President U Thein Sein, wife Daw Khin Khin Win attend second communal ordination, novitiation ceremony in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 April—The second communal ordination and novitiation ceremony of Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area was held at Aung Yadana Monastery in Shwekyabin Ward of the township in the morning of New Year Day, attended by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Pyinmana Maha Withutayama Zaygon Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rathha Guru Bhaddanta Kavisara and members of the Sangha, Union ministers, deputy ministers, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Hluttaw representatives, departmental heads, guests and local people.

At first, members of the Sangha recited Namo Tassa three times. They took the Eight Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavisara.

Members of the Sangha recited Parittas. The President and wife donated alms to Zaygon Monastery Sayadaw.

The Union ministers and those present donated provisions to members of the Sangha.

The Zaygon Monastery Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing the merits gained.

(See page 8)
Display anger in an appropriate way

Anger is a feeling that you have when you think something has happened that you think is bad or unfair. Anger is important for survival. It isn’t surprising that anger, given its primal origins, often results in action. When we feel angry, there is a strong impulse to get away. Bottling up anger is a real problem and it can lead to a heart attack, meaning that stifling anger is dangerous and expressing anger is good.

A recent study suggested that heart-disease symptoms may be severe in hostile individuals who try to suppress their negative feelings and behavior in a socially acceptable way. And it has concluded that suppressing anger after receiving an insult or unjustified verbal attack is unhealthy.

The most unhealthful approach is to focus on solving the problem that has promoted the anger, for those with impatient and aggressive behaviour are more likely to develop heart disease. And those who had high scores on the hostility scale have developed heart disease four to five times more often.

Expressing anger in the workplace usually brings negative reactions. Whether at work or at home, chronic anger like chronic anxiety or chronic despair is unhealthful. Whether at work or at home, chronic anger like chronic anxiety or chronic despair is unhealthful. Whether at work or at home, chronic anger like chronic anxiety or chronic despair is unhealthful.

Although there are risky to venting anger and therapeutic if it’s done in an appropriate way. The challenge is thus not to get rid of anger but to use it as vehicle for productive change.

Union A&I Minister inspects irrigation water system

On his arrival at 100-acre modern farm near Kyarku Village, he heard reports presented by Mr. Zhang Jianyu on bilateral cooperation between C.E.T.C companies and Myanmar companies in doing research for producing eight types of Palateh hybrid paddy.

He proceeded to his inspection tour of the 100-acre modern farm in Tegyigon in Zabuthiri Township, where he paid a close attention to progress of research task for growing four types of Palateh hybrid paddy in the paddy strain competitive farm. —MNA

Union Religious Affairs Affairs Inspects anti-bank erosion works at Watchaunglay Village in Kani Township.

He proceeded to his inspection tour of the 100-acre modern farm in Tegyigon in Zabuthiri Township, where he paid a close attention to progress of research task for growing four types of Palateh hybrid paddy in the paddy strain competitive farm. —MNA

Sagana Region Chief Minister Meets local farmers

The Union Minister on 16 April visited the 1000-acre Yesagyo Township Sasana Village, and attended to their needs. The Union Minister on 16 April visited the 1000-acre Yesagyo Township Sasana Village, and attended to their needs. The Union Minister on 16 April visited the 1000-acre Yesagyo Township Sasana Village, and attended to their needs. The Union Minister on 16 April visited the 1000-acre Yesagyo Township Sasana Village, and attended to their needs. The Union Minister on 16 April visited the 1000-acre Yesagyo Township Sasana Village, and attended to their needs.
Deadly attacks hit six Iraqi provinces, 43 killed

Baghdad, 20 April—Deadly attacks struck six Iraqi provinces on Thursday, killing at least 43 people and wounding some 155, in what appeared to be an attempt by militant groups to destabilize the country and undermine confidence in the Iraqi government.

In the Capital Baghdad, one of the deadliest attack occurred in the morning in the northern-western neighbourhood of Kadhimiyah, when a car bomb parked near a hotel went off and killed up to three people and wounded 20 others.

In central Baghdad, another car bomb detonated near the convoy of the Iraqi Health Minister Majid Hamad Amin Jamil, a Kurd, in al-Talaei, wounding four people.

A third car bomb exploded near a military checkpoint in the city of Dibis, some 45 km northwest of Kirkuk, killing five people and wounding five others.

In Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad, two car bombs and a roadside bomb exploded in the area, killing a civilian and wounding five others.

In northern-central government-backed Awaken Council group in northern provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, killing a passer-by and wounding 11 people.

In a separate incident, a suicide bomber blew up his explosive vest in the industrial district in Talir area, some 20 km north of Baghdad, killing five people and wounding nine others.

Also in Talir area, two roadside bombs detonated in the area, killing a civilian and wounding five others.

In southern-central Baghdad municipality workers clean up after a car bomb attack in Palestine Street, Baghdad Iraq on 19 April, 2012. A wave of morning bombings across several cities in Iraq on Thursday, killing and injuring dozens of civilians, the police said, shattering weeks of calm in a reminder of the nation’s continued insurgency. —INTERNET

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In Iraq’s northern city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad, two car bombs and a roadside bomb struck the Iraqi police in the morning, killing a total of four policemen and wounding 23 people, including seven policemen.

People gather at the scene of a car bomb attack in the Amil neighbourhood of Baghdad Iraq, on 19 April, 2012. A wave of morning bombings across several cities in Iraq on Thursday, killing and injuring dozens of civilians, the police said, shattering weeks of calm in a reminder of the nation’s continued insurgency. —INTERNET

Turkey intercepts ship with suspected arms headed for Syria

istanbul, 20 April—Turkey has intercepted a vessel in the Mediterranean suspected of carrying weapons and ammunition to Syria, diplomatic source told AFP on Wednesday. “We have seized a vessel in the Mediterranean suspected of carrying weapons and ammunition to Syria,” said the source, adding that Turkish authorities would search the vessel.

Syrian refugee children stand behind a fence at the Boyunuyor Turkish Red Crescent camp in the Atmeh district of Idlib, near the Syrian border with Turkey. —INTERNET

This file photo released on 8 Dec, 2011, by the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, claims to show US RQ-170 Sentinel drone which Teheran says its forces downed earlier this week, as the chief of the aerospace division of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards, Gen. Ali Hajizadeh, right, listens to an unidentified colonel, in an undisclosed location, Iran, Iran’s semi-official Fars news agency said on 18 April, 2012 that Russia and China have asked Teheran to Provide them with information on a US drone captured by the Islamic Republic in December. —INTERNET

Turkey intercepts ship with suspected arms headed for Syria

US helicopter crashes in Afghanistan, four feared dead

Washington, 20 April—A US military helicopter went down in poor weather in Afghanistan on Thursday, killing the four people aboard, the military said, in a crash that officials believed may have killed all four people onboard.

A US defence official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Black Hawk helicopter crashed in the Regional Command-Southwest area, which includes the traditional Taleban stronghold of Helmand province. Poor weather appeared to have been the cause of the crash.

Another US military official said four people aboard the helicopter were feared dead.

Almost 3000 foreign soldiers have died in Afghanistan since the West’s war against the Taleban and other militants began in 2001. Despite a resilient insurgency, the United States, like its NATO allies, plans to withdraw most of its combat troops from the country by the end of 2014.—Reuters

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Baghdad municipality workers clean up after a car bomb attack in Palestine Street, Baghdad Iraq on 19 April, 2012. A wave of morning bombings across several cities in Iraq on Thursday, killing and injuring dozens of Iraqis, police said, shattering weeks of calm in a reminder of the nation’s continued insurgency. —INTERNET

Russia, China seek info on US drone held by Iran

Teheran, 20 April—Iran’s semi-official Fars news agency says Russia and China have asked Teheran to provide them with information on a US drone captured by the Islamic Republic in December.

