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Wednesday, 2 May, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes
* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar striving for ensuring comprehensive social protection benefits

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—A ceremony to mark the Workers’ Day 2012 was observed at Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC) in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, at 9 am today, with an opening address by Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

It was attended by Union Ministers, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Peasants, Workers and Youths Affairs Committee and members, Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Peasants and Local and Foreign Workers Committee and members, deputy ministers, ambassadors, departmental heads, resident representatives of the United Nations agencies, representatives from labour organizations, employers’ organizations and NGOs at home and abroad, prize-winning workers and guests and delegates.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said: I would like to say I am very pleased and have an honour to be with the representatives from Labour Organizations and Employers’ Organizations joining in today’s May Day Ceremony. Labour organizations and employers’ organizations are partners that have to work hand in hand. Employers have to enable workers to enjoy their rights and benefits and workers also have to make efforts to progressively boost production and services at various factories and establishments in which they are working. The economics of the nation will develop and entire people and all future generations are entitled to enjoy the benefits of social protection.

Generally, social protection is policy adoption required, such as to enable people including workers and employers, to enjoy equitable development, not to encounter uncertain socio-economic lives and to reduce the livelihood of those who are difficult to stand because of their financial condition. Such protection is a key mechanism that could address family income issue, meet a minimum of adequate socio-economic lives for those who are difficult to stand because of their insufficient financial condition, discrimination against gender, age, religion and ethnic groups.

In Myanmar, there are still main challenges to social protection policy such as unemployment or a collapse of income, income insecurity, or overpriced for household commodities, economic and financial problems, social issues. Besides, problems stemming from natural catastrophes and environmental issues and health incidents are also included.

Although Myanmar has implemented the social security system, it is not a comprehensive one. It offers some types of benefits and its coverage of workers is limited. So, efforts are being made to be able to enact a new Social Security Law in order to implement a social security system that covers the whole population.

After enactment of this new Social Security Law, all citizens will be able to access better comprehensive social protection benefits. For example, social security benefits such as medical care benefit after retirement, family grant benefit, retirement benefit, survivors’ benefit, unemployment benefit, social security housing benefit, and ownership will be enjoyed.

(See Page 8)

Scientists find new developments to treat heart diseases

Dancers of the Moscow State Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Music Theatre’s Ballet rehearse ballet Romeo and Juliet at Tianjin Grand Theatre in Tianjin, north China, on 28 April, 2012. Ballet Romeo and Juliet was staged at Tianjin Grand Theatre on Sunday, marking the opening of the new theatre.

Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo runs with their ball during his Champions League quarter-final first leg soccer match against APOEL at GSP stadium in Nicosia on 27 March, 2012.

Significant Day Temperatures (1-5-2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Myingyan</td>
<td>(41°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>(40°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NyaungU</td>
<td>(40°C)</td>
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<td>Chaunk</td>
<td>(40°C)</td>
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<td>Kawkareik</td>
<td>(40°C)</td>
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Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (1-5-2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Rainfall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mawlamyine</td>
<td>(3.74) inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyaukpyu</td>
<td>(2.32) inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyaikmaraw</td>
<td>(2.16) inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagaing</td>
<td>(1.34) inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 2 May, 2012

Where justice, freedom and equality flourish

One of the fundamental objectives of Myanmar is to create a suitable job for every citizen effectively utilizing her human resources, financial resources, and natural resources to reach this end.

The government on its part is enlarging the scope of private sector participation in the national economy, making necessary legal amendments and additions, enacting new laws friendly towards the market economy and ensuring rapid flow of domestic and foreign investments into the country.

Thanks to bright prospects for foreign direct investment, we are sure that better chances for job creations, raising per capita income and skill development and greater access to advanced technologies will flourish in our country soonest.

Moreover, we are witnessing a sharp increase in the number of factories, industrial estates, industrial zones and special economic zones, small and medium enterprises and regional business followed by the development of a labour market that can generate more job opportunities and establish sustainable professions.

We have also adopted the work efficiency promotion policy which is crucially important for the productivity of our country. At the same time, the Government has enacted law, rules and regulations permitting the formation of independent labour organizations that protects the rights of workers and cementing better relations among workers and between employers and workers, apart from drafting a Social Security Law that provides a comprehensive protection for all workers.

As the government on its part is creating better conditions and a favorable occupational environment for all the citizens, the entire white collar and blue collar workers of the country must work in cooperation with the government having a firm resolve to building a modern, developed democratic nation where equality flourishes.

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Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development receives Managing Director of WFO

NAV PYI TAW, 1 May— Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein received a delegation led by Managing Director of World Food Organization (WFO) Ambassador Ali Mchumo at his office here yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed functions of mango and water melon production groups and milk cow breeding tasks, promotion of bilateral cooperation on both sides and provision of necessary assistance for member countries including Myanmar promotion of bilateral cooperation in the future. Also present at the call were the director-general of Planning Department, the director-general of Central Statistical Organization and the deputy director-general of Foreign Economic Relations Department.—MNA

Union Minister assists in Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Chaungnet-Taungdwingyi Road project, Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) project

During the tour, the Union minister and party inspected road works and drains and conduit pipes along the road section.

In the afternoon, they visited Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) construction project. Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) is 3215 ft long and it is a rail-cum-road bridge. The iron beams produced by the steel mill under the Myanmar Economic Corporation are used to construct the bridge. The bridge would link the Pathein-Pakokku Railroad on the west bank of Ayeyawady River and the Yangon-Pyay-Taungdwingyi-Bagan-Myingyan Railroad on the east bank of the river. During the visit, the Union minister and party inspected pillars, the approach road on Malun bank and road works. They also inspected the installation of iron beams on the main portion of the bridge.

KIA (Kachin) armed group blasts Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad again

NAV PYI TAW, 1 May— About one and a half miles from Hsamaw railway station on Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad, about two-foot rail tracks and nine sleepers of east and west rail tracks were destroyed in double mine blasts plotted by KIA (Kachin) Armed Group at 05 am today. Fifteen 200-gram TNTs, 13 detonators, six-eight inch tripwires and two intensified explosions were found near the damaged rail track and 18 200-gram TNTs and related items 75 yards from the scene by the officials who deactivated the explosives.

A Kachin national who is in service in Nay Pyi Taw said he doubted whether KIA are doing the good for the people as they proclaimed because of such destruction of non-military targets and public places—railways, motor roads and bridges—and firing heavy weapons to villages, undermining transportation and socio-economic standards of national people in Kachin State.—MNA

Yangon Region May Day Ceremonies-2012 held

YANGON, 1 May— Yangon Region May Day Ceremony-2012 took place at Yangon Region Government Office this morning, with an address by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

In his address, the Region Chief Minister said that the country saw huge investment in private sectors and development of medium- and small-scale business after the market-oriented economy system had been introduced. With the extended establishments of factories, workshops as well as industries and special economic zones, there emerge job opportunities across the country. For the improvement of productivity, employer organizations were to join hands with employee organizations, he added.

Employers had responsibilities to ensure the rights of workers, safety and health care. And employees are responsible for ensuring work places and improvement of productivity. The government was carrying out socio safety, creating job opportunities and promoting employees skills. Standards of utmost expertise skills were being prescribed for working freely not only in ASEAN countries but also worldwide in 2015 as skilled workers, he said.

After that, Chairman of Leading Committee for holding May Day-2012 Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock U Soe Min read out the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein. And Head of Region Labour Department U Soe Win also read the message of ILO Director-General.—MNA

Union Minister for Science & Technology U Aye Myint and Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint inspect Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) project.—MNA

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein receives Managing Director of World Food Organization (WFO) Ambassador Ali Mchumo.—MNA

11/9/2009, 5:13 PM
US-Japan alliance cornerstone of security, peace in Asia-Pacific
WASHINGTON, 1 May — US President Barack Obama said on Monday that the US-Japan alliance will remain a cornerstone of peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region. Obama made the remarks at a joint Press conference with visiting Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, during which he announced that the two countries have agreed on a new joint vision that will guide their alliance in the future. “We recognize that the US-Japan alliance will not only remain the foundation of the security and prosperity of our two nations, but also a cornerstone of regional peace and security,” he said.

He cited the agreement that the two governments reached last week, which will relocate some 9,000 US Marines off Okinawa to Guam and other locations in the Asia-Pacific. “This reflects our effort to modernize America’s defence posture in the Asia-Pacific with forces that are more broadly distributed, more flexible and more sustainable,” Obama told reporters, adding that it will also reduce the impact on residents of Okinawa. — Xinhua

18 Qaeda militants killed in Yemen fighting
ZINJIBAR, 1 May — Fierce clashes killed at least 21 people, including 18 al-Qaeda militants, on Monday near the southern Yemeni town of Zinjibar, which al-Qaeda is trying to capture, a local official said. The other dead were an army officer and two tribal volunteers aiding the military. The source said the al-Qaeda militants were forced to retreat in the direction of Amin, 12 kilometers (7.5 miles) south of Loder. Witnesses said the fighting lasted for several hours, and that air force planes had bombarded militant positions in the mountains southeast of Loder, from which columns of smoke could be seen rising.

