Our Three Main National Causes

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

**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon attend ceremony to honour monks who passed Tipitaka Examination**

YANGON, 19 May—A ceremony to honour one Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida monk, one Tipitakadhara monk, two Mula Abhidhamma monks, two Digha Nikayakovida monks, four Dighabhanaka monks, two Vinayakovida monks, 27 Vinayadhara monks, 10 Ubbato Vibhangakovida monks and 44 Ubbato Vibhangadharana monks, totalling 93 was held at Maha Pasana Cave on Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township, here, this morning, attended by Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Mandalay Bhamo Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Sattadhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarakhambhavamsa and member Sayadaws, Ovadaçariya Sayadaws of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination, supervisor Sayadaws, members of the Sangha, Union ministers and their wives, the Chief Minister of Yangon Region and wife, deputy ministers, Yangon Region ministers, departmental heads, social organization members, disciples and wellwishers.

The congregation led by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon took the Five Precepts from Presiding Nayaka of Hlinethaya Township Sasana Gonyi Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Paññissarabhivamsa.

The Chairman Sayadaw read the Saraiya Ovadakatha of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.

Next, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung supplicated on the religious affairs. He supplicated that Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination is the highest standard in Pariyatti literature field and the longest days in examinations. The examination has been held for the 64th time from 1948 to 2012. During the period, a total of 13 Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida monks and three Tipitakadhara monks have emerged, he said.

Today’s ceremony was to honour Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida title recipient Sayadaws namely Bhaddanta Indacariya of Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery on Momeik Hill of Sagaing, and Bhaddanta Paññasirilankara of Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery from Dagon Township of Yangon Region. Moreover, he noted that a total of 93 members of the Sangha passed the 64th exam. In conclusion, he said that disciples will honour the monks who passed the exam and donate alms to the Sayadaws.

**Turtles’ epic long-distance journeys eyed**

US scientists say they’ve been studying how baby loggerhead sea turtles embark alone on a migration that takes them around the entire North Atlantic basin.

**Study: Coffee may lower death risk**

A Chinese woman walks past a giant coffee shop advertisement in downtown Beijing. A new study shows that coffee drinkers had a lower risk of death.
Lethargy has no place among us

Nowadays, the country is in the process of democratization with reform high on its agenda. It is witnessing a time of high spirits and cheerful occasion. The new government and its people have the chance to prove themselves in a formidably difficult role. And all the people are looking forward to improving quality of life through hard work. At such a crucial time, we have no room for lethargy.

Whatever projects, programmes or works we are undertaking—either government or cooperative, private business or family farmland—there is no fixed and ready formula which could bring full desired result. We must try to think calmly and dispassionately in advance and arrive at a decision well in time and start implementing it with enthusiasm. One who works with heart and soul will not meet with major or total failures. To worry about failures, it will surely lead us to lethargy. Works and programmes will be delayed and dropped out of order. One way or another it will have adverse effect. In reality, the ability to take a correct decision is not achieved by being sloth and inactiveness. All successful and smart people have one thing in common. They firmly believe and accept that even a bad or erroneous decision is usually better than an indecision.

Whatever the result may be, even a bad decision often teaches us more lessons than an indecision, and it pushes us much more ahead to take better decision. Next time when one takes a decision, he or she usually finds a clearer view and the tendency for lethargy is deeply reduced.

Today, the world is moving in a faster pace and speed, and that we all must work day and night, along the tune with an up-beat. The clock has been set forward for prosperity. If we move in top gear, lethargy finds no significant place among us, and with this we, sooner or later, will surely reach the goal set by the new government.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 20 May, 2012

Union Information and Culture Minister meets Myanmar Historical Commission members

YANGON, 19 May—Chairman of Myanmar Historical Commission Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan met the commission members at the meeting hall of National Museum (Yangon) on Pyay Road, here at 1.30 pm today.

Present on the occasion were departmental heads and officials of the Ministry of Culture, Vice-Chairman of the commission Dr Toe Hla, Secretary Dr Kyaw Win and members Daw Ohn Kyi, U Kyaw, U Kyaw Nyan, Dr Chit San Win, Dr Khin Maung Nyan, U Thet Tun and Dr Thaw Kaung.

In meeting with the commission members, the Union Minister spoke of the need for modern and scientific compilation of Myanmar’s history in collaboration with Historical Research Department, Myanmar Historical Commission, National Archives, history departments from universities under the Ministry of Education and historians, compilation of complete history of Myanmar, collecting of inside and outside data and findings in compiling history, compilation of Myanmar’s history period-wise based on historical research, compilation and publishing of treaties, periodicals and papers, giving lessons on moral norms and standards in coping with social problems by revealing Myanmar’s fine traditions through Myanmar’s history, showing Myanmar’s high national prestige and integrity and cultural heritage through history, helping maintain the national character, turning out historians of new generation and teaching historians research technology, emergence of history-related NGOs like historical association, cooperation with such organizations and enlisting cooperation with international organizations including UNESCO and UNDP in compiling Myanmar’s history and research work. After making coordination with discussions, the Union Minister stressed the need for the above-mentioned points in future work programmes of Historical Research Department.

Then, Dr Khin Maung Nyan, Dr Thaw Kaung, U Thet Tun, Dr Toe Hla, Dr Kyaw Win, Daw Ohn Kyi, Dr Chit San Win and U Kyaw took part in the round of discussions and the meeting ended in the evening.—MNA

Sagai Region Chief Minister attends launch of water distribution to Sagaing

NAVPYI TAW, 19 May—Water distribution to Shwaminwun and Pattamyi Wards was launched at Shwaminwun Ward Development Affairs Committee and local people with the contribution of K 20.88 million by the Township Development Affairs Committee and K 49.92 million by local people.

This was followed by the cash donation ceremony at which family of Shine Hope Co presented K 40 million and member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Bhaddanta Pannasiri delivered a sermon and the congregation shared merits gained.

Afterwards, the Chief Minister inspected the construction of Mahasikongyi Pagoda’s Sasana Beikman, the thriving Kyaikkasan Grounds in Tamway Township.

MOC General Secretary meets swimmers

YANGON, 19 May—General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik met members of Myanmar swimming contingent that will take joint training with Singaporean swimmers at SpeedoSwim Aquatic Centre in Singapore and take part in the first SEA Invitational Swimming Championship from 23 to 17 June, at the hall of the department in Kyaikkasan Grounds in Tamway Township.

Tower No. 206 of 230 KV Shweli-Mansan national grid damaged in KIA’s mine blast

Four towers from Shweli-Mansan national grid damaged in KIA’s mine blast

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Obama, Hollande agree on much - but not Afghanistan
WASHINGTON, 19 May—
New French President Francois Hollande told President Barack Obama on Thursday that he will stick by his pledge to withdraw France’s troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2014, and underscore the challenge Obama faces in keeping NATO allies on board as he tries to chart a gradual course out of Afghanistan. The future of its disputed nuclear programme in Baghdad. Western diplomats accredited to the UN agency said Iran seemed keen to agree a so-called “structured approach” – an outline of how to address the IAEA’s questions – ahead of Baghdad in the apparent hope of gaining leverage through negotiations with world powers.

Iran may seek “tactical gain” with UN nuclear deal
VIENNA, 19 May—Iran and the UN nuclear agency are making headway towards a framework deal on how to tackle concerns about its atomic activity, diplomats say, a potential bargaining chip for Teheran in next week’s negotiations with world powers.

Islamic Hamas movement, which rules the Gaza Strip, said on Friday that Israel has no future on the Palestinian lands.

Police nab airline pilot with loaded gun in luggage
BUFFALO, 19 May—An airline pilot was arrested Friday morning at Buffalo Niagara International Airport after security screeners discovered a loaded revolver in his baggage.

Hamas premier says no future for Israel on Palestinian lands
GAZA, 19 May—Head of the deposed government of Islamic Hamas movement, which rules the Gaza Strip, said on Friday that Israel has no future on the Palestinian lands.

Obama nominates ambassador to Myanmar
WASHINGTON, 19 May—US President Barack Obama on Thursday nominated Derek Mitchell as its first ambassador to Myanmar in 22 years, following the country’s historic election in April.

Federal prosecutors in Buffalo allege he began travelling with the weapon when he reported for work on 16 May on a flight from Charlottesville, Virginia, to LaGuardia, but skipped a security screening of his baggage. The defendant did not submit this bag to X-ray screening at the Charlottesville airport, the federal indictment states.

An empty stretcher is seen at the Qis Coal Mine in Xinchao County, central China’s Hunan Province, on 17 May, 2012. Six miners were killed in a gas outburst at the colliery early Thursday morning, according to local authorities. Xinhua

Gaza Strip “would contribute to easing the Israeli blockade that has been imposed on our people and would reveal the ugly face of Israel to the entire world,” the Hamas leader welcomed all the solidarity movements in Europe and the world on the issue of the Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

Washington, DC—US President Barack Obama announced Thursday that he will appoint former Democratic senator and congressman Howard B. Mitchell Jr. as the country’s first ambassador to Myanmar in 22 years.