The Thursday report quotes Ahmad Karimipour, an adviser to Iran’s defence minister, as saying Teheran has received requests for many countries for information on the RQ-170 Sentinel, but Moscow and Beijing have been most aggressive in their pursuit of details about the drone. He did not elaborate.

Iran said in December that it had downed a US drone using an unmanned stealth aircraft in eastern Iran. US officials have acknowledged losing the drone, but they said it will find it hard to exploit any data and technology aboard it because of measures taken to limit the intelligence value of drones operating over hostile territory. —Internet

Russia, China seek info on US drone held by Iran

Turkey intercepts ship with suspected arms headed for Syria

Iran is under a UN arms embargo imposed in 2007 due to its alleged nuclear activities and China has been the cause of the crash.

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India testfires intercontinental Agni-V ballistic missile off eastern coast

NEW DELHI, 20 April—India Thursday successfully testfired its homemade nuclear-capable Agni-V intercontinental ballistic missile, with a range of 5,000 kms, off the coast of the eastern state of Odisha, sources said.

“The missile, with a strike range of over 5,000 kms, was testfired at 08:07 am local time from Wheeler Island off Odisha coast, hitting the target 5,000 Kms away,” said V.K. Saraswat, chief of the India’s Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

A man looks at what is believed to be fossilised dinosaur eggs at a site in Russia’s Volga region. PHOTO: REUTERS

However, violence has declined under the strong-arm rule of Ramzan Kadyrov, whose multi-million dollar construction projects are aimed at raising the region’s profile and boosting the tourism potential of the troubled area.—Reuters

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Chechen State University.

Russia’s Chechnya Region

REUTERS

REUTERS

File photo shows a finless porpoise at an aquarium in China in 2006. China says 16 endangered finless porpoises have been found dead since the beginning of the year and experts blame water pollution and climate change for pushing the species toward extinction. —INTERNET

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China ‘river pig’ deaths raise extinction fears

SHANGHAI, 20 April—China says 16 endangered finless porpoises have been found dead since the beginning of the year and experts blame water pollution and climate change for pushing the species toward extinction.

The freshwater porpoise—popularly known in Chinese as the “river pig”—mainly lives in China’s Yangtze River and two lakes linked to the waterway.

Authorities have discovered 10 dead porpoises in Dongting Lake in the central Province of Hunan since March, said a statement released Thursday by the government of Yueyang City, which is located on the lake’s shore.

Another six dead porpoises have been found in Poyang Lake in the eastern province of Jiangxi since the beginning of the year, the official Xinhua news agency said late Wednesday.

It quoted experts as warning the species will be extinct within a matter of years.

Wang Kexiong, a researcher at China’s Institute of Hydrobiology, said water pollution, shipping, sand dredging and illegal fishing were all possible contributing factors to the recent deaths.

Many waterways in China have become heavily contaminated with toxic waste from factories and farms—pollution blamed on more than three decades of rapid economic growth and lax enforcement of environmental protection laws. Tests have shown that some of the porpoises are believed to have died of starvation, it said.

In 2006, China was estimated to have only 1,200 finless porpoises left. That same year, the Baiji—a freshwater dolphin native to the Yangtze River—was declared extinct.

Earlier this year, a survey found just 65 “river pigs” in Dongting Lake and 300-400 in Poyang Lake, the report said.—Internet

Dinosaur eggs found in Russia’s Chechnya

MOSCOW, 20 April—Geologists in Russia’s volatile Chechnya Region have discovered what they believe to be fossilised dinosaur eggs laid by one of the huge extinct reptiles that roamed the Earth more than 60 million years ago. “We’ve found about 40 eggs so far, the exact number has not been established,” said Said Dinim Dzhabrailov, a geologist at the Chechen State University.

“The could be more laying under the ground.”

The find was uncovered when a construction crew was blasting through a hillside to build a road near the region’s border with former Soviet Georgia in the Caucasus Mountains.

A team of geologists stumbled across the smooth, oval rock-like forms, which range from 25 cms to one metre coincidentally on a recent trip to the area, said Dzhabrailov. He said paleontologists were needed to determine which species of dinosaur had laid the eggs. Dzhabrailov said that the regional Chechen government, which is eager to shed the region’s reputation for violence, is considering turning the area into a nature preserve and seeking to attract tourists.

Federal forces fought two separate wars between 1994-2001 in Chechnya, and an Islamist insurgency persists in the mostly Muslim Region and surrounding provinces of Russia’s North Caucasus.

However, violence has declined under the strong-arm rule of Ramzan Kadyrov, whose multi-million dollar construction projects are aimed at raising the region’s profile and boosting the tourism potential of the troubled area.—Reuters

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US factory decline suggests economy losing steam

WASHINGTON, April 20 — Output at US factories slipped in March and builders started construction on fewer homes, offering cautionary signals for an economy that appeared to be gaining traction.

Manufacturing output slipped for the first time in four months, dropping 0.2 percent, the US Federal Reserve said on Tuesday.

The decline dragged on overall industrial production, which was unchanged and fell short of analysts’ expectations.

“It looks pretty bad on the face of it,” said Tom Porcelli, an economist at RBC Capital Markets in New York.

Surging exports and efforts by companies to restock shelves have made economic growth look more solid in recent weeks.

The factory data had little to change that view, but economists said it suggested the recovery lost a little steam at the beginning of the first quarter, in part due to headwinds from Europe’s debt crisis, which is weighing on global growth.

“(It) raises the possibility that the recent easing in global demand is starting to toll on US manufacturers,” said Paul Dales, an economist at Capital Economics in London.

Signs of a cooldown in growth became apparent earlier this month when a report showed hiring slowed sharply in March.

Still, Porcelli and others said the factory sector, which has been a key driver of America’s recovery from the 2007-2009 recession, appeared to have enough momentum to continue growing.

Auto production, for example, increased 0.6 percent after rising 0.8 percent in February. Also, initial estimates for manufacturing output in February were revised higher.

Citing these factors, Goldman Sachs on Tuesday raised its forecast for first-quarter growth in gross domestic product to 2.6 percent annual rate from 2.5 percent.

That would be a slowdown from the 3 percent rate clocked in the fourth quarter, but still faster than many analysts expected a few weeks ago.

Using AIDS drugs to prevent infection: a bargain?

CHICAGO, April 20 — Giving an AIDS-fighting drug to men who are at high risk of HIV infection would cost billions, but it might be worth it terms of reducing infection rates, US researchers said on Wednesday.

Since 2010, when a landmark study in the New England Journal of Medicine found that giving a daily dose of Gilead Sciences’ Truvada to men who have sex with men — who account for more than half of the estimated 56,000 new infections annually in the United States — was too costly.

School children make an AIDS logo during the preparation for the World AIDS Day programme at a school in the northern Indian city of Chandigarh. Reuters

With men can reduce HIV infection rates by 44 percent, researchers have been trying to work out how to make this treatment approach financially feasible.

Gilead is seeking permission for Truvada — a combination of its HIV drugs Emtriva, also known as Emtricitabine, and Viread, or tenofovir — to be used as a form of “pre-exposure prophylaxis,” often shortened to PrEP. The drug is already approved to treat people infected with the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS.