A tank in the hands of the militants, as well as two vehicles mounted with machineguns and ammunition were destroyed, other sources said. Al-Qaeda seized Loder in August 2010, but the army eventually drove it out. Loder lies 150 kilometers northeast of Zinjibar, capital of Abyan Province, which was seized last May by the Partisans of Shara (Islamists), an affiliate of al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. — Internet

At least eight killed in suicide bombings in Syria’s Idlib
DAMASCUS, 1 May — At least eight people were killed, including an officer, and a hundred of others injured when two suicide bombers riding boozy-trapped cars blew themselves up in two districts in Syria’s northern province of Idlib Monday, state-run SANA news agency reported. SANA said the two “terrorist” bombings riged the Hanano Square and the Carlton Street in Idlib, adding that most of the injured were civilians. It said the blasts caused serious damages to near buildings and left two big craters at the scenes, and that two members of the UN observers’ teams have patrolled the two sites to get familiar with the traces of the “two terrorists bombings” and the damages caused to residential areas nearby.

One blast targeted a military security compound, while the other hit an aviation intelligence headquarters in Idlib. Unconfirmed reports said the blasts, caused by two boozy-trapped cars, killed the chief of the aviation intelligence and six other security forces. The information could not be independently verified, but SANA also said an officer was among the killed but did not disclose his position.

Meanwhile, government news website Xinhua reported at least 52 people were reported to have been killed and wounded in the incidents. It said that the blasts wrecked five surrounding buildings, and even caused damages to places about one kilometer away from the site.

India, Japan hold 6th round of strategic dialogue
NEW DELHI, 1 May — India and Japan have announced fresh dialogue mechanisms for maritime and cyber security during the 6th round of strategic dialogue between the two nations on Monday, local media reported on Tuesday. The meeting was co-chaired by Indian Foreign Minister S M Krishna and his visiting Japanese counterpart Koichiro Gemba. The two countries said they are preparing for a joint naval exercise of the coast of Japan in June. Indian Navy and Japan Maritime Self Defence Force will take part in the exercise, said local daily The Times of India.

India and Japan also decided to take forward negotiations on civil nuclear energy cooperation, but Japanese sources later said that there were “certain elements” that needed to be addressed before entering into this partnership, said the report. New Delhi and Tokyo will expand cooperation in counter-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia and the Gulf of Aden, the newspaper quoted Gemba as saying. At a joint press conference with Gemba, Krishna said Indian and Japanese governments have instructed “negotiations to head way forward” on civil nuclear talks. Gemba said that he “asked for understanding on Japan’s strong desire for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation” during talks with Krishna. — Xinhua

White powder packages sent to Wells Fargo NYC branches
NEW YORK, 1 May — A rash of incidents on Monday afternoon involving envelopes sent with suspicious white powder had police scrambling around New York City and forced the nation’s fourth-biggest bank, Wells Fargo & Co, to shut down five branches around the city. In one of six cases identified by the New York Police Department, the substance turned out to be corn starch, a police spokesman said. The substance has not yet been identified in the remaining five cases, the spokesman said.

The Wells Fargo branches will remain closed pending further investigation by the police, bank spokesman Ancel Martinez said. The branch locations include Third Avenue and 47th Street; Madison Avenue and 34th Street; and Broadway and 85th Street. More than 500 protesters demonstrated at the bank’s annual shareholder meeting in San Francisco last week to express anger over foreclosures, executive compensation and corporate taxes. Among other large banks, spokesman for Bank of America Corp and JPMorgan Chase & Co said they had not closed any branches on Monday due to suspicious envelopes. A Citigroup spokesman had no immediate comment. According to a website called maydaynyc.org, demonstrations are planned in New York City on Tuesday against “the corporations who rule our city.” — Reuters

Officials say Iraq violence kills seven
BAGHDAD, 1 May — Violence killed seven people in Iraq on Monday, including a mother and her three children who were stabbed to death in their home and an army major killed by a bomb, officials said. A mother, her 13-year-old boy, and girls aged five and seven were killed in the Baghdad neighbourhood of Kamaliyah after the woman’s husband, who works at the ministry of health, left for his office, security and medical officials said.

It was unclear why they were targeted, an interior ministry official said, adding that the killings in the Shi’ite neighbourhood did not appear to have sectarian motives. Just days earlier, a Sunni Muslim mother and her three children were shot dead in an apparent sectarian attack in a village in central Iraq, after twin bombings killed eight people, mostly Shiites. Also in Baghdad, a magnetic “sticky bomb” attached to a car in the commercial Karrada neighbourhood in the centre of the capital killed two people and wounded five others.

The victims were all civilians, security and medical officials said. And another sticky bomb on a car in the Latifiyah, south of Baghdad, killed Major Qais Saadun and wounded two soldiers, the interior ministry official said. — Internet

Baghdad’s Vildros Square, where the statue of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein used to stand.
Habitable planets more abundant than stars

Australa says koalas are threatened

Science & Technology Science & Technology

Sydney, 1 May—
Determining the habitability of rocky, earth-like planets will be crucial for us as a species, but the good news is that they are probably more abundant than stars, says a new study.

“Determining whether these planets has become the new holy grail of astronomy,” said planetary scientist Charley Lineweaver, from the Planetary Science Institute, Australian National University, who led the study. “The new-found abundance of planets, combined with the much larger range of inhabited terrestrial environments suggests that habitable planets are common. This increases the probability of finding some kind of extraterrestrial life,” said Lineweaver, the Annual Reviews of Earth and Planetary Sciences reports.

Fellow researcher and doctoral student Aditya Chopra said our best estimates of habitability come from the planet we know best: Earth, according to a statement of Planetary Science Institute.

“By comparing the inhabited and uninhabited regions of Earth, we can identify the most important factors that determine habitability. For terrestrial life, those factors are liquid water, a narrow range of temperature, and an energy source,” he said.

Lineweaver added: “Planetary habitability is a complex and confusing concept that we are only beginning to get our heads around, but as a species that wants to survive, it is in our interest to get our heads around it soon.” —Internet

Ikea introduces cardboard camera

Stockholm, 1 May—Swedish furniture company Ikea says it’s introducing an eco-friendly camera made mostly of cardboard that can be recycled.

After users have taken 40 photos, the company said, they can dispose of the camera with other recyclable materials.

The camera, which will not be sold but rather given away in selected Ikea stores, is aimed at getting Ikea customers to share images of their furniture on the chain’s Web site.

The device, which uses two AA batteries, can connect to a computer with help of a swing-out USB connector to download its photos.

Offering the camera, dubbed Knappa, was “not a move into selling any digital equipment,” an Ikea spokesman told the BBC.

“It is part of the launch activities for the new furniture collection,” he said.

Ikea has introduced other green initiatives in the past, including installing solar energy panels on one of its stores in California.

Tests of aviation jet biofuel to start

Moorabbin, 1 May—
US tech firm Honeywell says it is starting one of the aviation industry’s first comprehensive test programmes for aviation biofuel.

Honeywell subsidiary UOP will carry out the programme in cooperation with the National Research Council of Canada and Agrisoma Biosciences, earthtechling.com reported on Monday.

Blends of Honeywell green jet fuel will be tested at higher ratios than used in previous demonstration flights, which to date have not exceeded a 50/50 blend of biofuel and petroleum-based jet fuel.

The biofuel being tested has been produced from a new non-food, industrial oilseed crop produced by Ottawa-based Agrisoma from Brassica carinata, belonging to a family of flowering plants that also includes cabbages and turnips, Honeywell said.

The crop can be raised in semiarid areas usually not utilized for good crop production, Honeywell said, so it would not compete with food crops for land resources, a common criticism raised by opponents of biofuel production.

Since aviation regulators approved the use of biofuel in commercial flights last summer, several major airlines have conducted trial flights using various blends of petroleum-based fuel and fuel derived from crops.

The biofuel using Honeywell's biofuel last November, at an 85 percent petroleum/15 percent biofuel level, on a regular passenger service between Mexico City and San Jose, Costa Rica, one of the first uses of renewable fuels in everyday airline service.

UK court orders block on Pirate Bay file site

London, 1 May—Britain’s High Court has ruled five of the country’s Internet service providers must block the file-sharing site The Pirate Bay for copyright violations.

The British Phonographic Industry, Britain’s music industry trade group, said that under the court’s order ISPs’s Sky, Everything Everywhere, TalkTalk, O2, and Virgin Media must block the Web site within the next few weeks, PM Magazine reported on Monday.

In July, BPI demanded the Pirate Bay stop infringing on its members’ content, but got no response. When ISPs refused BPI’s request to act voluntarily, BPI asked the court in December to require blocking.

In February, court decided The Pirate Bay violates copyright regulations, saying the site goes “far beyond merely enabling or assisting.”

