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Monday, 30 April, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes

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

Farmers could fetch reasonable profits and generate more income if they can engage in both farming and breeding while practising triple cropping pattern growing marketable crops as well.

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended a harvesting ceremony of 369 acres of high-yield Palethwe hybrid paddy in Alyinlo Village, Pyinmana Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

The President, accompanied by Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint, Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein and Chairman U Tin Htut of Pyithu Hluttaw Peasant, Worker and Youth Affairs Committee, arrived at the modern advanced farmland in the village at 9.15 am and was welcomed by Union Minister at President Office Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Mayor U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and Deputy Ministers for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw and departmental heads.

First, the President cordially greeted the farmers of the village and left instructions on agricultural development.

Next, he viewed the thriving plantation of 95-day-old Palethwe hybrid paddy grown with GAP system. The President and party then attended the harvesting ceremony and viewed harvesting of paddy with three harvesters, which can harvest 4 to 6 acres per day. On the contrary, manual harvesting of one acre takes 12 people a day.

Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation in Alyinlo Village in Pyinmana Township being ploughed with agricultural machinery.—MNA

In order to be able to grow the hybrid paddy in summer, in the rainy season of 2011-2012, Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds were produced at 100 acres of land of Yezin University of Agriculture and at 100 acres of land in Shwetaung plantation in Wundwin Township, Meiktila District, Mandalay Region.

The Union Minister also reported on production of 100 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds and Basmati hybrid paddy seeds at Yezin University in the summer paddy season of 2011-2012; 100 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds and 100 acres of Basmati hybrid paddy seeds in Shwetaung

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein views thriving Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation in Kyaku Village in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.—MNA

Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation in Wundwin Township, Meiktila District, Mandalay Region; 300 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds at International Sun Moon Star Co Ltd of the special mechanized farming zone in Dagon Myothit (East) of Yangon Region; 50 acres at Dagon International Co Ltd; 100 acres at Green Asia Co Ltd; 50 acres at Hsinshweli Co Ltd; (See page 8)
Union FM attends 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting

During the meeting the EU Ministers welcomed the step just taken by the EU to suspend restrictive measures, and to open a new chapter in Myanmar-EU relations while strengthening the overall ASEAN-EU partnership.

German Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs arrives in Yangon

YANGON, 29 April—Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Guido Westerwelle and party of Federal Republic of Germany arrived by air this afternoon.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Director-General Daw Yin Yin Myint of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and replied to the queries of the journalists.

Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Guido Westerwelle and party being welcomed by officials at Yangon International Airport.

Union Construction Minister views site for Mekong River Bridge

The Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint accompanied by departmental officials and Laotian Ambassador Mr Nihalath Sayarath on 28 April left here by air for Tachileik to inspect the district senior engineer office and township engineer office of Public Works in Tachileik.

The Union Minister and party viewed maintenance of Tachileik—Thahtkyaw—Pahlyo—Kengkauk road.

The Union Minister inspected the site for construction of Mekong River Bridge, two miles from Kengkauk of Myanmar. He also inspected the site for construction of the bridge near Chaiangk on the bank of Laos.

Mekong River Bridge will be located on the bank of Mekong River, two miles from Kengkauk of Tachileik District. On completion, Tachileik, Monghaybat, Kengtung districts of Myanmar and Laos will enjoy better transport facility. The bridge will contribute much to development of economy, social and tourism industries.

Kachin State holds workshop on all-round survey on household living conditions

Nav Pyi Taw, 29 April—Kachin State held a workshop on the second all-round survey on household living conditions (2009-2010) at the city hall of Myitkyina on 26 April and Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai addressed an opening speech.

Next, officials discussed survey on poverty, facts about MDGs and poverty movements and replied to the queries raised by departmental personnel.
Officials: Baghdad attacks kill five people

BAGHDAD, 29 April — Iraqi officials say two separate attacks in Baghdad have killed five and wounded 31 people. A police officer said on Thursday that two civilians died when a roadside bomb went off near a passing army patrol in the eastern Sadr City neighbourhood. He says 16 people were wounded in that blast, including three soldiers. Another police officer says a parked car bomb went off next to a police patrol in the northern Hurriyah neighbourhood, killing three civilians and injuring 15 others. Two medical officials in nearby hospitals confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to release information. Violence has ebbed in Iraq, but insurgent attacks are still frequent.

UN chief visits Myanmar in light of significant changes

YANGON, 29 April — Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon arrived here Sunday on a three-day official visit to Myanmar in light of significant changes taking place in the country. As his third official visit to Myanmar at the invitation of President U Thein Sein, Ban will travel to Nay Pyi Taw later on the day. While in the new capital on Monday, Ban is expected to discuss with U Thein Sein ways in which the UN can assist with ongoing reform and transition. Ban will also meet speakers of the two Houses Thura U Shwe Mann and U Khin Aung Myint and will probably address the Parliament. Ban is expected to travel to Yangon on Tuesday and meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the National League for Democracy (NLD) and Parliament representative-elect.

“Myanmar is only at the beginning of its transition and many challenges lie ahead, many concerns have yet to be addressed yet I am convinced that we have an unprecedented opportunity to help the country advance towards a better future,” said Ban days before his departure. Ban has congratulated Myanmar on holding successful by-elections on April 1, stressing the free participation of multiple parties in the polls as an important step forward. Ban acknowledged “the courage and vision” of U Thein Sein, President of Myanmar, that has “made such progress possible.” Ban urged the government and all political forces to cooperate and build on the important achievement of the by-election and to consolidate the country’s democratic gains and to redouble their efforts toward genuine national reconciliation and long-term and durable peace.

Meanwhile, the UN Security Council has also praised parliamentary by-elections held in Myanmar as important progress in the country’s democratic reform process. It is the third trip of Ban to Myanmar with the first being in 2008 after cyclone Nargis struck the country and the second in 2009.

IAEA confirms talks to resume with Iran

TEHERAN, 29 April — The International Atomic Energy Agency confirmed on Saturday that it will resume talks with Iran on Teheran’s nuclear programme in mid-May, Iran’s envoy to the UN watchdog, Ali Asghar Soltanieh told the official news agency IRNA on Friday that new round of talks would be held in Vienna on 13 and 14 May. But IAEA spokesman Gill Tudor told AFP in an email Saturday that the talks would be a day later on 14 and 15 May. “The purpose is to continue the negotiations started earlier this year,” Tudor said.

The watchdog said in late February that it “continues to have serious concerns regarding possible military dimensions to Iran’s nuclear programme.” Its concerns reflect suspicions by the United States and its European allies that Iran is seeking a nuclear weapons capability under the cover of its civilian atomic programme. But Soltanieh said the resumption of talks “once again proves Iran’s determination to cooperate with the agency, confirms that claims against Iran are baseless, and shows that all of the Islamic republic’s nuclear activities are peaceful.” Separate talks between Iran and the so-called P5+1 group, comprising the five permanent UN Security Council members plus Germany, were revived this month in Istanbul and are to go to an important new round in Baghdad on 23 May. The IAEA-Iran discussions are expected to explore technical issues related to expanding inspections of Teheran’s nuclear activities. Soltanieh said they would be aimed at “finding a framework and modality to respond to the IAEA’s questions.” The last such discussions, in early February, ended in deadlock when an IAEA team visiting Teheran said it had been repeatedly refused permission to inspect the Parchin military site near Teheran. — Internet

One dead, dozens hurt as storm hits St Louis bar tent

ST LOUIS, 29 April — One person was killed and dozens injured on Saturday when a thunderstorm packing high winds blew down a beer tent on to baseball fans celebrating after a St Louis Cardinals’ game, police said. Several of those hurt were listed in critical condition at area hospitals, officer Sherri Brum of the St Louis Police Department told Reuters.

The person killed was identified only as a male and the exact cause of his death was not immediately clear. A spokesman for Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St Louis, Dr. John Gagliarducci, said that 20 people were treated in the facility’s emergency room, where three were listed in serious condition. Two of them were being kept overnight, he said.