A prior study found that giving Truvada to all men who have sex with men — who account for more than half of the estimated 56,000 new infections annually in the United States — was too costly.

High-risk individuals took the drug it could prevent 41,000 new infections over a period of 20 years, at a cost of about $16.6 billion during that period, the team found.

By targeting this high-risk group, the team estimates the treatment could prevent twice as many infections as it could with 20 percent of the general population of men who have sex with men, and it would offer a better value.

“Use in high-risk men who have sex with men would provide substantial health benefits at a lower cost, although the budgetary effect would still be sizable,” Jesse Juusola, a PhD candidate at Stanford, and colleagues wrote in the Annals of Internal Medicine. An estimated 1.2 million Americans have HIV, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Prefiguring guidelines issued last year, the CDC said only high-risk gay and bisexual men should use a daily AIDS pill to prevent themselves from the virus.

An FDA advisory panel is expected to consider in mid-May whether to allow use of the drug as a way to prevent HIV infection in healthy people.

Scientists find neural stem cell regulator

WASHINGTON, April 20 — Researchers at the University of Colorado at Boulder have found that a lack of a specific gene interrupts neural tube closure, a condition that can cause death or paralysis. The study was the cover story this week in the journal Genes & Development.

“The neural tube is the beginning of the brain and spinal cord,” said the study’s lead investigator Lee Niswander, professor of pediatrics at the CU School of Medicine. “A defect in the mlr41 gene doesn’t allow the tube to close because not enough neural progenitor cells are being made.”

Niswander and the paper’s first author, Jianfu Chen, made their findings while studying neural stem cells in mice. They said the cells use distinct self-renewal programmes to meet the demand of tissue growth and repair during different stages of embryonic development. The molecular mechanisms that control these programmes remain largely unknown.

The researchers discovered that the gene mlr41 in mice controls the extent of neural stem cell proliferation during the process of neural closure but not at the later stage of brain development. According to Chen, mlr41 works with small RNAs and RNA regulators that have never been investigated before in connection with neural tube formation.

“Our work opens up a whole other pathway toward understanding neural tube defects,” Niswander said. “It’s a new and significant piece of the puzzle behind how this happens.”
16 Amish plead not guilty in Ohio hair attacks

CLEVELAND, 20 April — Sixteen men and women pleaded not guilty Thursday in beard- and hair-cutting attacks against fellow Amish in Ohio.

The 16 men and six women and their attorney overflowed defense tables and the jury box as they entered the pleas before US District Court Judge Dan Polster in response to an updated indictment.

The latest indictment added new allegations that the suspects tried to hide or destroy evidence, including a disposable camera, shears and a bag of hair from the victims.

Members of the Amish community who were in court left through a rear enclosed walkway without speaking.

The judge said he would keep the schedule set after the first indictment — a 30 July deadline for any plea change and 27 Aug trial.

 Trio jailed for Thusha shooting

LONDON, 20 April — Three men were jailed for life Thursday over a south London gangland shooting that left a five-year-old girl paralysed.

Nathaniel Grant, Anthony McCalla and Kazeem Kolawole were trying to kill a member of a rival gang in an off-licence when they accidentally hit Thusha Kamaltewaran, whose aunt owned the store in Stockwell, in the chest. They also seriously wounded another innocent bystander, Roshan Selvakumar, in the March 2011 attack.

The Old Bailey heard the trio, from the organized Criminals gang, cycled to the shop intending to kill rival gangster Roshan Bryan of rival gang All Bout Money.

The trio were found guilty last month of causing grievous bodily harm with intent to the girl and Selvakumar, plus the attempted murder of Bryan.

Grant, 21, — who fired the gun which wounded the two innocent victims — was told Thursday he will serve a minimum of 17 years while fellow gang member Kolawole, 19, and McCalla, 20, must serve at least 14 years.

First-grader born without hands wins penmanship award

NEW YORK, 20 April — Annie Clark, a 7-year-old born without hands but with a de-facto spirit, has won a national award for penmanship.

The first grader at Wilson Christian Academy in the Pittsburgh-area was awarded the Nicholas Maxim Special Award for Excellent Penmanship at a surprise assembly at her school Wednesday, where she was presented with a trophy and $1,000 prize from Zaner-Bloser, the textbook publishing company that sponsors the contest.

After accepting the award, Annie demonstrated for the audience how she writes, gripping the pencil steadily between her forearms to perfect the letters and capitalization.

“She is a studious and conscientious student who really strives for perfection,” her teacher Laura Erb said. “She is very determined to get it right. When she does any kind of writing, she wants to make sure it’s neat and concise and she really takes pride in her work.”

Meningitis kills 749 in West, Central Africa

OCHA, 20 April — Meningitis has killed 749 people in West and Central Africa this year, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

In a report released here on Friday, OCHA said Burkina Faso and Chad were the most affected countries in West and Central Africa. In Burkina Faso, OCHA recorded 3,630 cases since the beginning of the year, which is 40 percent of all cases reported in the region and, of which, 400 people had died by 1 April.

The organization’s website, ochaonline, reported that most cases were found in the country’s west bordering Mali, Ghana, Togo and Benin.

By 1 April, Burkina Faso had seen eight districts in an epidemic situation and 11 others on alert level. The meningitis season had in Burkina Faso is attributed to NmW135 serogroup.

Chad had registered 2,136 cases as per 1 April and 102 deaths.

OCHA said, “In the 11 West and Central African countries which have been affected, the meningitis season had killed a total of 749 people out of the 8,667 cases that had been reported by 1 April.”

While Burkina Faso, Benin and Chad reported more cases in March, Togo, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mali and the Central African Republic saw the incidence decline, OCHA observed.

Kill man with five-metre shark in S Africa

CAPE TOWN, 20 April — A 20-year-old body boarder was killed Thursday when a giant shark estimated at up to five metres long hit off his leg in a Cape Town bay, South Africa.

There are no other bite marks or lacerations on the deceased man’s body — only the complete amputation of the right leg and part of his thigh had not been recovered.

Witnesses reported a single shark, thought to be a Great White and measuring four to five metres, attacked the man. They said up to six sharks were spotted after the incident at a popular surfing and body boarding site in False Bay. The South African man’s body was recovered off rocks on the shore after he was hauled to shore, said Lambison.

City officials confirmed the fatal attack at Kogel Bay Resort which is near Gordon’s the eastern stretch of the large bay.

The attack is the latest shark blow for the popular city after a British man lost his arm at Fish Hoek in September, after he ignored warning flags on a beach which had been closed due to shark activity. Officials are mulling a shark net for Fish Hoek, a popular swimming beach where three attacks, two deadly, have taken place. — Internet

Three killed, several wounded in Texas cockfight shooting

HOUSTON, 20 April — Three people were killed and eight others were injured Thursday morning when several masked gunmen opened fire at an illegal cockfighting match in the US state of Texas.

The shooting took place on the city’s east side near the city of Elba, close to the Mexican border, a sophisticated cockfighting operation that included concession stands and bleachers, according to CNN affiliate KRGV.

Several people with weapons armed multiple spectators and participants at the rooster battle and began "shooting indiscriminately at the crowd," said Hidalgo County Sheriff Lupe Trevino described the site as "the crime scene from hell." Some spectators at the scene created more chaos and injured other people in a frantic attempt to get away. "It really has to be a chaotic situation. Because a lot of the spectators, some were trampled all over the casings, spent casings, trampled the bodies, have just wanted to get out of there." — Xinhua

Man killed by five-metre shark in S Africa

CAPE TOWN, 20 April— A 20-year-old body boarder was killed Thursday when a giant shark estimated at up to five metres long hit off his leg in a Cape Town bay, South Africa's second deadly shark attack this year.

