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Our Three Main National Causes

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

**Union Minister views demonstration of Palethwe hybrid paddy growing in Wetlet**

*Union Minister U Myint Hlaing views demonstration of Palethwe hybrid paddy growing in Wetlet Township.* — MNA

**Kayin National Union-KNU opens Liaison Office in Kyaukkyi of Toungoo District**

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**Region peace making group and Kayin National Union (KNU) peace making group pose for documentary photo after peace talks at Shwe Wah Tun Hotel in Bago.** — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing viewed the demonstration of Palethwe hybrid paddy growing with G.A.P system, at model zone (450 acres) plantation in Leinbin Village of Wetlet Township, Sagaing Region yesterday morning.

He said that hybrid paddy production technology was widely used in the world. It yields 300 baskets per acre. Systematic growing of paddy strains produced by Shwe Taung plantation and University of Agriculture would yield more than 200 baskets per acre. Farmers were to grow quality paddy strains so as to cover the costs, he said.

Farmers on their part were to try to ensure the quality of paddy for sustainable markets and the Ministry also provided the farmers with the research findings on agricultural technologies, he added. After that, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and wife Daw Khin Thant Zin presented cash awards and foodstuffs to the paddy growers.

A total of 109 farmers in eight village-tracts in Wetlet Township, Shwebo District will grow 1080 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain.

**Kayin National Union-KNU has established its Liaison Office in Kyaukkyi, Toungoo District, Bago Region, yesterday.**

Present at the opening of the office were Union Ministers U Aung Min, U Soe Thein and U Khin Yi, Bago Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Thet Tun, departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsmen, Secretary-General Naw Sipora Sein, General Saw Mutu Say Poe and party of Kayin National Union-KNU, and peace negotiators of both sides.

The office was formally opened by Union Minister U Aung Min, Bago Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Thet Tun, Secretary-General of KNU Naw Sipora Sein.

At the opening ceremony, Union Minister U Soe Thein presented a Grand Tiger car to General Saw Mutu Say Poe to be used by the office.

Afterwards, the union ministers and members of KNU arrived at Bago and Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win, Bago Region ministers and officials welcomed them at Shwe Wah Tun Hotel and hosted a dinner at the hotel in the evening.

Region level peace making group and KNU peace making group held a peace talks at the hotel today. The talks was participated by Union Ministers U Aung Min, U Soe Thein, U Khin Yi, Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Commander Brig.-Gen Nyo Saw, Lt-Col Zaw Naing Oo of the Commander-in-Chief Office, the minister for Bago Region security and border affairs, the minister for Kayin national race affairs, members of the KNU peace making group and peace makers of the both sides.

Bago Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Thet Tun and Member of the Central Standing Committee of KNU Saw Thaw Thi Bwe exchanged minutes of the meeting.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed perpetuation of the ceasefire and establishment of liaison offices.

The Bago Region Chief Minister hosted a luncheon to participants of the peace talks at the hotel and presented souvenirs to the KNU peace making group led by Secretary-General of the KNU Naw Sipora Sein and General Saw Mutu Say Poe.

Afterwards, Naw Sipora Sein and Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win each presented flower baskets and K 500,000 to Oaktha Thinzin Music Band who entertained them with songs during the luncheon. — MNA
Let’s try to top HDI list

Nowadays, Human Development Index (HDI) is used to distinguish whether the country is a developed, a developing or an underdeveloped country, and also to measure the impact of economic policies on quality of life. UN uses HDI which is a composite statistic used to rank countries by level of human development. UNDP has been publishing Human Development Report (HDR) for the world countries annually since 1990.

The HDR includes the Human Development Index (HDI) which is a comparative measure of life expectancy, literacy, education, and standards of living for countries worldwide. According to the UNDP’s report, it is observed that HDI of Myanmar is low compared to other ASEAN countries. So, Myanmar still is below the chart. So, Myanmar needs to try to promote health, education and living standards of people so as to top the chart. The countries also issue National HDR for their countries. There are also HDI for states, cities, villages, etc by local organizations or companies.

Like other countries, Myanmar also should publish its National HDR in order to access country’s HDI. Now, the country sees greater transparency along with scores of reforms in all aspects since the current government takes office. In the past, it was very difficult to know the actual figures of the country. In addition, the figures issued by the government are different from UN’s figures. The data should not be on paper. We must accept actual condition. Only when departments concern publish actual figures, will the government know which sectors of the country are weak and develop. Then, the government could put more emphasis on much weaker sectors in its attempt to develop country.

Union Education Minister looks into exam papers marking

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, together with Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing, Director-General Dr Soe Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) and rector in charge Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint of Mandalay University, inspected teachers marking matriculation exam papers, at Mandalay University yesterday morning. He urged examiners to mark the papers systematically and fairly.

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Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung unveils signboard of Basic Education High School in Magyibin Village of Ngapudaw Township.—MNA

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Champion of the region education officer U Khun Kyaw Myint.

The region chief minister addressed coordination meeting for drafting and implementing regional plan at the Region government office yesterday.

Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung also received Managing Director of Far East Trading Co Ltd Mr Hiroshi Skuroyana and party at his office and discussed matters related to investment in the region.

MNA

Experts meet to fight poverty in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—A workshop on 2nd survey for livelihood in Rakhine State (2009-2010) was conducted at the Rakhine State Hluttaw on 4 April.

The workshop was opened with an address by Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin. Personnel of the IHLCA of the UNDP discussed assessment of the poverty in the state and facts about the UN Millennium Development Goals.—MNA

Mobile GSM tower comes online in Lawpita

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs opened new GSM tower with a capacity of 3000 lines, at ShweNyaung Bingeone of Lawpita Power Plant No.2 today. It was put into service of honour to course instructors.

It was attended by Kayah State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyaw Swe, the Kayah State chief justice, the deputy speaker of Kayah State, the region ministers, the state advocate-general, the state auditor-general, departmental personnel, members of state sports and physical education committee, the district/township administrators, teachers and 500 trainees.

State Minister for Social Affairs U Koe Yal made a concluding speech and then State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyaw Swe presented certificates to trainees and certificates of honour to course instructors.

The trainees demonstrated their skills.

MNA

Basic Summer Sports Course concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—The concluding ceremony of the basic summer sports course (2012) was held at the State Sports Hall in Loikaw yesterday morning.

Jointly organized by State Sports and Physical Education Department and State Education Department under the supervision of Kayah State Sports and Physical Education Committee, the basic summer sports course (2012) was opened at the State Sports Hall and State Sports Ground (Daw Ukhu) from 1 March to 8 April.

It was attended by Kayah State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyaw Swe, the Kayah State chief justice, the deputy speaker of Kayah State, the region ministers, the state advocate-general, the state auditor-general, departmental personnel, members of state sports and physical education committee, the district/township administrators, teachers and 500 trainees.

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MNA

Matters on microfinance institutions clarified

YANGON, 10 April—Yangon Region Women’s Affairs Organization clarified matters related to microfinance institution and disbursed small loans to region, district and township organizations at Basic Education High School No. 2 in Dagon Township this morning.

Patron of Yangon Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thet Htay and Chairperson Daw Thaung Mya made speeches.

Officials shared disbursements in ratio to the organizations.—MNA
Suicide attacks kill 19 in Afghanistan

Herat, 10 April — Suicide bombers killed at least nineteen people in attacks across Afghanistan on Tuesday, including 11 Afghan police, as insurgents ramped up violence ahead of the traditional summer fighting months.