The remaining 17 were considered to be in fair or good condition, said Gagliarducci, who added that most of the victims had been taken to St Louis University Hospital because it was the nearest trauma centre to the scene.

A spokesman for University Hospital could not be immediately reached for comment. The tent was set up as a beer garden at Kilroy’s Sports Bar about a block from Busch Stadium, home to the Cardinals, and was blown off its moorings by strong wind gusts as the storm moved through the city. — Internet

Gunmen hit Syrian army from sea, Moscow slams rebels

BEIRUT, 29 April — Gunmen in inflatable dinghies killed several security officials in an attack on a military unit off Syria’s Mediterranean coast, state media said on Saturday, se first seaborne assault reported during the revolt against President Bashar al-Assad.

The night raid, along with the killings of at least 15 people in violence in two areas near the capital, underlined the threadbare state of a UN-brokered ceasefire deal that has Western leaders talking of tougher steps to stop the bloodshed. Russia, Damascus’s most powerful ally, stepped up its criticism of anti-Assad militias, condemning what it called “barbarous” attacks designed to scuttle the two-week-old truce engineered by UN-Arab League mediator Kofi Annan.

The military unit at night, “from the terrorist group was not known because they attacked near the northern port of Latakia, 35 km (22 miles) south of the Turkish border.

"The fighting ... resulted in the death and wounding of a number of military personnel while the number of those killed from the terrorist group was not known because they attacked the military unit at night,” SANA said. It did not state the nationality of the attackers.

NATO reports deaths of three troops in Afghanistan

KABUL, 29 April — NATO says separate bomb attacks: Afghanistan’s south and east have killed two of its service members, while a third died of non-battle injuries in the south.

The coalition says all three service members died Saturday. The US-led coalition did not provide their nationalities nor disclose other details in its late Saturday and Sunday statements. So far this month, 40 coalition members have died in Afghanistan, bringing the year’s toll to 131.

Damaged buildings are seen in the centre of Homs in this handout picture shot in April 2012 and received by Reuters on 28 April 2012. — Reuters

A picture released by the Iranian presidency shows President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (second left) on a tour of Teheran’s research reactor centre in February. The International Atomic Energy Agency has confirmed that it will resume talks with Iran on Teheran’s nuclear programme in mid-May. — IRNA

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**Human impact on reef sharks studied**

**Manoa, 29 April** — US scientists say they’ve completed a first large-scale estimate of reef shark losses in the Pacific Ocean — and the news for the predators is not good.

From major populations that have plummeted in the past three decades as a result of excessive harvesting for their fins, to an incidental catch of fish targeting other species, and in recreational fisheries, their study, published in the journal *Conservation Biology*, reported.

“We estimate that reef shark numbers have dropped substantially around populated islands, generally by more than 90 percent compared to those at the most untouched reefs,” researcher Marc Nadon of the University of Hawaii said. “In short, people and sharks don’t mix.”

The findings highlight the enormous detrimental effect that humans have on reef sharks, he said.

“Around each of the heavily populated areas we surveyed — in the main Hawaiian Islands, the Mariana Archipelago, and American Samoa — reef shark numbers were greatly depressed compared to reefs in the same regions that were simply further away from humans,” Nadon said. “We estimate that the baseline numbers remain in these areas.”

![Gray reef sharks swim at Kane Atoll in the Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument, Hawaii.](Internet)

**New Jersey teens win maths competition**

**New York, 29 April** — Five New Jersey high school students have won scholarships in a competition in which maths was used to solve a current US transportation issue.

The contest drew nearly 5,000 11th- and 12th-graders from the eastern United States who were asked to use mathematical modeling to determine the best regions in the country to revieve the Department of Transportation’s planned High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail programme. The Mega Math (MM) Challenge was organized by Philadelphia’s Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics and sponsored by The Moody’s Foundation from New York.

Teams of three-to-five students put their maths skills to the test to determine the best regions for the rail lines, predict ridership numbers and estimate the cost of implementation and the effect of such a programme on foreign-energy dependence, said a Moody’s release last Friday. Teams had 14 hours to study the issue, collect data and devise models before uploading solutions online in the form of a research paper.

Five students from Lincroft, NJ, High Technology High School, Vinel Chakradhar, Stephen Guo, Daniel Takanah, Angela Zhou and Kevin Zhou — were found to have come up with the most sound mathematical solution to the proposed new high-speed rail programme.

**Samsung overtakes Nokia as world’s top handset maker**

**Séoul, 29 April** — Samsung Electronics has rurched in record earnings for the first quarter of this year, driven by strong sales of smartphones. To top the numbers, industry experts believe it has overaken Nokia as the world’s top seller of cellphones, and has outsold Apple in the smartphone space.

Samsung, the world’s biggest supplier of memory chips, booked a record net profit of almost US$4.5 billion for the first three months of this year, driven mostly by strong numbers from its mobile business.

Samsung did not give a breakdown of its handset shipments. According to industry experts, it now sells more mobile phones than any of its competitors — pushing Nokia down from the position it has held for 14 years.

While Nokia sold some 85 million handsets in Q1, Samsung is believed to have sold some 95.5 million.

And in terms of smartphones, research firm Strategy Analytics says, Samsung’s smartphone sales totalled 44.5 million handsets — outstripping Apple’s 35 million.

Kim Jin Young, head of Roa Consulting, said: “Samsung did very well with its fast-follower strategy. It quickly caught up with Apple very quickly and very well. It has now overaken that fast-follower period and is now aiming to become a market dominator.”

Meanwhile, earnings from its TV and home appliances business also posted strong gains, while its chip business saw profit decline by more than half because of falling memory chip prices. Samsung is expected to launch its new Galaxy Phone next week in London. Analysts are predicting this momentum to continue into the second quarter.

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Gene ‘switch’ may help mend broken hearts

WASHINGTON, 29 April—Researchers have for the first time come up with an avant-garde approach to repair damaged hearts by converting injured cells into healthy beating muscle cells using microRNA. After a heart attack, heart muscle doesn’t easily regenerate and it accumulates scar tissue, made up of cells called fibroblasts increasing risk for heart failure.

Researchers have tried various approaches, including the use of stem cells, to regenerate damaged heart muscle tissue, said Victor J Dzau, MD, the study’s senior author and James B Duke Professor of Medicine at Duke University Medical Centre in Durham, NC. This is the first study to use microRNA, which are small molecules that control gene expression, to reprogramme fibroblasts into heart muscle cells. We have not only shown evidence of this tissue regeneration in cell cultures, but also in mice. Using microRNA is simpler than many other tissue-regenerating approaches, said Dzau, who is also Chancellor for Health Affairs at Duke University.

For example, stem cells aren’t easy to work with and have ethical issues surrounding their use, he said.

This research represents a major advance in regenerative medicine overcoming the difficulties encountered with stem cells, and may be applied to other conditions of tissue damage such as stroke and spinal cord injury.

MicroRNAs serve as master switches. Each microRNA regulates genes, turning them on or off. Dzau’s team identified a combination of three microRNA types that convert fibroblasts to muscle cells. Researchers will next study whether microRNAs repair damaged hearts in larger animals and improve heart function. If those studies prove safe and effective, they will start human studies, Dzau said.

If everything comes to fruition, I think we will see this as a therapy in the next decade, Dzau said.

Conceivably, well use it to regenerate hearts damaged by heart attacks, avoiding heart failure and saving lives, Dzau added.

The study has been published in Circulation Research, an American Heart Association journal.—Internet

Health Tip: Dealing with stress

A key way to handle stress is not to avoid life’s challenges, but to deal with them head-on, the Cleveland Clinic says. The clinic offers these suggestions for women:

• Deal directly with challenging situations, instead of avoiding them.
• Accept and embrace change as an opportunity to learn.
• Focus on the present, rather than worrying about the future.
• Trust your instincts and listen to what your “gut” tells you.
• Honour and accept yourself.
• Don’t be afraid to seek professional help when you need it.—Internet

Apple avoiding billions in global taxes

New York, 29 April—Gadget giant Apple is avoiding billions of dollars in taxes by setting up small offices around the world to collect and invest the company’s profits. The New York Times reported on Saturday.

