Consecration ceremony of bronze Buddha Image and golden throne held

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—The consecration ceremony of bronze Buddha Image and golden throne donated by President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win was held at Shwe Moat Htaw Pagoda in Pathein of Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, Deputy Minister for Cooperatives U Than Tun, Ayeyawady Region ministers, region level departmental personnel, members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees, members of social and religious organizations, townswelders and local people.

Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the Pagoda consecrated the Buddha Image.

The congregation received the Five Precepts from members of Sangha and shared merits gained.

The Union Minister, the Region chief minister and guests offered meals to members of Sangha.

Union Minister U Thein Nyunt, Chief Minister U Thein Aung, Deputy Cooperatives Minister U Than Tun, Deputy Health Minister Dr Win Myint and officials attended opening of 16-bedded station hospital in Wetchaung village in Kyanggon Township.

Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint, Region Social Affairs Minister U San Maung, retired Attorney-General U Aye Maung and Chairman of Max Myanmar Company U Zaw Zaw formally opened the hospital.

The chairman of Max Myanmar Co handed over documents related to the hospital to the deputy health minister. A local spoke words of thanks.

The Union Minister, the chief minister and officials viewed round the hospital capable of providing medical treatment to over 81,367 villagers from five village-tracts in Kyonpyaw Township.

The Union Minister, the Region chief minister, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint and the retired attorney-general addressed the ceremony to hand over the hospital.

U Zaw Zaw donated K 430 million for construction of the hospital through Region Social Affairs Minister U San Maung who also accepted donations of wellwishers.

EP-2 Minister inspects diesel-fired power station in Kengtung

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Union Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Soe visited State electrical engineer office in Kengtung, Shan State (East) on 18 May. The Union Minister heard the reports on distribution of electricity, reduction of unit losses, safety measures and staff affairs.

After that, the Union Minister inspected sub-power station (33/11KV) and 500-KVA Diesel-fired power station and fulfilled the needs.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount (inches)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyiekkhame</td>
<td>(2.48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manaung</td>
<td>(2.20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thaton</td>
<td>(2.13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwa</td>
<td>(1.89)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PyinOolwin</td>
<td>(1.48)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maubin</td>
<td>(1.38)</td>
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<tr>
<td>An</td>
<td>(1.30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heho</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loikaw</td>
<td>(1.06)</td>
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Significant Day Temperatures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Temperature (°C)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chauk</td>
<td>(45°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalay</td>
<td>(35°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Momyi</td>
<td>(40°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myingyan</td>
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<tr>
<td>NyaungU</td>
<td>(45°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakokku</td>
<td>(45°C)</td>
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Help civil servants say no to bribery

The country is now marching towards a better future with the steady transformation of economic, political and social sectors. And necessary amendments to the relevant laws and regulations are being made, and economic and investment policies and investment laws are under review to be compatible with other countries.

At a time when direct foreign investments are being invited, it is necessary for all the civil servants to help the country prove its integrity to the international community.

Looking at from the point of view of the country going through a transition, it seems inevitable that we still have to cope with the issue of corruption, which is one of the major setbacks to the democratization process, although the new administration does not tolerate the dishonest behaviour.

It’s no exaggeration to say that the people have long been fed up with corruption and bribery cases, all of which wreck the competitiveness of businesses and industries at the expense of the country’s interest. Corruption not only adds unnecessary costs at the expense of consumers but also instills the negative mentality, especially among the youth, that corruption is acceptable. Even in the light of recent corruption scandals, it seems some departmental officials still cannot refuse a bribe.

The country will never be reformed unless the corruption issue is seriously tackled and those found guilty are properly held responsible for their actions. The country would not face serious financial problem if there is no corruption and irregularities deeply entrenched in some government departments.

It is imperative that the new administration proves the validity of every case that is brought to public attention. If an investigation pinpoints any culprit, he or she must be punished as an example. In this context, it is necessary for all the civil servants to help the country prove its integrity to the international community.

In meeting with General Secretary Mr Chen Lu Ping of CPC Jieyang Committee and Chairman of Gems Merchants Association Mr Xai Yihai in Jieyang on 15 May, the Union Minister discussed matters related to finished jade products development and sales promotion of gems emporium.

On 16 May, the Union Minister and party visited Hong Kong Gems Polishing Training School in Hong Kong. They discussed sales promotion of gems emporium with personnel of district administration organ of Hong Kong on 17 May and arrived back here on 18 May.---MNA

Chinese cultural troupe stages entertainment show in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 20 May—Chinese cultural troupe staged Myanmar-China friendship entertainment show at National theatre on 18 May, enjoyed by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and wife.

