Our Three Main National Causes

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

President U Thein Sein, wife Daw Khin Khin Win enjoy Myanmar Traditional Cultural Maha Thingyan Festival

NAY PYI TAW, 14 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win (on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day) this morning enjoyed Myanmar Traditional Cultural Maha Thingyan Festival for 1373 ME on the lawns of the Presidential Palace.

On arrival at the Maha Thingyan water throwing pandal on the lawns of the Presidential Palace at 9.15 am, the President and wife were garlanded by Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and staff families of the President Office in line with the fine Myanmar traditions.

Next, the President and wife cordially greeted film artists and vocalists.

Together with Vice-Presidents Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, and Dr Sai Maau Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief(Army)General Soe Win, Deputy Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Union ministers, the Attorney-General of the Union, deputy ministers and families, President U/ Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win enjoyed singing and dancing entertainments.

At the water throwing pandal, choral dancers of Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture and the Camp Commandant’s Office of the Ministry of Defence, vocalists and renowned film stars presented Thingyan songs and dances to the accompaniment of the Myanma A Than modern music band.

After that, the President and wife together with the vice-presidents, members and families joyfully participated in water throwing festival of Myanmar Traditional Cultural Maha Thingyan.

(See page 8)
PERSPECTIVES
Sunday, 15 April, 2012
Towards a new great year

Thingyan, Myanmar Traditional New Year Festival, reaches its tail end. The last year went by in flash and a new year begins. The preceding year was a momentous one which witnessed plenty of noticeable changes in various fields.

During the previous year, the elected civilian government instituted a series of dramatic reforms and won domestic support and international recognition which was made tangible by a number of high-profile visits from the western countries once hostile to Myanmar. The government, marking its first anniversary of taking office, presented the people the free and fair by-elections as a gift. Some sanctions against her were lifted with some to be ended soon.

MPs debated public affairs and passed new legislations in three parliamentary sessions, thoroughly acting as a check and balance on the cabinet.

Peace talks with national race armed groups during the last year were said to be successful, entering into agreements at each level.

Signs indicated Myanmar’s economy would soon boom, inviting more foreign direct investment. Lawmakers are also working to pass new legislations to lure more foreign investors. Fixed for decades, foreign currency became float in Myanmar as well.

Various restrictions on taxation, media and many other sectors were relaxed. Myanmar has had more and more transparency since the previous year, boosting chances for realization of “good governance and clean government”.

To look back on the very recent year, it was a banner year. As we take a step towards a new year, we have to review our wish lists for the past year—how many yeses we could tip—and renew new ones, leaving out the things what we learned from the past year went against us.

We, the editorial board of the New Light of Myanmar, wish you all our subscribers and the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar could tick yes to each and every line on their wish lists for the coming year.

Taninthayi Region Myanma
Traditional Maha Thingyan
Festival Central Pandal opens

NAY PYI TAW, 14 April—Opening of Taninthayi Region Myanma Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival Central Pandal, was held, in the front of Dawei Town Hall on 12 April. Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko extended the greetings. Region Social Affairs Minister U Aung Kyaw Kyaw cut the ribbon to open the pandal. After that, they throw the scented water on and choral dancers at pandals of the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, wish you all our subscribers and the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar could tick yes to each and every line on their wish lists for the coming year.

Towards a new great year

Union A & I Minister visits Palethwe hybrid paddy plantations

NAY PYI TAW, 14 April—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing yesterday morning visited Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation and six-acre quality paddy plantation in Taegyigon village in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, 45-day thriving Palethwe paddy plantation (50 acres) in Chaing Dekkhanthiri Township and China-Myanmar hybrid paddy seed production at agricultural mechanized farming (100 acres) in Kyarky village in Dekkhanthiri Township.

After that, he also visited thriving paddy plantation in Alynio village in Pyinmana Township and 17-day Palethwe hybrid paddy at model agricultural mechanized farming (200 acres) in Yanaungmyin village in Dekkhanthiri Township.

Towards a new great year

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe inspects Pyidawtha rural housing project

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe inspected the ongoing construction of new houses in Kungyangon-Tawkayan-West Bodin road.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe inspected the ongoing construction of new houses in Kungyangon-Tawkayan-West Bodin road.

Insein Township observes World TB Day 2012

YANGON, 14 April—In line with the motto “Stop TB, In My Life Time”, the World TB Day 2012 was observed at Ayeyawady Hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Insein Township of Yangon North District in Yangon.

Insein Township observes World TB Day 2012

Union A & I Minister visits Palethwe hybrid paddy plantations

Union A & I Minister visits Palethwe hybrid paddy plantations

Towards a new great year

Towards a new great year

Towards a new great year

Towards a new great year

Towards a new great year

Towards a new great year
Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and India’s Foreign Minister SM Krishna (from L to R) attend a joint press conference after their meeting in Moscow, Russia, on 13 April, 2012. — Xinhua

First Confucius Institute in N Ireland opens its doors

BELFAST, 14 April — A new chapter in China-Northern Ireland relations has been opened with the launching of Northern Ireland’s first Confucius Institute on Friday. The Confucius Institute at the University of Ulster (CIUU) opened its doors Friday with an opening ceremony in Jordanstown, near Belfast. China’s State Councillor Liu Yandong, Northern Ireland’s First Minister Peter Robinson, Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness and Vice Chancellor of the University of Ulster Richard Barnett attended the ceremony.

Xiu said the high-level people-to-people exchange mechanism between China and Britain is the first of its kind between China and a European Union country. The mechanism would help the two countries further understand and learn from each other, and deepen friendship between the two peoples. Along with mutual political trust and economic and trade cooperation, the high-level people-to-people exchange mechanism forms one of the three pillars of the China-Britain relationship, she said. Speaking to teachers and students of the University of Ulster, Liu said educational exchange plays an important role in people-to-people exchanges.

China has made opening-up and cooperation parts of its national education plan, and is ready to work with high-level foreign universities to cultivate talents who have an international vision, she said. She hoped Chinese and British universities would deepen cooperation in the exchange of teachers and students, and establishing research and development platforms, and sharing teaching ideas and other resources.— Xinhua

Slogan of London Olympic Games to be announced next week

LONDON, 14 April — The long-awaited slogan of the London Olympics will be announced next week when it’s 100 days to go until the opening of the Games, LOCOG said here on Friday. A source from the LOCOG told Xinhua, “I can confirm to you that the slogan will be announced at a press conference next week.” She refused to disclose the reason why LOCOG reveals the slogan so late. The slogan of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games — “One world, One dream”, was unveiled in June 2005, over three years before the opening of the Games. — Xinhua

Powers seek to ease nuclear deadlock with Iran

ISTANBUL, 14 April — Iran and world powers have a rare chance on Saturday to hail a downward diplomatic spiral over Tehran’s nuclear programme and ease fears of a new Middle East war when they resume stalled talks, but diplomats warn against expecting quick results. The negotiations in Istanbul, the first between Iran and the six powers in 15 months, are unlikely to yield any major breakthrough but Western diplomats hope at last to see readiness from Tehran to start discussing issues of substance.