David Lillienfeld's brother Gustav tried to pull the man to safety when the shark struck while the siblings were bodyboarding, reported Eyewitness News.

"The deceased man sustained complete amputation of his right leg, below the hip, while bodyboarding with his brother and friends," said National Sea Resort which is near Gordon's.
Eyes downcast, yellow-robed monks go alms-round single for Thingyan period.

Would join the Buddha's Order enthusiasm when asked whether I a new life. So, I nodded with much circle of existences and wanted in monsoon, I became aware of the I saw leaves turning yellow and the beginning of this summer. As thoughts overwhelming me since full of dirt and evil. Such were the willed to abandon the pleasure shaving my head, I was strong-

The next morning was the formal ordination organized by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, followed by laypersons presenting the monks with offertories which is done as the act of Dana or giving to the new monks at the end of ordination. Then, we were offered with meal which was oily pilau and it made me feel dizzy. An afternoon nap after the lunch makes one refresh. So goes the saying but when I woke up energetically the sun was setting in the west. I was not much worried for I believed that I could conquer my mind to discover the Path to Liberation. Again, I sat inside the mosquito net, sheltering from the awful bite of fly, blood suckers. And realized the sugar-coated agony of life, my phone rang, awakening my deep thoughts. It was from one of my female friends who was also my classmate. To be more exact, I have been waiting for her to say I am more than a friend to her. She asked my whereabouts as she did not know I am already the Son of Buddha. I told her that I was wearing yellow robes and she hung up and told me to call her back when I left the Buddha’s Order as she had something to tell me.

I tried to concentrate, but I could not help thinking of her. No, I cannot lose. I said to myself. She is an enemy who would drag me into the endless suffering. No, she would not for she has always encouraged me and been the guiding star of my life. I tried to drive her out of my mind, but at last I had to admit that she was too powerful to resist. Dana is sweet, but at the moment as sweet as her smile. Well, I have so much time left. As I would think no more of her, tonight I would miss her for the last time.

We went on our alms-round the next morning barefooted. Monks live solely on the offerings of the laity. The yellow-robed monks go on their rounds for alms every morning. Monks do this not because they have to depend on the charity of lay people but because of the spirit of humility and and fell. Leaning against a wall I ate my share. Nor at the same time nor after feel disgust. For only he who taketh as they come.

The scraps of food, medicine from excrement,

The couch beneath the tree, the patch robe
Stands a man in north, south,
President U Thein Sein, wife Daw Khin Khin Win attend second... (from page 1)

The members of the Sangha and the congregation recited three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Çiram. After the ceremony, the President and wife performed rituals of golden and silver showers in commemoration of the successful completion of the ceremony. Later, they offered meals to members of the Sangha.

At the ceremony, a total of 20 men and 100 boys, totalling 120 from Thabyegon Ward, Shwekyabin Ward, Alyinlo, Pyankapay, Tegyigon, Gonmin-in, Shadaw, Letpan Khalfa, Aungchantha, Taikheine, Nyaungbinwaing and Pyaykappyayay villages of Zabuthiri Township were ordained into monkhood and initiated novice hood.

Paritta recited over Nay Pyi Taw and its environs

Ovadacarya Pyintmana Maha Withunayana Zaygon Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhadanta Kaviwara recited Parittas in the sky of Nay Pyi Taw and its environs at 7.30 am on New Year Day by helicopter.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than and officials dispensed merits by spreading Paritta water and sand.

Bago Region Chief Minister attends respect-paying ceremony

Yangon, 20 April—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and party release fingerlings into Mazin Dam.

24 KIA members exchange arms for peace

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 April—Together with member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than and officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, members of the Sangha led by State MNA Bhaddanta Kavisara recited Parittas in the sky of Nay Pyi Taw.

Pakokku District, who became homeless due the fire that broke out on 15 April. The Region government donated rice, edible oil, salt and cash assistance to the victims. Departments and wellwishers of Pakokku District also provided cash assistance.

Next, the region chief minister inspected clearing of debris and reconstruction of houses by staff of Fire Services Department and local people. Then, he inspected Salin Dam in Salin Township, Minbu District and embankment along Mezeli Dam and summer paddy cultivation.

In 2011-2012 summer paddy cultivation season, Minbu District has grown 66314 acres of summer paddy exceeding the target of 65974 acres. In 2012 and on 8,9,10 March, 2011, on 18,19 January, 2012 and on 8,9,10 March, 2012—at Shweli as demanded by them. Nevertheless, the eternal peace, the dream of nationalities from Kachin State is still far away from coming true due to some bigoted KIO/KIA leaders.

The news of the success of peace talks between other armed ethnic groups and region/state level peacemaking groups from the government side also came into the ears of national brethren in Kachin State and many KIO/KIA members whose trust on their leaders was thus declining resulting in factional disputes. Kachin people are much overjoyed to see KIA members returning to legal fold en masse. The news of warm welcome to KIA members by local people and the military has also impressed the two KIA members to come true due to some bigoted KIO/KIA leaders.

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Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and party back from Malaysia

Union Minister on inspection tour of main power sub-stations

NAV PT TAW, 20 April — Union Minister for Electric Power-2 U Khin Maung Soe made an inspection tour of Nyaungbinyi main power sub-station in Monywa District, Sagaing Region on 18 April.

There, he heard reports presented by Head of the sub-station on 230 KV Ohtawt-Nyaungbinyi power grid and progress of power supply from 132 KV Kyuncheuang-Nyaungbinyi power grid, as well as progress of power supply from seven 33 KV power grids and two 11 KV power grids to copper mine, garment factories, tasks for pumping river water and power distribution in Salinpyi. Region electric engineer and project manager gave a supplementary report.

The Union Minister left necessary instructions and looked around switch gear room, battery room and switch yard.

Afterwards, he arrived at 132 KV Aungchantha main power sub-station. Head of the sub-station reported to him about receiving of power supply from 132 KV Nyaungbinyi-Aungchantha power grid including power distribution from four 66 KV power grids, one 11 KV power grid to projects for pumping river water in Monywa District, industrial zone, foundry plant, saw mill and medicinal industry.

After viewing the switch yard, the Union Minister inspected the construction of one 45 MVA transformer, which is to be a new facility for being able to receive fully power supply to Monywa District.

The Union Minister inspected 230 KV Ohtawt main power sub-station in Sagaing District, where he fulfilled needs and left necessary instructions. — MNA

MOC delegation arrives back from Russia

NAV PT TAW, 20 April — A delegation of Myanmar Olympic Committee led by Chairman of MOC and Myanmar National Sports Committee U Kyaw Thein and a delegation led by CEC Commerce and Industry and Union of Myanmar General Secretary Dr Myo Sheikhhahmad-Al Fahad Alsabah, Russian Olympic Committee Mr Vitaly Mutko and Chairman of the committee for organizing London (2012) Olympic Games Lord Sebastian Coe delivered opening speeches and Olympic policy and performances, sport and health, education, economy and communication responses, advanced sport activities, sports and anti-narcotics, illegal sports and games, nurturing of new generation sportmen and cooperation between National Olympic Committees and governmental organizations were discussed. During the visit, Union Minister U Tin Hsan met ANOC Chairman Sheikhahmad-Al Fahad Alsabah, officials of International Olympic Committee, officials of international sports federations, chairmen and officials of National Olympic Committees and Sports Ministers and exchanged views on Olympic activities, sport improvement, matters related to events of XXVIIISEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar.