This week’s ruling goes one step further by actually requiring ISPs to block The Pirate Bay.

The Web site had not yet responded to the ruling on its blog or Facebook page, although after the February the site argued the High Court was corrupt and “technically uneducated.” —Internet

Social networking dominates cellphone use

San Francisco, 1 May—Social networking has risen to rival gaming as an app category dominating users’ cellphone minutes, a US research company says. Mobile analytics firm Flurry, measuring the average time smartphone users spent across app categories in the last year, found gaming dropped by 4 percent — down to 24 minutes per day — while social networking increased by 60 percent — up to 24 minutes per day, Matopad.com reported.

Games have long dominated smartphone minute use, but that is changing, Flurry found.

“The most significant trend is that for the first time in the history of applications … another app category is rivaling games,” Peter Farago, vice president of marketing at Flurry, said.

“We take the rise in social networking apps as a signal of maturation for the platform,” he said.

As game demand may be hitting its peak, social gamers are now discovering other apps — namely social networking.

Social networking has also surpassed gaming in terms of advertising revenue in apps, Farago said.

“This is the first time in Flurry’s history that any category has surpassed gaming,” he said, noting Flurry has been tracking that number since 2008. —Internet

Tests of aviation jet biofuel to start

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Meshing medical records to telemedicine

Washington, 1 May—Full integration of telemedicine is an essential element in the meaningful use of computerized medical records, US officials say.

Jonathan Linkous, chief executive officer of the American Telemedicine Association, said electronic medical records and related health information technologies should be rapidly developed and payer administrative efficiencies. More importantly, electronic medical records are a vehicle for improving healthcare quality, increasing access and reducing costs, Linkous said.

“Electronic records and information technology systems mean little to the healthcare consumer if they aren’t integrated into the delivery of actual patient services,” Linkous said in a statement. “The government has its own definition, but for patients, ‘meaningful use’ means telemedicine.”

A survey of healthcare consumers by Forrester Research found 55 percent wanted to communicate with their doctors by e-mail, while 68 percent were interested in remote monitoring devices that allow self-monitoring of their condition and electronic reporting of results to their physician, Linkous said. —Internet

A twitter logo is seen on a cell phone screen in Tehran, Iran on 23 June, 2009. —Internet

A screenshot of the Twitter home page is shown. —Internet
Euro zone inflation cools but ECB seen holding rates

BRUSSELS, 1 May—Inflation pressures in the euro zone eased slightly in April from March but were still above expectations, giving the European Central Bank little room to lower interest rates to help revive economic growth across the continent.

Consumer price inflation in the 17 nations sharing the euro moderated to 2.6 percent year-on-year in April from 2.7 percent in March, the EU’s statistics office Eurostat said on Monday. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast inflation of 2.5 percent.

Euro zone leaders are rallying to a call by ECB President Mario Draghi to reignite the bloc’s economy with policies that focus on growth—not just debt and deficit reduction—as the euro zone heads into its second recession in just three years.

But the ECB’s strong focus on containing inflation at a time of high world oil prices means politicians cannot expect a rate cut to lower the cost of borrowing any time soon. While inflation is below last year’s peak of 3 percent, economists and the ECB had expected prices to fall steadily as the economy stumbles and to offer some relief to households at a time of rising unemployment and sharp spending cuts.

But the rate of consumer price inflation rose in March from February and is now only back at February’s level, according to Eurostat, driven up by persistent worries of a crude oil price supply disruption in the Middle East. The ECB meets on Thursday for its May rate decision and economists overwhelmingly predict a rate freeze until at least the end of this year, according to a Reuters poll.

“We do not expect a significant decision on rates or operations (on Thursday), with the key rate to remain at 1 percent,” Barclays Capital said in a note to clients. — Reuters

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A sculpture showing the Euro currency sign is seen in front of the European Central Bank (ECB) headquarters in Frankfurt on 29 February, 2012.— Reuters

Euro zone inflation cools but ECB seen holding rates

Scientists find new developments to treat heart diseases

SINGAPORE, 1 May—Scientists at Singapore’s Institute of Medical Biology (IMB) have made a discovery that could lead to the development of new treatments for heart diseases.

They discovered that they can dramatically increase the life span of mice with progeria premature ageing disease and heart disease caused by Emery-DeFries muscular dystrophy by reducing levels of a protein called SUN1.

The IMB, which is a biomedical sciences institute of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), worked with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in the United States and the Institute of Cellular and System Medicine in Taipei.

A*STAR said on Monday that their findings provide an exciting lead into developing new methods to treat premature ageing and heart disease.

The findings were published in the prestigious scientific journal, Cell, on 27 April 2012.

Children with progeria suffer symptoms of premature ageing and mostly die in their early teens from either heart attack or stroke.

Individuals with Emery-DeFries muscular dystrophy (AD-EDMD) suffer from muscle wasting and cardiomyopathy, a type of heart disease that weakens and enlarges the heart muscle making it harder for the heart to pump blood and deliver it to the rest of the body leading to heart failure.

Both diseases are caused by mutations in Lamin A, a protein in the membrane surrounding a cell’s nucleus which provides mechanical support to the nucleus. SUN1 is also found in the inner nuclear membrane, but there have been no previous studies to show how SUN1 interacts with the Lamin proteins.

The scientists wanted to investigate if SUN1 had any involvement in diseases caused by mutations in Lamin A, so they inactivated SUN1 in mouse models developed for progeria and AD-EDMD.

These mouse models for progeria and AD-EDMD usually drive poorly and have markedly short life spans. The mouse models for progeria die from premature ageing and while those for AD-EDMD die of heart failure.

The scientists inactivated SUN1 and reduced SUN1 levels in these mouse models and found that the life spans of the mouse models for progeria doubled while that of AD-EDMD tripled.

Principle Investigator at IMB, Professor Colin Stewart, said the heart muscle of the mice was restored to near-normal function.

He said cardiac function improved when the levels of SUN1 were reduced.

“This opens up a possibility that from these observations, reduction in SUN1 may be therapeutic use for other forms of heart disease. We are very excited about this discovery and look forward to further pursuing this lead which could potentially lead to development of new treatments for heart diseases,” he said.

Korea April inflation eases to 2.5%

SEOUL, 1 May—South Korea’s inflation eased in April, staying well within a 2-3 percent range for a second straight month, official figures showed on Tuesday. The consumer price index was up 2.5 percent from a year earlier, falling from March’s 2.6 percent gain, Statistics Korea said. Month-on-month the index was unchanged in April compared with a 0.1 percent fall in the preceding month.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile energy and food prices, rose 1.6 percent year-on-year and 0.1 percent month-on-month, according to the report. The government and central bank forecast full-year inflation at 3.2 percent.—Internet

IRVINE, (Calif), 1 May—CarMD.com Corporation announced today that its popular CarMD Vehicle Health System™ consumer automotive product is now available to the US Hispanic community. In an effort to provide better service to Hispanics, the company is providing detailed information about the product in Spanish via television infomercials and a dedicated Spanish language website, as well as sales and support in Spanish.

CarMD taps the same technology used by professional automotive technicians, but no automotive experience is needed to use it. Just plug the device into a vehicle’s onboard diagnostic port (don’t worry, CarMD.com will show you where it is on your car) and CarMD does the rest.

The device is ideal for uncovering hidden car problems, inspecting used cars, identifying problems that have a negative impact on fuel economy, and diagnosing “check engine” light issues without needing to pop the hood or get dirty. It includes lifetime software and firmware updates and free access to CarMD’s award-winning database to generate personalized Vehicle Health Reports, which can reduce repair bills. These reports also reveal if your car has safety issues or recalls. When repairs are required, CarMD tells you what’s wrong and what it will take to fix it, including parts and labor costs in your region, so you don’t overspend for repairs or waste time using the wrong part on a problem car.

CarMD debuts its Popular Vehicle Health System™ in the US Hispanic Community

The CarMD Vehicle Health System includes everything to monitor a car’s health: an easy-to-use handheld device, Mac/PC software, USB cable, two AAA batteries, storage case, and lifetime software and firmware updates.—INTERNET

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Both diseases are caused by mutations in Lamin A, a protein in the membrane surrounding a cell’s nucleus which provides mechanical support to the nucleus. SUN1 is found in the inner nuclear membrane, but there have been no previous studies to show how SUN1 interacts with the Lamin proteins.

The scientists wanted to investigate if SUN1 had any involvement in diseases caused by mutations in Lamin A, so they inactivated SUN1 in mouse models developed for progeria and AD-EDMD.

These mouse models for progeria and AD-EDMD usually drive poorly and have markedly short life spans. The mouse models for progeria die from premature ageing and while those for AD-EDMD die of heart failure.

The scientists inactivated SUN1 and reduced SUN1 levels in these mouse models and found that the life spans of the mouse models for progeria doubled while that of AD-EDMD tripled.

Principle Investigator at IMB, Professor Colin Stewart, said the heart muscle of the mice was restored to near-normal function.

