have witnessed devastating instances of concussion-related brain damage and even death in players as young as high-school age. They include 16-year-old Ridge Barden, 16, who collapsed later died at a hospital. Such grim examples have spawned advances in training and new rules for playing the game. The largest US helmet manufacturers, as well as independent designers, are testing novel ways to cushion big and small blows to the head, or to provide immediate relief in the minutes after a major injury.

During a game in Phoenix, New York last October and later died at a hospital. Such grim examples have spawned advances in training and new rules for playing the game. The largest US helmet manufacturers, as well as independent designers, are testing novel ways to cushion big and small blows to the head, or to provide immediate relief in the minutes after a major injury.

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One-year-old Calgary girl plunges five storeys after leaning on window screen

C The one-year-old girl was seriously injured after falling out through a window screen. Police say the girl was in her bedroom on Sunday morning in a window screen. The screen was open and the girl was leaning on the screen. The screen gave way and the girl fell to the ground below.

Police say the girl was rushed to hospital in critical condition. They say her condition was later upgraded to serious but stable. Investigators say it was an accident and that no charges are planned. Police say that the circumstances of the accident are under investigation.

Internet

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A driver mistakenly declared dead in a Melbourne car wreck was still moving when he was laid out for the coroner and wrapped in plastic, a tow truck driver who was at the scene says. Trevor Oliver says the 30-year-old man was left in the car for up to an hour before State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers removed his body. “The SES got the body out of the car and placed him on the side of the road and wrapped him in plastic,” Mr Oliver told Fairfax Radio.

“For another 40 minutes after, the driver continued to move, which was alarming everybody. “It was when the coroner turned up to pick up the body that they went to put the body in the back of the coroner’s van and the coroner and the SES volunteers noticed that the body was still warm and had a pulse.” The 30-year-old Hawthorn man was trapped in his Porsche which had been in a collision with a four-wheel drive near Bacchus Marsh, west of Melbourne, about 2am on Sunday. Two Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance (MICA) paramedics declared the man dead.

They were later called back to the scene and treated the man before he was taken to the Royal Melbourne Hospital in a life-threatening condition. Ambulance Victoria regional manager Simon Thomson could not explain how the paramedics concluded that the man was dead, despite having a “cursory discussion” with them on Sunday night."Paramedics use a process to assess whether someone has died or not. We’re not clear of the exact circumstances on this occasion,” he told reporters on Monday.

In an Aussee first, preserved 380 million-year-old fish fossils from Western Australia’s Kimberley Region are the first example of males engaging in intimate sex with a female. The male of the fish species is not part of a romantic couple, but instead a group of unusual bony claspers, or paired fins, which enabled them to insert sperm into the female partner. Dr John Long, a paleontologist based at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County in the US, said that unlike other prehistoric fish, the ancient Aussee fossils got physical to reproduce.

“Well, you know we’ve been a nation of not very romantic bologmes and someone had to start it,” the scientist originally from Australia told AFP on Monday. The preserved fossils were found at the Gogo site, in Western Australia, in 2005. Placoderms died out 350 million years ago at the end of the Devonian period but for 70 million years they were the most prolific life form on earth. Their style of romantic sex was happening some 200 million years before the arrival of mammals.

“It must have been enjoyable or they wouldn’t have done it, or they would have becomemoments,” Dr Long said. “These fish were copulating. It was the beginning of love, if you want to define love that led to courtship. “We know for sure these things had intimate ways of mating.” Dr Long, the vice-president of research and collections at the American museum, said the fossils had perfectly preserved embryos.

Taylor Swift wins ACM entertainer of the year

LAS VEGAS, 2 April—Taylor Swift won her second consecutive entertainer of the year award at the 47th Annual Academy of Country Music Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada, on 1 April, 2012. —INTERNET

Lambert, Shelton big winners at country awards

LAS VEGAS, 2 April—It was a night for married couples. Taylor Swift won the award for female vocalist of the year, Lambert won the award for female vocalist of the year and Shelton won the award for male vocalist of the year at the 47th Annual Academy of Country Music Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada, on 1 April, 2012. —INTERNET

Blake Shelton accepts the award for male vocalist of the year at the 47th Annual Academy of Country Music Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada, on 1 April, 2012. —INTERNET

Lambert, Shelton big winners at country awards

Taylor Swift wins ACM entertainer of the year

“We The Hunger Games” continues to rule North America box office

LOS ANGELES, 2 April—”The Hunger Games” stayed atop the North America box office chart this weekend, garnering 61.1 million US dollars in ticket revenue which successfully helped the latest Lionsgate actioner to fend off a pair of new films.