The general assembly and convention were held at Crowne Plaza Hotel of World Trade Center of Moscow and they were attended by IOC Chairman Dr Jacques Rogge, ANOC Chairman Sheikhahmad-Al Fahad Alsabah, Russian Olympic Committee Chairman Mr Alexander Zhikhov, chairmen and officials of 203 National Olympic Committees across the world, Sports Ministers, presidents of International Sports Federations and representatives. — MNA

Mon State Chief Minister inspects development undertakings in Mudon

NAV PT TAW, 20 April — Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint attended Buddha Puja at Kyaikpię Pagoda in Kamaewat Station, Mudon Township yesterday morning and opening of west stairway of the pagoda. He then graced the stave-driven ceremony of Htawngpy Library in Hajang Kay Village-tract and presented effettories to Sayadaws from Kamawet Station at Chinthaw Monastery. He then inspected breeding of myrthum at Kankalay farm, 25-acre seed nursery, breeding of cows and cultivating of antibiotics at Beyan agro-producers association in Mudon. The state chief minister then inspected selling of rattan-ware, clothing and interior decorations at Mudon Women’s Vocational Training School and called for marketing of Myanmar traditional snacks and fruit from school compound.

Deputy L&F Minister inspect fish breeding camp

YANGON, 20 April — Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye arrived at Laydaukkkan fish breeding camp in Dagon Myothit (East) Township yesterday morning. Fisheries Department Director-General U Khin Ko Lay and camp incharge Daw Thin Thin Oo reported on repairing of fingerling ponds and breeding of fish species. The deputy minister gave instructions on dissemination of knowledge about exceeding the target breeding of fish pedigrees, catching in small-scale fish ponds and breeding of fish for poverty alleviation. Then, he inspected preparations for fingerling ponds, raising of fish species, breeding of fish, poultry and cattle and kitchen crop plantations and integrated farming being undertaken with the capital of the staff. — MNA

UMFCCI representatives leave for Cambodia

YANGON, 20 April — A representative group led by General Secretary Dr Myo Thet of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and a delegation led by CEC member U Kyaw Thein and Executive Daw Cho Thiri Maung who will act advisers left here by air for Cambodia to take part in Mekong Business Plan Challenge to be held in Phnom Penh on 21 April. The two groups also include the young persons who won the first and second prizes in Business Plan Contest 2011 jointly held by UMFCCI and CISSF of Japan. This is the first ever contest for Myanmar to participate in under the titles of Mini ASEAN Village and Waste to Value. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye inspects integrated farming of staff at Laydaukkkan fish breeding camp under Yangon Region Fisheries Department. — MNA

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Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye inspect fish breeding camp
**Myanmar, Thai entrepreneurs to hold economic talks**

YANGON, 20 April—A Myanmar entrepreneur delegation led by Chairman Mr Payungsak Chartsutipol of the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) of Thailand will arrive in Myanmar from 25 to 28 April.

During their visit, the delegation plans to hold talks between Myanmar and Thai entrepreneurs under the arrangement of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at 1.30 pm on 25 April at the office of the federation.

Myanmar entrepreneurs wishing to meet with Thai delegation members on respective subjects of economy may enlist at UMCCI, dialing 213444, 214349, Ext 121 and 122 in person or representative, not later than 24 April.

UMCCI

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**Development of libraries undertaken in Sittway Township**

SITTWAY, 20 April—Raising of reading habit was undertaken for ensuring development of village libraries at Yaungchit Library in Amyintkyun Village of Sittway Township on 29 March morning.

Writers U Kaung San (Kyuntha Nga Mann), U Hla Kyaw (Bagyi Kyaw) and U Tin.Aung.Shwe(Sittway.Nyo Thant) talked about advantages of literature and raising of reading habit.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin presented first and second prizes to the winner students in the essay contest. Rakhine State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Aung Kyaw Min, third prize and consolation prizes to the students, and State Minister for Planning and Economic U Mya Aung, the special prize to the winner in the essay contest.

Advocate-General of the State U Hla Thein and State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Hein Lin gave certificates of honour and cash awards to the winners in the poem contest. The State Chief Minister presented K 150,000 and books each to village libraries and the State advocate-general, books.

The Head of Rakhine State Information and Public Relations Department handed over books and publications donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation to libraries of five villages through the librarian of Amyintkyun Village.

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**Wundwin fire leaves 11 people homeless**

WUNDWIN, 20 April—A fire broke out at a house in No. 3 Central Ward of Wundwin starting from wire shock.

One house and one warehouse were destroyed in the fire.

Member of Fire Brigade and local people put out fire with the use of one fire engine from Wundwin, one fire engine from Thedaw, two fire engines from Meiktila, one water tanker from Wundwin.

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**Bus line launched in Taunggyi**

TAUNGGYI, 20 April—No. 6 bus line was launched at the bus terminal near Aungdaw Township of Shanmyathazi Ward in Taunggyi on 30 March morning.

Chairman of the All Private Bus Line Committee U Kyaw Than and Shanmyathazi Ward Administrator U Maung Maung Tar cut the ribbon to launch the bus line.

The bus terminal will whistle off one bus per 20 minutes to run the route from Aungdaw Monastery, Myaing Market passing Shanmyathazi, Yadana Thiri, Shwedawng and Seinparawards. Bus fare is set one head per K 150.

The bus terminal will be opened from 6 am to 6 pm daily.

On the opening day, the buses did not collect bus fares from the passengers.

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**Basic first-aid course concludes in Hsahmaw of Moguang Township**

MOGAUNG, 20 April—Conducted by Moguang Township Red Cross Society of Kachin State, the first-aid course (basic level) No. 2/2012 concluded at Basic Education Primary School No 1 in Kanyinmaying Village of Hsahmaw Village-tract in Moguang Township of Kachin State on 11 April morning.

Secretary of Township Red Cross Society Dr Kyaw Min, Hsahmaw Village-tract Administrator U Zaw Min and Hsahmaw Station Medical Officer Dr Min made speeches.

The Secretary of Township Red Cross Society, the administrator of Moguang Village-tract and the Station medical officer later presented prizes to the outstanding trainees and completion certificates to all trainees.

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**CULTIVATION DEMONSTRATED: A demonstration on cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain was held on two-acre farmland of farmer U Kywe Sein in field No. 580 in Hsauktawwa Village-tract of Amarapura Township in Mandalay Region on 5 April, Mandalay Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Thein, Township Administrator U Ko Ko Oo, members of the Township Agricultural Coordination Committee and local farmers view cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy.**

MYANMA ALIN

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**DISTRICT NEWS**

**Wetlet Township gets village library**

WETLET, 20 April—The opening ceremony of The Tet Yaw Library was held in Htsoho Village of Shwebo Village-tract in Wetlet Township of Sagaing Region on 23 March afternoon.

Sagaing Region Minister for Transport U Tin Ngwe, Region Hluttaw representative U Ye Tin and Village Administrator U Tin Thein formally opened the library.

After delivering an address, the Region Hluttaw donated a set of 21-inch TV and K 100,000 to the library.

The region Hluttaw representative, the township administrator, the staff officer of District Information and Public Relations Department and the head of Township Information and Public Relations Department donated books and publications to the library.