Two bombers, including one wearing a head-to-toe covering burqa, blew up a lorry with explosives on the outskirts of the western city of Herat, killing eight civilians and three police, provincial governor spokesman Mohiddin Noori said.

Twenty-three people were wounded in the attack, which took place in a usually peaceful part of the country near the border with Iran.

In volatile southern Helmand province, three suicide attackers targeted the district governor’s office in Musa Qala district, killing eight police. Two of the bombers were shot dead, but one managed to detonate explosives.

“The first one opened fire on Afghan police. In response he was killed by our forces, while the second one detonated himself and police killed the third,” said Dawood Ahmad, spokesman for the Helmand provincial governor.

ANA spokesman on Monday said insurgents had so far shown no sign of planning a repeat of last year’s unified spring offensive against foreign and Afghan forces, preferring isolated attacks on small units and bases.

US Navy deploys 2nd aircraft carrier to Gulf

DUBAI, 10 April — The US Navy said on Monday it has deployed a second aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf region amid rising tensions with Iran over its disputed nuclear programme.

The deployment of the nuclear-powered USS Enterprise along with the Abraham Lincoln carrier strike group marks one of the few times the US has had two aircraft carriers operating in waters near the Persian Gulf, said Cmdr Amy Derrick-Frost of the Bahrain-based 5th Fleet.

The two carriers will support the American military operations in Afghanistan and anti-piracy efforts off Somalia’s coast and in the Gulf of Aden, she said. The warships also patrol the Gulf’s strategic oil routes that Iran has threatened to shut down in retaliation for economic sanctions slapped on the Islamic Republic because of its nuclear programme, which the West suspects aims to develop nuclear weapons. Iran denies the allegations, and says its programme is solely for peaceful purposes.

The deployment of a second aircraft carrier is “routine and not specific to any threat,” Derrick-Frost said. She did not say how long the Navy will keep the increased military presence in region. The US had two carriers operating in the region in June 2010. Two carriers were also deployed in March 2003 during the US-led invasion of Iraq and in February 2007 in support of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Enterprise is based in Norfolk, Va. It is the Navy’s first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and is now on its last mission. The Enterprise was commissioned in November 1961. The carrier is scheduled to be deactivated this fall. — Internet

Chile navy rescues four from Antarctic ship

SANTIAGO, 10 April — Four Brazilians filming a documentary off the Antarctic coast were rescued by the Chilean navy after their ship became stuck in the ice, Chilean media said on Monday. Officials told El Mercurio that the four Brazilians were safe and sound after their vessel San Sem Fin (Endless Sea) was trapped in icy, windy conditions near the Chilean Antarctic naval base.

The boat capsized in 100-kilometre (60 mile) per hour winds on Saturday near the Chilean base, about 1,200 kilometres (750 miles) south of tip of South America, said the head of Chilean base in Antarctica, Eduardo Rubilar. The ship was carrying four Brazilians filming on a documentary about navigation and the landscape of Antarctica.

Lee Lara, journalist and leader of the Brazilian expedition, praised the navy for the “risky maneuver” and said “they handled the situation in a controlled manner when the wind was very strong.” The Brazilians were taken to the southern Chilean port of Punta Arenas. Chilean officials said it will monitor the area for a possible contingency plan and will refuel the vessel in the summer season. — Internet

March’s heat melts records

WASHINGTON, 10 April — You likely felt it, but now it’s official that March 2012 was the warmest March on record for the lower 48 states, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s preliminary report that showed 51.1 degrees Fahrenheit broke the previous record set in 1910 by 0.5 degrees above average. According to NOAA’s preliminary data, more than 15,200 record high temperatures were set for March and all 50 states broke at least one record.

March wasn’t the only month that brought the heat. The average temperature of the contiguous United States for the first three months of 2012 was six degrees above normal, NOAA announced. The period from January through March for 2012 broke the previous first quarter record by 1.4 degrees.

Weather records are normally beaten by tens of degrees. While the warm temperatures made winter more tolerable, it worried scientists.

“There is an uneasy feeling. This is weird. This is not good,” said Jerry Meehl, a climate scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo. “It’s a guilty pleasure. You’re out enjoying this nice March weather, but you know it’s not a good thing.”

The warm weather created favorable conditions for tornadoes and stage in the United States with 179 there were 1,816, which is the interval since March 2012, 2012 in 2012, 2012. While individual events cannot be said to be as examples of climate change, climate scientists said extreme temperatures and weather events will become more frequent as a result of man-made climate change.

Internet

US should lead to end World Bank tradition: Nigerian finance minister

WASHINGTON, 10 April — The United States should take the lead and break the long tradition of an American always heading the World Bank, Nigerian finance minister and a nominee for the World Bank board, Okonjo-Iweala said on Monday. Speaking after a “marathon” three-and-a-half-hour interview by the World Bank board, Okonjo-Iweala said the decision on who leads the global development institution is “the best skills for the job.”

During her interview with the board, Okonjo-Iweala said she did not ask for the support of countries but pressed to enter that the selection process was open and merit based. Under an informal agreement between the United States and Europe, an American has always headed the World Bank and a European has led the International Monetary Fund since their founding after World War Two. Rising demand for more influence in global finance institutions, who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the global development institution who leads the (Image 216x238 to 379x226)

Internet

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Japanese contingency plans soon, before restarts

Tokyo, 10 April — Japan’s government will announce soon its contingency plans for dealing with nuclear accidents to ease public concerns about restarting reactors closed since the Fukushima disaster crisis last year, Trade Minister Yukio Edano said on Monday. Contingency plans for Kansai Electric Power Co’s two reactors, which are at the most advanced stage in the government’s safety checks before restarting, would be announced in a few days, said Edano, who also has the energy portfolio.

The government, which has demanded a series of safety measures on all nuclear generators since the disaster last March, is also keen to see the public accept the idea of restarting the first two reactors. But it also wants to avoid power shortages this summer, when demand peaks. Osaka-based Kansai is the country’s most nuclear-reliant regional power utility.

“I understand this is now a major concern of people and the most important point in case there were a severe accident,” said Edano, referring to the government’s improved contingency plans. “There is a possibility for any idled reactors, whether they are running or offline, to suffer from a severe accident as long as active nuclear fuels are located,” he told reporters. — Reuters
Fungus behind bat die-off came from Europe

LOS ANGELES, 10 April — The mysterious deaths of millions of bats in the United States and Canada over the past several years were caused by a fungus that hitchhiked from Europe, scientists reported on Monday. Experts had suspected that an invasive species was to blame for the die-off from “white nose syndrome.” Now there’s direct evidence the culprit was not native to North America. The fungal illness has not caused widespread deaths among European bats unlike in the US and Canada. In North America more than 5.7 million bats have died since 2006 when white nose syndrome was first detected in cave in upstate New York. The disease does not pose a threat to humans, but people can carry fungal spores. It’s unclear exactly how the fungus crossed the Atlantic, but one possibility is that it was accidentally introduced by tourists. Spores are known to stick to people’s clothes, boots and caving gear. White nose syndrome has killed bats in four Canadian provinces and 19 US states, mostly in the Northeast and South. Last week, the illness marched west of the Mississippi River, infecting bats in Missouri. Now that scientists have pinpointed the apparent origin of the epidemic, what can be done to protect bats? They play a crucial role in the ecological food chain by devouring insects. “There is still not much we can do beyond making absolutely sure we don’t make things worse by accidentally spreading the fungus,” biologist Craig Willis of the University of Winnipeg in Canada. Willis and a team of US-Canadian scientists set out to determine whether the fungus behind white nose syndrome was native to this continent or invaded from abroad. To do this, they collected 54 little brown bats from an uninhabited cave in Manitoba.