That, they say, would mark a big change in Iran’s attitude from the last meeting when it refused even to talk about its nuclear programme and could be enough for scheduling a second round of talks next month, perhaps in Baghdad. Such an outcome could, at least for the time being, dampen persistent speculation that Israel might launch military strikes on Iranian nuclear sites to prevent its enemy from obtaining atomic arms. Both sides say they are ready at the meeting, which is due to start at around 10 am (0700 GMT), to work towards resolving the deepening dispute over the nuclear programme which Iran says has purely peaceful purposes.

“For their own reasons, each side wants to give diplomacy a chance at this point, to start a process rather than to force a quick fix,” said analyst Michael Adler at the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars. Iran must show in Istanbul that it is willing to enter “serious engagement,” one senior diplomat said, suggesting Saturday’s discussions were unlikely to go into detailed issues. “My tip is to set your sights low,” the diplomat said. “It is not part of our game plan for tomorrow to lay out a long list of specific demands and conditions. They know what we think about all these things.”— Reuters

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and India’s Foreign Minister SM Krishna (from L to R) attend a joint press conference after their meeting in Moscow, Russia, on 13 April, 2012. — Xinhua

Tornado hits Oklahoma, more expected this weekend

CHICAGO, 14 April — Forecasters are warning of a major tornado outbreak in Kansas and Oklahoma this weekend, and Oklahoma got a first taste of it on Friday as a twister touched down near the National Weather Service office in Norman. A tornado was seen near the University of Oklahoma campus in Norman just after 4 pm local time. Another tornado touched the National Storm Prediction Centre, according to a Twitter post from Rick Smith, a National Weather Service meteorologist.

The Norman tornado ripped roofs from buildings, downed power lines and uprooted trees across Norman, a town of 110,000 people 20 miles south of Oklahoma City, television images showed. City Hall was among the structures damaged, said Keli Cain, a spokeswoman for the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management. The Department of Emergency Management said Oklahoma had been warned to get to a basement or low floor. “I was watching this tornado on TV, which was neat until I realized it was right here in Norman,” said the operator, who did not have a name.

Meteorologists had been warning of a similar to that caused severe storms in parts of the Midwest two weeks in early March that killed more than 300 people, said Steve Weiss, science support branch chief for the National Storm Prediction Center. “We see potentially some... very damaging tornadoes,” Weiss said. Oklahoma is already having severe weather Friday, and a twister was also warned in Copertton in the state’s southwest corner. — Reuters

A lightning strike is seen near the water tower of Broomfield, Nebraska on Friday, 14 April, 2012. — Reuters

Chinese State Councillor Liu Yandong (3rd R), Northern Ireland’s First Minister Peter Robinson (3rd L) and Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness (2nd L) jointly unveil the plaque for the Confucius Institute at the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland, Britain, on 13 April, 2012.— Xinhua

Mexican drug cartel member sent to prison in Colorado

DENVER, 14 April — The leader of a Mexican drug cartel was sentenced on Friday to more than 22 years in prison by a federal judge in Colorado, who said the kingpin’s criminal enterprise sold $1 billion worth of cocaine in eight US states. Oscar Arriola, 43, was “a clear and present danger to this country and its citizens,” US District Judge Robert Blackburn said.

The cartel distributed cocaine in 2002 and 2003 in New York, Illinois, Georgia and five other states from a storage centre at a Colorado ranch, before an anonymous tip led to an investigation, the US Drug Enforcement Administration said. Arriola and his brother, Miguel, were among 29 people indicted in 2003 in federal court in Denver. Oscar Arriola was arrested in Mexico in 2006 and extradited to the United States in 2010. Miguel Arriola was sentenced to 20 years in prison on drug trafficking charges involving the Arriola cartel’s smuggling of tons of cocaine from Mexico to the United States.

Oscar Arriola pleaded guilty last year to drug trafficking and money laundering crimes. He was one of the top 35 drug traffickers in the world in 2002. Drug Enforcement agent and lead investigator Paul Roach said. A prison term of 22 1/2 years was justified, the judge said, because Arriola provided to authorities while in US custody was “more than offset by the lives ruined.” Arriola apologized to the judge for the harm his cartel inflicted on US residents. — Reuters

A lightning strike is seen near the water tower of Broomfield, Nebraska on Friday, 14 April, 2012. — Reuters
**Experts sleet out what killed Puget Sound orca**

**Seattle, 14 April** — Two months after a 3-year-old endangered orca washed ashore bloodied and bruised in Washington state, the cause of her death remains a mystery.

Marine experts believe the female killer whale, known as L-112, died of massive blunt force trauma, but they’re still examining evidence and waiting for tests of tissue samples to determine what caused the injuries, said terrific orca experts, however, suspect the injuries are linked to an underwater explosion or military training activity at sea.

Law enforcement officers with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration last week began looking into the orca’s death and are seeking information from the US Navy and other sources about their activities as part of its investigation, said NOAA spokesman Brian Gorman. “So far, there haven’t been any red flags,” he said. The Navy says it wasn’t conducting activity off the coast in the weeks before 11 Feb, when the orca’s 12-foot long carcass was discovered on Long Beach on Washington’s southern coast.

The young female orca was a member of the “L” pod, one of three groups of federally-protected killer whales that frequent Puget Sound, whose population now stands at 86. Conservation groups say her death represents a major reproductive loss for the marine mammals and, combined with recent naval sonar use in the region by the US and Canada, underscores the need for stricter protections for the marine mammals. — Internet

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**What would happen If you fell into a Black Hole?**

**Washington, 14 April** — Black holes are without question some of the strangest places in the universe. So massive that they hideously deform space and time, so dense that their centres are called “points at infinity,” and pitch-black because nothing can escape them, it isn’t surprising that so many people wonder what it would be like to visit one. It’s not exactly a restive vacation spot, as it turns out. If you were to take a step into a black hole, your body would most closely resemble “toothpaste being extruded out of the tube,” said Charles Liu, an astrophysicist who works at the American Museum of Natural History’s Hayden Planetarium.

Liu said that when an object crosses a black hole’s “event horizon” — its outer boundary, or point of no return — the same physics that causes Earth’s ocean tides begins to take effect.

Gravity’s strength decreases with distance, so the moon pulls on the side of the Earth closer to it a bit more vigorously than the side farther from it, and as a result, Earth elongates ever so slightly in the direction of the moon. The land is sturdy, so it doesn’t move much, but the water on Earth’s surface is fluid, so it flows along the elongated axis. — Internet

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**Samsung to showcase flagship OLED HDTV at IFA in August**

**Seoul, 14 April** — Samsung confirmed Friday that its 55-inch OLED HDTV will be shown at Berlin’s IFA trade show in late August, according to a report from SlashGear. At the event, the manufacturer will announce the TV’s official launch details alongside a new, premium range of HDTVs. Samsung describes the new televisions as “even more premium” than its OLED models, although that may be in terms of functionality rather than design or display technology.