Today, I am nominating our first US Ambassador to Burma in 22 years, Derek Mitchell, whose work has been instrumental in bringing about this new phase in our bilateral relationship,” Obama said in a White House statement. Mitchell has been serving as the special representative and policy coordinator for Myanmar in the Obama Administration.

Obama also announced that his government will ease its bans on the “exportation of financial services and new investment” in the Southeast Asian country. He said that greater economic engagement between the two countries is critical to supporting reformers in Myanmar and bringing the country out of isolation.

A framework will be established to ensure “that those who abuse human rights, engage in corruption, interfere with the peace process, or obstruct the reform process” do not benefit from the investment from the United States, Obama said in the statement.

The announcement by the Obama Administration was viewed as a reward to the recent democratic reforms in Myanmar.

Also on Thursday, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton met with visiting Myanmar Foreign Minister U Winna Maung Lwin in Washington.

Meanwhile, Britain is proposing the creation of an international commission to encourage “responsible” trade and investment in Myanmar, now that sanctions on the country are being lifted, British officials said.

The plan is designed to help make sure trade benefits all Myanmar’s people, rather than a “select few”, a British official said.

The United States, the European Union, Japan, Canada and Australia have all moved in recent weeks to ease or suspend sanctions on Myanmar, as the nation embarks on democratic reforms and seeks engagement with the world.

British officials said Prime Minister David Cameron would outline proposals at the G-8 for a Commission for Responsible Investment in Myanmar, which could bring together representatives from the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, international companies and human rights campaigners.

The panel would establish principles that businesses would be encouraged to sign up to when trading with or investing in Myanmar, the officials said.

Obama's main foreign policy pledge is popular at home, even if French defence ministry officials believe it may prove technically complicated without putting troops in danger.

That may not be easy. “The exit is non-negotiable,” Hollande said. “The withdrawal of French combat troops is a French decision and it will be implemented.”

Hollande’s remarks, while not a surprise, underscore the challenge Obama faces in keeping NATO allies on board as he tries to chart a gradual course out of Afghanistan.

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**Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology**

**Investors brace for Facebook debut on Wall Street**

**Menlo Park, 19May—** Investors are bracing for Facebook’s Wall Street debut on Friday after the world’s No. 1 online socialnetwork raised about $16 billion in one of the biggest initial public offerings in US history. Valued at $104 billion, Facebook is larger than Starbucks Corp and Hewlett-Packard combined, sparking intense speculation on how much higher its valuation will rise once shares start trading. “A 15 to 20 percent pop in the realm of possibility,” said Tim Loughran, a finance professor at the University of Notre Dame. “Given that they already moved their IPO range up and increased the size, that’s bullish to begin with,” Facebook priced its offering at $38 a share on Thursday, but the price could be higher when shares begin trading under the FB symbol on the Nasdaq at around 11 am Eastern Time.

Some expect shares could rise 30 percent or more on Friday, despite ongoing concerns about Facebook’s long-term money-making potential. An average of Morningstar analyst estimates puts the closing price for Facebook shares tomorrow at $50.

The IPO, expected to mint more than a thousand paper millionaires at the company, has received wall-to-wall media coverage and sparked hopes of a boom in sales of everything from San Francisco Bay Area real estate to automobiles. Facebook employees marked the event with an all-night “hakathon” at the company’s Menlo Park, California headquarters expected to ring a bell at the company’s Silicon Valley headquarters on Friday morning to kick off trading on the Nasdaq.

Founded in a Harvard dorm room in 2004, Facebook has grown into the world’s dominant social network with 900 million users.

**Cosmic dust rings no guarantee of planets**

**Pasadena, 19 May—** Dust rings around distant stars, considered by many as “smoking gun” evidence of orbiting planets, can form on their own, US research suggests.

The finding is possible new bad news for those who use the structures to guide them to stars in their search for distant planets, and may raise questions about the existence of a controversial candidate exoplanet.

Sharply defined or elongated rings seen in the disk of dust and gas around stars had been assumed to be caused by unseen planets carving paths through the disk. But "I call it the dark matter argument," Wladimir Lyra at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif, told NewScientist.com. “There is something you are seeing that you cannot explain, and you blame the gravity of something you cannot see.’’

Now Lyra, with NASA colleagues, has shown interactions between dust and gas can account for the rings.

Dust concentrates in regions of high-pressure gas that when heated by the star evaporates, creating higher pressure which then concentrates more dust, the researchers said.

Lyra and his colleagues simulated this feedback process and, with no planets in their computer model, created several types of structure, including elongated rings and clumps.

The work calls into question a bright dot in the disc around the star Fomalhaut thought to be a planet, but which could be due to the dynamics of dust and gas alone, the researchers said.

Markus Janson of Princeton University in New Jersey, who has studied the Fomalhaut system, says it’s still too soon to say what the bright dot is and why the nearby dust ring appears so sculpted.

"I’m now more open to the idea that maybe there are no planets [around Fomalhaut at all],” he said.

**Turtles’ epic long-distance journeys eyed**

**Chapel Hill, 19 May—** US scientists say they’ve been studying how baby loggerhead sea turtles embark alone on a migration that takes them around the entire North Atlantic basin.

After emerging from their underground nests on the beaches of eastern Florida, the turtles begin an epic migration that eventually returns them to North American coastal waters. Researchers looking at precisely how young loggerheads navigate their transoceanic migration say the 2-inch-long hatchlings likely advance along their open-sea route through a combination of strategic swimming interspersed with passive drifting on favourable ocean currents that allow the young turtles to migrate long distances on limited energy stores.

"Young turtles probably rely on a strategy of ‘smart swimming’ to optimize their energy use during migrations,” University of North Carolina marine biologist Kenneth J. Lohmann said. “The new results tell us that a surprisingly small amount of directional swimming in just the right places has a profound effect on the migratory paths that turtles follow and on whether they reach habitats favourable for survival.”

Once in the open ocean, rafts of plants often provide young loggerheads with food, resting places and camouflage from large fish and birds, the scientists say.

"Most researchers have assumed that, because ocean currents in some places move faster than young turtles can swim, the turtles cannot control their migratory paths,” Lohmann said. “This study shows otherwise.”

**Satellite takes most detailed Earth photo**

**Moscow, 19 May—** A Russian weather satellite has taken the highest-resolution photograph ever captured of Earth in its entire, atmosphere, researchers say. The Electro-L 1 is orbiting Earth on a geostationary orbit more than 22,000 miles above the equator, sending photographs of the entire planet every 30 minutes. The images combine multiple light wavelengths, both visible and infrared. The images point to...a combination of visible and near-infrared wavelengths, so they show the Earth in a way not visible to human eyes,” Robert Simmon, a scientist at the NASA Earth Observatory at the Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Md, said.

The highest resolution image of our home planet consists of 121 megapixels, a resolution of 0.62 miles per pixel, Girmodo reported. The Electro-L is similar to NASA’s GOES satellites, but Electro-L uses three bands in reflected light — red and two near infrared bands— while GOES does not scan in near-infrared.

**Oldest Mediterranean island farm uncovered**

**Klimonas, 19 May—** Researchers say the remains of the oldest known agricultural settlement in the Mediterranean islands have been found on Cyprus. Previously, the origin of two crops, wheat and barley, was thought to trace back to around 9000 BC, proves researchers say. The discovery of Klimonas, a village that dates to around 9000 BC, proves early cultivators migrated to Cyprus from the Middle Eastern continent just shortly after the emergence of agriculture there, bringing with them wheat as well as dogs and cats. Archaeological excavations at Klimonas yielded the remnants of a half-buried mud brick communal building, 100 feet in diameter and surrounded by dwellings, that must have been used to store the village’s harvests. The findings were reported in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

**The communal building in Klimonas partially excavated. Internet**

**At $38 a share, Facebook would trade at over 100 times historical earnings versus Apple Inc’s 14 times and Google Inc’s 19 times.**

For all the high expectations surrounding Facebook, the company faces challenges maintaining its growth momentum.

Some investors worry the company has not yet figured out a way to make money on the growing number of users who access Facebook on mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones. Meanwhile, revenue growth from Facebook’s online advertising business, which accounts for the bulk of its revenue, has slowed in recent months.

"With mobile usage growth exceeding desktop, monetization in the near term could be reduced given little-to-no coverage on mobile, challenged by limited screen sizes,” said a report last week from Susquehanna Financial Group. GM said on Tuesday it would stop placing ads on the site as it is effective as traditional media.