Deadly March tornadoes are first billion-dollar disaster of 2012

WASHINGTON, 10 April — A swarm of tornadoes that tore through the Midwest and Southeast in early March has earned the grim title of the nation’s first billion-dollar weather disaster of 2012. From 2 March through the early hours of 3 March, 132 tornadoes were reported across nine states. Although those numbers are preliminary, and will undoubtedly decrease once overlapping reports are eliminated, their aftermath was devastating, causing more than $1.5 billion in damage and killing 40 people. The storms killed four people in Ohio, but they took the greatest toll in Indiana, killing 13, and Kentucky, where 23 people died. The costly disaster follows on the heels of a record-breaking year for devastation wrought by the vagaries of the weather and longer-term climate conditions. Last year, the United States experienced 14 separate events that caused $1 billion or more in damage. Five of those events were tornado outbreaks. Last year’s costliest weather disaster was the late April 2011 tornado outbreak, which produced an estimated 343 tornadoes across Midwestern and southern states, killing 321 people and causing some $10.2 billion in damage. [The Top 5 Deadliest Tornado Years in US History]

This year’s early March tornado outbreak was significant for a number of reasons, according to Jack Crouch, a climatologist with the National Climatic Data Centre (NCDC), and co-author of a new State of the Climate report from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released on 9 April. The reason for that discrepancy is that Google doesn’t make its money off Android, per se, but off the products it makes that mobile device owners use. Android gets licensed to make its money off Android, which produced an estimated $343 million from Android devices in 2008 and December 2011, and that’s almost four times as much revenue has come from iOS devices.

Google makes more money from iOS than Android

WASHINGTON, 10 April — It seems Google makes more money from Apple’s mobile devices than its own Android smartphones and tablets, thanks to the use of Google’s search products by those devices. The story comes by way of PC World, which cites a story from The Guardian looking at documents filed in Google’s court case with Oracle. In that case, Google revealed that it has made less than $543 million from Android devices between 2008 and December 2011, and that’s almost four times as much revenue has come from iOS devices. The reason for that discrepancy is that Google doesn’t make its money off Android, per se, but off the products it provides that mobile device owners use, Android gets licensed out to smartphone manufacturers for ‘free’ that’s part of what makes it so appealing and its use so widespread — and Google collects 30 percent of app sales and advertising on those devices. Meanwhile, on iOS, Google makes money through advertising on the use of search in Mobile Safari or ads used on Google Maps, for example, and it doesn’t have to split that money with anyone.

In this 7 Jan. 2012 file photo, attendees at the National Retail Federation a Microsoft display in New York. (AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

Microsoft deal with AOL part of patent scramble

New York, 10 April — AOL’s $1 billion deal to sell and license patents to Microsoft is another in a series of “Antiques Roadshow” moments in the technology world. Faded companies have been rummaging through their assets recently, and some of them have found musty old patents that turn out to be worth a great deal.

Patents have become a hot commodity in recent years. They give the holder the exclusive right to use certain technologies or business processes in the US Companies such as Microsoft, Apple, Facebook, Google and others are collecting large patent libraries and increasingly using them in lawsuits — to defend their businesses or to attack rivals.

A valuable patent is less like a forgotten Rembrandt and more like a rusty-but-serviceable gun. “Patents have become legal weapons. They’re not representing ideas anymore,” says James Bessen, a lecturer at Boston University and the director of a nonprofit that studies that patent issues.

Two big deals in the past year have pushed patents into the spotlight. In July, a consortium that included Apple Inc and Microsoft Corp pledged to pay $4.5 billion for a collection of patents from Nortel Networks, a bankrupt Canadian maker of telecommunications equipment. — Internet

Google injects insulin to regulate blood sugar but too much can induce a coma. — Internet

Diabetes patients need to be careful when using insulin pumps. While they can be beneficial in helping to control blood sugar levels, they can also be dangerous if used incorrectly. For example, if a patient injects too much insulin into their bloodstream, it can cause a coma. — Internet
Oversight in pregnancy linked to autism
WASHINGTON, 10 April — Mothers who are obese or have diabetes during pregnancy may be more likely to have babies with autism or other developmental delays, said a US study published on Monday. The finding “appears to raise serious public health concerns,” said the study in the journal *Pediatrics*, which comes amid an obesity epidemic in the United States with recent research showing autism strikes up to one in 88 children. Researchers examined 1,000 mother-child pairs from diverse backgrounds in California — about half of the children had autism, while 172 had other developmental problems and 315 were considered normal.

While the study did not say whether the mother’s weight or diabetic status caused the children’s developmental problems, it did find strong associations between the likelihood of such ailments and the mother’s health in pregnancy. For instance, mothers who were obese were about 67 percent more likely to have a child with autism and more than twice as likely to have a child with some kind of disorder than normal-weight moms without diabetes.

More than 20 percent of the mothers of children with autism or other developmental disability were obese. Last 14 percent of the mothers of normally developing children were obese at the time of pregnancy, it said. Also, the autistic children of diabetic moms appeared to have more severe disabilities — with greater deficits in language and communication skills — than the autistic children of normal-weight moms.

Climate change could be tough on seniors’ health
WASHINGTON, 10 April — Even small swings in temperatures could put elderly people with chronic illnesses such as diabetes, heart failure and lung disease at greater risk of death throughout the coming summer, a new study indicates. Researchers from the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston found temperature fluctuations related to climate change could claim thousands of lives every year.

Experts predict climate change could increase variations in summer temperatures, particularly in the mid-Atlantic states and parts of France, Spain and Italy. In these more volatile regions, this could pose a serious public health risk, the study authors claimed. “The effect of temperature patterns on long-term mortality has not been clear to this point. We found that, independent of heat waves, high day-to-day variability in summer temperatures shortens life expectancy,” study author Antonella Zanobetti, a senior research scientist in the department of environmental health at Harvard, said in a news release from the university. “This variability can be harmful for susceptible people.”

Using Medicare data from 1985 to 2006, the researchers tracked the long-term health of 3.7 million chronically ill people older than 65 living in 335 American cities. After considering each person’s individual risk factors, they determined if any of these people died due to variability in summer temperature.

In their study, published in the 9 April online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, revealed that years with larger summer temperature swings had higher death rates than those with smaller swings. This was true for each city examined. —Internet

AT&T sells Yellow Pages for close to $1b
WASHINGTON, 10 April — US telecom giant AT&T has sold the Yellow Pages to a private equity firm for $950m ($1billion). AT&T shares fell 0.7% after it sold the local listings business to Cerberus Capital Management, which owns its former owner, Chrysler. The sale includes 1,200 real Yellow Pages print titles which reach 150 million homes — as well as YP.com.

“Yellow Pages business units generated about $3.3b in revenues in 2011. As part of the deal, AT&T will get a 47% stake in the new entity, YP Holdings. “It enables AT&T to focus on its core strategy of leadership in wireless, IP, cloud- and application-based services,” said Joe Girardia, president of AT&T Advertising Solutions.

“AT&T will own the content, but YP will own the technology platform and will manage both”, Girardia said. “At the same time, it gives our advertising customers, partners and developers continued access to strong advertising and commerce services.”