The report said an office in Reno, Nevada, where the corporate tax rate is zero, was one of many that the California-based technology giant uses to legally sidestep state income taxes on some of its profits.

California’s corporate tax rate is 8.84 per cent.

Record sales of iPhones and iPad tablet computers, particularly in China and other parts of Asia, saw Google report last week that it made US$30.2 billion in profit for the quarter ended on 31 March.

The Times quoted Apple executives who said the Reno office and others in Ireland, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, the British Virgin Islands and other low-tax places were among the legal methods the company was using to reduce its global tax bill.

The newspaper said Apple had “devised corporate strategies that take advantage of gaps in the tax code,” citing former executives who had helped craft those policies.

In Reno, Apple uses a subsidiary named Braeburn Capital to manage and invest the gadget company’s money, the report said, and when those investments succeed, the Nevada address shields the profits from being subjected to tax.—Internet
Anti-polio campaign for urban children conducting in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 29 April — The two-day campaign against polio, targeted mainly at urban children under five, began Saturday in Nepal. Shyam Ram Upreti, director of the Child Health Division under the Ministry of Health and Population, said the government campaign aims to administer polio drops to 4.2 million children in two days. “In most of the government-run programmes, the coverage is comparatively low in urban areas due to busy lifestyle,” said Upreti. He said the ministry is working closely with local clubs and municipalities this year to make the campaign successful. The ministry has mobilized 80,000 volunteers at 40,000 booths for the campaign, he said.

According to the ministry, the coverage of the programme is over 90 percent nationwide. The health ministry, United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund-Nepal and World Health Organization (WHO) are helping the government conduct the campaign. Upreti said Female Community Health Volunteers will visit households Sunday to distribute polio drops to children who missed the dose on the first day. He informed that the country has not recorded the polio virus for the past 20 months and the division is conducting surveillance of the disease at the grassroots. — Xinhua

Australian jailed for bushfire that killed 10

Brendan James Sokaluk, who started a blaze that killed 10 people and destroyed more than 150 homes on the day of Australia’s “Black Saturday” bushfires, has been jailed for at least 14 years. — Internet

Shallow undersea aftershock hits Aceh, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 29 April — An aftershock measuring 5.9 Richter scale struck off Aceh province of Sumatra island in Indonesia on Sunday, the country’s Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here. The quake jolted at 10:00 am Jakarta time (0300 GMT) with epicenter at 239 km southwest Simuul island of Aceh and with the depth at 10 km under sea bed, the agency said.

The main shock with magnitude of 8.5 struck off Aceh earlier this month, killing ten people and left minor damages on infrastructure. Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone which is called “the Pacific Ring of Fire”. — Xinhua

Mexico tightens rules, lowers weight on trucks

MEXICO CITY, 29 April — The Mexican government said Friday it will tighten inspections and lower maximum allowed weights for freight trucks after a string of deadly accidents involving double-trailer trucks. Independent truckers partially blocked highways leading into Mexico City on Friday to protest rules allowing extremely heavy and very long trucks, something they say displaces them from hauling jobs and pressures them to overload their own rigs.

“Note the double trailers that cause accidents,” read one sign held up by protesting truckers on a highway north of Mexico City. Mexico currently allows trucks to roam two-lane roads with loads of up to 88 metric tons and lengths exceeding 100 feet, compared to a US limit of is 80,000 pounds (40 tons) on interstate highways. Overloading and the use of double trailers on secondary roads apparently played a role in two recent road crashes. On 13 April, a semi-truck pulling two trailers of grain reportedly lost its brakes while pulling two trailers on secondary roads and slammed into a bus carrying university students. Five students and a teacher were killed. And one week ago, a double-trailer truck on a two-lane road in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz also lost its rear trailer, which slammed into a bus carrying farm workers, killing 14 people.

The federal Communications and Transport Department issued a statement Friday saying it is lowering maximum weights by 4.5 tons, and limiting double trailers to 256 kilometers (15.5 mile) runs on secondary roads. At present the double- longs are theoretically limited to wider main highways, but a special permit has allowed them to complete many journeys on back roads. The department also said double-trailers will all have to be inspected within two years. The department said it will increase its inspection force by 14 percent and increase weight in scales from 63 to 88. Double trailers will also have to carry proof of the weight of the freight they carry. — Internet

Afghan police destroy poppy field in east Afghanistan’s Kunar Province, on 28 April, 2012. According to an UN report, poppy cultivation in Afghanistan has constantly increased over the past 10 years. Even though 26 out of the country’s 34 provinces have been announced poppy-free, it is said that Afghanistan still supplies to the world 90 percent of the raw material used in manufacturing heroin. — Xinhua

Atleast 10 people killed in floods, mudslides in Haiti

SANTO DOMINGO, 29 April — At least 10 people were killed and many others missing in flooding and mudslides caused by days of downpours that have swept through much of Haiti, the country’s Civil Protection Office said on Saturday.

Floods and mudslides destroyed hundreds of houses and public buildings, and inundated large areas of farmland, it said. The western and southern parts of the country were worst hit. And in the capital Port-au-Prince, many tent camps sheltering earthquake victims were severely damaged.

More than two years after a devastating earthquake hit Haiti on 12 Jan, 2010, nearly half a million Haitians are still accommodated at 660 camps scattered around the capital city. Over the last two weeks, some 150 suspected cholera cases were reported in Haiti every day. A cholera outbreak in 2010 in Haiti has killed more than 7,000 people. — Xinhua

The Mexican government said on 27 April, 2012 it will tighten inspections and lower maximum allowed weights for freight trucks after protests over a string of deadly accidents involving double-trailer trucks. — Internet
If there is a business, there is also the risk. Every business actually is a venture that can bring success as well as failure. If the business is functioning well and making profits, it is OK. But if it shows deficits or even falls down there is the big problem that involves capital loss and layoffs.

A business can fail or fall for certain reasons including incompetence, human error, corruption, disasters both man-made and natural, wars, financial meltdown, depression and other hazards including terrorism.

So what will it do when it falls down? Going to the government for help? Normally, an elected government runs on its own revenues mostly come from taxes. So it alone may not have the financial capacity to save every failed business through a generous bailout.

Fortunately, there is another business whose job is to rescue other businesses facing losses from unforeseeable hazards or guarantee protection from risk for a fee called insurance. There are also other big names such as Tokyo Marine and Nichidai, Allianz and Munich Re Group of Germany, Munich Financial Corporation of Canada, The Travelers Companies of the US, Zurich Financial Services and Swiss Reinsurance Company of Switzerland, Assicurazioni Generali of Italy, ING Group of the Netherlands, AXA of France, China Life Insurance Company Limited of China and Prudential of UK in the global insurance field.

Now, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has permitted the establishment of private insurance companies in Myanmar at a paid-up capital of K 46,000 million (roughly 55 million USD) for every company doing both general insurance and life insurance.

For general insurance or GI alone a private company can run fire insurance, car insurance, comprehensive insurance and money insurance services at a paid-up capital of K 40 billion, while companies that will provide only life insurance need K six billion as paid-up capital.

Currently, the State-owned Myanmar Insurance is the sole institution offering marine (both cargo and hull) insurance cover and aviation insurance cover apart from other types of insurances mentioned above. The private sector is not allowed to enter marine and aviation insurance markets yet, but there are plans to open the areas to citizen entrepreneurs later when the domestic insurance starts flourishing.