He said cardiac function improved when the levels of SUN1 were reduced.

“This opens up a possibility that from these observations, reduction in SUN1 may be therapeutic use for other forms of heart disease. We are very excited about this discovery and look forward to further pursuing this lead which could potentially lead to development of new treatments for heart diseases,” he said.
Van plunges more than 50 feet from highway near Bronco Zoo, killing seven, police say

New York, May 1 — A van crashed off an elevated portion of New York’s Bronx River Parkway on Sunday afternoon, killing at least 7 people, and injuring 50 more. Police said the crash occurred just 50 feet before landing in a horrific crash that left seven people dead. Multiple news outlets reported. The accident, near the Bronco Zoo, happened at about 12:30 p.m. local time, authorities said. It’s not clear what caused the crash.

According to the Associated Press, the van was headed south when it bounced off the median, crossed all southbound lanes over the guardrail. The vehicle ‘‘flipped off of a ramp into a transit facility near the Bronco Zoo,’’ CNN reported. According to NBC’s New York affiliate, it was a rail track. It was not clear whether all seven of the victims were travelling in the van at the time of the crash.

According to the news service, three of the victims were children.

Dewey’s lawyer, Robert Rider, said he had seen a memo related to the case, but couldn’t be reached for comment.

Under Colorado law, a person convicted of first-degree murder is automatically sentenced to life in prison for all victims dead, multiple news outlets reported. The victim was found on the victim did not match Dewey at the time of his conviction hearing in his case, scheduled to appear before a judge in May. John Suthers, who lauded it as a step after the case, said the reports said. The defense attorney disputed the prosecution’s contention that the blood matched Taylor, but the lawyer said.

Dancers of the Moscow State Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Music Theatre’s Ballet rehearse ballet Romeo and Juliet at Tianjin Grand Theatre on Sunday, marking the opening of the new theatre.

Two teen girls sunbathing on Pa road struck by car

Blair, May 1 — Police say two teenage girls who fell asleep while sunbathing on a rural Pennsylvania road have been struck by a car. The Beaver County Police Department tells WTAE-TV that 13-year-olds Samantha Schenman and Kaylie George were hit by the vehicle on Sunday afternoon.

Two of Samantha’s cousins tell the state that their 19-year-old brother had stopped at a stop sign and made a turn before striking the girls with his car.

“Nicole and Nicholas Beck say the girls were conscious and told them that they had fallen asleep while sunbathing. The cousins say their brother was questioned by police after the crash. The girls were treated at a hospital. Officials with the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh tell the state that the girls are in fair condition Sunday night.”

New DNA testing may free convicted Colorado killer

Project, a programme established in 2009 with a $1.2 million federal government grant that allows convicted felons to apply for DNA testing in their cases.

The programme is administered by the office of Colorado Attorney General John Suthers, who loaded in as a way for advanced DNA techniques to affirm convictions or clear the innocent. A spokesman for Suthers referred questions about the Dewey case to the Mesa County District Attorney’s Office, which couldn’t be reached for comment over the weekend.

Dewey has maintained his innocence throughout the case. Questions arose during his trial about whether blood on his shirt belonged to the victim, according to local news accounts. A defence expert disputed the prosecution’s contention that the blood matched Taylor, but the lawyer said.

As of early Sunday evening, no arrests had been made and the alert remained in effect. Campus police were continuing to investigate. The school initially posted a crime alert on its website Sunday that said there have been reports of someone on campus armed with a weapon last seen in the housing area. The alert went on to advise the university community to “remain inside until further notice.”

Mom’s stress during pregnancy can affect baby’s iron status

WASHINGTON, May 1 — Newborns whose mothers are under stress during the first trimester of pregnancy may be at risk for low iron status, which could lead to physical and mental delays down the road, according to a study presented on Sunday at the Pediatric Academic Societies annual meeting in Boston. Iron plays an important role in the development of organ systems, especially the brain. Well-known risk factors for poor iron status in infants are maternal iron deficiency, maternal diabetes, smoking during pregnancy, preterm birth, low birthweight and multiple pregnancy.

This study, conducted by researchers from Ashkelon Academic College and Barzilai Medical Centre in Israel and the University of Michigan, is the first in humans to suggest that maternal stress early in pregnancy is another risk factor for low iron status in newborns. Researchers recruited pregnant women who were about to give birth at Barzilai Medical Centre. The first group of women (stress group) lived in an area where there were more than 600 rocket attacks during their first trimester of pregnancy. The control group lived in the same area and became pregnant three to four months after the rocket attacks ended.

Women were questioned briefly at the delivery room reception desk to determine whether they were healthy and without pregnancy complications. Eligible women who agreed to participate in the study were interviewed one or two days after delivery about their background and health during pregnancy. They also filled out questionnaires about depression and anxiety, and rated their stress level during pregnancy. Cord blood was collected from newborns, and serum ferritin (iron stores) concentrations were measured. Results showed that the 63 babies whose mothers were in the stress group had significantly lower cord-blood ferritin concentrations than the 77 infants in the control group.

S Ala campus locked down after armed robbery

Mobile, May 1 — The University of South Alabama locked down its campus for several hours on Sunday following an armed robbery in a college dormitory, but officials say no one was hurt.

University spokesman Keith Ayers said Sunday evening that the Mobile Police had issued a crime alert to students at about 3:30 p.m. CDT.

The school used loud speakers, emailed and dialed-in phone system to advise students to seek shelter and stay indoors. As an act of campus lockdown, Ayers said. Ayers said officials issued the alert after receiving a report that two armed male suspects robbed students in campus housing. Campus police were “working the case right now,” Ayers said.

“Was an armed robbery on campus...No one was hurt,” Ayers said. Ayers said he was not aware of any shots having been fired.

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Hiker survives 4 days in Utah desert without food

CEDAR CITY, May 1 — A hiker who endured four days with a broken leg and no food and shelter in the remote southwestern Utah desert says her faith and medical background helped her pull through the ordeal. Victoria Grover, 59, a physician assistant from Wadne, Maine, was recovering in a Utah hospital after being rescued Saturday in a rugged section of Dixie National Forest, north of the town of Escalante. Grover set out on a short day hike on Tuesday from Hell’s Backbone Road, and broke her leg on a dangerous hike while jumping off a 4-foot ledge about two miles from the trailhead. Shebled up along a creek at an elevation of about 4,500 feet. “It preyed a lot and allowed comfort from it,” the Mormon church member told reporters on Sunday. “I thought God would do everything possible to help me overcome my stupidity. I learned from my mother that things can always be worse,” Grover said while she experienced hunger and severe pain, the worst part of the ordeal was the horrible and freezing nighttime temperatures she confronted.

The veteran grandmother, enthusiastic survived by sleeping in shade during the day and staying awake while sleeping for several days. — Internet
Life begins at 60

Thanks to ever advancing science and technology, modern medicine can now cure diseases that were incurable in the past and prevent infections that were once preventable offering longer, healthier and happier lives for humans of this planet we call Earth. Men and women live longer than ever enjoying happier and better lives, and the population of senior citizens soaring in many countries around the world signaling a growing responsibility and problem for services like old-age care and social services for the aged especially for the poor.

A balanced diet and lifestyle will help healthy aging.

In safe hands

We all know that no old man can become a young man again and that we cannot beat aging as we are growing older and older, second by second, minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day, month by month and year after year. In fact, aging concerns with every one male or female, rich or poor or in East or West. Fortunately, most of older people in our country are safe and sound under the close protection and care of their own grown-up children, which is one of the wonderful and cherished traditional values of Myanmar people. Normally, a son or a daughter will take care of his or her parents at home while other siblings provide other necessary assistance for them, or all the children will take care of their parents at their homes in turn.

As long as this wonderful and admirable tradition lives grandpas and grandmas of our country will be in safe hands. And there are homes for the aged providing accommodations especially for older people with no one to support and charities offering help for them.

Time lets no man escape old age. Every young man full of strength will become old one day. Later, he will become feeble while his resistance power dwindles inviting sickness in various forms till death comes knocking at his door. This was what Siddhartha realized over 2500 years ago and later discovered the path to Nirvana. But, remember, he was Bodhisatta. As for the ordinary people like us, we should first find the ways that help us live longer and healthier. In fact, a well-balanced diet and a healthy lifestyle have become the essential part when we grow older. Accordingly, we need to switch to a healthier lifestyle sooner.

Healthy aging

But at which age we can call a person old? This depends on his physical and metal health. Some work till 80 or even more. The retired age for government service is 60. But many follow active life after retirement. And some even join the private sector in addition to concentrating more on religion. Now there is another area, the political sector, from which we can serve the national interest effectively by applying our rich experiences and wider knowledge for the good of Myanmar citizens. Especially, the literary world has many grandpas and grandmas still active and strong in serving their own people through the might of pen.