**News van parked outside Facebook’s headquarters in Menlo Park, California, the night before the company’s IPO launch, on 17 May, 2012. —Reuters**

**Investors are bracing for Facebook’s debut on Wall Street**

**Facebook employees marked the event with an all-night “hakathon” at the company’s Menlo Park, California headquarters expected to ring a bell at the company’s Silicon Valley headquarters on Friday morning to kick off trading on the Nasdaq.**

Founded in a Harvard dorm room in 2004, Facebook has grown into the world’s dominant social network with 900 million users.

**Nytimes.com** at $50.

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“I’m now more open to the idea that maybe there are no planets [around Fomalhaut at all],” he said. **Internet**

**The bright dot in the disc around Fomalhaut may be a structure of dust and gas, Internet, research suggests. Internet**
Study: Coffee may lower death risk

BETHESDA, 19 May—A study of 460,000 US men and women ages 50-71 found those who drank coffee — caffeinated or decaffeinated — had a lower risk of death, researchers say.

The study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, found those who drank coffee were less likely to die from heart disease, respiratory disease, stroke, injuries, accidents, diabetes and infections, although the association was not seen for cancer.

Neal Freedman of the National Cancer Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, and colleagues at the NCI and AARP tracked the study participants from 1995-1996 until the date they died or 31 Dec, 2008, whichever came first.

The researchers also found the association between coffee and reduction in risk of death increased with the amount of coffee consumed — those who consumed three or more cups of coffee per day had approximately a 30 percent lower risk of death.

Coffee drinking was not associated with cancer mortality among women, but there was a slight and only marginally statistically significant association of heavier coffee intake with increased risk of cancer death among men, the researchers said.

“Although we cannot infer a causal relationship between coffee drinking and lower risk of death, we believe these results do provide some reassurance that coffee drinking does not adversely affect health,” Freedman said in a statement.

A Chinese woman walks past a giant coffee shop advertisement in downtown Beijing. A new study shows that coffee drinkers had a lower risk of death.—INTERNET

Health Tip: How to wash your hands properly

Got germs? Everyone does. So you need to wash your hands properly to prevent the potential spread of infection.

The US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention offers these guidelines for proper hand washing:

* Thoroughly rinse under clean running water, then dry your hands on a dry towel or let them air dry.
* Wash for at least 20 seconds. That's about how long it takes to sing “Happy Birthday” to yourself.
* Lather the soap between your hands, scrubbing your fingers, the fronts and backs of your hands and under your nails.
* Wash for at least 20 seconds. That’s about how long it takes to sing “Happy Birthday” to yourself.

The report, in the Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, is one piece of a growing body of evidence that breastfeeding appears to be the best choice for a newborn and protects against obesity later in life. Lead author Ruowei Li of the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said the difference may come down to how much a role babies play in deciding when to stop feeding instead of mothers or fathers forcing them to finish a bottle.

“If the babies are fed by the breast, the baby plays a very active role, because they are the ones who decide when to stop,” she said.

Mothers participate in a demonstration in front of a clothing store in a shopping mall in Montreal on 19 January, 2011.—REUTERS

Breastfed babies may gain less weight

WASHINGTON, 19 May—Baby who are breastfed gain less weight over their first year of life compared to babies fed either breast milk or formula from a bottle, according to a US study.

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Mothers participate in a demonstration in front of a clothing store in a shopping mall in Montreal on 19 January, 2011.—REUTERS

Babies who were fed from a bottle, either with only breast milk or only formula, gained about 85 grams (three ounces) more per month compared to those who were solely breastfed.

After that, the findings became a bit more complicated. When mothers combined breastfeeding and bottle feeding with human milk only, babies didn’t gain any extra weight. But if the babies were fed both breast milk and formula, they grew similarly to babies who were solely breastfed.

It’s not clear why those babies fed a combination of breast milk by bottle as well as formula may not have gained additional weight, the researchers said.

“But the key message out of this study is that breastfeeding really is the first feeding choice for the babies,” said Li, adding that supplementing breastfeeding with breast milk from a bottle is a good second option.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that mothers exclusively breastfeed for six months and continue breastfeeding as foods are introduced until at least 12 months. But experts acknowledged that care needs to be taken not to put mothers under pressure about breastfeeding, acknowledging that it just may not be possible for a number of reasons.

“There were millions of babies raised on formula well before the obesity epidemic started,” said Jeffrey Wright, a pediatrician from the University of Washington School of Medicine, who wrote an editorial linked to the study.

“Each family should weigh the benefits they see against the hassles they take to get there, and the father should be involved in that discussion.” — Reuters

Jobless claims unchanged in week

WASHINGTON, 19 May—The number of first-time jobless claims was unchanged in the week ended Saturday, the US Labour Department said.

The four-week rolling average of first-time claims fell to 375,000, down 4,750 from the previous week, but the number of claims filed in the week, 370,000, was unchanged from the previous week’s revised figure.

The largest increases in initial benefits claims for the week ending 5 May were in Missouri (up by 2,569), New York (which gained 2,276) and California (up by 1,613). The largest decreases were in Florida (down by 2,399), Indiana (down 1,715), Connecticut (down 1,038) and New Hampshire (down 836).

The US unemployment rate is 8.1 percent, falling 0.1 percentage points from March to April.

Crude oil holds under $93

NEW YORK, 19 May—Crude oil prices slid back under $93 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange on Thursday as the government reported a weekly gain in US stockpiles.

Total supplies reached 381.6 million barrels after eight consecutive weeks of inventory increases, the Energy Information Administration said.

With supplies at a 22-year high, the price of crude fell on Thursday in New York, with West Texas Intermediate Information Administration said.

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WASHINGTON, 19 May—Babies who are breastfed gain less weight over their first year of life compared to babies fed either breast milk or formula from a bottle, according to a US study.

WASHINGTON, 19 May—“Breastfed babies may gain less weight against obesity later in life.” Lead author Ruowei Li of the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said the difference may come down to how much a role babies play in deciding when to stop feeding instead of mothers or fathers forcing them to finish a bottle.

If the babies are fed by the breast, the baby plays a very active role, because they are the ones who decide when to stop, she said.

Mothers participate in a demonstration in front of a clothing store in a shopping mall in Montreal on 19 January, 2011.—REUTERS

Babies who were fed from a bottle, either with only breast milk or only formula, gained about 85 grams (three ounces) more per month compared to those who were solely breastfed.

After that, the findings became a bit more complicated. When mothers combined breastfeeding and bottle feeding with human milk only, babies didn’t gain any extra weight. But if the babies were fed both breast milk and formula, they grew similarly to babies who were solely breastfed.

It’s not clear why those babies fed a combination of breast milk by bottle as well as formula may not have gained additional weight, the researchers said.

“But the key message out of this study is that breastfeeding really is the first feeding choice for the babies,” said Li, adding that supplementing breastfeeding with breast milk from a bottle is a good second option.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that mothers exclusively breastfeed for six months and continue breastfeeding as foods are introduced until at least 12 months. But experts acknowledged that care needs to be taken not to put mothers under pressure about breastfeeding, acknowledging that it just may not be possible for a number of reasons.

“There were millions of babies raised on formula well before the obesity epidemic started,” said Jeffrey Wright, a pediatrician from the University of Washington School of Medicine, who wrote an editorial linked to the study.

“Each family should weigh the benefits they see against the hassles they take to get there, and the father should be involved in that discussion.” — Reuters

Crude oil holds under $93

WASHINGTON, 19 May—The number of first-time jobless claims was unchanged in the week ended Saturday, the US Labour Department said.

The four-week rolling average of first-time claims fell to 375,000, down 4,750 from the previous week, but the number of claims filed in the week, 370,000, was unchanged from the previous week’s revised figure.

The largest increases in initial benefits claims for the week ending 5 May were in Missouri (up by 2,569), New York (which gained 2,276) and California (up by 1,613). The largest decreases were in Florida (down by 2,399), Indiana (down 1,715), Connecticut (down 1,038) and New Hampshire (down 836).

The US unemployment rate is 8.1 percent, falling 0.1 percentage points from March to April.

Crude oil holds under $93

WASHINGTON, 19 May—Crude oil prices slid back under $93 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange on Thursday as the government reported a weekly gain in US stockpiles.

Total supplies reached 381.6 million barrels after eight consecutive weeks of inventory increases, the Energy Information Administration said.

With supplies at a 22-year high, the price of crude fell on Thursday in New York, with West Texas Intermediate

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Pamphlets on traffic rules distributed on Yangon-Pyay Highway

**Nay Pyi Taw, 19 May**—With the aim of emerging more youth outstanding players, Nay Pyi Taw FC will open a football academy in Nay Pyi Taw, according to the Ministry of Sports.

Arrangements will be made for creating new generation youth players to pursue football sports. They will be nurtured to be able not only to join Nay Pyi Taw FC but also participate in the national team.