Like banking, insurance is a globally connected business operating under its own principles and ethics and sometimes through gentlemen’s agreements. In fact it is a giant service industry indicating a 2.7 per cent increase in global insurance premiums in inflation-adjusted terms in 2010 to $3.3 trillion, exceeding pre-crisis levels. Growth in life insurance premiums was 3.2 percent during the same year which also saw 2.1 per cent hike in non-life sector. Especially in the emerging economies the business was growing so fast at a rate of 11 per cent rise in premium income, while developed countries witnessed only around 1.4 per cent increase in their premium earnings.

But in our country insurance is still unknown to most of the people. Many businesses are running without insurance cover and only few people have life insurance policy let alone other unfamiliar types such as gap insurance to cover the excess amount on auto loan, burial insurance that covers the cost of a funeral and home insurance that provides coverage for damage or destruction of the policyholder’s home.

Lack of public knowledge and interest in insurance normally creates two opposite trends for the new comers. A large number of people or property without having insurance cover can be assumed there is still a large untapped market for the business to grow robustly or on the other hand the land is so hostile for the business to develop well. But with hard work, patience, amicable services and goodwill the new-born companies can win the hearts and minds of the people including the entrepreneurs. Besides, insurance is an essential part of the market economy.

Optimistically, the emergence of private companies with strong capital will generate job opportunities especially for professionals as insurance is a knowledge-based industry and provide risk cover for other business, individual properties and the people while leaving the natural environment unharmed as it is also a smokeless industry.
Farmers could fetch...

(from page 1)

25 acres each in Kayin State and Mon State; and three acres in Ayeyawady Region totalling 853 acres for increased cultivation of up to 0.1 million acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy and production of 1053 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds in 2011-2012.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Mayor U Thein Nyunt reported on cultivation of 163026 acres of monsoon paddy in the cultivation season of 2011-2012 against the target of 164048 acres and production of 13,972 million baskets of paddy (85.61 baskets per acre) in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area; cultivation of 21006 acres of summer paddy exceeding the target of 19380 acres accounting for 108.39 percent; reclamation of advanced farmlands – 500 acres in Pobbathiri Township, 315 acres in Dekkhinathiri Township, 369 acres in Pyinmana Township, 393 acres in Zabuthiri Township and 41 acres in Ottarathiri Township totaling 1619 acres and plans to reclaim 637 acres in Tekyigon Village, Aungchantha Village and Alyino Village in Zabuthir Township, 250 acres in Nyaungbingyysu in Pobbathiri Township and 650 acres in Nyaunggyo Village and Yananmyin Village in Dekkhinathiri Township, totalling 1537 acres.

Then, he also reported on giving agricultural loans – K 68,490 million for 1713 acres of 432 farmers in two townships under the arrangement of Mya Sein Yang Cooperative Society, K 1367.80 million for 27356 acres of 8863 farmers in Zeyathiri Township under U Myint Hlaing and Chinese agriculturalists.

Next, Deputy Minister U Ohn Than explained such strong points of the hybrid Palethwe paddy strains as high quality, high yield and commercial viability of Palethwe hybrid paddy strains, and measures for extension of sown acreage. In his instructions to the Union ministers, deputy ministers and local farmers on agricultural development drive, the President highlighted the worrying trends of growing food demand following the global increase in population. He warned that though Myanmar had food sufficiency as it was rich in water and land resources, steps were to be taken to make sure there was enough food for the anticipated potential population of 100 million in the future and to rural development and poverty alleviation scheme. Only the majority of the peasantry was well-off, could the nation be prosperous. He said he had made serious discussions about reclamation of flooded farmland, construction of dykes in farmlands prone to saltwater because of disaster, production of paddy seeds, construction of modern rice mills, human resources development, technical assistance, projects in Ayeyawady Delta and provision of modern farming equipment for agricultural development during his goodwill visit to Japan.

Likewise, arrangements were being made for formation of agricultural produce cooperative syndicates – K 68.490 million for 1713 farmers and measures being taken to collect debts.

As arable land could be extended no more, measures were being taken to boost the yield on current arable land. Thanks to the shift to Palethwe hybrid paddy strains combined with modern agricultural patterns, farmlands which used to yield only 50 baskets of rice could now produce 100 baskets of rice per acre.

The President added that growing of marketable crops was subject to farmers, calling for non-extinction of world-class quality Pawshanmwve rice. Myanmar was working hard to become industrialized nation based on agriculture. Agricultural development was a major programme in the country and the President urged the farmers to equip themselves with diligence, industry and willing mind for self-development and better life. He promised that the government would help them in their hard work.

President U Thein Sein gives instructions on agricultural development at briefing hall of 369-acre high-yield Palethwe hybrid paddy agricultural technique camp in Alyino Village, Pyinmana Township. MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein inspects high-yield Palethwe hybrid paddy. MNA

High-yield Palethwe hybrid paddy being harvested at 369-acre plantation in Alyino Village, Pyinmana Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. MNA

export the surplus abroad. As arable land could be extended no more, measures were being taken to boost the yield on current arable land. Thanks to the shift to Palethwe hybrid paddy strains combined with modern agricultural patterns, farmlands which used to yield only 50 baskets of rice could now produce 100 baskets of rice per acre.

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The President and party then went to 10-acre modern Palethwe hybrid paddy seed nursery in Kyaku’s Village of Dekkhinathiri Township and heard reports on agricultural patterns and seed production and cultivation of 21 different kinds of hybrid paddy strains. President U Myint Hlaing and Chinese agriculturalist Mr. Kapa Zhang.

The President put questions for his knowledge and presented a fruit basket to Chinese agriculturalists. The President then viewed cultivation of hybrid rice plants in the farm and cordially greeted local farmers of Kyaku Village.
220 more megawatts would be produced...
(from page 16)

The hydropower plants by nature could operate at full capacity in the rainy season and have to depend on stored water in summer months. The EP-1 power plants could generate 1168 Megawatts and the EP-2 gas power plants, 330 Megawatts in January, February, March and April in 2011 when the usage reached to the max. For the same months in 2012, the EP-1 facilities could generate 1340 Megawatts and the EP-2 gas power plants, 352 Megawatts, showing no decline compared with the previous year.

The joint venture is preparing to close one-year deal for the proposed amount of electricity at a price equal for both Myanmar and China buyers, 0.189 Yuan or 24.60 Kyats for one unit. 220 more Megawatts would be produced from Pyu, Nancho and Upper Paunglaung projects of the ministry which would go into operation in coming years. And more 262 Megawatts would be generated by Taikkyekhet (2), Biluchuang (3) and Upper Biluchuang projects of joint venture works between the ministry and national entrepreneurs through BOT system which would be commissioned into service in coming years. The ministry has to prepare for selling electricity wholesale demanded more and more by the power grid. One unit or one KWH price of the power plants would vary with the production costs of each plant. For example, average one unit production cost of hydropower plants is 19.55 Kyats and that of Tikyit coal-fired power plant is 53.54 Kyats. He concluded his speech with the call for meeting yearly soaring demand of the power grid and taking constant measures for maintenance of the power plants.—MNA

Sagaying Region holds budget coordination meeting

NAV PYI TAW, 29 April—The coordination meeting on budget tasks of Sagaying Region was held at the hall of Sagaying Region Government on 27 April morning, with an address by Chief Minister of the region U Tha Aye. Director U Chit Myo of Region Budget Department and departmental officials reported on budget works and departmental matters.

Region Minister for Finance and Revenue U Saw Myint Oo gave a supplementary report on budget. Those participated in the discussions. The Region Chief Minister attended to the needs.

In the afternoon, Regional Work Committee of Sagaying Region Development of Border Areas and National Races held the meeting 2/2012 for progress of border areas and national races. Chairman of the Regional Work Committee Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye delivered an address.

Secretary of the Work Committee Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Kyi Naing reported on progress of work on regional process in development of border areas and national races.