The important thing here is that we need to stay healthy however old we are. Especially when we reach 50, we must be aware of our own health as we are nearing old age. But we are not an elderly citizen yet and we don’t need to surrender all the secular values. The only thing we need is to take special care of our own health and fitness. So we must adopt a balanced and a healthy lifestyle quitting all habits that are hazardous to our health. So, we can normally say 60 is the age we start entering the life of an elderly person or the beginning of a new life through healthy aging.

A balanced diet and lifestyle will help healthy aging.

So, prepare yourselves to begin your life at 60, or if you have already reached the age, you must be sure that you are aging healthily and happily with your future still bright and hopeful. There is no surrender.
Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar...

(from page 1)

Most of world’s nations are making efforts to enable their citizens to be able to access comprehensive social protection benefits. Similarly, the Government of the Republic of Myanmar is striving for ensuring comprehensive social protection benefits. It is needed for all concerned to actively participate in utilizing human resources, financial resources, and natural resources of the nation effectively, establishing an administrative system to ensure transparency. It is required to take measures on supervision of the government, employer and employee.

nation effectively, establishing an administrative system to ensure transparency. It is required to take measures on supervision of the government, employer and employee.

poverty reduction programmes undertaking at present are implementing the social protection. Creating employment opportunities is the most fundamental requirement for the poverty reduction and national for the improvement of knowledge and professional qualification of workforce and it is being planned for the free flow of skilled labours in local and in foreign countries.

The initiation of the identification of skill standards, apart from that, training, opening the skill testing centre, and issuing the skill recognition certificates are implementing as long term vision for having the decent wages and rights of workers according to their skill.

In doing so, it will need to enact a law for the systematic implementation. That’s why, Employment and Skill Development Law (draft) is being written.

The Government is striving for having sustainable business models, economic markets, and for enjoying more social protection and social security of the whole public including workers in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. I would like to conclude by saying that let us work together with all workers, employers and the nation collectively.

After that, Union Minister for Labour U Myint Thein awarded U Than Naing Oo of A & T Bakery Factory, U Hla Moe of No. 2 General Heavy Industries and U Saw Win Htway of No. 1 General Heavy Industries.

ILLO Liaison Officer Mr Steve Marshall awarded U Aung Myaing Do of Shwe Myint Slipper Factory, Daw Khing Pa Pa Soe and Daw Win Thanda Tun of Glorious Family Rattan Furniture Factory and U Sein Myint of No. 1 General Heavy Industries. After that, the ceremony came to an end.

At present, good opportunities such as employment creation, individual income generation, skill development and receiving advanced technologies have development. It is needed to ensure that every job hunter can be employed for the suitable places. It will be needed not only to employ the urban job seekers but also to create the job opportunities for the surplus workforce from the agricultural sector.

The Government will encourage the establishment of new businesses and the employment creation for rural job seekers and for the graduates. Therefore, the Government permits the extension of economic zones, industrial zones, industrial areas, factories and establishments to create and emerge more employment opportunities.

The Government carries out for having more employment opportunities as well as it being implemented.
Coord meeting for Kaladan transportation project held

YANGON, 1 May—A coordination meeting for Kaladan River Course Multipurpose Transportation Project was held at Myanmar Port Authority (Head Office) on 29 April, with an address by Union Minister for Transport U Win Myint. He urged ministries concerned to fulfill their quota in implementing the project which he said is shaping Myanmar-India friendship.

The Union Minister called for taking initiatives, rather than following old-fashioned methods.

Deputy Minister U Naing Shin demanded the urgent implementation of road works from Paletwa to India-Myanmar border by Public Works. He also urged representatives of the ministries concerned to continue each work only when environmental impact assess and social impact assess approved it.

The Union Minister called for cooperation of the reps of the ministries for cent per cent success of the project.

Artesian well, home for the aged opened in Chauk Township

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—Magway Region Development Affairs Minister U Nat Shin, Director of Region Development Affairs Committee U Maung Maung Aung, Deputy Commissioner of Magway District General Administration Department U Min Aye Lwin formally opened artesian well, implemented by Chauk Township DAC, in Gwebin Village in Chauk Township yesterday morning.

Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe formally opened the signboard of the well and sprinkled the new well with scented water. He viewed distribution of water to villagers.

The well implemented since 4-3-2012 and completed on 25-4-2012 was built with township DAC’s fund of 38.475 million. It has the depth of 1250 ft and can distribute water to 702 houses in six villages of Gwebin village tract.

The Region Chief Minister met local people and students in Nyaungzin and Myitkyina villages in Chauk Township. He also visited construction site of 16-bed Station Hospital in Hsawaw Village.

UNSG and party conclude visit

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun called for cooperation for development of private insurance companies as Insurance Business Supervisory Board had been formed at the seminar for adopting policies for Myanma Insurance and privatization of insurance services held at Myanma Insurance Head Office yesterday afternoon.

He also assured that participation of private sector in insurance service would bring the good to the people.

The Union Minister inspected the Insurance Business Supervisory Board Office.

The meeting was also attended by Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein, the director-general of Customs Department under the ministry, officials concerned and staff of Myanma Insurance.

Union F&R Minister calls for cooperation for development of insurance companies

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—Minister for Transport U Win Shein demanded the following old-fashioned initiatives, rather than called for taking environmental and social impact assess and making plans for development of border areas.

The deputy minister met the third Regular Bilateral Consultation at Serbian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Belgrade on 25 April.

The deputy minister explained recent development of Myanmar and promised to enhance the cooperation in the UN and Non-Aligned Movement.

Armed groups realize gov’t goodwill, return to legal fold

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—While the government is narrowing the space for illegal drug trade in all directions and making strenuous efforts for development of border areas, armed groups in Shan State returned to legal fold as they realized the genuine goodwill of the State.

Out of splinter groups separated from fugitive Sai Naw Kham’s drug cartel which masterminded piracy, abduction, illegal drug trade and subversive acts along Mekong River Course in Tachilek Township in Shan State (East) and were evading capture, eight-member group led by Aik Tun on 23 April, 12-member group led by Lawson on 27 April and 13-member group led by Tun Soe with four weapons, 178 bullets, eight magazines, three grenades and one walkie-talkie returned to legal fold after establishing contact with the military camp of Tachilek Station. Officials of the local station warmly welcomed them like the groups which returned to legal fold earlier and making plans for providing assistance for their social security and rehabilitation.
Agricultural loans disbursed in Wetlet Township

WETLET, 1 May—A ceremony to provide agricultural loans to members of Theingi U Association of Myindaw Village of Wetlet Township in Shwebo District was held at the hall of the association on 3 April. Village administrator U Aung Win and Chairman of the association U Aung Moung made speeches.

Moung made speeches.

Higher fish flow declines price in market

YANGON, 1 May—As the inflow of fish raised at the domestic fish market, high price of fish in Maha Thingyan period gradually declined. At the regular meeting on 14/2012 with entreprenuers of meat and fish sector, an official of Myanmar Fish Breeding Entrepreneurs Association explained that the root course of hiking prices of fish was not based on shortage of fish, and it was based on lack of fishing during the Maha Thingyan period.

"Larger number of fish flows into Central Sanpya Fish Market. A total of 40 trawlers and cars transport fish to the market. In the past, about 30 cars and trawlers carried fish to the market," he said. In the market, flow of small sized fish was highest and larger sized ones, lesser.—Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)

Basic fire fighting course opens

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—The basic fire fighting course 1/2012 was opened at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 25 April morning. The ceremony was attended by member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myo Nyunt, Assistant Director of District Fire Services Department U Win Myint, Township Administrator U Win Maw, departmental officials, ward and village administrators, members of social organizations and trainees.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myo Nyunt made a speech and presented 50 sets of uniforms to members of the Auxiliary Fire Brigade.

Undisciplined vehicles fined in Myawady

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—Under the leadership of Chairperson of Myawady Township Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Myo Swe, members of All Private Bus-line Control Committee and members of Auxiliary Fire Brigade led by Sip Win Win Tun, in-charge of the traffic police force, made checks to undisciplined vehicles and motorcycles on Friendship Bridge of Bayinnaung Road in Myawady on 26 April. The team seized seven undisciplined vehicles and fined drivers at the court. Later, they gave educative talks to them.—Kyemon

Unreasoned habits raised in Shwepyitha Township

Chairperson of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Soe Moe and party, Ward administrator U Kan Myint and party presented books and foodstuff to members of the reading session. —Myanmar Alin

MLF invites cash, book donations

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botataung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398758.

Lichee of Thandaung Township marketable

YEDASHI, 1 May—Fleshy and sweet lichee are put on sales along roadsides of Toungoo and Yedashie townships, bus terminals and busy places in Thandaung Township of Kayin State.

The lichee plants are thriving on hilly regions of Thandaung Township. Although the price of fruit was high, it was marketable among sellers and buyers.

“A bunch of lichee fruit was sold at K 1800 per viss on hilly region, but K 2500 per viss depending on transportation charge," a woman shopkeeper in an interview.