Samsung unveiled its OLED TV at the Consumer Electronics Show in January, however details remain scarce. Both television sets will reportedly support the newest innovation of Samsung AllShare, which will add a 5GB cloud account to its local DLNA-based service, along with a remote login system, in the latter part of 2012. Using a single account login, the feature will allow users to remotely access any of their Samsung devices located anywhere in the world. — Internet

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**These contact lenses give you superhuman vision**

**Washington, 14 April** — Contact lens wearers can get a new perspective on their environment with the latest vision technology — contact lenses that let the wearer focus on two fields of view at once.

Wearers can keep an eye on a projected image while their surrounding scenery can also be looked at — resulting in superhuman vision.

The human eye on its own can only focus on one distance at a time. The contact lenses, however, will let two images be viewed at the same time. The projected image goes through the retina display, while the background image is still visible. And, while most of the world is fascinated with Google Glasses, the Pentagon is focused on getting a supply of these contacts, called iOptik. It recently ordered a supply from Innovega, the company that makes them.

The Pentagon will reportedly use the technology to develop displays ideal in what Arnold Schwarzenegger’s character wore in the movie Terminator.

In addition to contact lenses, the company also makes glasses with projection images in the lenses, which it showed off at CES 2012. With this technology, the company said, glasses and lens wearers could view content from their mobile devices while still looking at the scenery around them.

The technology will be available to the public in 2014. Futurist tech has been since since address a number of health concerns, as well as expand on the human body’s natural capabilities. — Internet
Nicotine patch may help prevent smoking relapses

New York, 14 April—Nicotine patches may help smokers recover from any initial setbacks and keep them from giving up and returning to smoking. But contrary to common perception, they haven’t failed at quitting and may get over initial lapses by continuing to use the patch, Shiffman said. His team’s study, published in the journal Addiction, suggests that nicotine in the first place, nicotine patches could also be giving up and returning to smoking from occasional lapses while trying to quit. Experts say people trying to break the habit manage to do so at first, but are unable to sustain their quit attempt over the long run. “Patch can help overcome these lapses. We’re ignoring what could be a very important benefit,” Shiffman told Reuters Health. According to the American Lung Association, more than 443,000 Americans die from smoking-related diseases each year. Cigarette smoke contains thousands of chemicals, including tar, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde and toxins known to cause cancer. Nicotine patches, usually applied on the arm, reduce withdrawal symptoms such as headache and nausea in people who give up smoking. They supply lower doses of nicotine than found in most cigarettes — without all the other extra chemicals. Other nicotine replacement therapies (NRTs) include over-the-counter gum and lozenges, prescription nasal sprays and inhalers and non-nicotine prescription drugs. — Reuters

Argentina’s “Miracle Baby” takes turn for the worse

BUENOS AIRES, 14 April — Ababy declared stillborn and then later found alive by herparents at a morgue in Argentina was in critical condition on Friday after taking a turn for the worse overnight, a hospital official said. Doctors told Analía Bouter that her baby was stillborn when she gave birth in Argentina’s northern Chaco Province at the start of the month. But 12 hours after her birth, when Bouter and her husband priopen the wooden coffin inside the refrigerated morgue to see her one last time, they found the baby not only breathing but yawning and stretching her arms.

The couple named her Luz Milagros - her middle name meaning miracles in Spanish - because of her unlikely start to life. But the newborn gave her parents another scare late on Thursday when she stopped breathing and had to be revived by doctors. “She’s an extremely premature baby, 13 days old and weighing 708 grams (1 pound, 5 ounces),” said Dinara Vesic, the head of maternity at the Pernando Hospital, where the baby was born.

“Yesterday she had an episode with a hemorrhage in the lungs, which required us to increase artificial respiration. Her heart and breathing stopped.” — Reuters

Wall Street ends worst two weeks since November

NEW YORK, 14 April — US stocks closed their worst two-week slide since November with a selloff on Friday as disappointing China growth data sparked worries the global recovery was stalling. Concerns that Europe’s debt crisis was flaring up again added to selling pressure. Sectors taking the hardest hit were those most closely linked to growth, including materials, energy and financials. The S&P 500 is now down 3.4 percent from this year’s closing high, after falling 2.7 percent over the past two weeks. “Everyone is looking for global growth, but the slowdown in China and the rising yields in Europe are creating questions about how strong we might expect it to be,” said Brad Sorenson, director of market and sector analysis at Charles Schwab in Denver. “That’s leading to a correction here, with financials especially taking a hit.” The S&P 500 financial sector index <.SPFLI> fell 2.5 percent in Friday’s session and lost 2.8 percent for the week. Bank of America Corp dropped 5.3 percent to $8.68. Morgan Stanley slumped 5.2 percent to $17.28.

The cost of insuring Spanish debt against default hit 500 basis points for the first time in 10 months on Friday. S&P 500 index <.GSPF> fell 2.5 percent in Friday’s session and lost 2.8 percent for the week. Bank of America Corp dropped 5.3 percent to $8.68. Morgan Stanley slumped 5.2 percent to $17.28.

Turmeric extract may protect heart after surgery

New York, 14 April—A new study from Thailand suggests that extracts from turmeric spice, known for their anti-inflammatory and anti-carcinogenic properties, may help ward off heart attacks in people who’ve had bypass surgery. During bypass surgery the heart muscle can be damaged from prolonged lack of blood flow, increasing patients’ risk of heart failure. The new findings suggest that curcumins — the anti-inflammatory pathways. But this is the first rigorous, controlled study to show that curcumins could help patients avoid heart attacks. Dr Danwarang Wongcharoen from Chiang Mai University studied 121 consecutive patients who had non-emergency bypass surgery at their hospital between2009 and 2011. Half of those patients were given one gram curcumin capsules to take four times a day, starting three days before their surgery and continuing for five days afterward. The other half took the same number of drug-free placebo capsules. Neither study participants nor their doctors knew which heart patients were getting which pills, and surgeons decided on their own what technique they would use for each bypass procedure. The researchers found that during their post-bypass hospital stay, 13 percent of patients who’d been taking curcumin had a heart attack, compared to 30 percent in the placebo group. —Internet

China announces slight easing of currency controls

BEIJING, 14 April—China’s central bank announced Saturday a slight easing of its controversial currency controls. It says it will allow the country’s yuan to rise and fall by a slightly wider margin in daily trading. The change could allow a faster rise for the yuan, which Washington and other trading partners complain is undervalued. But any increase will likely be too small to satisfy many critics and Beijing already has warned that future gains will be limited.