Widely regarded as the real first big blockbuster of the year,”The Hunger Games” saw its sales at 4,137 locations in the US and Canada dropped by 60 percent, a dramatic slide for the independent filmmaking firm’s tentpole film. However, the film continued drawing moviegoers including the Republican Presidential candidate Mitt Romney and his family to theaters across the region, thanks to its excellent word-of-mouth and aggressive marketing in the leadup to the 23 March release.

The Gary Ross film, which stars Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth, is on track for 231 million dollars in ticket sales during 10 days of exhibition. A pair of films, Warner Bros/Legendary Pictures’ 3D action fantasy sequel “Wrath Of The Titans” and Relativity Media’s Snow White comedy “Mirror Mirror,” have failed to dethrone the Lionsgate blockbuster.

“Hunger Games” poster

Blind dog rescued from trash pile gets its eyesight back and a new home

When they found the dog, she was blind in both eyes and reportedly had the worst case of fleas they had ever seen. Throughout the video, you get to watch the dog, which they named “Fiona,” experience a miraculous recovery. After a nationwide fundraising and awareness effort, Fiona was able to receive an expensive surgery that restored vision to one of her eyes.

Fiona has since been adopted and her rescue video has become something of a hit on the Web. Here’s another video chronicling her recovery. This video was taken after she was adopted and includes scenes of Fiona wearing an unbearably adorable Santa hat.
Dalgliesh admits struggling Liverpool have problems

Liverpool's manager Kenny Dalgliesh, seen here during their English Premier League match against Newcastle at St James' Park, in Newcastle upon Tyne, on 1 April. Newcastle won 2-0. — Internet

LONDON, 2 April — Liverpool manager Kenny Dalgliesh has accepted there are problems within his side after they slumped to a sixth defeat in seven Premier League matches at Newcastle United. But the 61-year-old Anfield great has insisted he will stay calm in such a bad to get the Reds back on track ahead of their FA Cup semi-final date with Mersseyside rivals Everton on 14 April.

Dalgliesh will have to make do without goalkeeper Pepe Reina for that game after the Spanish international was sent off in the closing stages of the 2-0 defeat at Newcastle’s St James’ Park on Sunday. It was a troubled afternoon for Liverpool, who ended up with former Newcastle defender José Enrique in goal and saw another ex-Magpie, striker Andy Carroll, direct his frustration towards his boss before disappearing up the tunnel after his second-half substitution.

Dalgliesh, whose side face Aston Villa at Anfield on Saturday and travel to Blackburn Rovers before their Wembley clash with Everton, said his players had to use their frustration to their advantage.

“We’ve got to try and remain calm and sort out the problems that we have to get ourselves back to the way that we want to be playing,” said Dalgliesh. “Liverpool team who’ve already won the League Cup this season.” — Internet

Redknapp ready for Champions League place battle

LONDON, 2 April — Tottenham Hotspur manager Harry Redknapp is expecting the battle for Champions League places to go right to the end of the English Premier League season. Tottenham’s 3-1 win at home to Swansea left them level on points with third-placed local rivals Arsenal and occupying the fourth and final spot on offer to English clubs. Importantly, Sunday’s victory at White Hart Lane also saw them pull five points clear of nearest pursuers Chelsea and Newcastle with seven games left.

“If it’s going to be tight,” Redknapp said. “I wouldn’t write Chelsea off. I wouldn’t write Newcastle off; they’ve done a miracle as well and Arsenal obviously are there. ‘It’s going to be interesting but that’s what football is about. That’s what supporters want — they want excitement. It’s going to be a great end to the season,” added Redknapp, the favourite to succeed Fabio Capello as England boss. Tottenham were 1-up at half-time thanks to Rafael van der Vaart’s early opener before Gylfi Sigurdsson, on loan from German club Hoffenheim, equalised for Swansea. But Spurs scored a first league win in six games thanks to late headers from striker Emmanuel Adebayor, on loan from title contenders Manchester City. “Although we were fantastic in the first half,” said Redknapp. “The players did everything we asked — pressed and closed and had all the chances really.” — Internet

Yoo edges Kim in playoff for Mission Hills title

RANCHO MIRAGE, 2 April South Korea’s Yoo Sun-young rolled in a 15-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff to beat compatriot Kim Kyung-kyung and win the Kraft Nabisco Championship at Mission Hills Country Club on Sunday.

Yoo, who tied Kim at nine-under-par 279 after 72 holes, birdied the par-five 18th at Mission Hills Country Club to claim her first major title. Kim squandered a chance to win the first women’s major of the year in regulation when she missed a one-foot putt par at the final hole. — Reuters

Novak Djokovic wins Key Biscayne for 3rd time

KEY BISCAYNE, 2 April — Two boys stood on the top row of the stadium, beautiful Biscayne Bay at their back and the world’s best tennis player down below, as they waved a sign in his support. “Djokovic in the house,” it read.