Before opening the Football Academy of Nay Pyi Taw FC, three football academies have been opened by Yadanaung, Yangon United and Ayeyawady United FCs. Therefore, the football academy of Nay Pyi Taw FC will be the fourth facility for youth players.

The academy will admit 30 trainees and it will accept the youths from 15 to 16 years old from 10 years old. If the trainees are school-going age, they will admit those students to be provided with necessary assistance.

*By Min Min Latt*

### MLF invites cash, book donations

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broaden 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 01-398756.

*By Min Min Latt*

Farmers of Mandalay Region observe thriving Shwetaung hybrid paddy plantations

**Mandalay, 19 May**—The educative measures for farmers were held at Shwetaung hybrid paddy farm of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Wandwin Township of Mandalay Region on 14 May.

The farmers who had observed Paletwe hybrid paddy strain in Mandalay Region visited there to view the paddy plantation.

In-charge Director U Naing Kyi Win of Shwetaung Hybrid Paddy Research Farm explained cultivation of paddy plantation, procedure of growing paddy strains and polination through 14-point good agricultural patter with the use of documentary photos. The farmers viewed harvesting of Shwetaung and Baratama hybrid paddy plantations on 100 acres of farmlands in the research farm. Director U Naing Kyi Win replied to queries raised by farmers.

As Mandalay Region set a plan to grow 250 acres of Paletwe hybrid paddy in 2011-2012 summer paddy season, a total of 740 acres of farmlands have been put under paddy plantations.

*Kyemon*

### Books, publications donated to library in Zeyathiri Township

**Zeyathiri, 19 May**—A fire broke out at a hut in Hsautawta Village of Myitnge of Amarapura Township in Mandalay Region at 1.15 am on 14 May.

The fire destroyed one house of Ko Aung Hsan Oo, 38 of the village.

Members of fire brigade from Amarapura Township Fire Services Department and Myitnge Railways Fire Brigade and local people put out the fire with the use of two fire engines from Amarapura Township Fire Station and one from Myitge Station. The fire died out at 1.45 am.

*Myanmar Alin*

PADDY HARVESTED: Model plot of summer Paletwe hybrid paddy strain is being harvested on field No. 1173 of farmer U Ni with the use of heavy machinery in Htaiknigon Village in Chanthagon Village-tract of Letpada Township in Thayawady District of Bago Region on 10 May. —*MYANMA ALIN*

### Fire breaks out in Myitnge, blazing one house

**Myitnge, 19 May**—The Mandalay Export & Car Show held in Mandalay at 9 am on 5 May. Mandalay Mayor Mandalay Region Minister for Development U Aung Maung and region ministers formally opened the show.

Over 90 companies showed products like Toyota imported from Japan, Mitsubishi, Hyundai, KIA saloons, Sunlong brand express bus imported from China, CAME brand ETX Dump Truck and containers, construction used heavy machinery, condominium, home decoration, electronics and cosmetics at 140 booths.

The show was held from 5 to 8 May and it sold products at special price.

*Thittha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

### Malay Township Writers Association reconstituted

**Yangon, 19 May**—The reconstitution of Township Writers and Journalists Association to Township Writers Association was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 5 May.

Secretary of Organizing Committee for Myanmar Writers Association U Aung Thein Win(Maung Khaing Khaht), Township Administrator U Zaw Win Hla and Chairman of Township WJA U Ko Ko Lay(Yankin Ko Ko Lay) made speeches.

Officials read the report of the association and financial statement. In the presence of reconstitution commission members U Aye Kyu Lay (Aye Kyu Lay), Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Aye Aye Hsi and Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Maung Maung Hla, U Ko Ko Lay(Yankin Ko Ko Lay) was elected as Chairman, U Tun Tun Oo (Tun Tun Oo) as Vice Chairman, U Kyaw Myint (Tarmarmyav Hlaing Myint) as secretary, U Myat Thwin (Tekkatho Myat Thwin) as joint secretary, treasurer Daw Ni Ni Tin (Ni-Ni-Myanmarsar), U Myint Lwin (Nay Oo Lwin) and U Maung Chit (Maung Chit-Thaye Thanein) as executives.

They chose Chairman U Ko Ko Lay(Yankin Ko Ko Lay) and Treasurer Daw Ni Ni Tin (Ni-Ni-Myanmarsar) as representatives to the conference.

*Myanmar Alin*
**Oxygen concentrator donated to hospital**

**Kawlin, 19 May**—A ceremony to donate one oxygen concentrator to Kawlin Township People’s Hospital of Sagaing Region was held at the hospital on 15 May morning.

In memory of late Daw Thaung Sein, U Thein Maung (retired teacher) of Yu condensed milk of Myoma ward of Kawlin handed over the oxygen concentrator to Head of Township Health Department Dr Maung Maung Soe.

**Youths to conserve environment in Sagaing**

**Sagaing, 19 May**—The Green Life Environmental Conservation and Social Development New Generation, formed with youths of Dabayinkwe Village of Sagaing Township held the annual ceremony at Bonset Monastery in Dabayinkwe Village on 8 April.

At the ceremony, Assistant Director U Ngun Kha of District Forest Department gave talks on facts about environmental conservation, and Staff Officer U Tin Soe of Township Forest Department stressed the importance of firewood substitute.

Assistant Director U Aung Zeya thanks. Township Health Department Dr Aung Soe thanked the local people.

Oxygen concentrator donated to hospital.

Youths to conserve environment in Sagaing.

**Fischer Random Chess Tournament 28 May-5 June**

**Yangon, 19 May**—Organized by Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Chess Federation, the Fischer Random Chess Tournament 2012 will be held at Aung San Gymnasium from 28 May to 5 June. Any person may take part in the tournament. Winners and runners-up of the tournament may register to take part in the tournament.

**DISTRICT NEWS**

**Dagon Myothit (North) Township reconstitutes writers association**

**Yangon, 19 May**—The plenary meeting and reconstitution of Township Writers Association of Dagon Myothit (North) Township was held at the hall of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association on 3 May.

The plenary meeting elected U Nyunt Hlaing (Maung Nyunt Hlaing) as chairman, U Than Htay (Than Htay-Veda) as vice-chairman, Daw Hta Hla Htay as secretary, and U Ohn Hlaing as joint secretary.

Cultural and economic development, as treasurer, U Aung Myint (Aung Myint-Timer Enterprise), U Tin Tun Aung (Tin Tun Aung-Shwemyang), Daw Tin Tin Nwe (Tin Tin Nwe-Yangon University) and U Hla Baw (Maung Nyo) as executives.

U Nyunt Hlaing (Maung Nyunt Hlaing) and U Nyunt Han (Nyunt Han-Kyawdaw) were chosen as representatives to the conference.

**Mongkhok Sub-Township gets new rural health branch**

**Mongkhok, 19 May**—A ceremony to open new rural health branch was opened in Nambawlon Ward of Pyinmana Sub-Township of Monghsat Township, Shan State, on 8 May.

In memory of lat Daw Win Nwe Yi of Education High School No 17 of Twantay recently.

Secretary of the association U Thin Lwin (Lamin Rice Brokerage) acted as master of ceremonies.

CASH DONATED: U Nyein Maung and family of No 1000/A on 4 West Manbye Street in Okkalapa, U Myint (Kyaiklat Moe Myint) and U Han Sein (Khin Khin-Okkalapa), U Hla Myint (Nu Chaw-Ookkalapa), U Myint (Kyakkal Moi Myint) and U Han Sein (Tekkatha-Hin Sein) as executive.

**Pyinnyadana tuition opened in Nyaunglebin**

**Nyaunglebin, 19 May**—The opening of Pyinnyadana tuition was held at Basic Education Primary School of Arzim Road of Nyaunglebin, Bago Region, on 10 May morning, for 2012-2013 academic year.

Patron of the tuition Dr Myint Than made a speech.

Headmistress of Basic Education High School No 2 Daw Win Nwe Yi explained the purpose of opening the school and Chairman of the tuition U Soe Win, academic and management matters.

Next, wellwishers donated cash to the fund.

The Pyinnyadana Tuition will provide necessary assistance and teach the needy students free of charge the whole year.

**North Okkalapa Township Writers Association reconstituted**

**Yangon, 19 May**—The plenary meeting of North Okkalapa Township Writers and Journalists Association was held at Abhidhamma training hall of Meilamu Hsutaungpyae Pagoda in North Okkalapa Township on 6 May, attended by Chairman of the Central Writers Association (Central Vice-Chairman) U Khin Maung Tran. At the meeting, U Kyaw Han (Min Ye Kyaw) was elected as Chairman, U Than Htay (Ni Nyein-Anya Tekkatha) as vice-chairman, U Thein Win (Thein Win Zoo) as secretary, U Myint Swye (Maung Myat Mon-Sule) as secretary, Daw Ohnma Myaing (Ohnma Myat) as treasurer, Daw Khin Khin Hmon (Khin Khin-Okkalapa), U Hla Myint (Nu Chaw-Ookkalapa), U Myint (Kyakkal Moi Myint) and U Han Sein (Tekkatha-Hin Sein) as executives.
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham,...