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**UNIFORMS PROVIDED: Cash assistance for Thingyan period and uniforms were provided to staff of General Administration Department in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 10 April. Township Administrator U Zeya Ohn present K 812,000 for cash assistance and uniforms to 36 staff.**

MYANMA ALIN

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**TAKE FIRE PREVENTIVE MEASURES**

LIBRARY OPENED: Pyinnya Bal Library was put into service in Hsuungwe Village of Nawnghku Township on 26 March. Township Judge U Kar Latt, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Than Than Htwe and Chairperson of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Nan Myat Mayar Ohn cut the ribbon to open the new library building.

MYANMA ALIN

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**Midwifery course concludes: The midwifery course that lasted six months concluded at the hall of Dalla Township Hospital in Yangon South District on 6 April. Chairman of Dalla Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Aye Thanda Kyaw presents prizes to female trainees.—TOWNSHIP HEALTH**

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**CASH DONATED TO HOSPITAL: In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of graduation ceremony, officers of 4th Intake of Defence Services Technological Academy donated K 1 million to the fund for patients receiving medical treatment at No. 1 Military Hospital (700-bed) in PyinUldawwin recently. Commandant of the hospital Brig-Gen Soe Win accepts cash donation.—IN**

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**MYANMAR ALIN**
Volkswagen’s Audi to invest 2 bln USD in auto plant in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 20 April — German automaker Volkswagen announced Wednesday it will invest 2 billion US dollars in a new plant for its Audi premium-car unit in Mexico. The company plans to build sport utility vehicles in the Latin American country from 2016 and will decide later this year where exactly it will build the plant, it said in a statement released on Wednesday on its website. “Good infrastructure, competitive cost structures and existing free trade agreements played a significant role in the choice of Mexico,” Audi Chief Executive Rupert Stadler said.

“Mexico is known for making cars and offers excellent economic conditions for a production plant of Audi,” he added. Mexico’s Economy Minister Bruno Ferrari said the investment would be worth about 2 billion dollars, but added the timeframe for the plan and the number of jobs it would create were unclear. “This reflects the competitiveness of Mexico, they choose places where they know they have a safe environment,” Ferrari made the remarks at the World Economic Forum in the Mexican Pacific coastal city of Puerto Vallarta. “I know they have several places which they are considering.”

Meanwhile, Frank Dreves, the production manager of Audi said that the factors taken into account for the location of the plant not only included features of the site or context of logistics, but also the availability of qualified personnel. “The main benefits offered by Mexico are the cost of labor, supported by the Volkswagen plant in Puebla and Guanajuato, and the network of free trade,” he said. Xinhua

Barclaycard unveils mini, stick-on credit card

LONDON, 20 April — The latest salvo in the battle to launch a digital wallet has been unveiled — with a mini, stick-on credit card. Barclaycard is hoping that UK customers attach the extra card to their mobile phones and use them at “contactless” terminals for everyday purchases. This wave-and-pay technology has been in the works for a few years. It’s been built by Barclays cardholders to spend up to £15 at certain stores, without entering their PIN. However, the latest product, which will be available to millions of Barclaycard customers by the end of the year, remains some way short of interactive banking on a mobile phone.

The Barclaycard PayTag is being offered to a group of customers who will receive letters in the coming days. It is one third of the size of a standard credit card, with a sticky reverse side. It will be sent without charge to customers who request it and will come in addition to their regular credit card. The credit card provider believes that people should stick it to the back of their mobile phone handset because most adults carry their phone with them at all times. Cardholders may choose to attach it to their wallet or a key ring, instead.

Warning benefit changes may see fewer free school meals

LONDON, 20 April — Plans to simplify the welfare system may mean thousands of England’s poorest children lose their entitlement to free school meals, a charity has warned. The meals are linked to low-income benefits that are among those merging into a single Universal Credit in 2013. In a report, the Children’s Society said ministers were considering an income cap for eligibility.

Barclaycard’s Tom Gregory said that the new product gave anyone the opportunity to use a credit card stuck to their phone, without having to upgrade their mobile. However, the implication is that a big take-up would eventually allow Barclays to approach mobile phone manufacturers with evidence that inserting a payment chip in a handset would be popular. So far, this technology is available to some Barclaycard customers with certain Orange phones in the UK, but it has not yet taken off as it has in other countries such as Japan. David Chan, chief executive of Barclaycard Consumer Europe, said he wanted the product to “open people’s eyes to mobile payments”.

London enters final straight for 2012 Games

LONDON, 20 April — London entered the final straight in the run-up to the 2012 Olympics during a wet and windy spring day on Wednesday with celebrations across the city to mark the 100 days’ countdown to the Games. The day began at Kew Gardens where London organizing committee chairman Sebastian Coe helped plant one of 40 oak trees which will be installed around the country to recognise Britain’s role in the birth of the modern Olympic movement.

The trees were grown from acorns taken in 1890 by the founder of the Games, French aristocrat Baron Pierre de Coubertin, at the Much Wenlock Games in the county of Shropshire. Twenty thousand flowers in the shape and colour of the Olympic rings were revealed and a giant sandsca- lie, also featuring the rings, was unveiled at Wembley and Portland, venue for the sailing events. More than 250 guardsmen formed the figure 100 at the Horse Guards Parade where the beach volleyball will be staged. “These celebrations are actually being marked around the globe today,” Coe told a news conference. “From Times Square in New York through to Palestine, New Zealand and Socchi. “If ever I needed reminding that we are delivering a Games for the whole world, it’s actually been on my international engagement programme over the last few months.”

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The prime minister considers Singapore’s role in opening doors for New Zealand regionally as “critically important” because its line of fish oil pills.

The Children’s Society is calling for free school meals to be extended to all children living in poverty in England.

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CLAMS DAY NOTICE
MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

PHONE: 256908/378316/376797

ASML’s lumpy chip equipment orders cloud outlook

AMSTERDAM, 20 April—the world’s leading chip equipment maker ASML expects steady sales, driven by demand for hot consumer gadgets such as smartphones and tablets, but said it was hard to predict exactly when orders would arrive. The Dutch company declined to give an orders outlook on Wednesday, disappointing some investors who had recently pushed the stock to a 11.5-year high.

As the world’s largest maker of semiconductor lithography machinery, ASML is seen as a barometer for the tech sector, and investors had been expecting it to give guidance on orders.

ASML’s logo is seen on the day of the presentation of the 2011 fourth quarter and annual results in Veldhoven on 18 January, 2012.—Reuters

ASML, which competes with Japanese groups Canon and Nikon, said it expects steady sales over the next six to nine months. But a shift to fewer, bigger customers had made it hard to predict exactly when orders would be made.

“The firm reiterated guidance for first-half revenues of 2.4 billion euros and also said that third-quarter sales should be stable at first-half levels,” he said. The Dutch company had said it expected revenues of 2.4 billion euros in its first half.

“We do have to deal with fewer but bigger customers over the last couple of years, and this is not unusual,” Wennink said.

Shares in ASML, whose machines map out electronic circuits on silicon wafers, were down 3.9 percent at 36.425 euros at 1034 GMT, off an 11.5-year high of 38.3 euros hit on 2 April.—Reuters

Four rhino horn smugglers arrested in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 20 April—The Central Investigation Bureau (CIB) of Nepal Police has rounded up four smugglers involved in the trading of body parts of endangered wild animals.

The arrested were made on the basis of a tip-off by police intelligence on Wednesday. It is the second seizure of a rhino horn made by the CIB in Hyangka, Kaski, in less than a week.

CIB was quoted by Thursday’s The Himalayan Times as saying the alleged racketeers were found in illegal possession of the rhino horn as they were on the global map to find prospective clients.