The shopkeepers packed the fruit with the use of leaves. A bunch of lichee fruit is sold at K 1000 per packet. Highway passengers and families buy the fruit for gifts.—Kyemon

Squall destroys BEHS branch in Belin Village of Singaing

SINGAING, 1 May—A squall fell in Singaing Township at 1.35 pm on 27 April. In the squall, Basic Education High School Branch in Belin Village of Singaing Township was destroyed, according to Headmistress Daw Kyi Kyi Win.

The squall destroyed one library, two classrooms, one media room, one bicycle stand and gate. Moreover, the school lost five chest boards and school furniture including desks.

Likewise, some houses were destroyed in the squall, and there was no casualty in squall.—Myanma Alin

Reading habit raised in Shwepyitha Township

YANGON, 1 May—With the aim of ensuring durability of the library and raising reading habit, the roundtable reading session for women was held at Community Learning Centre in Ward 6 of Shwepyitha Township on 18 April morning.
Shanghai Disneyland to take on local flavour

**Beijing, 1 May**—Work on the highly anticipated Shanghai Disney Resort is speeding ahead as preparations on the groundwork have already been completed. Construction of the infrastructure is set to start soon. Construction of what’s set to become a world-class family attraction in Shanghai Disneyland is likely to take some of the local flavour.

Chinese elements are being incorporated in the overall design, including events, food, and souvenirs. Covering nearly 1.2 square kilometres, the theme park will be the world’s sixth Disney amusement park and the first on the Chinese mainland. It is expected to open by the end of 2015.

Actor play cartoon figures at the opening of the 2012 China International Cartoon and Animation Festival (CICAF) in Hangzhou, drawing participants from 61 countries and regions. —Xinhua

**British tea scion hopes India will embrace the bag**

**New Delhi, 1 May**—Stephen HB Twinning, the 10th-generation descendant of the Twinnings tea-making family, is an unpickable brand ambassador. “My usual daily intake is about 15 cups, so I’m a little ahead of myself, but tea drinking is a huge passion with me,” says Twinning, who enjoys a light infusion of green tea each day. The British is aiming at the upper end of the market by packaging each teabag in an air-tight individual envelope to keep the tea fresh for months. At Rs600 (US$11.40) for a box of 100 bags, the price of one teabag is roughly equal to that of a freshly-made street-side cup of “chai” served in a small earthenware pot or plastic cup and often spiced with cardamom or ginger.

“People are being educated to think of tea as a lifestyle product, not just a drink to serve with ‘cheap street food’,” Twinning says.

**TransCanada profit falls; eyes new oil pipeline**

**Calgary, 1 May**—TransCanada Corp reported a 14 percent drop in quarterly profit on Friday as higher variable costs and operational measures to deal with pressures on its Canadian gas mainline after an unusually warm winter slashed demand for the fuel, cutting volume on the system to less than half its roughly 6 billion cubic foot a day capacity.

The measures include studying the possibility of taking one of the pipelines on the 14,101 km (8,762 mile) system and changing it into an oil pipeline to transport crude to refineries in Eastern Canada, which now pay a premium for imported crude, Girling said.

TransCanada, which decided recently to chop its Canada-Texas Keystone XL oil pipeline into two pieces to get the controversial new project started, said that the new alternative is a bid to make its transit services more competitive by allowing the refiners that import crude oil today in Canada are the refiners that are inquiring,” he told reporters after the company’s annual meeting.

“However, depending on a new-build pipeline, but certainly there’s nothing excluded from the analysis at the current time,” he told reporters after the company’s annual meeting.

“However, depending on a new-build pipeline, but certainly there’s nothing excluded from the analysis at the current time,” he said.

**Calif sanctuary say killer elephant still welcome**

**Los Angeles, 1 May** — The owner of a California sanctuary says an African elephant is still welcome after killing the zookeeper who was trying to move it from New Zealand. 

Pat Derby’s Performing Animal Welfare Society in San Andreas was going to be home to the elephant now called Mila but known as Jumbo for 30 years in a circus.

Derby said Thursday there may be ownership problems. Mila had been at the Franklin Zoo near Auckland while zoo owner Helen Schofield worked to place her. 

Derby says she and Schofield had been working on the move for two years. Schofield was training Mila how to live in a crate during the trip. 

She told Derby a month ago it was going well. Schofield was rushed to death Wednesday when Mila picked her up in its trunk and lifted her off ground.

African elephants can be huge and strong. The 6,800-pound mila bolted loose after beavers released a pressure valve in a pipeline. 

Hot air balloons rise during the Torres Ballooning Festival in Torres, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, on 28 April, 2012. 54 countries and regions are participating in the annual festival. — Xinhua
INVITATION FOR TENDER (TENDER NO. 1 (T) MPE/LBO/1(1)/2012-2013)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of 2.78%10 Metric Tons Lube Base Oil & Additives.
2. Tender Closing Date: 17-5-2012 at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date: 7-5-2012 at (13:00) hrs.
4. Delivery Time: Within July/August 2012
5. Tender Documents and detailed information are available at the Department of Energy, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 3-5-2012 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

Dentist pulls out all of her ex-boyfriend’s teeth after split

VIENNA, May 1—If you’re planning a trip to the dentist, it might not be the wisest decision to make your appointment with investigated for medical malpractice.—

indents or something,” he said. Mackowiak is currently being his new girlfriend has already left him over his now toothless she was a professional.” Adding to his trauma, Olszewski said protect the gums, but that I would need to see a specialist,” he to feel anything for a while and that the bandage was there to one at a time. “I knew something was wrong because when I woke up I couldn’t feel any teeth and my jaw was strapped up with bandages,” Olszewski said.

“She told me my mouth was numb and I wouldn’t be able to feel anything for a while and that the bandage was there to protect the gums, but that I would need to see a specialist,” he said. “I didn’t have any reason to doubt her, I mean I thought she was a professional.” Adding to his trauma, Olszewski said his new girlfriend has already left him over his now toothless appearance. “And I’m going to have to pay for a funeral on getting inside or something,” he said. Mackowiak is currently being investigated for medical malpractice.—

New York, May 1—A young US woman who allegedly bit her bulldog during a drunken argument with her mother was charged with animal cruelty and domestic battery. —

New Zealand gas research to help farmers’

Scientists have long accepted that gas from farm animals is a major factor in climate change, but how do you stop cattle and sheep from doing what comes naturally? That’s the question consuming researchers in New Zealand who hope that by measuring every belch and blat of their sheepy subjects, they can come up with a solution. Researcher Peter Janssen says the project, in which the animals are kept in perspex boxes so that their emissions can be measured, has the potential to make a real difference in the fight against global warming. “The renewed emphasis on climate change, plus new technologies, have given us the potential to do something that wasn’t possible before,” said Janssen, who is working on a vaccine to stop livestock producing methane. Global livestock numbers and emissions are driven up further by increased demand, particularly for beef and dairy products as a result of human population growth, leading to increases in emission levels. The UN estimates 18 percent of the global greenhouse gas emissions blamed for climate change come from livestock. But the figure is even higher in New Zealand, where about 35 million sheep and eight million cows account for half the greenhouse gas emissions in an economy heavily reliant on primary industry. In a nation which prides itself on its “clean, green” image, New Zealand is keen to minimise the greenhouse gas problem and has established a $41 million programme aimed at curbing agricultural emissions.—

Man arrested for bomb threat hoax at Shanghai airport

SHANGHAI, May 1 — A man who allegedly made a hoax bomb threat at Shanghai Pudong International Airport last Friday was captured in the southwestern Sichuan Province Sunday, local authorities confirmed on Monday.

The airport received an anonymous phone call at 3:36 pm on last Friday saying that a bomb was onboard flight CA969, according to the local police.

Police evacuated the passenger terminal to the plane and later discovered the threat was a hoax and there was no explosive device. The flight, scheduled to take off at 6:30 pm, took off at 1:23 pm after a 9-hour delay on Saturday.

The Shanghai police launched an investigation into the case and eventually detained the suspect, surnamed Pu, in the city of Guanyuan in Sichuan Province Sunday night. Pu confessed he gave false information so as to extort some money, the police said.