Members of the work committee also participated in discussions. —MNA

KIA mine derails Mandalay-Myyikinya sleeper train, wounding two

NAV PYI TAW, 29 April—A mine blast by KIA (Kachin) armed group made No. 33 sleeper train running from Mandalay to Myyikinya derailed between railroad mile post No. 616.1 and 616.2 near Bridge No. 534 between Nan-si-aung Station and Mohnay Station, 18 miles southwest of Mohnay, Kachin State at 1.10 am today, leaving two wounded.

The explosion derailed the eight coaches of the train, causing a few damages and wounding Shin Candoobha, 13 in right leg and breaking left leg of Myo Min Htay, 28.

The Kachin State Superintending Engineer of Myanmar Railways and coach repair team and personnel after the incident rushed to the scene to repair the damaged coaches. The wounded were sent to Mohnay Hospital for medical attention and Mandalay-Myyikinya trains are halted.

At a time when the Union government is making efforts to make eternal peace with national race armed groups and holding peace talks with the KIA, people feel that such acts of KIA as raiding Sadon Sub-township General Administration Department in Waingmaw Township of Kachin State and shooting staff to death, attacking Border 1 Guard Force (headquarters) in Lupi Village of Chipwe Township and blowing off roads, roads and bridges pose a threat to stability of the State, community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order aspired by people across the nation including locals of Kachin State and hope KIA would mend their ways and end committing subversive acts.

Delegation led by UNSG and wife arrives at Yangon

YANGON, 29 April—A delegation led by United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife Mrs Ban Soon-taek arrived here by special flight at 12.25 pm today.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thei Htay, Myanmar Permanent Representative to UN (New York) U Than Swe, Resident Representative of UN agencies in Yangon Mr Ashok Nigam, Director-General of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Daw Yin Yin Myint and officials.

Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife in the evening visited former UNSG U Thant’s Mausoleum in Shwedagon Pagoda Road where they received a welcome by the late secretary-general’s daughter Daw Aye Aye Thant and husband Dr Tin Myint Oo and family.

Mr Ban Ki-moon paid floral tribute and lit peace candle.

The secretary-general and wife and party proceeded to Nay Pyi Taw in the evening by special flight.—MNA

One killed, two wounded in KIA (Kachin) heavy weapon attacks

NAV PYI TAW, 29 April—In building a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation, the government is working hand in hand with the Tatmadaw to be a man aged between 25 and 30 with a fair complexion and his height was about 5 feet and 2 inches. A loaded M-20 pistol, a car at the circular junction on Union Highway 1 bridge and an RPG rocket were seized from the body.

There was no casualty of police force members and measures are being taken to arrest those linked to the case.

Bomber captured dead in Muse, Shan State

NAV PYI TAW, 29 April—A man was captured dead as he tried to throw a bomb at a patrol car of Muse Township Police Force in Muse, Shan State, yesterday evening.

The man riding a motorbike was killed by the home-made bomb that exploded in his hand as he was trying to throw it at the patrol car at the circular junction on Union Highway in Kaunghttun Ward at 9.25 pm.

Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife Mrs Ban Soon-taek lay wreath at former UNSG U Thant’s Mausoleum.—MNA

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**Demonstration on hatching of fingerlings in Tatkon**

**District News**

Fisheries jointly organized the demonstration on fingerling breeding in Tatkon Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 8 April.

In-charge of District Fisheries Department U Myo Naing and Staff Officer U Myo Thant Sin of Cooperative Department presented fingerlings of golden Hamilton’s Carp. They demonstrated hatching of fingerlings and replied to queries raised by local people. — Myanma Alin

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**Mongphyat gets new rural bridge**

Mongphyat, 29 April — A ceremony to inaugurate Nanyun Creek Bridge was held in Nanyun Village of Mongphyat Township in Shan State on 8 April.

Shan State Hluttaw representative U Maw Shy and wellwisher U Ka Soe Bo formally opened the bridge. A local spoke words of thanks. The wooden bridge is 24 feet long and 12 feet wide. It was built at a cost of K 8.5 million.

Thanks to the newly-opened bridge, local people are enjoying better and smooth transport to Nanyun Village and 32 villages of Nampan Village-tract in Mongphyat Township, five hilly gillade-tracts of Kengtung Township and Monglon Village-tract of Monghbat Township.

**Cash Assistance Provided:** Patron of Bago Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, Chairperson Daw May Thu and members donated cash assistance to those who received eye surgical treatment at Basic Education Middle School.

**Awards:**

Min Ye Hset, Tel: 09-519863, U Lwin Pyone, Tel: 09-49202525 and U Thet Zin Moe, Tel: 09-6806308, U Thet Zin Moe, Tel: 09-6806308, U Thet Zin Moe, Tel: 09-6806308, U Thet Zin Moe, Tel: 09-6806308, U Thet Zin Moe.

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**Dispensary, building of Post-Primary School**

YANGON, 29 April — A ceremony to open the dispensary was held in conjunction with the opening of new school building at Basic Education Post-Primary School in Thinaungchaung Village of Thinaungchaung Village-tract in Yanbye Township of Rakhine State on 9 April morning.

Head of Yanbye Township Health Department Dr Nyan Duw, wellwisher U Win Maung and Headmaster U Kyaw Tun Aung formally opened the dispensary.

U Win Maung (Hein Thina Goldenhmidt) of No. 30-8 on Yawmingyi Road in Dagon Township of Yangon Region, wife Daw Nwe Nwe Than and family spent K 6 million on construction of the dispensary. The school building was built by contributions of the local people. — Kyemon

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**Myanmar stands 9th position in Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group (IV)**

YANGON, 29 April — With the aim of securing achievements in the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar in 2013 and having experiences in international tennis tournaments, the Myanmar youth tennis team comprising Captain Min Min, Nge Hnawng, Phyo Min Thar and Aung Kyaw Naing participated in the Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group (IV) arrived back here by air on 23 April evening.

The team took part in the ITT Future (FII) in Ho Chi Minh of Vietnam from 2 to 8 April and ITT Future (FII) in Ho Chi Minh of Vietnam from 9 to 15 April. The team also participated in the Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group (IV) on 12 May from 16 to 23 April and the team played against Jordan, Singapore, water and Cambodia in the Pool (B) of the cup.

Myanmar lost to host Qatar 2-1 on 16 April, Jordan 2-1 on 17 April, Cambodia 3-0 on 18 April and Singapore 3-0 on 19 April. Myanmar beat Bahrain 3-0 on 20.

That is why, Myanmar was designated at the 9th position, and Bahrain, 10th position.

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**Thai entrepreneurs meet Myanmar businessmen**

YANGON, 29 April — A delegation comprising 80 entrepreneurs led by Chairman of Mr Payungsak Charsutpipat of Federation of Thai Industries who participated in the Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group (IV) on 12 May from 16 to 23 April and the team played against Jordan, Singapore, water and Cambodia in the Pool (B) of the cup.

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Hollywood films with Chinese elements a “reel” hit

Beijing, 29 April — From Disney’s 1998 animated feature “Mulan,” to DreamWorks’ 2011 hit “Kung Fu Panda 2,” Hollywood blockbusters have been enjoying success through their use of Chinese elements. While major Hollywood studios have seen decreased earnings in the domestic market, offshore box office earnings have reached record 13.6 billion US dollars in 2011, with China as one of the major forces driving up ticket sales. Last year, China’s film market generated 13.1 billion yuan (2 billion dollars), of which 4.9 billion yuan, or 37 percent, was generated by ticket sales for US blockbusters.

Since China imported its first American movie, “The Fugitive,” in 1994, the country has increasingly contributed to Hollywood’s earnings. It is expected by some to overtake Japan, which had a 2.3 billion-US-dollar film market last year, according to the Motion Picture Association of America. The film producer would dare ignore this market, and director James Cameron has even made China a major destination for his film’s shoots and promotional activities and described China’s 3D film and TV market as “an endless prospect.”