The central bank said it will allow the yuan to fluctuate by up to 1 percent in value against the dollar each day beginning Monday, up from 0.5 percent previously. The move took the unusual step of issuing a statement in English as well as in Chinese, clearly intending it for foreign audiences. The United States and other governments say an undervalued yuan gives China’s exporters an unfair price advantage, swelling its trade surplus and hurting trading partners. Beijing already has gained 30 percent in value in real terms since 2005. That increase has failed to satisfy critics.

Lockheed wins $259 million deal for two more US F-35s

WASHINGTON, 14 April — Lockheed Martin Corp won a $259 million contract adding two more F-35s to a fifth batch of jets being purchased by the US military, boosting the size of that order to 32 jets, the Pentagon and Lockheed officials said. Lockheed and the Pentagon are still negotiating the go-ahead for final production contract for the new radar-evading supersonic fighter jet, after reaching agreement in December on a $4 billion “undefinitized contract for early production.” On Friday’s deal, announced in the Pentagon’s daily digest of major contracts, brings the size of the fifth order in line with the number funded in the Pentagon’s fiscal 2011 budget. That fiscal year ends last September, but the negotiations got off to a late start. It adds one conventional takeoff aircraft to the 21 already planned for the Air Force as part of the fifth contract. The Pentagon told Congress last month that the production contract for the sixth planned for the Navy. The Marine Corps’ total remains at three for this order.

Lockheed is developing and building three variants of the new Joint Strike Fighter for the US military and eight countries that are helping to fund its development. The Pentagon told Congress last month that the projected cost to develop, build and operate and maintain, 2,447 jets for 55 years would be $1.51 trillion, up 8.6 percent from the previous estimate. — Reuters

Chino 100 Yuan notes in Shanghai. China’s central bank announced on 14 April, 2012, a slight easing of its controversial currency controls. It says it will allow the country’s yuan to rise and fall by a slightly wider margin in daily trading. — Internet

A bank clerk counts Chinese 100 Yuan notes in Shanghai. China’s central bank announced on 14 April, 2012, a slight easing of its controversial currency controls. It says it will allow the country’s yuan to rise and fall by a slightly wider margin against the dollar in daily trading. — Internet
Anawrahta Street teeming with merry-makers on Thingyan Akyat Day.—TIN SOE

Yangon City Electricity Supply Board Pandal packed with revellers.—MINA

Choral dancers perform Thingyan dances beside a decorated float. —TIN SOE

"We" of Child Star decorated float at Yangon Mayor's Pandal. —TIN SOE

Kaba Aye Pagoda Road crammed full with revellers on Thingyan Akyat Day. —TIN SOE

Photos capturing scenes on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day

Block between Merchant Street and Maha Bandoola Street filled up with revellers. —TIN SOE

Pandals along Maha Bandoola Street in Kyauktada Township packed with revellers on Thingyan Akyat Day.—TIN SOE

Revellers in Botahtaung Township on Thingyan Akyat Day.—TIN SOE
“Jaunty tune...drifting in the wind of summer’s Tagu”

Yes, Thingyan melodies are everywhere. Plenty of lively Thingyan songs offer us a wide range of options. Rock or pop or rap? Any type of Thingyan song is at your fingertips. And there are also plenty of golden oldies still stealing our hearts. They survive not a year or two, but for decades.

The catchy songs were once played by bands of decorated floats in Mandalay Thingyan. We cannot separate Thingyan and Mandalay as it is the cultural city and the capital of the last monarchy with fragrance of the ancient times still fresh. Also Mandalay Thingyan and the decorated floats are inseparable. As Thingyan festival was drawing nearer, traditional rivalry grew again in inseparable. As Thingyan festival was drawing nearer, traditional rivalry grew again.

Fortunately, it is still alive and kicking as its mascot Silver Swan passed into history. It is still alive and kicking as its mascot Silver Swan passed into history. Therefore, we must go to Mandalay Thingyan to clarify matters.

Among films portraying Thingyan, Thingyan Moe (Thingyan Rain) is a blockbuster. No Thingyan movie can equal the success of the award-winning musical till now. The film revolves around Mandalay Thingyan and Myoma. It follows a young man who plays keyboard for a band of a float with the love of music inherited from his farther, a pianist.

Maung Tin Oo, who is well known for a couple of blockbusters and award-winning works and succeeded in bringing Myanmar lifestyles to the silver screen, directed the film. It stars Nay Aung, Khin Than Nu, Zin Waing, May Than Nu, Zaw One and Thida Theint. Thingyan Moe won three Myanmar Motion Picture Academy Awards for 1985, including the best picture prize.

The filmmakers may possibly argue, “That is what the age is.” Movies have a strong impact on young watchers who later emulate what actors and actresses say, dress and behave in movies. And do films again show how these young people do?

What we call it

Myanmar Traditional Thingyan is lovely and elegant and conveys the pure essence of the festival. They show girls running on a beach with swimming suits and playing water in skin tight dresses. They follow boys tailing a girl with one among them begging for her love. They use schoolboy humours. And they call it Thingyan movie. The filmmakers may possibly argue, “That is what the age is.” Movies have a strong impact on young watchers who later emulate what actors and actresses say, dress and behave in movies. And do films again show how these young people do?

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Later, President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, and Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin presented cash awards to the choral dancers and artists who participated in performing the entertainments.—MNA

The road was formally opened by Chief Minister of Chin State U Hong Ngai and responsible personnel.

Afterwards, two hostels constructed with the contribution of Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun for Basic Education High School in Aukchaing Village was opened by Chin State Social Affairs Minister Dr Ba Maung and Head of Mindat Township Education Officer U Aung Kyaw.

At the meeting with local people at the sports ground in Aukchaing Village, State Chief Minister U Hong Ngai presented K500,000 to responsible personnel to be spend on regional development tasks.

He held a meeting with departmental officials at Mindat District General Administration Department on 11 April and inspected No.1 BEHS and staff quarter of Mindat Township People’s Hospital.

The State Chief Minister formally opened the two hostels donated by Union Minister U Win Tun for BEHS (branch) at Ranpan Village. He also donated K500,000 for the development of Ranpan Village to responsible personnel.—MNA

Mandalay Maha Thingyan continues on a grand scale

Montloneyepaw (rice balls floating over water) and Satudisa.

In the evening, Thingyan dancers, film stars and singers in each and every Thingyan Pandal around town entertained those Thingyan lovers with modern music and Thingyan music. At night, Mandalay Mayor’s Maha Thingyan Pandal hosted Thingyan decorated floats.

Padonna Soap Family Thingyan Pandal in Mandalay packed with Thingyan revellers.—MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 14 April—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung together with the Deputy Speaker of Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw, region ministers, region advocate-general, region auditor-general, secretary of the region government and officials concerned enjoyed entertainment of performers at Pathein University Thingyan water throwing Padal yesterday morning.