In this unrelated photo, a patient receives dental treatment.—INTERNET

Tornado injures four in S China

BEIJING, May 1 — Government-led emergency relief efforts are helping a city in Guangdong Province that was hit by a tornado rise from the rubble. A tornado struck Jiangmen on Saturday, injuring four people and damaging more than 100 factories. Twenty-two workshops collapsed, but no deaths have been reported. Two people were injured and one person complained of an ear injury and was being treated on Monday. Large amounts of fuel worth hundreds of thousands of yuan from Donguan industrial town was buried under one of the damaged buildings. Anxious to move the fuel to a safe place, the company asked district officials for help on Sunday. More than 20 employees arrived on Monday afternoon to help remove the fuel but were turned away, said a company saleswoman. The fuel workers displaced by the damage have been given a temporary place to live in Qianjiang village, which is located near the Fengshan Island. “A few have children with them. The factories helped them find other places to stay. On Sunday night, only a dozen stayed in the village, and by Monday all had left,” said Li Bingxiang, the village head.

http://www.china.org.cn/china/2012/bulletin/2012-05/03/content_26807747.htm/

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http://www.china.org.cn/china/2012/bulletin/2012-05/03/content_26807747.htm

In China, a man has been arrested for making a bomb threat at a Shanghai airport. The authorities are investigating the incident. The airport received an anonymous phone call saying there was a bomb on board Flight CA969, which was scheduled to take off at 6:30 pm. The flight was delayed for 9 hours and took off at 1:23 pm. The police confirmed that the threat was a hoax and detained the suspect, who is a 19-year-old student. The suspect confessed to giving false information to extort some money. The police said he had no prior criminal record.

http://www.china.org.cn/china/2012/bulletin/2012-05/03/content_26807747.htm

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In addition, a young US woman who allegedly bit her bulldog during a drunken argument with her mother was charged with animal cruelty and domestic battery. The woman was charged after police received a report that she had bit her bulldog, which led to the dog being charged with animal cruelty and domestic battery. The woman was released on $3,000 bond.

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In Canada, a young woman who allegedly bit her bulldog during a drunken argument with her mother was charged with animal cruelty and domestic battery. The woman was charged after police received a report that she had bit her bulldog, which led to the dog being charged with animal cruelty and domestic battery. The woman was released on $3,000 bond.

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http://www.china.org.cn/china/2012/bulletin/2012-05/03/content_26807747.htm
George Clooney needs to recover
from his bocce ball mishap.

Fox walks off with boules balls

A French boules player whose balls kept disappearing from his private pitch said an infrared camera identified the thief—a local fox.

Patrice Cazes, an amateur player of petanque, a form of the bocce-like sport boules, said 38 balls disappeared from his private pitch in the southern village of Pibrac between February and March, The Local. It reported Monday.

Newspaper.

New York police said they are searching for a police bicycle swept from a store area while an officer was inside.

The bicycle, which was clearly marked with the letters NYPD, was taken from outside the Furniture Outlet II in Bayside while the officer was inside talking to owner Tommy Kwan around 3 pm Thursday, The New York Post reported on Friday. Kwan said the bicycle was not locked.

"When he went to leave, the bike was gone," Kwan said. "He asked if there were surveillance cameras, but we don’t have any." The officer put out a call for backup and police searched the area but were unable to spot the bicycle.

‘Cancer’ turns out to be fruit seed

A Florida woman got some good news when she learned a dark spot on her lung was a seed that had been lodged there for almost 30 years. Blanca Rivera, 62, of Seminole Heights, was convinced she had lung cancer, WTSF-TV in St Petersburg reported. Rivera said her daughter Melody, who lives in Cuba, reminded her on the telephone she had inhaled a seed from a fruit called rispero in 1984. Rivera’s doctors said she believed the seed would still be there after all that time. But she discovered the truth while sitting in a traffic jam when she had a bad coughing fit and the rispero seed came out. The seed also explains why she has suffered from a bad cough for decades that doctors diagnosed as asthma or pneumonia. Rivera’s breathing has improved remarkably. "She’s even been able to blow up a balloon for my son. She has never had to do that," another daughter, Dayana Noda, said.

Man dies after bullet in head for 94 years

A California man who lived for 94 years and six months with a bullet in his head has died at the age of 103. William Lawlis Pace, who was certified as a Guinness World Record holder in 2006 when he had lived for 89 years with the bullet in his head, died on Monday at the Covenant Village retirement home in Turlock, The Modesto Bee reported on Friday.

Pace said in 2006 the bullet he had been accidentally shot by his brother, Marvin, in October 1917. He said doctors decided surgery would be too risky and left the bullet in place. Guinnevere Dacey, who is survived by two sons, had a final record of 94 years and six months with the bullet in his head.

HBO orders 2nd seasons of ‘Veep’, ‘Girls’

LOS ANGELES, I May—HBO has ordered second seasons of its new comedies “Girls” and “Veep,” The Hollywood Reporter said Monday. Both series, which premiered this month on the pay cable network to good reviews and healthy ratings, will return next year with 10-episode seasons, the entertainment industry trade newspaper said.

“Girls“ stars a cast of newcomers and is about young women navigating romance and careers in New York City. In “Veep,” Julia Louis-Dreyfus plays the vice president of the United States, struggling to find ways to make a difference—Internet

Dating co-stars is natural: Rachel Bilson

LOS ANGELES, I May—Rachel Bilson, known for her role in “Waiting For Forever,” says it’s natural for actors to date their co-stars. She too left her boyfriend of five years, Hayden Christensen, after they learned she had lung cancer.

"I've always wanted to make music "real****** dark," since her split from Russell Brand, has decided to become a wholesome country singer.

The ‘Firework’ hitmaker now wants to ditch her raunchy style and turn to country just like Patti Griffin.

"I've always wanted to make something like an acoustic record," the singer quoted her as saying.

"I've been in relationships with people who are not so good-looking any more," the Daily Mail quoted her as saying.

"Obviously it would have to be somebody very good-looking," he added.

I asked to say Mel Gibson should play me, but mom and dad got hitched followed by a big bash for them as well as ‘Mema and Grandpa’ as they call Brad’s father and mother.

The couple will share the occasion with the actor’s parents Bill and Jane who will mark their golden wedding anniversary on the same day.

The couple are expected to join the festivities at 35-room Chateau Miraval near the village of Correns in the south of France’s Aix-en-Provence winecountry, where producer Pitt’s parents and the source said, “She came up with the idea of making it a family celebration by merging Bill and Jane’s special day with theirs.

Brad’s family mean a lot to Angelina, especially since she lost her own mum Marcheline to ovarian cancer more than five years ago and spent years refusing to talk to her father,” the source added.

Katy Perry wants to move to country music

LONDON, I May—Katy Perry, who vowed to make her music “real****** dark,” since her split from Russell Brand, has decided to become a wholesome country singer.

The ‘Firework’ hitmaker now wants to ditch her raunchy style and turn to country just like Patti Griffin.

“Pattie Griffin's Flaming Red. I discovered it when I was in Nashville.

"I definitely want to do a Pattie Griffin-esque thing at some point. It's something that I'm really excited about because I know I can do it and I haven't really played that card yet,” she added.

Perry’s first album was influenced by the gospel music she grew up listening to, but country is new territory for her.

Peter Andre goes grey

LONDON, I May—Singer Peter Andre has discovered a batch of grey hair on his head at the age of 39, but has no plans to try and slow the ageing process by dying them.

"I can see a couple (of grey hairs) and it just cut them shorter! I'm happy to go full silver fox. The only thing that scares me is the in between stage,' contactmusic.com quoted him as saying.

The 39-year-old star admits using fake tan to enhance his looks, but wouldn’t allow his children - Junior, 6, and Princess Tiaamii, 4, with ex-wife Katie Price - to follow suit.

"Junior actually asked me if I could use some of my Fake Bake and I was like, ‘No, can’t! It’s like, “How I come you can use it and I can’t’? I was like, ‘That’s a good question, son!’ I said that he can decide on things like this when he’s an adult. ‘Princess asked I’d say ‘Absolutely not! When she’s old enough maybe she’ll be in a convent anyway, so she won’t need to worry about being brown,’ he said.

Rachel Bilson reports contactmusic.com.

She said: "Dating co-stars is natural. When you’re working with someone, it’s beautiful. Right now I’m intrigued to mysterious men. Every woman can relate to that, right? I’m quite mysterious. Rachel, who also dated her “OC” co-star Adam Brody for three years before they split in 2006, admits she doesn’t play by the rules when she is in a relationship.

Peter Andre is single again. We’ve never had a real relationship. If I feel right, go with it, love. Shouldn’t play by the rules as it’s all about chemistry.” —Internet

George Clooney will need Botox if he wants to play me, says Simon Cowell

LONDON, I May—Simon Cowell has said that George Clooney might be handsome enough to take the starring role in a film about him only if he had “a bit of Botox.”

The 52-year-old made the quip at the launch party for Tom Bower’s biography of him, which includes revelations of an affair with Dannii Minogue, a crunch on Cheryl Cole and his penchant for black louboutin.

“I used to say Mel Gibson should play me, but he is not so good-looking any more," the Daily Mail quoted him as saying.

“Obviously it would have to be somebody very good-looking,” he added.

"I would love the idea of seeing George Clooney if he wants to play me, says Simon Cowell.

Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie’s August wedding to be double celebration

London, 1 May—Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have finally fixed I 1 August as their wedding date and they are planning a double celebration.

The couple will share the occasion with the actor’s parents Bill and Jane who will mark their golden wedding anniversary on the same day.