Among the spectators were members of regional organizations, and their wives, Mandalay-based Consul-General Mr Ye Kibon and wife, Indian Consul-General Dr Madan Mihan Sethi, and enthusiasts.

The entertainment featured single singing, playing of Chinese traditional musical instruments, Beijing opera, circus, magic, ballet and duet singing.

The region chief minister and the Chinese Consul-General after the show presented bouquet to the cultural troupe and posed for documentary photo. ---MNA

UMFCCI, Chinese guests discuss signing of MoU

YANGON, 21 May—Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Vice-Presidents U Aung Lwin and U Tin Aung and CEC received Mr You Jianhua of China NGO Network for International Exchange and party of the People’s Republic of China at the Federation on 16 May.

They cordially discussed signing Memorandum of Understanding with the Federation. ---MNA

Union Mines Minister attends China-ASEAN Mining Cooperation Forum and Promotion Exhibition

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htay attended China-ASEAN Mining Cooperation Forum and Promotion Exhibition 2012 at Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre in Nanning of Guangxi Province in PRC.—MNA

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Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htay speaks at China-ASEAN Mining Cooperation Forum and Promotion Exhibition 2012 at Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre in Nanning of Guangxi Province in PRC.—MNA

1486th Anniversary of Prophet Day marked

YANGON, 21 May—A ceremony to celebrate the 1486th Anniversary of Prophet Day was held at Yuzana Garden Hotel here yesterday evening. Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, region ministers, officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Chairman of the Central Committee for celebrating the 1486th Anniversary of Prophet Day and others.

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Books for rural libraries in Pyaywbwe

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—The donors have been contributing to various kind of journal to self-reliant libraries so as to broaden the knowledge of the villagers.

So, a family of U Tin Aung Saw & Daw Khin Moe (Shwekeikpyar 84A) donated 236 issues of journals to the self-reliant libraries opened in the villages of Pyaywbwe Township through Township Staff Officer U Phone Naing of the Township Information and Public Relations Department. Next he spoke words of thanks. ---MNA
President Barack Obama and NATO partners want to show their war-weary voters the end is in sight in a conflict that has dragged on for more than a decade while at the same time trying to reassure Afghans that they will not be abandoned.

"There will be no rush for the exits," NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said at the summit got under way. He sought to put up a show of unity even as France's new President Francois Hollande vowed to stick by his pledge to withdraw French troops by year's end, two years earlier than the alliance timetable.

NATO's plan is to shift full responsibility to Afghan forces for security across the country by the middle of next year and then withdraw most of its 130,000 combat troops by the end of 2014, Rasmussen said.

While foreign forces will continue to fight the Taleban and other militants as necessary—and in a way very necessary—the new mission for US and NATO troops will assume a new focus on advising and supporting Afghan soldiers.—Reuters

**Fed by dry brush, wildfires persist in Southwest**

PHOENIX, 21 May—An Arizona wildfire whipped up by winds and dry conditions threatened to trigger more evacuations on Sunday, just as firefighting forces were nearly done battling the biggest of four blazes in the state.

Fires in Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado have forced the evacuation of several small towns and torched more than 65 square miles (168 square km) of forest, brush and grass in the US Southwest.

One of the new fires strains the already overburdened fire service in the state this year after a record 2011 fire season in which nearly 2,000 fires consumed more than 1.5 million acres (6,000 square km), according to the National Interagency Fire Centre.

The so-called Gladiator Fire was the greatest concern for fire fighters on Sunday. After getting a respite from winds on Saturday, they faced a combination of dry vegetation and higher winds on Sunday and the days ahead.

“We’re expecting more extreme fire behavior today. The fuel is dry and conditions are dangerous,” said Michelle Fidler, a spokeswoman for the departments fighting the fire.

More evacuations were possible, she said. The Gladiator fire, named after an old mine in the area, destroyed four structures and forced about 350 residents of the old mining town of Crown King to leave their homes earlier in the week. It also prompted the evacuation of three tiny and remote Arizona communities on Friday.

The fire, which was 10 percent contained, had burned more than 20 square miles (51 square km).—Reuters

**NATO to hand combat role to Afghans as it seeks way out of war**

CHICAGO, 21 May—NATO will hand over the lead role in combat operations to Afghan forces across the country by mid-2013, alliance leaders said on Sunday as they charted a path out of war that has lost public support and strained budgets in Western nations.