From the youngsters’ remote perch, Novak Djokovic looked like a tiny figure, yet still loomed large. The top-ranked Djokovic won his third Sony Ericsson Open title Sunday, avoiding every service game to beat Andy Murray 6-1, 7-4 (4).

Djokovic improved to 20-2 this year and 90-8 since the start of 2011. He didn’t lose a set in six rounds at Key Biscayne. “I’m playing at the peak of my form ... the best tennis that I have played,’’ Djokovic said. “I have said that as much as I can.” He also won the tournament in 2007 and last year.

With six-time champion Andre Agassi has more men’s titles at Key Biscayne.

Muffling how to celebrate his latest trophy, Djokovic said he might violate his gluten-free diet. “I cannot guarantee anything,” he said with a laugh. “I think I deserve a fresh bagel.”

It was Djokovic’s first championship since he won the Australian Open in January for his fifth Grand Slam title and third as a row. Now begins the clay season culminating with the French Open, the only major Djokovic has yet to win. — Internet

Power surges to another IndyCar victory in Alabama

BERMINGTON, 2 April — Will Power wasted no time disproving his own theory. Power started ninth, took the lead on a late caution and pulled back in front of Scott Dixon on the double-file restart with 16 laps left Sunday to the Indy Grand Prix of Alabama for the second straight year. So much for his stance two days earlier that it would be tough for anybody opening outside the top four to win on a course that typically features infrequent passing. Power showed it could be done by making up ground with the help of tire strategy and swift work on pit road.

He started on the faster alternate red-striped tires instead of the more durable black. “We started on black tires when everybody started on red, and then went to red when everyone was on black,” Power said. “That got us a couple of spots. And then just good stops and good strategy calls put me out in clean air so we could use our speed to make some passes. It was a very good team effort, an absolute team effort to put ourselves in position to win, which I didn’t think was possible this morning.”

It was the second straight win for Chevrolet and Team Penske, which also is 3-for-3 at Barber Motorsports Park. — Internet

Redknapp ready for Champions League place battle

Tottenham Hotspur’s Gareth Bale, seen here in action during their English Premier League match against Swansea City at White Hart Lane in London, on 1 April. — Internet

Tottenham Hotspur’s Gareth Bale, seen here in action during their English Premier League match against Swansea City at White Hart Lane in London, on 1 April. — Internet

Will Power, of Australia, jumps after he won the IndyCar Series’ Indy Grand Prix of Alabama auto race at Barber Motorsports Park on 1 April, 2012, in Birmingham, Ala. — Internet

Tottenham were 1-up at half-time thanks to Rafael van der Vaart’s early opener before Gylfi Sigurdsson, on loan from German club Hoffenheim, equalized for Swansea. But Spurs scored a first league win in six games thanks to late headers from striker Emmanuel Adebayor, on loan from title contenders Manchester City. “Although we were fantastic in the first half,” said Redknapp. “The players did everything we asked — pressed and closed and had all the chances really.” — Internet

Internet
Hirvonen stripped of Rally of Portugal win

Finnish driver Mikko Hirvonen celebrates his victory in the 2012 Rally of Portugal in Faro on 1 April, 2012. He was later stripped of his victory when the clutch on his factory Citroen was deemed illegal, leaving Ford’s Mads Ostberg to celebrate his maiden triumph.—INTERNET

Loans disbursed to needy people in Hlinethaya

YANGON, 2 April—With the aim of ensuring rural development and poverty alleviation, a ceremony to disburse microfinance by Yangon Region Government to local people in Hlinethaya took place on Tuesday. Loans were disbursed to eligible persons at Basic Education High School in Hlinethaya Township on 19 March. Head of Township Min Thu Aung hands over 242 cards for students to Headmistress Dow Hla Hla Myint.

Newman wins wild finish at Martinsville Speedway

MARTINSVILLE, 2 April — Ryan Newman needed help and was running out of time. Finally, Clint Bowyer provided an opening with two laps to go at Martinsville Speedway. Bowyer’s aggressive move took out race leaders Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson entering the first turn, allowing Newman to slide into the lead, and he held off AJ Allmendinger and Dale Earnhardt Jr on another restart for his first win in 23 races.

“We were not a dominate race car,” Newman said. “Clint kind of cleared out Turn One for us and we were fortunate enough to be in the right place at the right time.” The reverse was true for Gordon, who led 326 laps, and Johnson, who led 112. The Hendrick Motorsports teammates seemed poised to battle it out to see which one would give owner Rick Hendrick his 200th Sprint Cup victory, and neither had a chance in the end.

Bayern untroubled by busy schedule

BERLIN, 2 April—Bayern Munich will be unfaunted by their hectic schedule when they meet Olympique Marseille in a Champions League quarter-final second leg on Tuesday, according to sports director Christian Nerlinger. Bayern lead 1-0 from the first leg in the French capital.