The couple are expected to join the festivities at 35-room Chateau Miraval near the village of Correns in the south of France’s Aix-en-Provence winecountry, where producer Pitt’s parents and the source said, “She came up with the idea of making it a family celebration by merging Bill and Jane’s special day with theirs. Brad’s family mean a lot to Angelina, especially since she lost her own mum Marcheline to ovarian cancer more than five years ago and spent years refusing to talk to her father,” the source added.

**end**
Tiger says he has fixed Masters swing woes

New York, 1 May—

Tiger Woods said he had solved the swing problems that led to his worst professional Masters finish in a video posted on his Twitter page Monday in which he answered questions from fans.

Wood's accepted questions on his Twitter and Facebook pages, and answered a select few in a 14-minute video, with one of his responses touching upon the troubles off the tee that doomed his bid at Augusta National three weeks ago.

Woods, a 14-time major champion chasing the all-time record of 18 majors won by Jack Nicklaus, said he may be older, but he doesn’t feel a decline in his skills or abilities in the ring.

“The fight was closer than two of the scores reflected,” Woods said.

“Regardless of the result, I will continue my career and challenge any champion in my division,” Woods said.

“I might be older, but I don’t feel a decline in my skills or abilities in the ring. I love to fight and am still competing at a level where boxing cannot deny me the opportunity to succeed.”

Other light-heavyweight champions as targets for Hopkins, 52-6 with two draws and 32 knockouts, include Britain’s undefeated Nathan Cleverley in the World Boxing Organization, unbeaten American Tavoris Cloud in the International Boxing Federation and Kazakh fighter Beibut Shumenov in the World Boxing Association.

“He can’t even beat anyone else in our division,” Dawson said.

Internet

Retirement not in plans for boxer Hopkins

New York, 1 May—

Bernard Hopkins has no plans to retire from boxing after losing his World Boxing Council light-heavyweight crown to Chad Dawson.

Instead, boxing’s oldest-ever champion wants to win another title.

“What he says is obvious. The league has existed before me and will continue to do so afterwards. Congratulations,” he said, before admitting that the result had merely served to put back Hopkins’ inevitable title celebrations. “It doesn’t matter if they celebrate now or later, we all know they are champions. However, this game is an example of what we are this season—Khanin

Bernard Hopkins during his World Boxing Council light-heavyweight fight against Chad Dawson on April 28. Hopkins has no plans to retire from boxing after losing his crown to Dawson. Instead, boxing’s oldest-ever champion wants to win another title. — Internet

City take leaf from United’s book with derby win

Manchester City closed in on their first top flight title in 44 years by beating Manchester United 1-0 on Monday after doing what their rivals have done for years—keeping their distance as they moved towards the Premier League summit.

Ferguson in the Premier League title drive, with United winning for years—keeping their distance as they moved towards the Premier League summit.
Euro-Acid test for world-class Ronaldo

Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo runs with the ball during his Champions League quarter-final first leg soccer match against APOEL at GSP stadium in Nicosia on 27 March, 2012. REUTERS

His determination to do well will be stronger than ever after Real Madrid’s failure in the Champions League this season despite their almost certain victory in La Liga.

At Euro 2004, when Portugal still relied on the declining power of Luis Figo and Rui Costa, Ronaldo came agonizingly close to glory but Greece shocked the hosts in the final.

A young Ronaldo was left in tears and, though he was picked for the team of the tournament, he scored only twice. If that was a personal disappointment, it was deepened in the three major tournaments that followed when he scored just once at Euro 2008 and at the World Cup finals in Germany and South Africa.

His critics say this is the main reason that Ronaldo, like Messi, cannot be compared to past greats like Pele, Diego Maradona or Eusebio, all of whom are remembered for stunning tournament performances.

“Cristiano has always had a lot of responsibility since he was 18,” Madrid and Portugal team mate Pepe has said.

“People put a lot of pressure on him. The squad needs to give support to Cristiano so he can be calm and play his football.”

Ronaldo’s club record with Manchester United and Real Madrid speaks for itself.

Last year he added Spain’s Copa del Rey to his Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup titles at United.

This year he hopes he can add La Liga to that list as Madrid fend off Barcelona.

The Anfield club have reportedly finalised an £8-million deal with AZ Alkmaar for midfielder Rasmus Elm.

The Anfield club have reportedly agreed an £8million deal with AZ Alkmaar for midfielder Rasmus Elm, according to The Sun. The report claims Anfield boss Kenny Dalglish went out to Holland for a look but switched to Sweden instead. He was pulled out of the match day squad due to his wife going into labour.

The Reds boss was reportedly not best pleased about Elm being absent, but that did not stop him sanctioning a deal to take the player to Anfield on a five-year contract worth £40,000 a week. Elm is an established international and is expected to be in the Sweden squad to face England at Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine this summer.

It has been a successful season for the former Kalmar man, as he has scored on ten occasions this season in the Eredivisie playing in midfield.

Once fully completed, the Elm transfer will be Liverpool’s first of a summer where a number of personnel changes are reportedly set to take place.—Reuters

World Veterinary Day observed in Hmawby

YANGON, 1 May—The World Veterinary Day, organized by Hmawby Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of Yangon Region, was held at the hall of Hmawby Township General Administration Department on 27 April morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Kyaw Soe Lwin made a speech. Head of Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Khin Nwe Yi talked about raising health status of animals, control of animal infectious diseases and prevention against microorganism. Deputy Heads of Department Dr Han Win Aung and Dr Zaw Min Oo explained matters related to rabies and blue-ear pig disease.

After that, pamphlets on prevention against blue-ear pig disease and avian influenza disease were distributed to attendees.—Myanma Alin

**Weather forecast for 2nd May, 2012**

**Myanmar selected Taekwondo team meets**

YANGON, 1 May—A meeting of Myanmar selected Taekwondo team that will take part in the 2nd Asian Taekwondo Invitational Championship to be held in Vietnam from 4 to 11 May, was held at the hall of the Sports and Physical Education Department in Tamway Township yesterday afternoon. Players were introduced to General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Hnuk. Officials of the federation reported on preparations for the sports. The director-general greeted the players of the Taekwondo team.

**Why bigger animals aren’t always faster**

SCIENCE DAILY, 1 May — New research in the journal *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology* shows why bigger isn’t always better when it comes to sprinting speed. “Typically, bigger animals tend to run faster than smaller animals, because they have longer legs,” said Christopher J Clemente of Harvard University, who led the research. “But this only works up to a point. The fastest land animal is neither the biggest nor the smallest, but something in between. Think about the size of an elephant, a mouse and a cheetah.”

Clemente and his team studied monitor lizards to show that the same principle applies within species as well as across species, and to identify why this is the case. Because adult monitor lizards vary substantially in size, they are an ideal species for testing how size affects speed. The researchers timed and photographed monitors ranging from two to 12 pounds, as sprinted across a 45-foot-track. The researchers found that the midsize lizards were fastest—and they discovered why. Using high-speed cameras and markers placed at key spots on the lizards’ bodies, the researchers created computer models comparing characteristics of the lizards’ running strides.

“We then looked at how the mechanics of the stride changed with body size, and we found that the changes in the stride were consistent with the changes in speed,” Clemente said. “Above a certain size, lizards were changing the way they ran, perhaps due to a decreased ability of the bones and muscles to support a larger body mass.”

**Arsenal seal deal for ‘top-class’ Lukas Podolski**

LONDON, 1 May—Lukas Podolski is determined to take his second chance at “one of the top clubs in Europe” after it was officially confirmed he would join Arsenal next season.

The worst-kept secret in football was finally out in the open yesterday afternoon as the Gunners and Cologne announced Germany striker Podolski was moving to the Emirates Stadium after this summer’s European Championships.

Despite being feted as a world class talent thanks both to his exploits on the international stage and for his club career, Podolski will have a point to prove at Arsenal after flopping in a three-year spell at Bayern Munich.

However, he had no qualms about testing himself at another of Europe’s giants, saying: “I’m so happy to be joining Arsenal Football Club and to play in the Premier League.

“ Arsenal is one of the top clubs in Europe, a huge history. There are many top-quality players at Arsenal and the style of football which is...—Internet

**Construction of downhill motor road inspected**

NAV PYI TAW, 1 May—Men State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Hla Oo on 27 April afternoon inspected construction of downhill road north of U Zina Pagoda in Mawlamyine. Chairman of the Pagoda Board of Trustees U Win and official reported on progress in construction of the road. The construction of 200 feet long and 14 feet wide motor road started in February 2012. The board has spent over K 40 million. So far, the construction task has been completed to 90 percent. And it is expected to open the road in October. The state minister left instructions on keeping the precinct of the pagoda clean and pleasant and systematically place donation boxes.

**Chelsea reaches deal to sign Marin**

LONDON, 1 May—Chelsea began preparing for next season on Saturday with an agreement to sign German midfield Marko Marin from Werder Bremen.

The west London club, which still has a Champions League final to prepare for and three English Premier League games remaining, said on Saturday it had agreed to a fee for the 23-year-old playmaker who has been accepted its offer of personal terms. Chelsea did not say how much it would pay for Marin.—Internet