A NATO summit in Chicago on Monday will formally endorse a US-backed strategy for a gradual exit from Afghanistan, a move aimed at holding together an allied force scrambling to cope with France’s decision to withdraw its troops early.

"We have a plan of action ... where we can put it into effect—in in that sense all our guns are loaded."—Reuters

**Putin to dominate new Russian government**

MOSCOW, 21 May—Russian President Vladimir Putin will head a government dominated by loyalists on Monday, leaving Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev limited scope to pursue his reform agenda and entrenching the Kremlin’s grip over the economy’s commanding heights.

Medvedev, 46, named premier after Putin returned to the Kremlin on 7 May, has pledged to launch pro-growth policies and a privatisation strategy for a gradual exit from Afghanistan, a move aimed at holding together an allied force scrambling to cope with France’s decision to withdraw its troops early.

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NASA chooses rocket for Orion launches

**Cape Canaveral, 21 May**—NASA says it will modify an existing and proven Delta IV rocket second stage to launch an Orion spacecraft on an unmanned test flight in 2014.

A manned flight to lunar orbit is planned for four years after that, the agency said. The Boeing upper stage is the “only means available to support the immediate in-space propulsion needs” for the excursions, NASA said in a statement.

An internal study of in-space propulsion systems available in the United States, Europe and Japan determined the Delta IV upper stage “is the only known option that could require relatively minor modifications” to meet requirements as well as the launch schedule, NASA said. The Delta IV second stage is powered by a single Pratt & Whitney RL-10B2 hydrogen fuel engine. Both Orion missions will be launched from complex 39B at Kennedy Space Centre on early-versions of NASA’s new heavy-lift Space Launch System, Florida Today reported.

**Artist’s impression of Orion capsule with crew.**

**Merging tech companies could deepen digital divide**

of new communication technologies such as cellular phones and fiber optic cable that make copper-based telephone land lines obsolete. However, not all these alternatives are as affordable and as ubiquitous as copper land lines, so policy makers could leave many rural residents underserved, Penn State telecommunication researcher Rob Frieden says.

“Moving away from copper lines is an example of abandoning obsolete technology and embracing technology that is faster, better, cheaper and more convenient,” he said. “But the risk is that we may be creating a digital divide — not necessarily a divide between the rich and poor, but between the information rich and information poor.

Rural customers could replace land line telephones with cellular phones, for example, but most cell phone companies charge a fee for each minute of use — metering rural customers could leave many rural residents underserved, Penn State telecommunication researcher Rob Frieden says.

“Moving away from copper lines is an example of abandoning obsolete technology and embracing technology that is faster, better, cheaper and more convenient,” he said. “But there are lots of places — including places in rural Pennsylvania, West Virginia and New York — that do not have cell phone service, or metered limited services not suitable for broadband Internet access.”

There are other forms of competition now,” Frieden acknowledges, “but these alternatives are not fair or adequate everywhere.”

**Whales can ‘turn down’ their hearing**

**Honolulu, 21 May**—Whales can “adjust” their super-sensitive hearing, used to hunt and navigate, and turn it down when they anticipate loud noises, US researchers say.

Scientists at the University of Hawaii conducted a study using a trained false killer whale, or marine dolphin, named Kina. Paul Nachtrigall and a colleague, Alexander Supin from the Russian Academy of Sciences, said they suspected Kina might have the ability “to control the level of her hearing.” They placed sensors contained within soft latex suction cups on Kina’s body to measure the electrical activity in Kina’s brain as it responded to sound as she hunted.

The researchers monitored the whale’s brain while they played a “neutral tone,” an innocuous beep, then followed that with a 5-second pulse of 170 decibels, equivalent to aición shot.

Over time, they said, Kina learned this neutral tone was a warning signal and turned down her hearing sensitivity when she heard it, so the sensors recorded a smaller signal from the subsequent loud noises.

Scientists such as dolphins, sperm whales and killer whales that use echolocation for hunting have evolved this rapidly adjustable hearing to protect themselves from their own clicks and buzzes, Nachtrigall said. “If they sound too powerful they are very loud — they can be over 230-decibel pulses, and then must listen immediately for very quiet echoes,” he told the BBC.