Carriers agree to disable stolen phones for good
WASHINGTON, 10 April — Cellphone companies and the government are trying to make it difficult to use a stolen cellphone as it is to sell a stolen car. US Senator John Thune said in a statement late Monday that major cellphone carriers and the Federal Communications Commission have agreed to set up a database of had higher numbers that are unique to each phone. Using the list, cellular carriers will be able to permanently disable a phone once it’s been reported stolen. Until now, US carriers have only turned disabling so-called “SIM” cards, which can be swapped in and out. That’s enabled black marketeers to sell stolen phones. Thune said that the goal of the agreement is to make stealing a cellphone as “worthless as an empty wallet.”

He has said that unique numbers known as International Mobile Equipment Identity numbers are already effective in Europe to deter stealing. Schumacher also said he will introduce legislation to make it a federal crime to tamper with a phone’s IMEI number. According to New York police, 42 percent of all property crimes of individuals in New York City in 2011 involved a cell phone, and some crimes have been accompanied by violence. Both iPhones and Android phones use SIM card technology that makes them susceptible to being resold after thefts.
Thai king leaves hospital for cousin’s funeral

BANGKOK, 10 April — Thailand’s frail king left the hospital where he has been staying for more than two years on Monday for a rare public appearance at the funeral of his cousin. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the world’s longest reigning monarch, left Siriraj hospital in a wheelchair, wearing the customary white royal uniform and black armband for the memorial rites of Princess Bejaratana Rajasuda.

Together with his wife Queen Sirikit, he lit candles and incense at a specially constructed royal crematorium at the Sanam Luang ceremonial ground in Bangkok’s historic district attended by saffron-robed monks and top officials including Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. The monarch, now 84, was admitted to hospital in September 2009 to treat a respiratory condition and has rarely left, aside from a few public appearances. He was due to return to hospital after the funeral.

Princess Bejaratana, the only child of late King Vajiravudh, died in July 2011 from a blood infection at the age of 85 and had lain in state since then at the Dusit Maha Prasat Throne Hall in the Grand Palace. Her remains were transported in a large golden urn atop a gilded teak chariot pulled by more than 200 men in one of three processions ahead of her cremation due to be held later Monday, which was declared a special holiday.

Ex-rebel held in Philippine blasts

MANILA, 10 April — Philippine police have arrested a former Muslim rebel in connection with bomb blasts that wounded three people on the tourist island of Palawan, an ex-rebel leader in connection with bomb blasts that wounded three people on the tourist island of Palawan, an official said Monday.

Fourteen-year-old Hassan, who is accused of the blast that wounded a hotel cook in El Nido as well as a rickshaw driver in Puerto Princesa, was arrested after he was spotted Sunday by strong winds surrounding areas.

A contingent of Philippine marines prepare to be deployed to the island of Palawan, in 2009.

INTERNET

Police say Tulsa shooting suspects confessed

OKLAHOMA CITY, 10 April — Two white men accused of shooting five black people in Tulsa, Oklahoma, killing three of them, have confessed to authorities, media reports said on Monday.

Jake England, 19, has admitted to police that he shot three of the victims and Alvin Watts, 33, has said that he shot two others, a Tulsa police spokesman told The New Light of Myanmar.

Three men and a woman were shot within a mile of each other in north Tulsa before dawn on Friday, police said. The body of a fifth victim was discovered outside a nearby funeral home in the predominantly black part of the city the same morning.

Police have described the shootings during the predawn hours of Friday as random because there is no evidence the suspects knew any of the victims. One witness said the gunman simply pulled his pickup truck to the side of the street and asked for directions before he opened fire. England and Watts were arrested on Sunday in the shooting spree, after which a black man and a black woman were shot, residents on edge and prompted an intensive manhunt across Tulsa and surrounding areas. — Reuters

Titanic memorial cruise delayed by strong winds

LONDON, 10 April — A memorial cruise retracing the route of the Titanic 100 years since it sank has been slightly delayed because of strong winds, a spokesman for the cruise said on Monday.

The Titanic Memorial Cruise arrived at the town of Cobh, on Ireland’s southern coast, after two hours later than scheduled due to bad weather, Rachel O’Reilly said. The vessel, called the MS Balmoral, set sail from Southampton in southern England on Sunday for the 12-night cruise.

Cobh, once known as Queenstown, was the Titanic’s last port of call before it set out across the Atlantic in April 1912. As the Balmoral pulled into the town’s port Monday, it was welcomed by thousands of cheering well-wishers. The ship, which carries 1,308 passengers — including relatives of some of the more than 1,500 Titanic passengers who died — will leave Cobh around midnight for the North Atlantic site where the ship hit an iceberg and sank, O’Reilly said.

The cruise seeks to recreate the experience onboard the Titanic — minus the disaster. Many passengers are dressed in period costumes for the journey, as are crew members and stewards. Passengers will also be able to eat meals from the Titanic’s menu, while a live band plays music of the era. Two special memorial services will take place over the weekend: The first close to midnight 14 April, when the Titanic hit the iceberg, and the second on early 15 April, when the ship sank.

The Balmoral is operated by Fred. Olsen, which owns the RMS Titanic. The cruise seeks to recreate the experience onboard the Titanic — minus the disaster. Many passengers are dressed in period costumes for the journey, as are crew members and stewards. Passengers will also be able to eat meals from the Titanic’s menu, while a live band plays music of the era. Two special memorial services will take place over the weekend: The first close to midnight 14 April, when the Titanic hit the iceberg, and the second on early 15 April, when the ship sank.

The MS Balmoral sets sail for the Titanic memorial cruise from Southampton, England, on 8 April, 2012.

INTERNET

INTERNET

Militant Irish nationalists renew threats, six arrested

BELFAST, 10 April — Police in Northern Ireland arrested six men in Londonderry on Monday after a group of Irish nationalist militants threatened renewed armed attacks on law enforcement during a ceremony attended by hundreds at a city graveyard.

A man wearing a balacava said O’Reilly, also known as the Real IRA, would “continue to attack Crown Force personnel, their installations, as well as British interests and infrastructure,” in footage broadcast by television station UTV.

Around 300 nationalists attended the wreath-laying ceremony to mark the anniversary of the 916 Easter Rising in Dublin against British rule. A number of supporters applauded the speech.

Members of the the Osage County Sheriff Department prepare to assist Tulsa police in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on 7 April, 2012 in their manhunt for a man in a white pickup truck who shot five people in the early morning 6 April, 2012.

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Yanpel Dam to help contribute to availability of irrigation water and drinking water and boosting agricultural production in Magway Region

Yanpel Dam

- It is located near Wattkathay Village in Taungdwingyi Township in Magway Region.
- The dam is of earthen type.
- Its main length is 9100 feet and height, 78 feet. Its saddle dyke No.1 is 1500 feet long and No.2, 6000 feet long.
- It has 35140 acre feet of storage capacity.
- It can supply irrigation water to 10000 acres of land for summer paddy, monsoon paddy, groundnut, sesame, beans and pulses.

Main canal of Yanpel dam supplies irrigation water to farmlands.

Indonesia rescues 120 Australia-bound Afghan migrants from a leaking wooden ship

JAKARTA, 10 April — Indonesia says it has rescued 120 Afghan migrants from a leaking wooden ship headed to Australia.

An official called Joko from the National Search and Rescue Agency says they received a distress call from the ship’s captain on Sunday and went to their aid. The Afghans were taken by tanker to a port on the western side of Indonesia’s Java Island.