“We have our fate in our own hands in all three competitions,” said Nerlinger of the chase for a Bundesliga-German Cup-Champions League treble that could feature eight games in less than four weeks. “I have faith in the team. They have shown they can adapt to this rhythm of a game every three days and they are in good physical shape.”

Bayern are already through to the German Cup final and are three points behind leaders Borussia Dortmund in the Bundesliga. The Munich team, looking to reach the Champions League final to be played in their own stadium in May, will be without suspended midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger on Tuesday after he was booked in Marseille. Six Bayern players—including Thomas Mueller, captain Philipp Lahm, Toni Kroos and David Alaba—know a yellow card will put them out of the first leg of a likely semi-final against Real Madrid who are 3-0 up on APOEL Nicosia of Cyprus. “Our starting position is very good,” said Lahm. “If we play out the game in the same fashion then we will not be threatened at all on Tuesday.”

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**CSC ISSUED:** Citizenship scrutiny cards were issued to eligible persons at Basic Education High School in Hlinethaya Township on 19 March, Head of Township Administration U Min Thu Aung hands over 242 cards for students to Headmistress Dow Hla Hla Myint. **TOWNSHIP IMMIGRATION**

Weather forecast for 3rd April, 2012

**Internet**

**Newman wins wild finish at Martinsville Speedway**

**Ryan Newman crosses the finish line to win the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race on 1 April, 2012, in Martinsville, Va. —INTERNET**

**Bayern untroubled by busy schedule**

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12th Waxing of Tagu 1373 ME

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Chief of the Air Staff of the Bangladesh Air Force

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—A goodwill delegation led by Chief of the Air Staff of the Bangladesh Air Force Air Marshal Shah Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, ndc, fwc, psc paid a call on Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, this morning.

Also present at the call together with Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, General Hla Htay Win of the Office of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Myat Hein and senior military officers from the Office of Commander-in-Chief and the Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command. The Chief of the Air Staff was accompanied by Air Officer Commanding Bangladesh Air Force Base Bashar, Air Commodore Maung Hlaing, psc officers from Bangladesh Air Force and the Bangladesh military attaché to Myanmar.

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said that he strongly believed that goodwill visit of the Bangladesh Chief of Air Force to Myanmar would strengthen further amity between two armies. He assumed that cooperation between the two countries would be successful.

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said that he took pride for exchanging goodwill visits of both sides. Bangladesh would make more multi-cooperation between two countries in the future. Myanmar was sharing border with Bangladesh and same climate conditions. In addition, both countries were located under one umbrella and like brothers.

According to the history of Myanmar-Bangladesh relations since last 150 years, Bangladesh always remembered that Myanmar government and people had extended helping hand to Bangladesh war victims. Myanmar was the earliest country which government and people had helped him a lot. Bangladesh would like to promote cooperation as air forces of both sides were in brotherhood. Bangladesh home to more than 160 million people thanked for food aids of India and Myanmar. Bangladesh would like to make cooperation in protecting against illegal business in the territorial waters of both sides.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission

Nay Pyi Taw
Announcement No.17/2012
11th Waxing of Tagu, 1373 ME
(2 April, 2012)

Names of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives announced

According to the announcements of the respective Region and State Sub-commissions in line with Section 49 Subsection (b) of Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law that the following persons were elected in the first Pyithu Hluttaw By-elections held on 1 April 2012, those persons are announced as Pyithu Hluttaw representatives of the constituency shown against each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Constituency</th>
<th>Party/Independent</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Daw Sanda Min</td>
<td>12/BaHaNa(Naing) 082556</td>
<td>Zabuthiri</td>
<td>NationalLeague for Democracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. U Naingngan Lin</td>
<td>17/BaHaNa(Naing) 176389</td>
<td>Dekkhinathiri</td>
<td>NLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. U Phyo Zeya Thaw</td>
<td>22/BaHaNa(Naing) 017142</td>
<td>Pobbahthiri</td>
<td>NLD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tottenham Hotspur’s Gareth Bale, seen here in action during their English Premier League match against Swansea City at White Hart Lane in London, on 1 April.

Prizes awarded to winners in essay, poem, extempore talks

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—A ceremony to present prizes to the readers in raising the reading habit and to donate books was held at the Dhammayon in Kinpun-chang Village of Kyainkto Township, Mon State, at 9 am on 25 March.

Pa-O National Races Affairs Minister of Mon State U Khun Pe Mya, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Nyi Nyi Tan and officials presented prizes to the winners in essay, poem and extempore talks contests. After that, officials handed over 1250 books on general knowledge and various subjects worth K 500,000 donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation to Village Administrator U Kyaw Tha Hlaing.

MNA