Next, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham offered titles, certificates and Sasana Pennants to Bhaddanta Indacarya of Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery on Momeik Hill of Sagaing, and Bhaddanta Patha’Sirilankara of Tipitaka Nikaya Monastery from Dagon Township of Yangon Region.

After that, Union Minister for Home Affairs Thura U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, and Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan offered titles, certificates and Sasana Pennants to members of the Sangha who passed the respective subjects of the Tipitakadharaya Tipitaka-kovida Selection Examination.

Then, deputy ministers, region ministers and officials also offered titles, certificates and Sasana Pennants to the monks who passed the examination.

Secretary of the SSMNC Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamana Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Khemindaasmi delivered a sermon, and the congregation led by the Vice-President and wife shared merits gained.

After the ceremony, the Vice-President and wife and party offered alms to members of the Sangha who passed the examination.

**Kodukwe Dam, Salu Dam and Shwelaung Dam in Bago Township opened**

NAV PyTaW, 19 May — Kodukwe Dam, Salu Dam and Shwelaung Dam in Bago Township of Bago Region were opened this morning.

Kodukwe Dam, located 13 miles downstream from Zaungtu Dam in Bago Township, is 1130 feet long and 90 feet high and can store 148500 acre feet of water.

Salu Dam, situated near Winkailikshyo Village in Bago Township, is 5728 feet long and 88 feet high and can store 65774 acres of farmlands.

Shwelaung Dam, located near Kyunpin Village, is 4700 feet long and 92 feet high and can store 342200 acres of farmlands.

Thanks to the emergence of these dams, 83794 acres of land in 86 village tracts of Bago, Thanatpin and Kawa townships can be prevented from being flooded. Moreover, they will benefit 13674 acres of farmlands in 24 villages along Thahneipin-Thonegwga Road.

At the opening of the dams, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing said the aims of construction those dams were to protect the villages of Bago, Thanatpin and Kawa townships from being flooded and to green a 30-mile radius of Yangon Region with 342200 acres of water.

In accord with the guidelines of the President and Vice-President who knew the difficulties of the villagers which were subject to floods during their tours, those dams were built with engineers from the Irrigation Department, construction companies and machinery. Kodukwe Dam project started in 2006-2007 in the time of previous government and it was completed in a year period in the time of the new government. The Union Minister expressed thanks to the State leaders on behalf of the people. Thanks to the dams, farmlands can be prevented from being flooded, there will be enough irrigation and the dam areas and its environs will be greened.

The Union Minister went on to say that the Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry was striving for agricultural development, the primary cause for rural development, in close cooperation with ministries concerned, region/state governments, agricultural companies double to triple the income and better living standard of each farmer. The Union Minister then urged the service personnel who are obliged to maintain the facilities and local people who will use the facilities to maintain those dams down to younger generations. The Union Minister also called on them to join in nation building efforts with Union spirit in unison for development of own regions, for equitable development across the nation and to repay the goodwill of the government that has spent a great deal of money for long-term national interests of all the citizens.

Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win said that thanks to construction of Salu, Kodukwe and Shwelaung dams, floods can be prevented at Bago, thanatpin and Kawa townships annually. The dams opened today were the 236th facility of its kind in the entire nation from 1988 to date and the 3rd project in Bago Region. He said that the government has spent its fund on construction of Salu, Kodukwe and Shwelaung dams and provide assistance for extension of sown acreage, use of quality paddy seeds, good agricultural patterns and fertilizers, minimizing loss and waste in cultivation and harvesting of crops as much as it can. In conclusion, the Region Chief Minister urged the local people to maintain the dam for its durability, alleviation of poverty of the people, doubling the incomes of farmers, uplifting of social standard, greening of the region all the year round, breeding of fresh water fish, availability of water for cattle, storage of water for fire preventive measures and prevention against floods in Bago, Thanatpin and Kawa townships.

Then, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing, the region chief minister and party looked round Salu Dam and Shwelaung Dam and Kodukwe Dam. — MNA

**Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint presents title and certificate to a Sayadaw** — MNA

In the presence of region ministers and officials, the Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint presented title and certificate to a Sayadaw.
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham

(from page 16) tasks of work committee and current situation of the university, requirements of the work, labs and teaching aid workshops of the university.

After that, the Vice-President asked matters related to job opportunities of students who graduated from the university, availability of certificates from ASEAN and international community and requirements. Union Minister Dr Mya Aye, the Chief Minister of the Region and Deputy Minister U Win Shein gave supplementary reports.

Next, the Vice-President planted a starflower tree in front of the university building. The Vice-President and party visited Marine Hydrodynamic Centre, Ship Model Towing Tank, Wave Generating Machine and Myanmar Maritime Museum (Photo Gallery). They then visited Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa in a motorcade.

On arrival at Yangon Railway Station, 4.30 pm.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham gives necessary instructions to departmental heads at the meeting hall of Myanmar Maritime University.——MNA

Specialists render free medical treatment in Kayin State

Phaya Thonezu Station Hospital in Kyainseikkyi Township of Kayin State on 15 May.

Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, state ministers, departmental personnel and social organization members comforted the patients and provided cash to the aged.

The state chief minister, wife Daw Nyunt Nyunt Wai and state minister presented free spectacles to patients with eye complaints, provided foodstuffs and cash assistance and contributed cash to the fund of the hospital.

The 10 teams of specialists provided free treatment to 1303 patients and presented 100 free spectacles to patients with poor eyesight. Kayin State Health Department is reported to be rendering monthly field health care services to rural folks.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham inspects Yangon Railway Station.——MNA

Auxiliary firefighter refresher course wraps up

YANGON, 19 May—The auxiliary firefighter refresher course-9/2012 of Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement concluded at the department (Head Office).

Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe in his speech called on those present this morning. Convocation Hall of Taunggyi University of Education was opened at the university.

President asked matters related to job opportunities and requirements of higher education sector to be adaptable from the university, related to job opportunities and requirements. Union Minister Dr Mya Aye, the Chief Minister of the Region and Deputy Minister U Win Shein gave supplementary reports.

Next, the Vice-President heard reports on functions of Myanmar Railways and runs of the trains that start from Yangon Railway Station and runs of the trains that start from Yangon Railway Station presented by Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin.

Afterwards, the Vice-President gave instructions on replacement of ageing coaches, eradication of illegal sales of train tickets, systematic sales of tickets for convenience of passengers, keeping circular railroad of Yangon clean and pleasant, runs of circular trains and sanitation works.

The Vice-President cordially greeted passengers on platform No. 1, 2 and 3. He inspected the coach that arrived from Shwetanyu and control room of train at the tower and left necessary instructions.——MNA

National Education Promotion (Higher Education Sector) Seminar opened

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May—The 2012 National Education Promotion (Higher Education Sector) Seminar of the Ministry of Education was opened at the Convocation Hall of Taunggyi University this morning.

Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe in his speech called on those present to do their bit with goodwill for promotion of higher education sector to be adaptable with the changing trend of the State. Also present on the occasion were Shan State ministers and officials, the chairman and vice-chairman of Myanmar Academy of Science and Arts, the directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Education, deputy directors-general, rectors, pro-rectors, professors and guests.

The seminar continues until 22 May.

MNA

Tarung Derajat sport referee and coaching course concludes

Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan delivered an address. President of International Tarung Derajat Federation (IFTD) and Asian Muay Federation Mr Sanipharph Intaraphap extended greetings.

Next, the Union Minister gave gifts to the trainers and completion certificates to the trainees. Later, the trainees demonstrated their skills. Also present at the ceremony were Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu and officials.

73-year-old woman’s Everest feat

KATHMANDU, 19 May—A 73-year-old Japanese has made history by becoming the oldest woman to scale the world’s highest mountain, Mount Everest, topping a record, she herself set a decade ago.

Tamae Watanabe, set foot on top of the world on Saturday, reaching the Everest’s summit at 8,848 metre, from the tough northern side in Tibet along with another Japanese Noriyuki Muraguchi and three Sherpa guides according to the Asian Trekking which organised the expedition.

Three other Sherpa guides who scaled the peak are Mingma Sherpa, Phurba Sherpa and Phurba Sherpa. The official said that the team had set out for the summit yesterday evening and successfully scaled the summit at 7 a.m., local time, on Saturday, after a night long ascent.

Ms. Watanabe became the oldest woman to scale Everest when she climbed the peak in 2002 at the age of 63. Her record stood till she bettered it.

The oldest male climber to scale Everest is a Nepalese Min Bahadur Sherpa, who reached the top at the age of 77. He had climbed the Everest in 2007.