Witnesses said on Monday that police were still negotiating with the migrants who were refusing to leave the tanker. Joko says they will be handed over to immigration officers. Migrants without legal documents are usually deported home while others may apply for asylum. Migrants from conflict-ridden countries have long used Indonesia’s thousands of islands as a transit point for their way to Australia. — Internet

You can now get your own chocolate 3D printer for $4,600

WASHINGTON, 10 April — Some 3D printers can print out jawbones, teeth, and guitars; others can print something far yummier — pieces of chocolate.

Last year, a group of scientists from the UK’s University of Exeter built a printer that can make chocolatey works of art. Now, the aptly-named Choc Creator Version 1 is available for purchase, though it sure doesn’t come cheap — the machine is worth $4,600. Dr Liang Hao, the lead scientist who worked on the project, founded the Choc Edge company to manufacture the printer for anyone who wants (and can afford) it. His team tweaked and improved the printer since it was first introduced to the masses last year. According to Dr Hao, operating the enhanced machine is easy as pie: “You just need to melt some chocolate, fill a syringe that is stored in the printer, and get creative printing your chocolate.” If you have a strong desire to become a 3D-printing chocolatier, it may be best to get your Choc Creator now. The company is running a discount promo for the first 90 buyers, bringing the price down to just $4,000, not including the $130 shipping fee you need to add for delivery stateside. Check out the video above to see Choc Creator in action. — Internet
Yangon Region Chief Minister looks into development undertakings

**Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe inspects construction of Seikkyi-Khanaungto Suspension Bridge.**—MNA

YANGON, 10 April—A ceremony to consecrate Buddha Image at Aungthukha Meditation Centre of Zeyathukha Monastery was held in conjunction with merit sharing of the centre in Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township this morning, attended by Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thi Htay.

The Region Chief Minister inspected progress in construction of Seikkyi-Khanaungto suspension bridge. The suspension bridge will be 1680 feet long and the facility will have 24 feet wide two-way motor road. The construction of the bridge commenced on 13 February 2012.

**UNFPA to cooperate in Myanmar’s development process**

**Yangon Region Chief Minister looks into development undertakings**

**A ceremony to assign project duties to departments**

**Golf tournament marks Maha Thingyan Festival**

**Dy Education Minister receives TCS Vice-Chairman**

**Myanmar and Thai entrepreneurs to meet on 25 April**

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.**

The second best time is now.
Taking fire preventive measures a matter of urgency in dry season

T.S. (NLN)

Boat race held at Buddha Pujiyan in Ponnagyun

PONNAGYUN, 10 April—The Buddha Pujiyan of ancient Htauanggyae Uritaw Pagoda was held in Ponnagyun of Rakhine State from 30 March to 2 April. At the Buddha Pujiyan, the traditional boat race was held and prizes were awarded to the winners on 2 April.

Hotel services courses wrap up

YANGON, 10 April—Hotel services courses held at Chatrium Hotel on Po Sein Road in Bahan Township of Yangon on 8 April afternoon. Managing Director U Hla Hlay of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism made a concluding remark and presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Mibamyitta Nanthan Creek Bridge commissioned into service in Mohnin

MOHNYIN, 10 April—A ceremony to open self-reliant Mibamyitta Nanthan Creek Bridge was held at the bridge in Nyaunggon Village of Mohnin Township, Kachin State, on 25 March morning. At first, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Sai Tin Aung made a speech. Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Hlaing made a speech. Assistant Minister of Transport and Communications U Minn Khant Maung made a speech. U Maung Khin Ko Myaung of Karaweik New Strength Jewellery Company made a speech. U Tun Tun Tun, recipient of the certificate, and representatives of Sister Societies gave speeches. The ribbon was cut to inaugurate the bridge.

Poem

A New Year Wish!

- Buds come out in early summer
- Blooming are yellow Padauk flowers
- With cool clean and aromatic water
- The festival goes on as usual
- Choral dancers in harmony
- Festive music ever fantastic
- Young men sing antnomal chants

In own style they are attractive
- A donation amidst sound of big drums
On this pavilion free food available
Saw Sadu in peace of mind
Happy Myanmar New Year celebrations
- With pure joy and fun
Water festival in tradition
Peace and prosperity for all
A wish for this New Year

Yenatha Maung Kyaw Nyunt (Trs)

A wish for this New Year
Water festival in tradition
Peace and prosperity for all
A wish for this New Year
**UMFCCI officials receives Japanese guests**

YANGON, 10 April—Vice-Presidents of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Zaw Min Win and U Kyemon Tun, and General Secretary Dr Myo Thet met Managing Director Mr Yasuhiro Kondo of Aeon Company Ltd of Japan at the office of the federation on 26 March morning.

They discussed promotion of mutual economic and investment matters, purchase of household electronic equipment in Myanmar through credit card and installment system, progress of banking systems in Myanmar and other matters of Aeon Company branch in Myanmar. **UMFCCI**

**Rural gravel road inaugurated in Ottwin**

OTTWIN, 10 April—The opening ceremony of Nyuang Chehtauk—Myintikwin rural gravel road, built by Ottwin Township Development Affairs Committee in 2011-2012 fiscal year, was held on the road section on 24 March.

At first, Township Administrator U Kyaw Shwe of Bago Region Hluttaw representative U Win Myint of Ottwin Township Constituency-2 and Executive Officer U Khang Tun of Township Development Affairs Committee formally opened the road section.

Concrete road for bicycles, motorcycles completed

MANDALAY, 10 April—With the aim of ensuring safety transport for increasing number of bicycles and motorcycles in Mandalay, Roads and Bridges Department Mandalay City Development Committee extended local roads and upgraded the roads to asphalt concrete facilities.

The 20 feet wide and 7400 feet long concrete road for bicycles and motorcycles between Yadanapura Museum and Mandalay-Lashio railroad, western part of Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Chanmyathazi Township on 31 March.

As of 6 April, bicycles and motorcycles can use the new concrete road. However, action will be taken against vehicles that roll on the facility for bicycles and motorcycles under Mandalay City Development Committee Law. **Kyemon**

**Day Care Centre for Aged Doctor opened**

YANGON, 10 April—In honour of World Health Day which falls on 7 April 2012, the Day Care Centre for the aged doctors was opened at 14-A, Tel: 8603513, South Hose Race Course Road, Tamwaygyi (B) Ward, NyaungU Township, Yangon, as of 1 March.

The centre was opened by Aged Doctors Group of Myanmar Medical Association. It is kept open from 9 am to 5 pm daily. **MMA**

**Mango cultivation extended in Mandalay Region**

MANDALAY, 10 April—Mango is one of the origins of mango plants. At present over 200 species of mango plants are grown across the nation.

According to the statistics of Agriculture Department in 2010-2011, there are 192 species of mango plants. In October 2011, mango worth US$10 million was exported. Among mango species in Myanmar, Kyaukse, Tada-U, Amarapura, PyinUma, Lwin, Natogyi and Myingyan regions in Mandalay Region are favourable for thriving mango plants. These regions are blessed with fair rainfalls for mango cultivation.

Now, mango zone has been established in Mandalay Region with extended cultivation. Preparations are being made for establishment of mango processing factory. The merchants export good mango fruits to other country through fruit brokers in Mandalay. **Kyemon**

**Pathein-Hinthada local train derailed**

PATAHEIN, 10 April—The opening ceremony of Nyang Chehtauk—Myintikwin Village-tract Administrator U Shwe Tha Phyu gave a supplementary discussion on local technology, and field trips to grassroots level for carrying library works. On 21 March, Head of Township IPRD Daw Khin Huy Myint of Dawbon Township discusses durability of library at Bawa Shwehgyi Library in Nweaye Ward. **MYANMA ALIN**

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**People satisfy fair supply of electricity in Bago**

BAGO, 10 April—Under the arrangements of Bago Region Electrical Engineer U Ko Naing, Bago District Electrical Engineer U Aung Than Win and Bago Township Electrical Engineer U Aung Than Htut, electricity is being supplied to about 100 wards of Bago in rotate system depending on share of electricity for Bago.