“When I came to China in 2010 there were 600 screen showings. Now, however, ‘Titanic 3D’ is being shown on 2,800 screens,” Cameron said of the film that recently set records in the Chinese mainland. His sci-fi smash hit “Avatar” is the highest-grossing film of all time, marking up 2.78 billion US dollars worldwide, including 200 million US dollars in China.

So what can be more useful than a film with a Chinese story in seizing a share of the tremendous film market, said film director Dai Jinhua.

Bear wanderers onto Colorado campus, moved to mountains

Boulder, 29 April — A 200-pound black bear that wandered onto the University of Colorado campus and caused a stir before falling 15 feet from a tree has returned to the wild, officials said on Friday. State wildlife official Jennifer Churchill said the 200-pound male bear was tagged and taken to a remote Rocky Mountain area of ponderous pines, with plenty of oak brush and chokeberry — food for a bear — west of Boulder.

The bear has become a celebrity since it wandered around a university residence hall in Boulder and climbed a tree Thursday. Wildlife officers eventually tranquilized it, and the bear dropped down from its perch onto pads placed on the ground. A photographer with the CU Independent online student newspaper captured a shot of the bear, its arms and legs akimbo, as it fell. The bear landed on its back before a crowd of gawking students. Some stroked its paws after it was caged.

“It was really a perfect landing,” campus police spokesman Ryan Huff told the Daily Camera.

Rhonda Chestnut was putting coins into a parking meter near the Bear Creek Student apartments on Thursday when she felt shaggy fur brush against her hand. Chestnut, who works for a leadership program at the university, thought it was a large dog until the bear looked back over its shoulder.

“I was like, ‘Excuse me, pardon me, I’m coming through,’” Chestnut told The Camera. “It was running full speed.”

Churchill said bears emerge from hibernation in March and April and are scavenging for food.

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Baby security breach closes NJ airport terminal

Newark, 29 April — A terminal at Newark Liberty International Airport was shut down for over an hour Friday after officials discovered a baby hadn’t been properly screened, Transportation Security Administration officials said. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the airport, described the incident as a security breach that occurred around 1:15 pm at a security checkpoint.

Terminal C was evacuated and passengers had to go through security screening again.

TSA spokeswoman Lisa Farbstein said a mother and baby went through a metal detector when the machine sounded an alarm. The mother handed the child to the father, who had already been screened. The mother was cleared, but the baby hadn’t been properly screened. The terminal was cleared, but the baby left the checkpoint and headed to their gate, Farbstein said. TSA officers searched for the family.

The terminal and checkpoint were closed from 1:30 pm to 2:50 pm. Passenger Jennifer Pallanich said she was on a Houston-bound flight scheduled to depart at about 2 pm and boarding had been completed, but because of the breach, the passengers had to evacuate and go through security screening again.

Emphasized that it was a low-risk situation, Farbstein said. A TSA official said they had explained the procedures of the breach to the Port Authority police and recommended against evacuating the terminal since it was a low-risk situation.

Steve Colemen, a Port Authority spokesman, said large dogs are the most common security threat.

“Two patrol groups of armed forces, injure 2 on army search

Lima, 29 April — Shining Path rebels on Friday killed three members of Peru’s security forces and wounded two others while they were searching for police who disappeared in an earlier ambush, cleared armed forces said. It was the latest setback to the government’s push to retake a lawless bundle of jungle valleys in southeastern Peru where a remnant band of Maoist rebels runs cocaine trafficking in the world’s most densely planted region of coca plantations.

“Two patrol groups of the armed forces clashed with narco-terrorists,” the high command of the armed forces said in a statement.

“Operations have been intensified in the zone to capture them,” President Ollanta Humala, a former military officer, has increased troop deployments as he responds to a public outcry that rebels brazenly kidnapped 36 natural gas workers, shot down a helicopter and killed up to six security agents two weeks ago. The search team was trying to find two of those security agents, both members of the national police force, when it was fired upon by rebels, the army said. Taking control of the region in the Eastern Apurimac River Valleys, where the military estimates there are about 400 rebels, is crucial for Humala’s economic plans. Peru’s main natural gas pipeline originates in the nearby Camisea fields and last month Humala said construction would start soon on a second, $3 billion pipeline to feed a new petrochemical complex on the Pacific coast that could draw $13 billion in foreign investment.

Holdout rebels, whose force is now too weak to threaten the government of the group were arrested in the early 1990s.

The Shining Path, Or Senderos Lumino sos in Spanish, launched a war to overthrow the state in 1980, and some 70,000 people were killed in the conflict. Over the last three years, some 60 security agents have died in skirmishes with what remains of the rebels. — Reuters.
Bootsa, 29 April — A French journalist was missing early Sunday along with five Colombian security force members following combat with leftist rebels that claimed the lives of three soldiers and a police officer. Colombia’s Defense Ministry said it identified the missing journalist as Romeo Langlois, whose has worked for media including the Paris newspaper Le Figaro, and said he was accompanying troops on a countering mission in the southern state of Caqueta.

In a statement, the ministry said four soldiers were also wounded in what it called “a heavy combat” with the leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, during an operation by Countermarines Bata-llon No 1 that destroyed five cocaine processing labs.

Langlois is a Colombia resident, and the ministry identified him as a “war correspondent.” It did say when the countering mission began. A senior police official said the combat occurred on Saturday and that heavy rain in the area after nightfall was impeding military operations. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to provide information.

The Defense Ministry said that in addition to Langlois, four soldiers and a police officer were missing. The operation occurred in the hamlet of Buena Vista in the municipality of Montana.

Officials say Chinese tea products safe

In this photo released by the Syrian official news agency SANA, a cartoon film of a bus that was damaged by an explosion in the Midan neighborhood in Damascus, Syria, on 27 April, 2012. (Internet)

Five gov’t troops killed across Syria Saturday

DAMASCUS, 29 April — Five army personnel, including an officer, were killed on Saturday in separate attacks carried out by “armed terrorist groups” across Syria, state-run SANA news agency reported. A lieutenant colonel was shot dead and four other soldiers were injured when armed groups sprayed their transportation with gunfire in al-Qusair district and four other soldiers were injured when armed groups showered their transportation with gunfire in al-Qusair district and four other soldiers were injured when armed groups showered their transportation with gunfire in al-Qusair district and four other soldiers were injured when armed groups showered their transportation with gunfire in al-Qusair district and four other soldiers were injured when armed groups showered their transportation with gunfire in al-Qusair district.

Another armed group detonated an explosive device in the town of Kar Ask in northern Idlib province, killing two security forces, SANA said, adding that another roadside bomb went off in al-Madouma area in Idlib, injuring a security member. Also in Idlib, engineering units dismantled six explosive devices planted by armed groups in different areas, said SANA.

Meanwhile, armed groups on Saturday fired at members of the border guards in the Damascus’ suburb of Yabroud, killing two of them, according to SANA. Saturday’s escalation of violence came as the advance team of UN observers, who arrived in Syria 10 days ago, were patrolling restive areas in Syria to monitor the government and the opposition’s commitment to the UN-backed cease-fire. The team toured Saturday the central Hama and coastal Latakia provinces.

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More frozen cows found near Colorado spring

Officials plotting to dispose of six cows carcasses found in a cabin near Colorado’s Conundrum Hot Springs said more frozen cows were found buried in the snow.

Bill Bigk, a spokesman for the White River National Forest, said a US Forest Service team hiked and skied the 8 miles to the cabin, located southwest of Aspen, to check on the six frozen cows located inside the structure and they discovered additional cows buried in snow, The Aspen Times reported on Wednesday.

“We’ve got quite a few carcasses,” Kight said. “It’s more than six, but I can’t give you a number yet.”

The cattle were among the 29 reported missing by a rancher from the adjacent Gunnison National Forest in late fall. The cows died of exposure when the temperatures plummeted.

Reported whale turns out to be turtle

Firefighters in Florida responding to a call about a whale at a beach said they instead discovered a 400-pound leatherback sea turtle.