Like Ms. Watanabe, Min Bahadur too has announced his intentions to make it atop Everest again in 2012 at the age of 82.
This is a moment for…

(from page 16)

This is a moment for us to recognize that the progress which has occurred in the last year toward democratization and national reconciliation is irreversible, as the minister said to me. The United States wants to do everything we can to be sure that is the reality.

I applauded the parliamentary elections and recent steps to be a step toward full democracy. We acknowledged it. But more than that, we want to be partners in seeing it continue. So today, we are announcing the nomination of Ambassador Derek Mitchell as our new ambassador, the first since 1990. Ambassador Mitchell is serving as our special representative. He is well known and respected in the region. I urge the United States Senate to quickly confirm him to this new post so he can continue our important work. And I look forward to welcoming your ambassador to Washington.

Today, I am also announcing new steps to permit American investment in the country and export of U.S. financial services. These are the most significant adjustments to our previous policy that has been taken to date. The United States will issue a general license that will enable American businesses to invest across the country, allow citizens access to international credit markets and dollar-based transactions.

So today, we say to American business: Invest in Burma and do it responsibly; be an agent of positive change and national reconciliation. And I heard a very promising report from the minister on the additional steps that are being taken to continue reform.

The United States is committed to supporting these reforms. We want to encourage it. We acknowledge it. But more than that, we want to be partners in seeing it continue. So today, we are announcing the nomination of Ambassador Derek Mitchell as our new ambassador, the first since 1990. Ambassador Mitchell is serving as our special representative. He is well known and respected in the region. I urge the United States Senate to quickly confirm him to this new post so he can continue our important work. And I look forward to welcoming your ambassador to Washington.

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This is a moment for...

(from page 10)

So we are very confident that suspending these sanctions and moving forward is exactly the right step to take for now, and we’re enthusiastically encouraging American businesses to invest.

UNION MINISTER U WUNNA MAUNG LWIN: Well, for the question you have asked me about the prisoners, the president has granted amnesty four times in the past 12 months, past 12 or 13 months. About 28,000 prisoners were released from prison, and we have (inadmissible) lists, so-called political prisoners, from the European Union as well as from the United States. And after the last amnesty, which has been granted in January, most of the people included in these lists were released.

And there are some remaining from the lists. After thoroughly checking and investigating these lists, there are they are some prisoners who have criminal offenses, such as murder, rapes, or connecting to terrorist activities. But the president, in exercising his mandate invested upon him by the constitution, he will further grant amnesties when appropriate.

On a personal note, I think this will answer your question. Constitution, he will further grant amnesties when appropriate.

SECRETARY MRS CLINTON: Well, let me say what I said when I was in Nay Pyi Taw. The United States does not expect any country to give up relationships with their neighbors. And China is a neighbor, and there are longstanding ties that certainly are deep in the soils of both nations. What we are doing is providing additional support for the kind of development, both politically and economically, that the reform process, which the government in Nay Pyi Taw has begun, has made possible.

But I do want to support your comments that China is disappointed with that, because we have explained the situation very clearly to the authorities and the respective and responsible ministry, and the Chinese company are discussing about the matter also. We have had a very good cooperation with China. So I think that this will not jeopardize the future relations with China.

On the part of the relation with United States, we have this pillar of our foreign policy to have good, friendly relations with relationships with all the countries around the world. In this aspect, we are working closely with United States to have a strong bilateral relations with United States also.

SECRETARY MRS CLINTON: Thank you very much.

Matriculation subjects taught to students before one month ahead of opening schools

Under the guidance of Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, the subjects to be taught at matriculation were provided to the students who passed the ninth standard, from 9 am to 12 noon daily before one month ahead of the opening of school from 23 April to 24 May.

The work was aimed at raising pass rate of matriculation examination for 2012-2013 academic year. It was reported that almost all the students of Basic Education High School No 4 in Pathein are needy in their family livelihoods. Headmistress Daw Kyi Nyein and teachers taught lessons of subjects to 84 students. As a result of extra teaching endeavours, the local students are delighted at enjoying the learning opportunities, and they adopted aims to be good leaders of the State on a day.

Parthen Hla Kyi

DISTRICT NEWS

Generator launched, library opened in Lewe Township

LEWE, 19 May—A ceremony to launch the generator and open Thuta Sanin Library and donate books and cash to the library was held at the pandal in Aungmyayya Village of Minbyin Village-tract of Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 14 May. The generation was donated by well-wisher U Kyi Thein of Kengtung and local people.

At first, member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myint Swe, Minbyin Village-tract Administrator U Myat Kyaw Thu and townselder U Myint Soe formally opened the generator.

Next, member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myint Swe, Staff Officer of District Information and Public Relations Department U San Lwin Oo, Head of Township IPRD U Ko Ko Gyi and Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Thet Naing Soe formally opened the library. —Township IPRD

YANGON, 19 May—Jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports, International Table Tennis Federation and Myanmar Tennis Federation, the Tournament Organization Course for Table Tennis 2012 commenced.

Olympic Committee Director-General U Thaung Htay of the Sports and Physical Education Department and officials attended the opening ceremony. At the ceremony, MOC General Secretary Director-General of SPED U Thaung Htay delivered an opening address. Secretary of Asian Table Tennis Federation Mr. Chang Foong Kong spoke words of encouragement.

Altogether 60 trainees from Ministry of Education, Ministry of Sports and regions and states in addition to 15 enthusiasts are attending the training course that lasted up to 21 May.

Myanmar Alin
Man, 83, is Britain’s oldest kidney donor

ABUJA, 19 May — Nigeria says it will send aloft satellites in 2015 and launch three telecommunications.

Minister of Science and Technology Ina Okon Bassey Ewa announced this at a briefing here to coincide with National Science and Technology Day 2012 and the anniversary of President Goodluck Jonathan’s administration. He said the move was part of government’s efforts to boost the economy through space technology.

The minister enumerated the country’s space programme from now to 2028 when it expects to launch a Made-in-Nigeria satellite into space, Xinhua reported. “In 2015 we are preparing to launch NigeriaSat-1 satellite. The NigeriaSAR is a security satellite with an acronym that stands for Synthetic Aperture Radar,” he said on Thursday.

“This satellite will have a very high resolution that can cover many kilometres, and for a backup, there will be NigeriaSat-2 and NigeriaSat-3,” Ewa said.

He said the new technology will be used to fully repay the country’s existing bank debt due in March 2013. “These newspapers are great products in both print and online. They are also an important part of the country’s culture, bringing people together,” he added.

Warren Buffett buys 63 newspapers in USD 142 million deal

WASHINGTON, 19 May — Billionaire Warren Buffett’s company Berkshire Hathaway Inc has signed a deal worth 142 million dollars, in cash, with Media General Inc agreeing to buy the company’s newspapers. A deal worth 142 million dollars, in cash, with Media General Inc agreeing to buy the company’s newspapers.

The media group, which includes websites and mobile and tablet applications, will be purchased by BH Media Group and will include 63 daily and weekly newspapers in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama, in addition to digital assets, including websites and mobile applications. Under a separate credit agreement, Berkshire Hathaway will provide Media General with a 400 million dollar term loan and a 45 million dollar revolving credit line.

The new loan will be used to fully repay the company’s existing bank debt due in March 2013. “These newspapers are great institutions and powerful brands in their respective markets. We are honoured to have the opportunity to work with our new colleagues as we continue to produce top-notch news and advertising products in both print and digital platforms,” Terry Kroeger, president of BH Media Group, said.

The Media General newspapers will be a part of BH Media Group, along with the Omaha World-Herald Company newspapers. A sister company of the Omaha World-Herald Company, World Media Enterprises, Inc will manage the Media General newspapers.

Management Tip of the Day: Turn enemies into allies

BOSTON, 19 May — Anyone who has faced a rival at work knows how catastrophic such a dynamic can be, but there are ways to flip the situation to your advantage, says Harvard Business Review.


“The project — dubbed ‘Moomouthmouth’ — has been in the works for six months, helped along by the local council’s installation of town-wide free Wi-Fi.

Local residents and businesses have created and edited articles about Moomouth that are linked to the barcodes, while other volunteers have been translating them. Czech speakers can now learn about Moomouth Castle in their native tongue, while Fijian Hindi speakers can check out articles on the Moomouth Cricket Club, Methodist Church of local Kings Head Hotel. Scholars of lesser-known languages such as Esperanto or Latin also have their pick of Moomouth-related articles.

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**Trawler nets Britain’s largest-ever oyster**

A trawler in Scotland’s Shetland Islands has netted what experts say may be the largest oyster ever caught in Britain, an 8-inch, 2-pound specimen.