Afterwards, the Region Chief Minister presented prizes to the performers who did their best in entertaining at Public Works Pandal and Myanma Electric Power Supply Enterprise Thingyan Pandal in Ayeyawady Region.—MNA

Sabagyi Library put into service in Momauk Township

MOMAUK, 14 April—With the aim of broadening horizon of the local people and developing human resources, a ceremony to open Sabagyi Library was held in conjunction with the publications and cash donation at the pavilion near the library in Myohaung Village of Momauk Township of Bhamo District in Kachin State on 28 March.

The library was built at a cost of K 1 million contributed by the State and K 2,194,400 by the rural people. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Nyan Hlaing made a speech. Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Lun Nan Htwe explained the purpose of opening the library and important role for durability of the facility. After that, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and wellwishers donated books and furniture to the library through officials. Chairman of the library committee U San Haung spoke words of thanks. After that, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and wellwishers donated books and furniture to the library through officials. Chairman of the library committee U San Haung cut the ribbon to open the library. It is 24 feet long, 16 feet wide and 15 feet high building.—Township IPRD
Outstanding bus workers awarded in Yangon East District

Transportation Yangon Region Minister for Transport delivered an address. Next, the chairman of All Private Bus-line Control Committee made a speech.

The chairman of Yangon East District All Private Bus-line Control Committee reported on provision of cash assistance for work performance for 2011-2012 fiscal year and awarding work performance competition at the hall of Thingangyun Township General Administration Department on 7 April morning.

After that, the Region Minister presented cash assistance to workers of respective branches. Officials also gave K 1585000 to prize winning vehicle owners, drivers and bus conductors from 15 bus lines of the district.

Citizenship cards issued in Taikkyi Township

YANGON, 14 April—Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Myint Shwe made citizenship scrutiny cards and household registration in Gyobyu Village-tract in Taikkyi Township of Yangon Region. The official team issued citizenship scrutiny cards to 174 eligible people as part of efforts in implementing Moe Pwint-1 Plan. Township Immigration.

Women’s vocational training courses conclude in Yinmabin

YINMABIN, 14 April—The advanced tailoring course No 15 and the basic domestic science course No 19 concluded at Women’s Vocational Training School in Yinmabin on 23 March morning.

Sagaing Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Kyi Naing made a concluding remark. The region minister then presented a set of sewing machine each to outstanding trainees.

Principal of the training school Daw Mya Mya Aye presented completion certificates to the trainees through a female trainee. After the ceremony, the Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs viewed the graduation works of the trainees.

Reforms of tax collection system clarified in Mawlamyineyun

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 14 April—Organized by Township Internal Revenue Department, the clarification of tax collection system for township level notification on reforms of tax collection system was held at the hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Myanma Alin. The region minister then made a speech. Head of Township Internal Revenue Department Daw Aye Aye Maw explained issuance of notification on reforms of taxation for township level departments and tax payer people.

Later, the chairman of Township Internal Revenue Department replied to queries raised by those present.

New library building put into service in Kangyidaunt

KANGYIDAUNT, 14 April—A ceremony to open Village-tract Administrative Office and Lin Yaung Chi Library was held in front of the building in Nanwin Gayat Village-tract in Kangyidaunt Township of Pathein District on 8 April.

At first, Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Myo Hsaung, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Aung Kyaing and townselder U Nyein Aye cut the ribbon to open the buildings.

The books and publications donations ceremony followed at the library. The deputy head of Township General Administration Department made a speech. The head of Township Information and Public Relations Department explained durability of the library. Later, the chairman of the library committee accepted books and publications. The library building is 50 feet long and 20 feet wide.
Indonesia finds missing asylum seeker boat

Jakarta, 14 April — Indonesian authorities said they had found a boat reporting missing asylum seekers off the eastern coast of Australia and that the dozens of asylum seekers it was carrying were believed to have fled. Authorities had been searching for the boat since the mostly Afghan asylum seekers on board made a distress call to Australia on Wednesday, saying they were in rough seas and their boat was sinking. Refugee advocates who said 60 asylum seekers were on board alerted Australian authorities, who passed on the information to Indonesian officials.

Indonesian authorities said they had located the missing vessel late on Friday on Lombok island, which lies just east of the popular resort island of Bali, although residents said they spotted the asylum seekers on Wednesday. “People in Lombok informed us that they saw the boat arrive on the shore on Wednesday, and that people came ashore and ran off,” Nanang Sigiti, a search and rescue official in West Nusa Tenggara province told AFP. “We’ve not been able to immediately get in touch with them, so we only found the boat Friday night. We’re now working with police and are conducting a search on the island.”

A spokesman for Brisbane-based Refugee Action Network told AFP he believed the vessel was still out at sea as late as Friday, when he last spoke to the asylum seekers via mobile phone. “If they found a boat on the island, Wednesday, then it’s not the rightboat,” he said. “If I spoke to them last, I could hear the wind and water in the background. They said the boat had taken a lot of water.” Indonesian officials said they were calling off the search for the vessel, apparently satisfied they had found the right boat.

Japanese government considering dropping appeal of Apple vs. Motorola

Japan — Japan’s market watchdog on Friday recommended the Financial Services Agency (FSA) fine Olympus Corp <7733.T>about200 million yen ($2.5 million) for false accounting in one of the country’s biggest corporate scandals.

The recommendation, made by the Securities Exchange and Surveillance Commission (SESC), was expected as part of legal procedures and comes after prosecutors last month charged the company’s top executives of key figures in the $1.7 billion accounting fraud.

The SESC said that the medicalequipment maker made false regulatory filings from the financial year ended in March 2007 through the first quarter ended in June 2011 by booking bigger investment incomes and goodwill than the actual amounts. The FSA will make the final decision on imposing the fine.

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Rhino death toll rises to 170 this year in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 14 April— The toll of the killed rhino has increased to 171 in South Africa in 2012, a government department said on Friday. In the midst of the increased anti-poaching effort, the rhinos killed in the country so far this year have reached an alarming figure, said Environment Affairs department spokesman Albi Modise in a statement.

According to the new statistics, the northern province of Limpopo, the eastern province of KwaZulu- Natal and the central province of North West among nine provinces were prime destinations for illegal rhino poachers, with a total of 58 rhinos killed. The Kruger National Park was the main target for the poachers, resulting at a staggering total of 103 rhinos being killed, while the remaining 10 were poached elsewhere in the country, said the spokesman. In 2011, 448 rhinos were killed in South Africa, compared to 333 in 2010. If this trend of the rhino killing continues, the total number of the killed animals this year will be higher than last year, an expert said.

Conservationists warned the rhino in South Africa is facing their worst poaching crisis in decades. There is increased concern at the escalation of poaching rhino in South Africa, and the government is taking measures to protect the endangered rhino.