“Her whole head is an ear. There are many paths for sound to travel up to her actual ears,” he said. — Internet

**Earth’s carbon sinks keeping up with CO2**

**Boulder, 21 May**—Earth’s ecosystems are still capable of soaking up more carbon as greenhouse gases accumulate in the atmosphere, a US study finds.

Researchers with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration say the carbon contradicts several recent studies that suggested the world’s natural “carbon sinks” have reached or passed their capacity, and in fact total capacity has increased roughly in line with rising emissions, ScienceNews reported.

“The sinks have been able to keep up with emissions,” Pieter Tans, an atmospheric scientist at NOAA’s Earth System Research Laboratory in Boulder, Colo, said. Measurements of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide show levels are rising steadily, from 316 parts per million in 1859 to 392 parts per million today.

However, these results can’t keep pace with the carbon dioxide levels as they increase in the air, researchers said. Researchers monitored 42 marine sites where carbon dioxide levels have been measured for decades to analyze how much CO2 was in the atmosphere above each of these sites over time. “Less carbon dioxide has remained in the marine atmosphere, relative to the amount of fossil fuel emissions, compared to 50 years ago,” Tans said. Exactly how the sinks are keeping up is unclear, researchers said.

One possibility is that forests are regrowing in parts of the world more than scientists had thought, or the oceans may be taking up significantly more carbon than had been estimated, they said. — Internet

**System can help the blind navigate indoors**

** Reno, 21 May**—A low-cost indoor navigation system for the blind based on human-computer interaction can run on a standard smartphone, US engineers say.

Computer science engineering researchers at the University of Nevada, Reno, presented their accessible navigation system called Navator at two national conferences in the last two weeks, the university reported in a release on Friday.

The system uses digital 2-D architectural maps that are available for many buildings and uses low-cost sensors such as accelerometers and compasses available in most smartphones to allow users with visual impairments to navigate indoor environments.

“Existing indoor navigation systems typically require the use of expensive and heavy sensors, or equipping rooms and hallways with radio-frequency tags that can be detected by a handheld reader and which are used to determine a user’s location,” Kostas Bekris of the university’s Robotics Research Lab said.

“This has often made the implementation of such systems prohibitively expensive, with few systems having been deployed.”

Navator locates and tracks the user inside the building, finds the most suitable path based on the user’s special needs and gives step-by-step instructions to the destination, Bekris said.

“Nevertheless, the smartphone’s sensors, which are used to calculate how many steps the user has executed and her orientation, tend to pick up false signals,” researcher Elke Folmer said.

“To synchronize the location, our system combines probabilistic algorithms and the natural capabilities of people with visual impairments to detect landmarks in their environment through touch, such as corridor intersections, doors, stairs and elevators.”

“This is a very cool mix of disciplines, using the user as a sensor combined with sophisticated localization algorithms from the field of robotics,” Folmer said.
NY NEW YORK, May 21—Antibiotics are still better than probiotics at preventing urinary tract infections, but at least “good bacteria” don’t add to a person’s antibiotic resistance, a new study concludes. Recurring UTIs are common among some women and low-dose antibiotics are sometimes used to prevent them. The worry is that overuse of the drugs also reduces their effectiveness by making disease-causing bacteria like E. coli resistant.

“This is an increasing worldwide problem, resulting into less and less treatment options for (severe) bacterial infections in all countries of the world,” Dr Suzanne Geerlings, from the Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands and one of the new study’s authors, wrote in an email to Reuters Health.

The women who lived in communities surrounding the medical centre, were all postmenopausal—a time when vulnerability to UTIs increases because of hormonal changes, according to the researchers.

All the participants reported having had at least three UTIs in the year before the trial began, and the average number seven was.

The women were separated into two groups of about the same size. One group took a single dose of the antibiotic co-trimoxazole (Bactrim, Septra and others) every day for twelve months, while the other group took two capsules containing Lactobacillus rhamnosus GR-1 and Lactobacillus reuteri RC-14, both types of beneficial bacteria, daily.

All the participants also took placebo pills so the patients and the people dispensing the pills wouldn’t know who received which treatment— to minimize any influence on the study’s results. The researchers then tracked how many UTIs occurred in each group of women over a year. They also collected vaginal swabs and samples of the women’s urine and feces every month to test for the presence of good bacteria and infection-causing bacteria like E. coli.