The trawler Fiddlefish was 27 miles off the island of Bressay when it brought up the shell, the BBC reported. Fiddelias skipper Mark Anderson brought the oyster to the University of the Highlands and Islands Marine Centre, which documented its dimensions.

“Native oysters are relatively rare in Shetland waters and for one to be caught in a trawl is very unusual,” Marine Centre researcher Beth Leslie said. “This oyster was also found around 120m (400 feet), which is much deeper than would be expected for this species. Although it is not possible to accurately age the shell, it is possible that this individual could have been living for decades.”

The largest oyster ever recorded anywhere in the world was found in Chesapeake Bay in the United States, measuring almost 12 inches across.

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**Miley Cyrus’ teenage heartbreak**

**Los Angeles, 19 May—**

Singer actress Miley Cyrus says she was devastated after a break-up when she was 14 and didn’t think she would ever recover from her sorrow.

“I had my biggest heartbreak when I was 14 even though that sounds crazy, because I was 14, but that’s what love was to me,” contactmusic.com quoted her as saying.

“I was in love with somebody. I was in love with this person that I thought was so perfect and so amazing, so when you get your heart broken that’s all you see. I am like, ‘The rest of my life is ruined because he doesn’t love me back. He doesn’t think I’m pretty, then I’m not pretty, he doesn’t think I’m worth anything’s time,’ she added.

However the 19-year-old was confident that the bad phase will pass.

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**Naomi Watts ‘absolutely terrified’ by Princess Diana role**

**London, 19 May—**

Naomi Watts has revealed that she is “absolutely terrified” of playing the late Diana, Princess of Wales in her forthcoming film.

The Kent-born star is set to play the tragic royal during the last two years of her life in “Caught In Flight”, which explores her relationship with heart surgeon Dr Hasnat Khan.

The mother-of-two, 43, was speaking at the UK launch of Jacob’s Creek’s new Cool Harvest wines at the Orangery in London’s Holland Park. “She is a part of our history, an incredible woman and fascinating but a tragic ending,” the Daily Mail quoted her as saying.

The film-makers came to me and it’s a very good script and it’s very scary and I kind of wanted to say no but I couldn’t,” she said.

Ahead of filming, Watts said she was sweating up to the princess, who died in a Paris car crash in August 1997.

“Now I’m doing all the research and there is so much to read, just I hope we make a good film and people can learn something new about her that’s interesting.”

“There are a lot of people that knew her and a lot of books to read and so much information and one story is different to the next so it’s hard to gauge what was the truth.”

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**Man pickets over all-you-can-eat fish fry**

A Wisconsin man said he will picket a restaurant every Sunday until its all-you-can-eat fish fry lives up to its name. Bill Wisth, who stands at 6-foot-6 and weighs 350 pounds, said he went to the all-you-can-eat fish fry at Chuck’s Place in Thiensville and was angered when the restaurant cut him off after he downed a dozen pieces of fish. Wisth, a waitress at the Chuck’s Place, said Wisth was cut off because the kitchen was running out of fish. She said Wisth has caused disturbances at the restaurant before despite making allowances for the customer, including allowing him to run up a tab that he has yet to pay.

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**Pitbull wins pop songwriter prize**

**Los Angeles, 19 May—**

Cuban-American rapper Pitbull was named as one of three songwriters of the year at the BMI Pop Music Awards, handed out each year by US performing rights organization Broadcast Music Inc.

Pitbull shared the honour with American songwriter and producer Benny Blanco and Canadian composer and producer Ed Sheeran. Pitbull, while “Firework” (co-written by Dean and Sandy Vee) was the year’s top song in the country, a Press release said on Wednesday.

The 56th edition of the BMI Pop Awards took place for consumers,” Wisth said.

Wisth returned to the restaurant two days later with a picket sign and said he will stand outside the eatery every Sunday until it changes its policy during the all-you-can-eat fish fry.

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**Contactmusic reports. The script of the movie will be written by Dan Goor.**

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**Britannia**

**Los Angeles, 19 May—**

British actress and screenwriter Emma Thompson says she is penning a contemporary screen version of the musical “Annie.”

The BBC said Will Smith is producing the film, which will star his 11-year-old daughter, Willow.

“Tomorrow,” will also be included on the new movie’s soundtrack, Thompson said.

“I think it’s a very good combination,” the BBC quoted Thompson as saying.

“We’re looking for directors so the management will come up with a director in the next week or two weeks.”

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Japan eye women’s volleyball Olympic berth

Tokyo, 19 May—Hosts Japan are hoping home advantage in the final Olympic women’s volleyball qualifying tournament starting Saturday will help them secure a berth at London 2012 as they bid to end a 28-year medal drought.

Eight countries—Japan, Cuba, Peru, Russia, Serbia, South Korea, Taipei, and Thailand—will play in the nine-day round robin tournament in Tokyo, all chasing the final four of 12 women’s volleyball spots in London. The top three teams and the best Asian side other than that trio will book the ticket with the next two doubling as Asia’s continental elimination round.

Already qualified for London are hosts Britain, the top three teams at the 2011 World (Cape Town, United States) and (China) and the winners of the other continental qualifiers, Russia, Dominican Republic, Thailand, and Brazil. “Absolutely, our goal is to qualify at the top of the table although I know other Asian powers will also be desperate,” Japan coach Masayoshi Matsui, who is also Japan’s national media, Japan, the 1964 and 1976 Olympic champions, will be seeking their first medal since bagging the bronze at the 1984 Los Angeles Games.

Japan are currently third in the world rankings and the highest placed among the eight teams. But European champions Serbia, ranked sixth, could pose a threat against world champions Russia, ranked seventh, over the years. Russia, who defended their world title in 2010, are the most decorated women’s team in the Olympics with four gold medals and two silvers they won as the Soviet Union. But Japan finished third at the 2010 World championships and fourth at the 2011 World Cup in which they beat Brazil and the United States.

This file photo shows Japanese volleyball players listening to the national anthem before a match at the world women’s volleyball championship in Tokyo, in 2010. Japan are hoping home advantage in the final Olympic women’s volleyball qualifying tournament starting Saturday will help them secure a berth at London 2012 as they bid to end a 28-year medal drought.

London 2012 Olympic torch relay starts in Britain

London, 19 May—Sailor Ben Ainslie was the first torchbearer as the Olympic flame began its 80-day journey around Britain and Ireland on Saturday ahead of the London 2012 Games.

The flame arrived in Britain from Greece on Friday and was flown to Lord’s, the south-western tip of England, on Saturday by a Royal Navy helicopter before it was used to light the torch for the start of the 8,000-kilometre (5,000-mile) relay.

Ainslie, who has won gold medals in sailing at the last three Olympics, then walked just 300 metres, allowing some of the hundreds of spectators lining the route in the morning sunshine to touch the gold-coloured torch.

Accompanied by the number 001 on his T-shirt as the first torchbearer, then passed on the torch to a 19-year-old Anastasia Swallow, a surfer who is hoping her sport will one day become an Olympic discipline.

The torch will be carried by 8,000 people as it makes its way around the United Kingdom, with its final destination the Olympic Stadium in east London for the opening ceremony on 27 July. From 3-7 June, it will visit Northern Ireland and then the Republic of Ireland the only country outside the United Kingdom on the torch route.

Former England footballer David Beckham carries the Olympic torch as it arrives at Los Angeles California base in Cornwall, southwest England, on 18 May.—INTERNET

Djokovic, Federer in heavyweight semi-final clash

Rome, 19 May—Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer will clash for the 25th time in Saturday’s Rome Masters semi-finals when the world’s top two players also progressed, ensuring the big three all made the last four of this crucial French Open warm-up.

Defending champion Djokovic, the top seed, saw through the first set, before racing away in the second to beat French fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 7-6, 6-1. Federer, fresh from his Madrid Masters triumph last weekend, followed suit, with a 6-1, 6-2 demolition of Italian Andreas Seppi in just 53 minutes with the Swiss third seed winning 14 of the first 15 points.

Second seed Nadal, meanwhile, got the better of Czech seventh seed Tomas Berdych, grinding out a 6-4, 7-5 win and will meet fellow Spaniard David Ferrer.

“It was a very good match for me. From the start I played aggressive,” said Federer.

“The goals have to be the same against Djokovic—take it to him and play my game. Rome is one of the few big events Federer has not won, losing finals in 2003 and 2006. But the Swiss star, who hasn’t played Djokovic since his US Open semi-final defeat last year, showed his clay game is nearing perfection, just a week before the start of the French Open.

Djokovic was tested early on by Tsonga in a first set with five breaks of serve. But after winning the opener in nearly an hour, he breezed into the quarter-finals as the top seed came home for his 29th win of the season.

“In the second set I played one of the best sets on clay this year,” said Serb star Djokovic.

Rome, 19 May—Former England coach Fabio Capello is not in talks with Chelsea, his son said Friday.