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A new cosmodrome is being built in Vostochny, Amur region as the main launch site for Russia’s full independence in space activities and enables Russia’s space exploration, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on Thursday. Russia would outline a long-term strategy of cosmodrome building, including modernizing the northern Plesetsk and Kazakhstan-located Baikonur cosmodromes, Putin told a conference in Moscow’s Planetarium. “Only the existence of several cosmodromes guarantees Russia’s full independence in space activities and enables us to use space technology efficiently,” he said.

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India to drop ‘Terry’ pic from cigarette warnings

The image of a shirtless man appeared on cigarette packets reading “Smoking Kills.” The image of a Terry in it. However, the imagination of some who see continued to deny the picture as their objections to the picture. We were of Terry, but it is distinctly of the Ministry of Health released on Tuesday found. “There is a tendency toward increased weight and obesity in the country. It’s time to reverse the trend to avoid becoming a country like the United States,” said Health Minister Alexandre Padilha. He said a third of Brazilians consume either high fat foods or sugared soft drinks at least five times a week. The study showed nearly 40% of men and 22% of women were overweight. “Adopting public policies for children and adolescents is essential to prevent people from becoming obese,” he added. 

Brazil alarmed over rising obesity rate

In Brazil, a country known for its girls in mini-bikinis and where body-consciousness among men is overweight, the study was among the youngest group of men 18-24 years old, where 36% of the men and 25% of the women were overweight. “Advertising for cigarettes is necessary for children and adolescents is essential to prevent people from becoming obese,” he added. 

Spanish drug maker Roche sees Q1 sales stutter

The study was of around 11.58 billion francs. “The picture could be of a Swiss dermatologist Roche Holding AG reported Thursday that group sales dipped one percent to $12.05 billion in the first quarter, while hinting that it might be prepared to raise its offer for US diagnostics firm Illumina Inc. Excluding the effect of the strong Swiss currency, group sales rose two percent compared to the same period last year. Analysts had expected slightly higher sales of around $11.58 billion francs. 

“I remain on track to achieve our targets for the full year,” Roche chief executive Severin Schwan said in a statement citing forthcoming new drugs to combat skin cancer and other diseases. 

Sales in the United States grew six percent in the first quarter, led by hepatitis C medicine Pegasis and cancer drug Rituxan — known as MabThera outside the US and Canada. Sales in Western Europe fell four percent partly due to cutbacks in government-funded health programmes. Roche, which reports earnings only every six months, said group sales are expected to grow at low to mid-single digit rates for the full year 2012. Addressing the monthlong efforts to take over California-based Illumina, which specializes in gene sequencing to analyze patients’ DNA, the Roche CEO indicated that a higher bid might still be possible. Last month, Roche raised its offer to $51 cash per share from $44.50 per share, said by Illumina to be too low.

A wounded Afghan man is carried inside a vehicle at the site of a suicide bomb in Herat Province, west of Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, on 10 April, 2012. At least 12 people, including two suicide bombers, were killed and 30 others injured Tuesday morning when a suicide car bomb went off in Gazor District of Herat Province, provincial police chief said. — NOSNA

Three drilled eggshells by French tourists are seen at his home in Vehkala, some 23 Kilometers from Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 12 April, 2011. 

Man on Honolulu-bound flight from Japan dies

Honolulu, 14 April —A passenger on one of its Hawaii-bound flights in Nagoya has died. Delta spokesperson Gina Laughlin said Flight 612 from Nagoya was about two hours from Honolulu when the man began experiencing some kind of medical emergency. She says the passenger was transported to a hospital where he was pronounced dead. Laughlin says passenger privacy prevents the airline from revealing details about the man. She says given the plane’s location, going on to Hawaii was the shortest and only available option.

A Korean Air Boeing 777 rests on the runway of a Canadian Forces base in Comox, British Columbia on 10 April, 2012. The plane, en route to Vancouver, British Columbia to Seoul, diverted to Comox on Vancouver Island under escort by two US fighter jets after the airline’s US call centre received a call about a threat on board. —INTERNET

A family enjoys Ipanema beach at sunset in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2011. In Brazil, a country known for its girls in mini-bikinis and where body-consciousness among men is overweight, the study was among the youngest group of men 18-24 years old, where 36% of the men and 25% of the women were overweight. “Advertising for cigarettes is necessary for children and adolescents is essential to prevent people from becoming obese,” he added.

“Some people raised objections to the picture. We have asked the directorate of advertising and visual publicity to provide new pictures, which they have done,” a health ministry official told AFP. The ministry has continued to deny the picture was of Terry, but it is distinctly similar to an image of him available on the Internet. “Though the controversy is a part of the reason for withdrawing it, the present tobacco control dispensation is also not very happy with the quality of this image as a warning,” one official told the Indian Express newspaper. “The picture could be of any man. It is only the fertile imagination of some who see Terry in it. However, the controversy has been an unsung one and so we are looking at a fresh set of warnings.” The image of a shirtless man appeared on many brands of cigarettes in India and became a talking point among football fans and tourists from England who took to Twitter to say they instantly recognized Terry. Each packet, which normally costs about $100 rupees ($2) in India, shows the man’s blackened lungs emphasized by a red circle above a slogan in English reading “Smoking Kills.” After the picture first appeared on cigarette packets in December, Terry’s management told AFP that his lawyers were considering legal action. They also stressed that Terry, who has hit the headlines in the past for drinking binges, was a non-smoker. —INTERNET

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**Ohio man charged after six puppies found in suitcase**

An Ohio man has been charged with animal abandonment after a litter of six English Bulldog puppies was found in a suitcase in Japan, according to the Toledo Area Humane Society's executive director. Davis told investigators that he had given the dogs to a friend in Michigan and that the suitcase had in fact been stolen earlier. There was no explanation as to how the adopted dogs got back from Michigan in the stolen suitcase. The puppies, three male and three female, are estimated to be four weeks old, too young to separate from their mother, so they will spend at least another four weeks in foster care before they are eligible for adoption.

Dixon said the shelter has received an overwhelming number of calls about adopting the puppies but that for now they are "evidence" in the case against Davis.

**Girl, 4, has IQ of 159**

International high-IQ society Mensa has accepted a 4-year-old British girl whose IQ is only 1 point less than that of physicist Stephen Hawking. John Steven, executive chief of British Mensa, said the organization was proud to welcome Heidi Hankins of Winchester, England, into its ranks after her score of 159 on an IQ test, putting her just 1 point behind fellow Mensa member Hawking’s 160.

Matthew Hankins, 46, the girl’s father, said he and his wife knew early on that their daughter was special. "We always thought Heidi was bright because she was reading early," Hankins said. "I was curious about her IQ and the results were at the top end of the chart. I got her the complete set of the Oxford Reading Tree books when she was 2 and read the through the whole set of 30 in about an hour."