As there are three sub-power stations in Bago, these facilities must supply 15 megawatts to the local people of Bago. At present, as the region consumes about five megawatts only, the people face difficulties in deficiency of electricity supply.

As such, Bago Township Electrical Engineer’s Office manages supply of electricity to the local people in rotate system to be able to satisfy their demand. **Nilor Win (Shwethwaygyi)**

**Self-reliant library opened in NyaungU Township**

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—The opening ceremony of Aliyangy Library was held at the library in Phonedaw Village of Taungin Village-tract in NyaungU Township in Mandalay Region on 26 March morning.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Tun Tun Win of NyaungU District General Administration Department and wellwisher Sayawad U Thondra formally opened the library. **MYANMA ALIN**

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**Mike Wallace, ‘60 Minutes’ interogator, dies**

**New York, 10 April** — “Mike Wallace is here to see you.”

The ‘60 Minutes’ newsman had such a fearsome reputation that it was often said that those were the most dreaded words in the English language, capable of reducing an interview subject to a shaking, sweating mess.

Wallace, who won his 21st and final Emmy Award at 89, died Saturday in the New Canaan, Conn, care facility where he had lived the last few years of his life. He was 93.

Wallace didn’t just interview people. He interrogated them. He cross-examined them. Sometimes he eviscerated them pitilessly. His weapons were many: thorough research, a cocked eyebrow, a skeptical “Come on” and a question so direct it took your breath away.

He was well aware that his reputation arrived at an interview before he did, said Jeff Fager, CBS News Chairman and Wallace’s long-time producer at “60 Minutes.”

**Urbana, 10 April** — A man who authorities say was stabbing, suffocating and dismembering his girlfriend told a newspaper that he met her through Facebook while looking for new friends and that he met two of his alleged accomplices at a library just three days before the killing.

Matthew Puccio, 25, is accused of murder, including a special aggravating circumstance connected with the death of 21-year-old Jessica Rae Sacco, whose remains were found in the bathtub of their Urbana duplex apartment in late March, about a week after police issued a missing persons alert.

A couple from Fenton, Mich, and two people from Urbana are accused of failing to intervene in the killing and helping Puccio cut off or transport limbs that were dumped in southern Ohio and Kentucky, about 70 to 85 miles away.

In an interview, Puccio said he met Urbana resident Sharon Cook and Christopher Wright at a local library before the killing, then Smith and Puccio, who was stunned that they helped him cover it up instead of calling the police, the Springfield News-Sun (http://bit.ly/HinSkuf) reported on Sunday. “It shocked the hell out of me,” Puccio said. “I figured they’d be the first to call the cops on me.”

Puccio said he had met Sacco through Facebook while he was living in Texas. Puccio said Sacco provided support he needed after his former fiancée left him and took two of his children.

Puccio said he and Sacco argued often and that their relationship became more strained because she didn’t get along with Andrew Forney and his wife, the Michigan couple who began living at the couple’s Urbana home just weeks before Puccio moved in last fall.

**Montreal, 10 April** — Montreal police believe they made a significant break in a 10-year-old case involving the murder of a young woman.

Police said the two children identified by investigative sources as accomplices at a library just three days before the killing, were stabbed to death.

A 25-year-old man is in custody on murder charges.

Police said they met two of their alleged accomplices at a library just three days before the killing.

**SAO PAULO, 10 April** — Brazil has no plans to offer further incentives for automakers, but the government does not rule out taking steps to boost the competitiveness of other industries, Trade and Industry Minister Fernando Pimentel said in an interview published on Sunday.

Pimentel told O Estado de Sao Paulo newspaper that the Brazilian government wants to encourage automakers to invest more heavily in innovation to meet surging demand in the world’s fourth biggest auto market.

“The industry already has many incentives. I don’t see the need to touch that,” he said. Brazil last week announced a battery of tax breaks and subsidized credit to help struggling manufacurers and speed up the country’s fragile economic recovery.

Critics say those measures are just short-term solutions and don’t address underlying problems such as a heavy tax burden, bureaucratic and lack of investment.

Under recently adopted measures for the auto industry, carmakers will be offered tax cuts in exchange for further investment in research and development. “Bring over here the engineering, production, research and innovation departments. We want products conceived in Brazil. We have the capacity to produce,” Pimentel told O Estado.

He also said Brazil is ready to help other industries regain competitiveness and mentioned pharmaceuticals, chemicals, appliances and fertilizers as sectors that are on the government’s radar.

**Miami, 10 April** — The US Coast Guard said one of its crews and another boat rescued 10 people they found clinging to a small pleasure boat that capsized off the Miami coast.

The incident involved five adults and five children who were aboard the 14-foot boat when it capsized about 8 pm Saturday about 250 yards off Sea Isle Marina.

A Coast Guard crew pulled seven of the boaters to safety and a Tow Boat US crew helped three others.

The Coast Guard told the newspaper only minor medical concerns were reported.

**Brazil not planning new incentives for automakers**

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**President Dilma Rousseff said domestic demand is key for the BRICS nation to resume vigorous economic growth after a disappointing 2.7 percent expansion in 2011, down sharply from 7.5 percent growth in 2011.** — Reuters

**Russian polar expedition yacht missing in Antarctica**

**LONDON, 10 April** — A Russian Polar Puffin is missing in Antarctica, a spokeswoman for the BBC News website said.

The British Broadcasting Corporation said no contact with the Scorpius since Monday night, when the crew said gale-force winds were keeping it at anchor, Anna Subbotina said. It is believed to be stuck in ice between two polar research stations.

The crew—four Russians and three Ukrainians—said out in September to visit the two poles. Ms Subbotina said she had last received an email from the crew at 03:00 Moscow time on Tuesday (23:00 GMT on Monday). They had left Ukraine’s Vernadsky polar station on the Argentine Islands and were on their way to Russia’s Bellingshausen station in the South Shetland Islands when the storm forced them to drop anchor.

**The Russian polar expedition yacht missing in Antarctica**

**The Russian polar expedition yacht missing in Antarctica**

**A man passes an electronic screen displaying graphs of the movements of share prices around the world as cherry blossoms are in full bloom in Tokyo on 9 April, 2012.**

**INTERNET**

**The Russian polar expedition yacht dropped anchor during a storm.**

**INTERNET**

**Coast Guard rescues 10 off Fla coast**

**MIAMI, 10 April** — The US Coast Guard said one of its crews and another boat rescued 10 people they found clinging to a small pleasure boat that capsized off the Miami coast.

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A Coast Guard crew pulled seven of the boaters to safety and a Tow Boat US crew helped three others.

The Coast Guard told the newspaper only minor medical concerns were reported.

**INTERNET**
**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV HOA NAM VOY NO ( )**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV HOA NAM VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: MS WOOHYUN SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BILLION VOY NO (132)**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BILLION VOY NO (132) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W ( ) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: MS PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV DIBENA HAPPY VOY NO (140)**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA HAPPY VOY NO (140) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W ( ) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: MS PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV XIN BO LIN 3 VOY NO (-)**
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**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: UNION OCEAN SHIPPING LTD CHINA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BANGKHOITHI VOY NO (159)**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKHOITHI VOY NO (159) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W ( ) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV FORTUNE HERO VOY NO (-)**
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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: CITIC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD CHINA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

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Four Chinese oil workers killed in Niger helicopter crash

Four Chinese oil workers were killed in a Niger helicopter crash on April 9, 2012. The crash occurred in Agadez, a town in northern Niger, where the helicopter went down. The workers were part of a team working on a pipeline project.