Pompano Beach Fire Rescue said dispatchers received a call Tuesday about a large animal believed to be a whale in the water at Southeast Eighth Street and firefighters arrived to discover the massive turtle swimming in the water, WPLG-TV, Miami, Fla, reported on Wednesday.

Witnesses said the turtle climbed onto the shore and buried 40 to 50 eggs about 4 feet deep in the sand before returning to the water.

Fire rescue officials said the area was cordoned off to protect the turtle’s offspring.

Missouri property filled with stolen goods

A Missouri sheriff said a 40-acre property contains stolen goods including cars, tractors, ATV’s, power tools, construction materials and concrete.

Dade County Sheriff Steven Stapp said his office had been receiving complaints from the owner of the property, located a few miles from Greenfield, for several years and had recently filled out the property was filled with stolen goods, KYTV, Springfield, Mo, reported on Wednesday.

“It’s not grass or a tree or rock, I would say that the majority of the items out here are received from stolen property,” Stapp said. “Anything from power tools to concrete construction materials, concrete construction working tools, ATV’s, tractors, pickup trucks, cars.”

Stapp said investigators are looking for the property owner, who is believed to be in Springfield, who was also involved in narcotics and cattle theft crimes in the area. Deputies arrested a property caretaker, whose name was not released, on possession of meth and drug paraphernalia charges and he will likely face additional charges, Stapp said.

Rihanna releases making-in video for ‘Where Have You Been’

LONDON, 29 April—

Rihanna has gone topless in the video for her new album ‘Where Have You Been’.

The official video for the singer’s latest song is scheduled 1 pm flight from LAX to Washington, DC, for the White House Correspondents’ dinner.

The troubled actress’ guest at the annual dinner organized by the White House Correspondents’ Association is Lindsay Lohan.

Lindsay Lohan

WASHINGTON, 29 April—

Lindsay Lohan missed her scheduled 1 pm flight from LAX to Washington, DC, for the White House Correspondents’ dinner.

The troubled actress plans to make a later flight on Friday, TMZ reported. The 25-year-old is booked to be Greta Van Susteren’s guest at the annual dinner organized by the White House Correspondents’ Association.

Susteren’s invitation had generated controversy when Meghan McCain, the daughter of Sen John McCain (R-Ariz), tweeted on Thursday, “Let me get this straight Greta Van Susteren is bringing Lindsay Lohan to the WHC Dinner but has a moral offense to Louie CK? Van Susteren had recently criticized the Radio and Television Correspondents Association for asking comedian Louie CK to perform at their 2012 dinner as she objected to his jokes about former Governor Sarah Palin.

Veteran actors take a dig at current Hollywood fare

WASHINGTON, 29 April—

Veteran actress Debbie Reynolds has said that the standard of Hollywood movies has gone down as compared to older generation movies.

“I wish they would clean up some of the movies, make them a little more wholesome,” Reynolds told FOX411’s Pop Tart. “I think the American public wants that, so we should give it to them,” she said.

Linda Gray, best known for her role as the Sue Ellen Ewing in the prime time soap ‘Dallas’, said that today’s scripts often don’t develop characters to their relationships very well.

Hugh Grant on the joy of playing ‘Pirates!’

NEW YORK, 29 April—

British film star Hugh Grant jokes that the stop-motion animators behind his new movie “The Pirates! Band of Misfits” helped him keep his actor he has always wanted to be. “That’s the joy of this film,” the famously witty and self-deprecating Grant told reporters in New York recently. “Physical comedy, I can’t really do that, but I didn’t have. He left to the animators. They did everything for me. I didn’t do physical comedy. I can’t do stunts. I can’t do emotion. They did it all.”

Although the voice cast for the Aardman Animations movie features Imelda Staunton, Martin Freeman, Salma Hayek, Jeremy Piven and David Tennant, Grant said he didn’t work with any of them when he was recording his lines in a studio.

“They have a brilliant all-purposes actor, who reads the other [parts]. Otherwise, it’s just Peter Lord standing next to the microphone and they learned on the job.”

“Nowadays, if you are lucky enough to get one or two pictures under your belt, that could be the end of you — and you never grew, you never got that comfortable being a character in front of the camera,” he said.

Gregg Allman postpones book tour

LOS ANGELES, 29 April—

American musician Gregg Allman’s representatives say he has postponed a book tour for next week has been postponed because of the singer was taken ill after performing a gig in Texas.

“The 64-year-old Macon, Ga-based musician suffered a stroke on stage during a gig in Texas on Friday night,” a statement from Allman’s publicist said. “A scan shows severe bleeding in the brain. Gregg to undergo brain surgery on Sunday.”

Less than a week ago Allman revealed the bad news that he was terminal cancer.

He added about the surgery: “I love you and thank you for your love and prayers. Please keep me in your thoughts.”

The May 8 book-signing event at Barnes & Noble in New York City has also been postponed.

“Gregg will be in hospice care in Macon, Georgia,” the statement from the publicist said. “Gregg, his family, and his friends are deeply grateful for your support at this very difficult time.”

On Thursday, the same day he was scheduled to kick off his book-signing tour at Barnes & Noble in New York’s Union Square, that engagement as well as several others booked for next week have been postponed.

The May 8 book-signing is to take place at a Barnes & Noble in Buckhead, Ga.
Barclays mark Friedel’s appearance milestone
Spurs keeper recognised for playing 300 consecutive Barclays Premier League matches

Against QPR, Brad Friedel played his 300th consecutive Barclays Premier League match.

INTERNET

BRAD FRIEDEL’S 300 CONSECUTIVE LEAGUE MATCHES

* 29,013 minutes played
* 1,526 saves – an average of five saves per match
* 67 clean sheets
* 366 goals conceded – only one goal every 79.27 minutes
* 47 penalties faced – 14 saved
* Five managers: Graeme Souness (Blackburn), Mark Hughes (Blackburn), Martin O’Neill (Aston Villa), Giuseppe B setti and Harry Redknapp (Tottenham)
* 0 substitutions

INTERNET

Lewis leads Mobile Bay LPGA Classic after 3 rounds

MOBILE, April 29 — Stacy Lewis will probably chat away with Brittany Lincicome, who might squeeze in some Sudoku time during pauses in the action. Nothing like good friends and puzzles to help keep a snake’s round of golf loose. The two pals and France’s Karine Icher will play in the final group Sunday with the Mobile Bay LPGA Classic title on the line.

Lewis birdied five of the last seven holes Saturday for her second straight 5-under 67, giving her a two-stroke lead over Lincicome entering the final round.

“We’ll try to just keep each other relaxed, and hopefully we’ll have a pretty close tournament coming to the end,” Lewis said.

Lewis, the Kraft Nabisco Championship winner last year, had a 14-under 202 total. The long-hitting Lincicome, a year younger, had a 14-under 202 total.

“It’s going to be very exciting,” said Lincicome, the 2010 runner-up. “It’s fun to play with a friend because it kind of relaxes you a little. So going into it, we’ll still be chitchatting like we always do and just play as if it were just a practice round on Tuesday and not hopefully be overly stressed … and just go out there and have a good time.”

Lewis had two bogeys on the front nine and Lincicome before making a late charge for the second straight day. The former Arkansas star had four birdies on the final six holes, Friday, though she also closed with a bogey. Her third-round run started with a fairway bunker shot 8 feet on No.12.

INTERNET

Nadal to meet Ferrer in 4th Barcelona Open final

BARCELONA, April 29 — Six-time champion Rafael Nadal defeated Fernando Verdasco 6-4, 6-4 Saturday to break Verdasco’s first three service games and set him on his way to his 33rd straight win at the competition. In the other semifinal, Ferrer held off Milos Raonic’s powerful serve for 7-6(2), 7-6(5) victory to give him a shot at his fourth title of the year. "Rafa is the best player, clay-court player,” Ferrer said.