**Spears could get $15M as ‘X Factor’ judge**

Brittany Spears appears back stage at the 2011 MTV Video Music Awards at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles on 28 August, 2011. She was awarded the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard award.–Reuters

Los Angeles, 14 April—Pop star Britney Spears is close to signing a $15 million deal to be a judge on the U.S. version of "The X Factor," multiple sources told E! News. Spears' representatives have been negotiating with Fox for weeks, a report said Wednesday. "Both camps were back and forth on the money but now they have finally come to agreement on the fee," said one insider with intimate knowledge of the pending deal. "That was the sticking point and now, thankfully, it's been sorted. All they need to do now is work out the smaller points. The fact the money is now set, means that there is nothing stopping this from becoming reality." Spears' fiancé, Jason Trawick, who is also petitioning to become co-conservator of her estate with her father, will become a producer on the show, a second source said. "Jason is expected to be there every day Britney is on set. He is rock and will help guide her through the process. He has been the one that trusts the most," the second source told E! News.

The deal would make Spears the highest paid judge in reality television, eclipsing singer-actress Jennifer Lopez’s $12 million deal with “American Idol.” Spears, 30, is expected to start her new role on the “X Factor” judging panel alongside LA. Reid and Simon Cowell, in the middle of May, E! News said.–Internet

**Peppers, Black Keys set for Lollapalooza**

Chicago, 14 April—The Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Black Keys, Black Sabbath and Jack White have been booked for this summer’s Lollapalooza festival in Chicago. Also on the bill for the 3-5 Aug event in Grant Park are Florence + The Machine, The Shins, Wale, Kaskade, Fun Of Monsters and Men, and dozens of other music acts, the festival’s Web site said.

Tickets are on sale now.–Internet

**News Album**

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Ronaldo eyes finishing line in La Liga title chase

Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo (R), seen here during their Spanish La Liga match against Atletico Madrid at the Vicente Calderon stadium in Madrid, on 11 April. Ronaldo scored his seventh hat-trick of the season as Real beat their neighbours 4-1, to restore their four-point lead at the top of the table. — INTERNET

Mauro, 14 April
Cristiano Ronaldo feels that Liga leaders Real Madrid are now closing in on the title as they prepare to face struggling Sporting Gijon at the Santiago Bernabeu this weekend.

The Portuguese star scored his seventh hat-trick of the season as Real beat neighbours Atletico 4-1 on Wednesday to restore their four-point lead at the top of the table.

The pressure had been growing on Jose Mourinho’s team as their lead - which sat at 10 points in mid-March - was whittled down to one in the wake of Barcelona’s 4-4 victory over Getafe on Tuesday.

But, after some tense moments with the score tied at 1-1 at the Vicente Calderon, Ronaldo made the difference before substitute Jose Callejon got the other goal.

“Still there is a little way to go but the league is near now. We were anxious going into the game as we knew that Barca had won but now we are relaxed,” said Ronaldo, who has already equalled his record-breaking tally of 40 league goals, set last season.

That figure leaves him one ahead of Barcelona’s Lionel Messi, although the Argentine has the most in all competitions with 61.

“The only thing that I am not looking for is personal records but titles for Real Madrid and I have to thank my teammates because without them I would not have scored three,” added Ronaldo. April is a crucial month for Madrid and will go a long way to deciding their destiny in the title race.

Having taken four points from two league games against Valencia and Atletico, they still have a tough four Champions League semi-final tie with Bayern Munich to come - either side of their trip to the Camp Nou to face Barca in El Clasico. —INTERNET

Forlan determined to prove he fits at Inter Milan

Milan, 14 April — Uruguayan striker Diego Forlan wants to stay at Inter Milan and prove he belongs at San Siro despite a frustrating first season.

“I want to stay at Inter. You haven’t seen the real Forlan yet,” the 32-year-old told Sky Sports.

“I don’t want to leave Inter like this. I like challenges and I wouldn’t want to leave when the team are not in a good position.

Inter are currently six points off third place in Serie A, the final qualifying spot for the Champions League, after a disappointing campaign in which Forlan has struggled.

The player of the tournament at the 2010 World Cup, where Uruguay reached the semi-finals, Forlan missed four months through injury and has often been jeered by the Inter fans when he has played.

“I have had difficult moments in my career,” he said.

“I need to work hard to change things.”—INTERNET

Forlan, pictured in 2011, wants to stay at Inter Milan and prove he belongs at San Siro despite a frustrating first season.—AGONY

Knost seizes PGA Heritage lead

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, 14 April — Colt Knost of the United States, who began his PGA career in 2007 yet managed his first top-10 finish just seven weeks ago, is the unlikely leader in the PGA Heritage title.

The 26-year-old Texan fired a bogey-free five-under 66 at the par-70 Kiawah Island Resort to take a one-shot lead after 54 holes. He is at 10-under 206 in the tournament at the Ocean Course. —INTERNET

Knost, putting for birdie on the 11th hole during the second round of the Heritage Classic in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. —INTERNET

Knost seizes PGA Heritage lead

Bayern can shock Real, insists Beckenbauer

MUNICH, 14 April — German football legend Franz Beckenbauer says Bayern Munich can beat Real Madrid in Tuesday’s Champions League semi-final first leg, if they learn from their mid-week German league defeat at Borussia Dortmund.

Bayern lost 1-0 at the league leaders on Wednesday, with Dutch star Arjen Robben seeing a late penalty saved, and the defeat leaves second-placed Munich six points behind with four games left in the Bundesliga.

“If they produce the same performance they showed in the second half (at Dortmund), then they certainly have a chance to turn over Madrid,” said ex-Bayern president Beckenbauer, who captained and coached West Germany to World Cup titles.

“I am confident in the young team, but they remain in contention for two other titles, with a German Cup final against Dortmund coming up on 19 May. —INTERNET

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Colt Knost puts for birdie on the 11th hole during the second round of the Heritage Classic in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. —INTERNET

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Measles vaccination given in Nagmon Township

NAGMON, 14 April—The age-wise measles vaccination was launched at the meeting hall of Township General Administration Department in Nagmon of Putao District in Kachin State on 22 March morning.

At first, Township Administrator U Myo Min Aung made a speech. Township Medical Officer Dr U Kan Kyaw Soe explained the plan of age-wise measles vaccination was implemented in Nagmon Township and Pannandin Sub-Township simultaneously.

THINGYAN PANDAL OPENED: The Maha Thingyan Pandal of Yangon East District in Yangon Region was opened at the water throwing and entertainment pandal at Monument Junction on Ayeyawad River in Thakayta Township on 12 April. An official present gifts to film actress Sithu Daw Nwe Nwe San, on behalf of film mom actress Ju Sair. Archbishop Dr. Marcellus I. B. Tom opened the pandal at 4.05 pm.