“If unfortunately, these are just wonderful inventions by newspapers,” Pierfilippo Capello, who is also his father’s lawyer, was quoted as saying by calcio mercato.com on various press reports linking Capello to Chelsea.

Capello resigned as England boss in February after criticising the Football Association for stripping John Terry of the captaincy for allegedly racially abusing QPR’s Anton Ferdinand during a match. Terry strongly denies the charges. The Italian previously won everything in club football in spells as coach of AC Milan, Roma and Juventus while he twice won the Spanish title in two spells with Real Madrid when he played as a defender.

Former England coach Fabio Capello pictured in February 2012.—INTERNET

14 THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Sunday, 20 May, 2012

McArthur signs new Wigan contract

London, 19 May—Wigan Athletic’s Scottish midfielder James McArthur signed a two-year contract extension with the Premier League club on Friday. McArthur, 24, has been rewarded for playing a key part in the Latics’ top-flight survival as Robertone Maritimo’s side climbed away from the relegation zone with impressive wins over Manchester United, Arsenal, Liverpool and Newcastle United in the closing weeks of the season.

Wigan Athletic’s Scottish midfielder James McArthur, pictured in February 2012, signed a two-year contract extension with the Premier League club on Friday.

Video
Focus Myanmar TV Programme

Weather forecast for 20th May, 2012

MONDAY

1. FOCUS MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
   [20-5-12 09:30 am – 21-5-12 09:30 am (MST)]
   * News
   * Top International Fashion Galleria Yangon 2012
   * News
   * Music Programme
   * News
   * Myanmar Movies
   Impact “I feel like… you”
   * News
   * Shwe Mm Tha Foundation 4th Annual Ceremony
   * News
   * My People’s Celebrities “Eaindra Kyaw Zin”
   * News
   * Today’s Efficient
   * News
   * Panca Rupa
   * News
   * Myanmar Today
   * News
   * Myanmar Today’s Efficient
   * News
   * Myanmar Movies
   “Mystery of Snow”

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

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Answers for Yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

Indonesia calls off search for jet crash victims

Jakarta, 19 May—Indonesian officials have called off the search for victims of a Russian jet crash, the operation’s head said on Saturday as experts continue their probe into why it flew into a dormant volcano.

The new Sukhoi Superjet 100 slammed into Mount Salak, south of the capital Jakarta, on 9 May with the loss of all 45 passengers and crew on board. Body parts were flung over dense forest and down a deep ravine.

As experts analyse data from the plane’s cockpit voice recorder for clues as to why it crashed during a demonstration flight, officials closed off the search for victims. “The national rescue agency closed off the search on Friday as we’d recovered as many body parts as we could,” Colonel Anton Mukti Putranto said.

“I want to make it clear there’s a lot of rumours about me being offered to Barcelona. It’s not true,” Drogba said.

“Everybody’s talking about ‘last game last game’, but I’m just happy because we’re in the Champions League final,” he said.

Drogba did leave the door ajar though for the possibility of extending his eight-year stay at Stamford Bridge, saying he was willing to “sit down and talk” with club chief executive Ron Gourlay.

“We’re in the Champions League final,” he said.

“Really what is important is not my future, my contract, it’s the team. I want to give everything to the team and the fans and then we’ll see what happens.”

CERTIFICATES PRESENTED: A ceremony to present certificates and school equipment to students of Pre Primary School opened by Bahan Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 14 May. Chairperson of Yangon West District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Myint Myint Kyi presents certificates and school equipment to students. — Towson PRD

Indonesian rescue personnel prepare to evacuate a body bag containing remains of victims’ bodies from the Russian Sukhoi plane crash at the rescue base in Cijeruk, on 17 May. —INTERNET

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Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham inspects MITT, Myanmar Maritime University, Thilawa Industrial Zone, Yangon Railway Station

YANGON, 19 May—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his wife, Daw San Myin Htun, were accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Thura U Myint Maung, U Ohn Myint, U Soe Maung, U Khin Yi, U Tin Han and Dr Mya Aye, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and their wives, deputy ministers, region ministers and officials, visited Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his wife, Daw San Myin Htun, were accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Thura U Myint Maung, U Ohn Myint, U Soe Maung, U Khin Yi, U Tin Han and Dr Mya Aye, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and their wives, deputy ministers, region ministers and officials, visited Myanmar Maritime University, Thilawa Industrial Zone, Yangon South District, at 10.45 am today. They offered flowers, water and lights and paid homage to Sutaungpyae Ngatay Pagoda and Kyakhtmarawun Yayle Pagoda.

Then, the Vice-President and wife and party made cash donations for all-round renovation of the pagoda and the Vice-President signed in the visitors’ book. They fed the fish from the fish sanctuary and offered flowers, water and lights to the Labamuni Buddha Image.

The Vice-President and party proceeded to Myanmar International Terminal (Thilawa). At the briefing hall, Myanmar Port Authority Managing Director U Cho Than Maung reported on berthing of vessels at Yangon Port, berthing of 20,000-ton vessels at MITT, area of the port, condition of jetties, investment, development tasks of MITT and annual handling of containers from ocean-going vessels. MITT General Manager U Min Kyi also reported on emergence of MITT, organizational set-up, strength of the staff, berthing of vessels, handling of containers, annual inbounds and outbounds of vessels, annual handling of containers and commodities. Then, Chairman of Thilawa Special Economic Zone Management Committee Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein reported on land use of the Special Economic Zone, organizational set-up of the zone, ongoing tasks in the zone, needs for upgrading buildings in the zone and development tasks of Thilawa Port.

As the Vice-President asked what he wanted to know, the Managing Director of Myanmar Port Authority and the General Manager of Thilawa Wharf submitted reports on their respective sectors. The Region Chief Minister gave a supplementary report.

At 2.20 pm, the Vice-President and party arrived at Myanmar Maritime University. At the meeting hall, Rector Dr Charlie Than reported on aims of the university, implementation, accomplishments of ship building and (See page 9)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham inspects Yangon Railway Station.—MNA

SECRETARY MRS CLINTON: I am delighted to welcome the foreign minister here today to Washington. We have been looking forward to Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin’s visit and the continuation of the close consultation and cooperation that has begun taking place between our two countries. We met in Nay Pyi Taw last December, and I am very pleased to have you here, sir.

This is a historic visit — the first in decades, and it is a testament to how far we have come together in a short period of time. I want to salute President U Thein Sein for his leadership and the leadership of his government as it charts a path of political and democratic reform for his country. I want to salute those like Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all who struggled and sacrificed because they believe in a better future for their country as well.

And I want to thank everyone here in the United States who has supported this process and understands the significance of what is happening. In particular, our partners on Capitol Hill — Republican and Democrat alike — including Senators McConnell, McCain, Kerry, Webb, Shaheen, Congressman Crowley, and others.

(See page 10)

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (19-5-2012)

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This is a moment for us to recognize that progress which has occurred in last year toward democratization and national reconciliation is irreversible

New steps announced to permit American investment in country and export of US financial services

Let’s all work together to create jobs, opportunity, and support reform

NAY PYI TAW, 19 May — Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin who was on an official visit in US at the invitation of US Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton met her at the US Department of State on 17 May.

During the meeting, the Union Minister explained Myanmar’s measures for resumption of normal diplomatic relations between the two nations in last year toward democratization and national reconciliation efforts. He also proposed Washington to fully lift its sanctions imposed against Myanmar and submiting one-sidedly adopted bills on Myanmar human rights issues to the UN General Assembly and Human Rights Commission.

Mrs Clinton announced the Union Minister’s visit as the historic visit that further affirmed the Washington’s commitment to promote the bilateral relations. She said President Obama will issue an order to suspend financial restrictions imposed against Myanmar so as to shape the way for American investment in Myanmar, commercial transactions and loans from international monetary organizations. Under that order, the Secretary of State is invested with the authority to let American businessmen to make investments in economic sectors including oil and gas, and mining and so on. Currently, except sanctions on arms deals, other restrictions will be suspended. It is because there are still limitations to fully lift the restrictions under the procedures of the Congress. Washington will take steps to assist in health, education and other sectors. Mrs Clinton praised the President’s efforts for democratization, socio-economic life improvement of people and resolving conflicts with ethnic armed groups, articulating Washington’s commitment to peacemaking process. She expressed Washington’s concerns over human rights and ethnic armed groups issues in Myanmar and military relations between Myanmar and North Korea and her wish to see the release of political prisoners.

After the meeting, the two foreign ministers made the press briefing. Their speeches and answers to interview questions are as follows:

SECRETARY MRS CLINTON: I am delighted to welcome the foreign minister here today to Washington. We have been looking forward to Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin’s visit and the continuation of the close consultation and cooperation that has begun taking place between our two countries. We met in Nay Pyi Taw last December, and I am very pleased to have you here, sir.

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