INTERNET

Sensational Suarez sinks Norwich

URUGUAYAN scores a brilliant hat-trick as Liverpool thump Serie A side

LONDON, April 29 — Luis Suarez scored a wonderful hat-trick, including a fabulous third goal – as Liverpool earned their eighth away win this season in the Barclays Premier League.

Friedel joined the top flight’s all-time appearances list in 1997 when he signed for Liverpool. During his time in the UK he has made 451 League appearances. To- tenham goalkeeper coach Tony Parkes said: “I don’t think personally that Brad’s record of 300 consecutive matches in the Premier League will be beaten by another goalkeeper.”

INTERNET

Kyle Busch takes 4th straight Richmond spring race

RICHMOND, April 29 — Kyle Busch has re-stated his interest in signing veteran AC Milan midfielder Clarence Seedorf.

INTERNET

Botafogo reinstates interest in signing Seedorf

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 29 — Botafogo has re-stated its interest in signing veteran AC Milan midfielder Clarence Seedorf. The Brazilian club revealed on Saturday it had maintained regular contact with Seedorf since a six-hour meeting between directors and the 36-year-old last year.

"If I told you that we hadn’t been in contact throughout this time I would be lying,” Botafogo’s vice director of football Andre Silva told Globoesporte.

“It’s our desire to have him here. It’s now a matter

INTERNET
Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
(30-4-2012) (Monday)
7:00 am
1. Paritry By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
2. Brimming with confidence after his last-minute goal against Barcelona in the Champions League semi-final on Tuesday, the £50 million man was too hot to handle. Daniel Sturridge got the party started inside the first minute with a scorcher from outside the area and running with a wonder hand. Then the Torres show began as he rounded R's keeper Paddy Kenny to notch his first. It was 4-0 with only 25 minutes of the first-half played as Torres fired in his second. QPR did manage to get one back as Djibril Cisse notched late on, but it was cold comfort for the visiting fans. Roberto Di Matteo's men now sit just a point behind fourth-placed Newcastle with the Toon heading to Stamford Bridge on Wednesday. Meanwhile, Hughes' men stay just above the relegation zone on goal difference, although 18th-placed Bolton have a game in hand. Sturridge got the rout up and running with a wonder strike from outside the area with only 46 seconds on the clock. The England star whipped a right-footed shot which flew into the top corner past the helpless Kenny. QPR were complaining that Frank Lampard was on an official position when the shot was struck and had interfered with play, but the goal stood. Terry then fired a volley at Kenny before Lampard's delicate chip was turned over by the keeper from a corner. From the resulting set-piece, Terry powered home a free header to double the lead after 13 minutes. Chelseas flying and flying and QPR were in freefall as Torres finished off a super move to make it 3-0 six minutes later. He has his second after 25 minutes as he capitalised on a mix-up between Nedum Onuoha and Kenny to lash home. Torres finally had his treble as Chelsea launched a clinical counter attack. Mata played a delicious ball through to his compatriot who drove in on goal before slotting a composed finish into the far corner. Cisse took some gloss off the score-line with 84 minutes played as Onuoha finished off Nedum Onuoha's inviting centre but it was no more than a consolation goal. It was stunning win for Di Matteo and his men as their revival under the Italian shows no sign of letting up.

Traffic talked in Lewe

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—A talk on traffic rules was given at No:301 Air Defence Battalion in Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 25 April morning. Officials of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee gave talks on traffic rules to members of the battalion and families, totalling 131 servicemen and 72 family members. IP Min Thaik Hnaik of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police talked about root causes of traffic accidents, happenings of traffic accidents, road signs, disciplines for road users and vehicles, international traffic rules enforcement with the use of visual aid—Mon Min

11 dead after coach plunges off cliff in SW China

KUNMING, 29 April—A coach plunged off a cliff on Saturday in southwest China’s Yunnan Province, leaving 11 passengers dead and nine others injured, local authorities said Sunday morning.

The accident happened around 5 p.m. Saturday in Yuxian County in the city of Lincang, said authorities with the county government. Seven people were confirmed dead on the spot.

PRIZE AWARDED: The Rajinmaung Brokerage Group held the third golf tournament at Royal Mingaladon Golf Club in Mingaladon Township on 8 April. Executive of the group U Lae Maw presents first prize to U Nai Lin—Kyawko

Chelsea 6-1 QPR

LONDON, 29 April—Brimming with confidence after his last-minute goal against Barcelona in the Champions League semi-final on Tuesday, the £50 million man was too hot to handle. Daniel Sturridge got the party started inside the first minute with a scorcher from outside the area and running with a wonder hand. Then the Torres show began as he rounded R’s keeper Paddy Kenny to notch his first. It was 4-0 with only 25 minutes of the first-half played as Torres fired in his second. QPR did manage to get one back as Djibril Cisse notched late on, but it was cold comfort for the visiting fans. Roberto Di Matteo’s men now sit just a point behind fourth-placed Newcastle with the Toon heading to Stamford Bridge on Wednesday. Meanwhile, Hughes’ men stay just above the relegation zone on goal difference, although 18th-placed Bolton have a game in hand. Sturridge got the rout up and running with a wonder strike from outside the area with only 46 seconds on the clock. The England star whipped a right-footed shot which flew into the top corner past the helpless Kenny. QPR were complaining that Frank Lampard was on an official position when the shot was struck and had interfered with play, but the goal stood. Terry then fired a volley at Kenny before Lampard’s delicate chip was turned over by the keeper from a corner. From the resulting set-piece, Terry powered home a free header to double the lead after 13 minutes. Chelseas flying and flying and QPR were in freefall as Torres finished off a super move to make it 3-0 six minutes later. He has his second after 25 minutes as he capitalised on a mix-up between Nedum Onuoha and Kenny to lash home. Torres finally had his treble as Chelsea launched a clinical counter attack. Mata played a delicious ball through to his compatriot who drove in on goal before slotting a composed finish into the far corner. Cisse took some gloss off the score-line with 84 minutes played as the Frenchman finished off Onuoha’s inviting centre but it was no more than a consolation goal. It was stunning win for Di Matteo and his men as their revival under the Italian shows no sign of letting up.

Azarenka sets up Stuttgart final with Sharapova

BRUSSELS, 29 April—World number one Victoria Azarenka enjoyed another walk in the park against Agnieszka Radwanska on Saturday, beating the Pole for the fifth time this year to reach the Stuttgart Grand Prix final. Australian Open winner Azarenka next faces world number two Maria Sharapova after the Russian beat Czech Petra Kvitova, the Wimbledon co-champion, 6-4, 6-7(6), 6-4 in their semi-final. “Agnieszka always brings out the best in me,” said the Belarus player after crushing 6-1, 6-3 win. “I’m very happy with the way I played.” Azarenka had already beaten Radwanska in Sydney, at the Australian Open quarter-finals and in Doha and Indian Wells, California. The 22-year-old, who has lost only one match this season, went on to win all four tournaments. Sharapova saved break points in three successive service games during the second set and also a set point before wrapping up the match 7-3 in the tebruck.—Reuters

Weather forecast for 30th April, 2012

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15
NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—A delegation led by United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and wife arrived at Nay Pyi Taw from Yangon by special flight at 6 pm today. They were welcomed by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin and departmental officials at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

The UN secretary-general met the press at Myat Tawwin Hotel where he stayed at 7 pm.

Media representatives who interviewed the UN chief were Chief Editor U Than Myint Tun from News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information, U Ko Ko of Yangon Times Journal, Daw Aye Mya Kyaw of Today News Journal, U Than Zaw Tun of Weekly Eleven Journal and U Hsan Oo of Myanmar Times Journal.

220 more megawatts would be produced from Pyu, Nancho and Upper Paunglaung projects and 202 more megawatts from Thaukyekhet-2, Biluchaung-3 and Upper Biluchaung projects one year after

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (29-4-2012)

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Kyle Busch takes 4th straight Richmond spring race

Kyle Busch celebrates winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Richmond International Raceway in Richmond, Va, on 28 April, 2012.