The rhino horn seized from them weighed 1.02 kg and 9 cm in length.

If convicted under the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973, each will be liable to prison sentence of up to 15 years and a fine of up to 10,000 Nepali rupees (about 1200 US dollars) for poaching and trading in body parts of endangered wild animals.—Xinhua

38-year-old model Daphne Selfe says she’s never had cosmetic surgery

WASHINGTON, 20 April—83-year-old model Daphne Selfe is making headlines this week for her age-defying beauty. But unlike so many of her younger contemporaries, Selfe says she has never taken part in any cosmetic surgery.

“I’ve never had anything done to my face,” she told the Daily Mail. “Not that I don’t think it could be a facelift. I think it’s a waste of money. Anyway, I couldn’t afford it.” As part of a marketing campaign, Selfe recently agreed to pose in a bra and corset ensemble first used in the 1950s. “I started off as a full-time model today, though, she told the Mail.

And despite all of the attention her new photograph has received, Selfe says she wouldn’t want to be a full-time model today, though, she told the Mail. "I’d just work as a house model, and a few advertisements,” she said.

38-year-old model Daphne Selfe. —INTERNET

Huawei announces global availability of the Ascend P1 smartphone

BEIJING, 20 April—Huawei, a leading global information and communications technology (ICT) solutions provider, today announced that the Huawei Ascend P1 will be available in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Australia through operators next month, followed by 40 more countries and regions by the end of the year.

The Ascend P1 is beauty meets brains—proof that technology and good looks can go hand-in-hand. It features a dual-core 1.5GHz TI OMAP 4460 Cortex-A9 processor and measures 7.9mm thin and 64.8 mm long, providing a very comfortable grip.

More exercises reduce Alzheimer’s disease risk

BRISBANE, 20 April—More daily exercises, even doing housework, can reduce the risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease, according to a new study by the US National Institute on Aging as quoted by media reports on Thursday. The study published in the journal Neurology involved 716 people without dementia who participated in the Rush Memory and Aging Project, a prospective, observational cohort study.

The subjects were tracked for about four years, during which 71 people developed Alzheimer’s disease, while others were free from the disease. Results showed that the 10 percent of those who got the least exercise were 2.3 times more likely to get the disease compared with the 10 percent of those who got the most exercise. A lot of research has suggested that people who are not in the habit of doing exercises are more likely to develop Alzheimer’s disease.

In a linear mixed-effects model, the level of total daily physical activity was associated with the rate of global cognitive decline, the study showed.—Xinhua

People visit the International Furniture Fair 2012 during the trade fair held in northern Italy, on 18 April, 2012. —Xinhua

Eight rhino horn smugglers arrested in Nepal

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CIB was quoted by Thursday’s The Himalayan Times as saying the alleged racketeers were found in illegal possession of the rhino horn as they were on the global map to find prospective clients.

The rhino horn seized from them weighed 1.02 kg and 9 cm in length.

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**6-year-old girl handcuffed by police over ‘tantrum’**

It’s been quite the day for 6-year-olds in the news. Earlier, we told you about the courageous, 6-year-old Texas boy who has already raised $10,000 for his Dad’s cancer treatment.

In less positive news, a 6-year-old girl in Georgia was handcuffed by police and charged with assault after throwing a “tantrum” in her elementary school. Local TV affiliate WMZW reports that Saelicia Johnson, who is in kindergarten, was detained by police after her alleged outburst.

“Our policy is that any detainee transported to our station in a patrol vehicle is to be handcuffed in the back. There is no age discrimination on that rule,” Millerville Police Chief of Police Dray Swirck, told the station.

Swirck said the officer who handcuffed Johnson is not facing an investigation over his actions.

Swirck added that Johnson was handcuffed for her safety as well as the safety of others. She was taken to the principal’s office after pushing two other students, according to a police report.

To mark the body launch in Istanbul, specialist insect chef Henk van Gurp will try to set a record for cooking the world’s biggest grasshopper pie.

At the University showed that insects could provide the best source of protein to meet the needs of a rising population. Currently, 70 percent of agricultural land is used for livestock production.

**6-year-old Saelicia Johnson was handcuffed by police over alleged ‘tantrum’’. In this 16 April, 2012 image made from video and provided by WMZW-13 TV, kindergarten student Saelicia Johnson, 6, is shown at her home near Millerville, Ga. — Reuters**

**Dog rescued from Seattle-area mountain**

A French terrier had to be lowered by ropes from the summit of Mount Si, a peak near Seattle, after the animal went out of its cage, police said. The terrier, Ana, spent Sunday night on top of the still snow-covered mountain, KING-TV reported.

Mount Si, 4,167 feet above sea level, is a popular hiking spot in the Seattle-Tacoma Region. The mountain has a rocky summit with no known trail as the Haystack. The owner called the King County Sheriff’s Office last Sunday afternoon to report that her dog, apparently spooked by something, had recoiled 200 feet up the Haystack and refused to descend, the report said. The Washington State Animal Rescue Team responded but decided it was too late to bring the dog down safely that night.

In the morning, a Seattle Mountain Rescue team climbed the peak, secured Ana in a harness and lowered her from the mountain.

“These rescue teams are amazing,” the owner said. “These people drop whatever they are doing to volunteer their time to save humans and animals alike.”

**Iron Man 3 to be co-produced in China**

**Author Rowling writing Harry Potter encyclopedia**

On her re-vamped website, Rowling addressed the question of a Harry Potter encyclopedia in a “frequently asked questions and rumors” link.

“For a long time I have been promising an encyclopedia of Harry’s world,” she wrote, “and I have started work on this new,” said the 46-year-old, whose announcements related to Harry Potter are closely followed by millions of fans.

“Some of it forms the new content in Pottermore.”

Pottermore, a free website allowing visitors to navigate the stories and discover new content not in the original books, is one of several Potter spin-offs following the completion of the seven-novel series. The novels have sold more than 400 million copies worldwide and sparked a hit eight-movie film franchise that has helped turn Rowling into the world’s most successful author.

**James Bond stuntman crashes in Istanbul bazaar**

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**Dutch bug cookbook launched to stir taste for insects**

Need more protein in your diet? Try adding worms to your chocolate fudge recipe, or spice up a mushroom risotto with a sprinkling of grasshoppers.

“The Insect Cookbook”, which comes out on Tuesday and is written in Dutch, contains these and other unusual recipes and is intended to promote insects as a source of protein. “I see this as the next step towards the introduction of insects on restaurant menus in the Netherlands. I also hope that people will start to buy the book and start cooking with insects at home,” said Marcel Dicke, a professor at Wageningen University which specializes in food and food production.

The university, with a sprinkling of grasshoppers.”

A caramelized locust is used to decorate a cake made of insects at the University of Wageningen on 17 April, 2012.

**Court upholds convictions in Stamos extortion plot**

A 6-year-old girl handcuffed by police over alleged “tantrum”. In this 16 April, 2012 image made from video and provided by WMZW-13 TV, kindergarten student Saelicia Johnson, 6, is shown at her home near Millerville, Ga. — Reuters

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Los Angeles, 20 April — An appeal court on Monday upheld the convictions of a Michigan couple charged with trying to extort $680,000 from actor John Stamos.

Allison Coss and Scott Sippola were convicted in 2010 on charges of attempting to extort money from Stamos by threatening to release pictures of him at a party where there were strippers and cocaine. The defendants were each sentenced to four years in prison.