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Ford recalls more than 140,000 Focus vehicles

Ford Motor Company is recalling over 140,000 of its 2012 Focus models in the United States due to a potential issue with the car’s windshield wiper. US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said on Monday.

According to NHTSA filings, some US Ford Focus vehicles may have a missing element in the windshield wiper motor that would normally keep water out. Without the safeguard, the electric connection could become faulty and cause the passenger-side wiper to fail, which could potentially lead to a crash due to limited visibility. Ford said that there have currently been no reported accidents due to the windshield issue.
Mechanic takes motorized couch for a spin

A New Zealand mechanic who designed a motorized couch with a top speed of 37 mph said his creation has been advertised by townpeople, even police officers. Josh Steeg of Hastings said he and some friends took the couch for an Easter spin through Napier as part of a scheme to attract business for his mechanical work and perhaps even the couch itself, Hawkes Bay Today reported on Monday. “Who knows, someone might see it as a great opportunity to do some advertising,” Steeg said. The couch has a 2008 Yamaha Jog motor, a stereo system and speedomter, and it pulls a refreshment trailer. Steeg said the rig was a hit with people in the community. “Police had a look at us but it was all good. It’s only the second time I’ve had it out for a run. If I had a dollar for every time someone stopped us to take a photo today, I’d be rich,” he said.

Walt Disney Studios announces new twist on “Sleeping Beauty”

LOS ANGELES, 10 April—Walt Disney Studios announced Monday that it will present its first show for the renowned Dior fashion house since its inception in 1946. Known locally as “The New Light of Myanmar,” the exhibit launched Friday, 13 April at Madame Tussauds in London.

Orchard names Raf Simons as new artistic director

PARIS, 10 April—Christian Dior has named Belgian designer Raf Simons as its new artistic director, seven months after its icon, John Galliano, was convicted of anti-Semitic ravings. A fashion rebel of a different sort, Simons—who began his career as a furniture designer and has had his own successful men’swear line—will present his first show for the renowned Dior fashion house in July, according to Monday’s announcement.

DIOR NAMES RAF SIMONS AS NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Belgian designer Raf Simons will serve as artistic director for haute couture, ready-to-wear and women’s accessories. It praised him as “one of the greatest current talents” and said he will “inspire and propel the 21st century” style carried on by the prestigious house since its creation in 1946.

Ronnie Wood: Rolling Stones to go into studio soon

NEW YORK, 10 April—Ronnie Wood says the Rolling Stones will meet in a recording studio later this month “to just throw some ideas around.” The guitarist for the legendary rock group said on Monday that he and his bandmates “just want to get the feel again.” He also added that the Rolling Stones 50th anniversary is like training for something big. “It’s like working out for the Olympics or something,” Wood said. “You’ve got to go into training. So we’re going to go into training.”

World’s oldest man alive

New record holder, and newly retired city worker, Scott Wilcox, 86, of Newport News, Va., is the world’s oldest man. At 63 years, 210 days, he is now believed to be the world’s longest and will appear in the next edition of the Guinness Book of World Records. “Hardy Cash is a Hampton icon,” Mayor Molyer Joseph Ward said. “To remain in public service to one city for more than 60 years is a feat that won’t likely be duplicated any time soon. We are most grateful to him for his commitment to public service.”

Man serves public for 63 years

An 84-year-old Virginia man has been recognized by Guinness World Records for having the world’s longest career as a civil servant. Sara Wilcox, a Guinness World Records spokeswoman, said Hardy Cash began serving the public 1 July, 1947, when he was hired to assist Elizabeth City County Executive WR “Buddy” Freeman with office tasks, and his career ended when he retired as the Hampton city ombudsman on 28 Jan, 2011, the Newport News Daily Press reported on Monday.

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Oosthuizen joins elite Masters company with wonder shot

AUGUSTA, 10 April — Champion Bubba Watson will always have the prestigious green jacket but, once the dust settles, the most stirring memory of the 78th Masters will be the wonder shot for the ages conjured up by Louis Oosthuizen.

Oosthuizen, who ropped to a seven-stroke victory at the 2010 British Open, triggered one of the louest rounds ever heard at Augusta National with his astonishing albattros two on the par-five second.

The gap-toothed South African with the silky swing holed out from 253 yards with a four-iron to record the first albatross, or double-eagle, on that hole and only the fourth ever achieved at the Masters. Playing with eventual winner Watson in Sunday’s final round, Oosthuizen watched as his ball landed on the front of the green in between the two bunkers and bounded along the rolling uphil.

The fans crammed around the green applauded politely but the ball kept on rolling, tracking sharply from left to right before dropping into the cup with what appeared to be its dying breaths. The cheering reached an ear-splitting crescendo and the sound reverberated around the Georgian pines as players on every part of the course were treated to something very special.

Oosthuizen thrust both arms skywards before high-fiving his caddie. Watson considered joining the celebrations but thought better of it — *Reuters*

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**Di Matteo predicts tough fight for fourth spot**

LONDON, 10 April — Chelsea boss Roberto Di Matteo believes the race for fourth spot in the Premier League will go to the final game of the season after their 1-1 draw against Fulham at Craven Cottage here on Monday.

Di Matteo’s men could have gone above fourth-placed Tottenham, who lost to Norwich on earlier on Monday, had they beaten their west London rivals.

But Frank Lampard’s penalty — his 150th Premier League goal — on the stroke of halftime was cancelled out by Frank Lampard’s penalty — his 150th Premier League goal — on the stroke of halftime was cancelled out by Chelsea’s late goals — they’ve let in 20 Chelsea’s habit of conceding late goals — they’ve let in 20

Deschamps desperate to pull Marseille into gear

PARIS, 10 April — Didier Deschamps has pledged that Marseille will not coast to the end of the season, vowing to pull last year’s Ligue 1 runners-up back into gear with just six games remaining.

Deschamps’ side have league leaders Montpellier on Wednesday, just three days after losing 2-1 at great rivals Paris Saint-Germain, leaving them ninth in the table with just a single point from a Europa League quarter-final. The Catalans came from behind to beat Zaragoza 4-1 on Saturday while leaders Real Madrid made the short trip to rivals Atlético on Wednesday. With seven games remaining and a trip to the Camp Nou later this month, Madrid cannot afford any more slip-ups after a 10-point gap over their rivals has been reduced to four in less than a month.

In that period Madrid have won just two out of five, drawing three matches, while Barca have been victorious in their last nine league outings. The Catalans came from behind to beat Zaragoza 4-1 on Saturday while leaders Real Madrid made the short trip to rivals Atlético on Wednesday. With seven games remaining and a trip to the Camp Nou later this month, Madrid cannot afford any more slip-ups after a 10-point gap over their rivals has been reduced to four in less than a month.

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No London ‘divorce’ for China’s Li

LONDON, 10 April—China’s top tennis player Li Na has flouted media scrutiny of her Olympic preparations by insisting she will not be giving her hen-pecked husband coach the boot for this year’s London Games.

The reigning French Open champion, who has always had an uneasy relationship with the Chinese media, will stick with Jiang Shaiman and not hire a foreign coach, she told the China Daily.