Traditionally, women took a monthly survey asking about symptoms of UTIs, side effects, other infections and antibiotic use. Overall, the antibiotics were slightly better at keeping UTIs away. About 69 percent of the women in the group taking the antibiotics had none or very few UTIs within the year. On average, the antibiotic group had 2.9 UTIs per woman.

As the probiotic group, about 79 percent regularly used a UTI drug within the year, with an average of 3.3 UTIs per woman.

The women taking the antibiotic also seemed to go twice as long with a UTI—six months, compared with three months among women taking the probiotics.

Based on the women’s urine and feces samples, however, resistance to a range of antibiotics seemed to increase within the first month in the antibiotic group.

Before the study, about 20 percent to 40 percent of E. coli samples in all the women’s bodies were resistant to co-trimoxazole.

At the 12-month mark, between 8 and 16 percent of the bacteria were resistant in the women taking the antibiotic.

Rates of resistant E. coli were slightly lower at 12 months in women taking the probiotics than when the study began.

Similar changes in antibiotic resistance were seen for a range of other antibiotics, including ciprofloxacin and gentamicin, among both groups of women—which, the researchers speculate might be because the same mechanism in certain bacteria allows them to resist several different drugs.

The absence of increased resistance among women taking the probiotics means that “lactobacilli may be an acceptable alternative for prevention of UTIs, especially in women who dislike taking antibiotics,” the researchers wrote in the Archives of Internal Medicine. The study, however, had several limitations.

Antibiotics prevent UTIs better than probiotics

COLUMBUS, May 21—People who have a parent with high blood pressure can reduce their risk of hypertension with moderate exercise, US researchers say.

Lead author Robin P Shook, a doctoral candidate in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina in Columbus, said the study showed that predominantly Caucasian adults ages 20-80 for an average 4.7 years. Thirty-three percent of participants reported a parent had hypertension.

When the study began, all participants were healthy, did not have hypertension and achieved an exercise test score of at least 85 percent of their age-predicted maximal heart rate. During the study, 1,545 participants developed hypertension.

The study, published in the journal Hypertension, found high levels of fitness were associated with a 42 percent lower risk of developing hypertension, and moderate levels of fitness with a 26 percent lower risk.

People with both a low level of fitness and a parent with hypertension had a 70 percent higher risk for developing hypertension, compared with highly fit people with no parental history, Shook said.

The results of this study send a very practical message, which is that even a very realistic, moderate amount of exercise—which we define as brisk walking for 150 minutes per week—can provide a huge health benefit, particularly to people predisposed to hypertension because of their family history,” Shook said in a statement.

Platform users load the value of the Facebook, Inc stock at the closing bell at the NASDAQ MarketSite in New York, 18 May, 2012. In late trading, Facebook stock jumped only a few cents above the company’s initial public offering price of $38, after opening 11 percent higher, rapidly heading south to touch their initial price and then rebounding by several dollars.

Overseas companies target China’s ageing population

BEIJING, May 21—China, which has one of the world’s largest elderly populations, has attracted more and more overseas companies in selling products and services for the aged. China Daily reported. Martin Cook, chairman of a British company selling products for the elderly and disabled, said: “It (China) is a massive, massive market.”

In the 1990s, Cook outsourced his manufacturing to China and imported the products into Europe. In April, he set up an office in Shanghai to sell products in China.

Cook said the most popular product his company sells in China was a plastic ramp system made in Denmark, which costs 300 yuan (USD 47).

Terada Daisuke, from a leading service provider in Japan, said his group will share “Japanese professional nursing skills” in China by providing services in design and operation of nursing homes. More than 185 million Chinese were 60 or older by the end of 2011, according to the ministry of civil affairs, Lu Ying, director of social welfare and charities under the ministry of civil affairs, said the government alone can never meet the needs of the rapidly ageing population.

“The increase in the elderly population has helped to create new business opportunities,” Lu said. Lu estimated that old-age support services have a potential market value of more than 450 billion yuan (over USD 70 billion).
Mommyat Cooperatives Ltd provides cash assistance to member fire victims

MYANMAR, 21 May—A ceremony to provide cash assistance to member fire victims in Kyaukhtatya ward by Mommyat Micro Credit Cooperatives Ltd took place at Cooperatives Ltd in Myintu Township on 6 May. At the ceremony, the Sagaing Region Minister for Planning and Commerce delivered a speech. After that, deputy director of Cooperatives of Sagaing Region Daw Tin Yi explained tasks being carried out for rural development and poverty alleviation. Chairman of Mommyat Cooperatives Ltd U Shwe Mann also explained the objectives and undertakings for socioeconomic development. Afterwards, the Region Minister and head of Region Cooperatives donated K150,000 per to fire victims.—Myanma Alin