Coss and Sippola, who were in a relationship at the time, challenged their convictions, claiming the extortion law was vague and therefore unconstitutional. They argued that the statute should only criminalize threats to commit unlawful acts, not just wrongful acts.

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Manchester United top Forbes money list

**Forbes rates six Barclays Premier League sides in the top 20 most valuable clubs**

LONDON, 20 April — Manchester United have been rated as the world’s most valuable football club as Forbes released their list of the top 20 places in the new Forbes valuation list. United are valued at $1.1 billion by Forbes magazine, which means they retain the number one rating for the eighth year in a row.

Manchester United and Liverpool are both in the top 20 of the world’s most valuable clubs. — Internet

Top 20 clubs in the Forbes Football Valuation League

1. Manchester United ($1.4bn)
2. Real Madrid ($1.27bn)
3. FC Barcelona ($1.21bn)
4. Arsenal ($0.85bn)
5. Bayern Munich ($0.76bn)
6. AC Milan ($0.61bn)
7. Chelsea ($0.54bn)
8. Liverpool ($0.38bn)
9. Juventus ($0.36bn)
10. Schalke 04 ($0.36bn)
11. Tottenham Hotspur ($0.32bn)
12. Internazionale ($0.30bn)
13. Manchester City ($0.27bn)
14. Borussia Dortmund ($0.24bn)
15. Olympique Lyonnais ($0.20bn)
16. Hamburger SV ($0.21bn)
17. AS Roma ($0.20bn)
18. Olympique de Marseille ($0.17bn)
19. Valencia ($0.17bn)
20. Napoli ($0.17bn)

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Course record gives Every PGA Texas Open lead

SAN ANTONIO, 20 April — Matt Every fired a course-record nine-under par 63 to seize a three-shot lead after the first round of the USPGA Tour’s $3.2 million Texas Open. Every, seeking a first tour victory, on Thursday had nine birdies in his flawless round on the demanding par-72 TPC San Antonio track and was three strokes in front of fellow American Hunter Haas. — Internet

Serena ends foreign exile for Olympic dream

NEW YORK, 20 April — Serena Williams’ bid to win her first Olympic singles gold medal in singles has brought her to this European outpost for her first Fed Cup assignment on foreign soil. She is in 13th place on the world rankings and is the only one of the USA’s world top-10 players. She made a strong start by losing in her opening round-robin match against rising Chinese star Li Na. — Internet

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Monaco, 20 April — Novak Djokovic dropped a crucial hand on his knees. He had appeared to wipe away tears with his forearm before pointing with both hands to the sky. Alexander Dolgopolov, his beaten opponent, stood at the net and applauded. Djokovic had just finished his third-round match at Monte Carlo Masters on Thursday, hours after learning of his grandfather’s death. He slipped the post-match news conference, with the ATP saying he “just felt exhausted physically, mentally and emotionally.”

Djokovic defeated Dolgopolov 2-6, 6-1, 6-4, winning on his first match point. He reached the quarterfinals along with Rafael Nadal, Andy Murray, Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Tomas Berdych and Gilles Simon. Nadal, the seven-time defending champion, followed Djokovic on court and arounded Mikhail Kukushkin 6-1, 6-1. The Spaniard conceded only six points on his serve and broke the Kazakh qualifier five times. Nadal will next face Switzerland’s Stanislas Wawrinka, who defeated eighth-seeded Nicol Almagro of Spain 3-6, 6-3.

Third-seeded Andy Murray advanced after Julien Benneteau of France injured himself in the third set. Murray defeated the British No. 1 in a first-set tiebreak and took the second set 6-4 to win the match 6-2, 6-4.

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**Manchester confident of Champions League turnaround**

MADRID, 20 April — Lady luck was not smiling on profligate Barcelona in Wednesday’s 1-0 Champions League defeat at Chelsea but the holders expressed confidence they could turn the semi-final around in the second leg at the Nou Camp arena on Tuesday. The English Premier League side turned in a gritty performance to deny the Spanish champions and manage to keep their hopes of the Year and competition top scorer Lionel Messi quiet to boost their chances of making next month’s final. A large slice of good fortune also helped inflict only a third defeat this season on Barca, who dominated possession, hit the bar and the post and had a Cesc Fabregas effort cleared off the line by Ashley Cole. Barca coach Pep Guardiola, whose side host Seville at the Nou Camp on Tuesday, was happy to accept. — Reuters

FIFA appoints 84 officials for London Olympic football

GENEVA, 20 April — The FIFA Referees Committee has confirmed on Thursday the appointment of 84 officials from 36 countries to officiate at the 2012 London Olympic football tournaments. For the men’s competition, 16 referees and 32 assistant referees have been selected from FIFA’s six confederations, while for the women’s tournament, 12 referees and 24 assistant referees will be on duty, according to the FIFA website.

It said that the London 2012 represents the first step on the road to the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil for the male referees. Two of the 31-year-olds now on the list who will contest the World Cup in Brazil for the female referees have been appointed for the 2012 Olympic Games and are familiar faces from last summer’s FIFA Women’s World Cup in Germany and are at the top of their profession. — Xinhua

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President U Thein Sein leaves for Japan to attend 4th Japan-Mekong Summit, to pay goodwill visit to Japan

A Myanmar delegation led by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein being seen off by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win and officials at Nay Pyi Taw Airport on their departure for Japan to attend 4th Japan-Mekong Summit to be held in Tokyo of Japan and to pay goodwill visit to Japan. —MNA

Hluttaw representatives informed to contact Hluttaw Office in Nay Pyi Taw, not later than 22 April

NAY PYI TAW, 20 April—The third regular sessions of the respective Hluttaws will continue at the meeting rooms of the Hluttaw complex, here, on 23 April 2012 (Monday). The Hluttaw representatives have been informed to contact the Hluttaw Office, Office No. 20, here, not later than 22 April. —MNA

Myanmar women’s volleyball team leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 20 April—The Myanmar selected women’s volleyball team led by U Thein Win (GM of Asia World Co Ltd) left here by air on 10 April to take part in the 2012 Asian Women’s Club Volleyball Championship to be held in Nakhonratchasima of Thailand from 21 to 29 April.


Altogether 10 women’s volleyball teams will participate in the championship. Myanmar will play against Vietnam in the debut tomorrow.

Significant Day Temperature (20-4-2012)

Chauk (46°C)  Monywa (45°C)  Myingyan (45°C)

Myanmar’s players pose for a photograph before their African Cup of Nations Group A soccer match against Senegal at Estadio de Bata “Bata Stadium”, in Bata on 29 January, 2012.—REUTERS

Libya to play Cameroon World Cup tie at neutral venue

JOHANNESBURG, 26 April—Libya’s opening home match in the World Cup qualifiers against Cameroon will be played at a neutral venue and behind closed doors, FIFA said on Friday.

The 10 June game will be hosted in Sfax in neighbouring Tunisia. Tunisia has not allowed spectators to watch all but a handful of matches since the uprising in the country in January last year, which heralded the start of the Arab Spring. Controlled numbers of supporters have been allowed to attend games in African competitions but league matches are all played behind closed doors because officials fear violence in the stands. There has been no organised football in Libya since March 2011, when the uprising against Muammar Gaddafi’s regime began.

Libya played two of their 2012 African Nations Cup qualifiers at neutral venues in Egypt and Mali but despite losing home advantage and having their team ravaged by the strife, they reached the finals, which were held in Equatorial Guinea and Gabon in January. Libya’s last home match was in October 2010 when they beat Zambia. They begin their 2014 World Cup qualifying campaign with an away game against Togo on 3 June. —Reuters