“I don’t know why the media are so interested,” said the outspoken 30-year-old. “Maybe you are not confident in Jiang and my current team.

“Up to now, I haven’t had any intention of recruiting a foreign coach,” said Li, who often jokes fun at her husband in interviews. “I hope the media won’t ask about it again.”

Jiang guided Li to the final of last year’s Australian Open, where she lost a tough three-setter to Belgium’s Kim Clijsters.

Danish Fed Cup captain Michael Mortensen took over and helped get her the French Open title but Jiang was reinstated after the US Open.

Li’s form dipped after becoming Asia’s first grand slam winner in Paris, although the player expressed confidence ahead of the Olympics.

“Compared with reaching the final at the Australian Open last year, people may feel a little bit disappointed about my results this year,” said the world number eight.

“But I think my form is okay right now and I have no regrets so far.”

Li has planned her year around London.

“After the French Open, I won’t play any matches until Wimbledon,” she said. “After the Open, I will go back to China for two days and then see my doctor in Germany. “Then, I will go to London one week before the Olympics to adjust to the grass court.”

The Games, which take place from 27 July to 12 August, will be Li’s third Olympics. “It might be my last Olympic Games, so I don’t want to have any regrets,” said Li, who failed to win a medal after losing the third-place playoff match on home soil at the 2008 Beijing Games.

Wundwin Township facilitated with Leinbin Bridge

WUNDWIN, 10 April—Leinbin Bridge, donated by wellwishers U Myint Thu (M Group)-Daw Phyu Phyu Thant, son Maung Hnin Thu Shein Thant and family, was held in Wundwin Township of Meiktila District on 7 April morning.

The bridge was built by M Group of Asia World Co Ltd. The facility is 92 feet long and 10 feet and three inches wide. Pedestrian way is five feet wide on either side.

Clearance of the bridge is 10 feet high. The bridge was constructed in April 2011. The wellwishers spent K 64.6 million on construction of the bridge.

Thanks to the bridge, the local people enjoy fruits of better transport, social, health and health sectors.

Balogtelli apologises for Man City sending-off

LONDON, 10 April—Manchester City’s volatile forward Mario Balotelli has apologised for being sent off in the 1-0 defeat against Arsenal.

“As for my future at the end of the season, I will speak to the club and we will see,” Mancini said after Sunday’s defeat that he would probably sell the striker at the end of the campaign.

The Italian was lucky to stay on the pitch as long as he did on Sunday after a dangerous studs-up first-half challenge on Arsenal’s Alex Song that the referee did not see. Two separate yellow cards later for nasty challenges on Bacary Sagna meant he was dismissed in the 90th minute and the defender has almost certainly scuppered City’s title hopes.

Mancini said last week that he had been a team mate of Balotelli in his own playing days he would probably have ended up punching him and even now he does not speak to him every day “because if I did I would need a psychologist” - Reuters

Man City will fight to the end, says Lescott

MANCHESTER, 10 April—Manchester City defender Joleon Lescott vowed not to give up the fight in the Premier League title race on Tuesday despite Manchester United’s seemingly inevitable march towards a 20th title.

City fell a massive eight points behind United on Sunday following their 1-0 defeat at Arsenal, effectively ending their title hopes with only six games remaining this season.

However Lescott insisted City would not give up until it was mathematically impossible to catch leaders United.

“It’s out of our hands but we’ve got to keep going and if United slip up then we’ve got to be there to capitalise,” said Lescott. “If they don’t, then obviously it’s going to be impossible for us to catch them now.

Lescott also said City’s players were determined to avoid the nightmare scenario of United clinching the title at Eastlands in the Manchester derby on 30 April.”

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Weather forecast for 11th April, 2012

No. Regions/States

1 Kachin 28/82 19/66 Fairly widespread rain or thunder showers (80%)

2 Kayah 29/84 18/64 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

3 Northern Shan 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

4 Upper Myanmar area 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

5 Irrawaddy 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

6 Mandalay 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

7 Ayeyawady 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

8 Eastern Shan 32/90 15/59 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)

9 Rakhine 30/86 22/72 Fairly widespread rain or thunder showers (80%)

10 Bago 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

11 Southern Shan 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

12 Yangon 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

13 Kayin 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

14 Mon 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

15 Tanintharyi 35/95 23/73 Isolated rain or thundershowers (80%)

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 11 April, 2012
Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (10-4-2012)

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<tr>
<th>Town</th>
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<tr>
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Loss of predators in northern hemisphere affecting ecosystem health

A grizzly bear in Yellowstone National Park.—Internet

Science Daily, 10 April—A survey on the loss of the Northern Hemisphere’s large predators, particularly wolves, concludes that current populations of moose, deer, and other large herbivores far exceed their historic levels and are contributing to disrupted ecosystems.

The research, published recently by scientists from Oregon State University, examined 42 studies done over the past 50 years.

It found that the loss of major predators in forest ecosystems has allowed game animal populations to greatly increase, crippling the growth of young trees and reducing biodiversity. This also contributes to deforestation and results in less carbon sequestration, a potential concern with climate change.

“These issues do not just affect the United States and a few national parks,” said William Ripple, an OSU professor of forestry and lead author of the study. “The data from Canada, Alaska, the Yukon, Northern Europe and Asia are all showing similar results. There’s consistent evidence that large predators help keep populations of large herbivores in check, with positive effects on ecosystem health.”

Densities of large mammalian herbivores were six times greater in areas without wolves, compared to those in which wolves were present, the researchers concluded.—Internet

Arsenal could have signed Ronaldo

I remember what happened to Ronaldo at Arsenal,” Ronaldo’s agent Jorge Mendes said, according to skysports.com.

“They watched him nine or ten times, and when everything seemed decided, then Manchester United played at the inauguration of the Alvalade Stadium (Sporting Lisbon) and the players themselves urged Ferguson to buy him.”

Mendes also revealed that Luis Nani moved from Sporting to United in similar circumstances, with Arsenal having tracked him during his days in Lisbon.

Mendes added: “Nani was also followed by Tottenham and Arsenal, but as I say, who sleeps in business loses.”

Union H&T Minister meets Region/State in-charges

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan meets Region/State in-charges.—MNA

Myanmar youth golfers secure prizes in True Visions International Junior Golf C’ships

Sithu Ye Yint in the 15-21 aged and Hein Sithu in the 11-12 aged event bagged consolation prizes. The Myanmar golf team comprising 17 players was led by Joint Secretary of Myanmar Golf Federation U Myo Tun and Coach U Chan Han. The victorious Myanmar golf team arrived back here by air on 7 April evening. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Vice-President of Myanmar Golf Federation U Aung Hla Han and their parents and relatives.—MNA

Arsenal scooted Ronaldo on numerous occasions.

Sir Alex Ferguson when Manchester United met Sporting in a pre-season friendly to inaugurate the Estadio Jose Alvalade in Lisbon.

Ronaldo starred for Sporting as they defeated United 3-1 and, as Arsenal hesitated, Ferguson made his move for the promising youngster.

Taking fire preventive measures a matter of urgency in dry season

A Landrover vehicle decorated with pieces of pottery and porcelain works is seen at a street in Tianjin Municipality, north China, on 9 April, 2012.

Chelsea boss Roberto Di Matteo, pictured on 7 April, believes the race for fourth spot in the Premier League will go to the final game of the season after their 1-1 draw against Fulham at Craven Cottage here on Monday.

Li Na of China
serves to Maria Sharapova of Russia during their match at the Sony Ericsson Open on 27 March, 2012.