Internet

Swinson 3-0 Blackburn

Lozells, 14 April—Blackburn’s survival hopes took a massive nosedive with a comprehensive defeat at the hands of classy Swinsea.

Gylfi Sigurdsson opened the scoring for the home side, curling in a delightful left-footed effort.

Scott Sinclair pounced on a Scott Dann error to supply Danny Graham who teed up Nathan Dyer for the second. Daniel Levy scored two fine goals, came inches away from matching his countryman’s course in his home country.

But after a fractious period in his Manchester City career, his performance and the result showed that his team’s title ambitions were back on track.

Despite boss Roberto Mancini’s claims that his team had no chance of overtaking Sir Alex Ferguson’s team, his once again floundered side showed they have not given up.

Sergio Aguero scored two goals for Manchester City in their win at Norwich.

He gives two friends

There was this guy and he had a girlfriend called Lorraine who was very pretty and he liked her a lot. One day he went to work to find that a new girl had started. Her name was Clearly and she was absolutely gorgeous. He became quite besotted with her and after a while it became obvious that she was interested in him too.

But this guy was a loyal man and he wouldn’t get involved with Clearly while he was still going out with Lorraine.

He decided that there was nothing for it but to break up with her and get it on with the new girl.

He planned several times to tell Lorraine but he couldn’t bring himself to do it. One day they went for a walk along the river bank when Lorraine slipped and fell in to the river. The current carried her off and she drowned. The guy stopped for a moment by the river and then ran off smiling and singing: “I can see Clearly now Lorraine has gone”.

Tevez hat-trick & Aguero double fires visitors to within two points of title race

Tevez’s swerving effort beat John Ruddy before he set up Sergio Aguero. Norwich replied when Andrew Surman blazed in after Joe Hart’s punch.

But Tevez boosted the lead with a header and Aguero’s solo effort added the gloss before Tevez rounded Ruddy and Adam Johnson tapped in.

NLM-ner Joke

There are no dogs allowed here

A man goes to a bar with his dog. He goes up to the bar and asks for a drink. The bartender says “You can’t bring that dog in here!”

The man takes his drink and goes to a table near the door. Another guy walks in the bar with a Chihuahua. The first guy sees him, stops him and says “You can’t bring that dog in here unless you tell him it’s a seeing-eye dog.”

The second man replies “This is my seeing-eye dog.”

The bartender says “Hey, you can’t bring that dog in here!”

The second man replies “This is my seeing-eye dog.” The bartender says “No, I don’t think so. They do not have Chihuauas as seeing-eye dogs.” The man pauses for a half-second and replies “What?!?! They gave me a Chihuahua?!”
Diplomats participate in Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival in Nay Pyi Taw

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 April—Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival held for third time in Nay Pyi Taw was packed with revellers on Thingyan Akyat Day today. Diplomatic corps led by Director-General U Aye Thaw of Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited Hotel Golden Land Pandal this morning where they enjoyed traditional foods and Thingyan songs and dances. The diplomats, officials of the pandal and artistes played water happily. They then proceeded to Nay Pyi Taw FC Pandal where they enjoyed choral dances and songs. Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife with and wife with scented water at Max Myanmar by Dean of the Corps Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Lwin and wife and party welcomed the diplomatic corps led by Dean of the Corps Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua and wife with scented water at Max Myanmar Group of Companies Pandal where they played water happily. They enjoyed Thingyan songs and dances at Golden Guest Hotel and Shwe Than Lwin Co Pandal and Nay Pyi Taw Mayor’s Pandal. Union Ministers at the President Office Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Thein Nyunt and U Soe Maung, deputy ministers and members of Nay Pyi Taw Council played water with the diplomatic corps headed by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin. The diplomatic corps enjoyed choral dances of artistes from the Ministry of Culture.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan filled with lively entertainment

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 April—Nay Pyi Taw Maha Thingyan Pandals have been still active since Maha Thingyan Akyo Day. Also today Maha Thingyan Akyat Day, revellers packed the Hotel Zone pandals on Nay Pyi Taw Raza Thingha Road, enjoying lively performances of Myanmar famous pop stars and film stars and free snacks offered by merit-makers. National Landmark Garden/Nay Pyi Taw, Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden, Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden, Safari Park were full of Thingyan fans getting relaxation in the afternoon. Nay Pyi Taw Mayor’s Maha Thingyan Pandal was alive with performances of choral dance troupes, pop stars, film stars and revellers. Likewise, Ottarathiri, Dekkhinathiri, Pobbathiri, Pyinmana, Tatkon, Lewe Townships in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area saw the pandals packed with Thingyan fans.—MNA

Late Carroll header completes turnaround as Reds secure FA Cup final spot

LONDON, 14 April—Andy Carroll scored a dramatic late winner as Liverpool came from behind to defeat Merseyside rivals Everton 2-1 to reach the FA Cup final on Sunday. Carroll— the club’s much-maligned £35 million record signing — glanced in a Craig Bellamy free-kick in the 87th minute to keep Liverpool on course for a domestic cup double. It was the second time in five days that Carroll had come to Liverpool’s rescue after scoring an injury-time winner in the Premier League victory over Blackburn in midweek. More importantly the goal ensured Liverpool have the opportunity to finish a disappointing season on a high in next month’s final where they will face the winner of Sunday’s last-four clash between Tottenham and Chelsea. Carroll’s decisive strike came after Liverpool had fought back to level through Luis Suarez on 62 minutes following Nikica Jelavic’s opener for Everton. Liverpool had started well, with Glen Johnson surging forward menacingly after only three minutes to release Carroll. The pony-tailed striker cut back deftly to Jay Spearing but the young midfielder should have done better than a shot which flew harmlessly over. Liverpool chances thereafter were few and far between, and while Kenny Dalglish’s side often advanced into good attacking positions their forays invariably fizzled out because of poor play in the final third. Everton meanwhile looked com-territible throughout the first period, mapping up Liverpool’s attacks with ease and probing for openings. —Internet

Internet

Under climate change, winners and losers on the coral reef

Coral on the
Great Barrier Reef, Australia. Internet

Science Daily, 14 April—As ocean temperatures rise, some species of corals are likely to succeed at the expense of others, according to a report published online on April 12 in the Cell Press journal Current Biology that details the first large-scale investigation of climate effects on corals.

“The good news is that, rather than experiencing wholesale destruction, many coral reefs will survive climate change by changing the mix of coral species as the ocean warms and becomes more acidic,” said Terry Hughes of James Cook University in Australia. “That’s important for people who rely on the rich and beautiful coral reefs of today for food, tourism and much more,” Hughes said.

In an attempt to understand the sorts of changes that may take place as the world’s oceans warm, the researchers examined the coral composition of reefs along the entire length of Australia’s Great Barrier Reef.—Internet

Andy Carroll’s late header sent Liverpool through to the FA Cup final as they came from behind to beat Everton at Wembley.—Internet

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