Farm, Forest and Agriculture Course opens in Yesagyo

YESAGYO, 21 May—Opening of Farm, Forest and Agriculture Course (16/2012), jointly conducted by Agriculture Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and OISCA International, was held at training school in Pakhangyivillage, Yesagyo Township in Pakokku District on 17 May. At the ceremony, Pakokku District Administrator U Khin Maung Yi, Second-secretary Mr Hideki Wata from Japanese Embassy and principal Mr Keisuke Fuji delivered opening speeches. After that, head of Pakokku District Agriculture Department explained facts about the course. It was also attended by district level departmental heads, officials from Japanese Embassy, Yesagyo Township Administrator U Khang Tun and departmental heads, course instructors and trainees. —Kyemon

Meeting of MNL Committee and Club Owners held

YANGON, 21 May—Myanmar Football Federation held meeting of MNL Committee and Club Owners at Executive Room in Sedona Hotel on 19 May. At the ceremony, President of MFF U Zaw Zaw delivered a speech. Afterwards, clubowners and officials presented difficulties and necessities. The MFF President and officials discussed the reports. It was also attended by Director-General U Thaug Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department from the Ministry of Sports, club owners and officials, media and MFF branch incharges.—Zaw Min Aung

Specialists give educative talks on health in Shwepyitha

YANGON, 21 May—A medical team led by Medical Superintendent of Insein Hospital Dr Aung San gave educative talks on health at Shwepyitha Township People’s Hospital in Shwepyitha Township in Yangon North District, on 19 May. The medical team comprising specialists and 50 members is giving free medical treatment to 465 local people in cooperation with Township Administrator U Aung Moe Oo. —Myanma Alin

K 200 lottery tickets available in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 21 May—K 200 lottery tickets are available at Internal Revenue Department in Chanayuthazan Township on 84* Street in Mandalay. Other lottery shops sell for K 250 per ticket. —Kyemon

Educative talks on establishing rural house and environmental conservation held

THAYAWADY, 20 May—Educative talks on establishing rural house, growing hardwood, establishing teak plantation and environmental conservation, took place on Basic Education Middle School in Htelvlu village in Thayawady Township on 16 May. Head U Win Tan of Township Forest Department and staff gave educative talks. Forest Department of Thayawady Township will grow 15000 teak saplings, 63000 hardwood saplings, 12,000 saplings for village-own plantations and 40,000 saplings for distribution in the coming rainy season. —Forest Department

Sein Gay Har provides care to unhealthy aged in Seesar home

YANGON, 21 May—To mark Mothers’ Day, Sein Gay Har family donated meals and provided care to the aged in Seesar home for the unhealthy aged together with Mar Mar Noodle, Ahmattaya (foodstuff) and Happy Chicken Shop, at the home in Dagon Myothit (South) on 13 May. Last year, Sein Gay Har had undertaken natural forest conservation, social works, health and education works and social welfare. In addition, Sein Gay Har also planted more than 1000 teaks in Hlawga Park, donated cash to schools, made collective blood donation in National Blood Bank, provided assistance for child education. They will carry out social works.—Kyemon

Physical Education Science (Mandalay) selects trainees

MANDALAY, 21 May—Selection of trainees for 22 sport courses to be conducted by Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports and Physical Education Science (Mandalay), was held in Magway Region and Shan State in 15 May, in Sagaing Region on 16 May and Mandalay Region and Chin State on 17 May. Principal of Physical Education Science (Mandalay) Director U Thein Tun Latt, training and education incharge, incharge coaches and coaches selected 213 out of 344 contestants from Regions and States.—Kyemon

TRAFFIC RULES KNOWLEDGE DESSEMINATED:
Under the leadership of Rango Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee, reduction of traffic accidents was held in the region. On 14 May, Commander of Kyaukka Township Police Force Police Captain Thein Win and members distribute pamphlets on traffic rules to road users. —Township Police Force
Union Hotels and Tourism Minister meets hoteliers of small, medium licensed hotels

YANGON, 21 May—Together with the Director-General and officials concerned of the Hotels and Tourism Services, Myanmar Hoteliers Association Chairman U Yan Win and members, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tin Tint Hsan yesterday held a meeting with the hoteliers of the licensed medium and small hotels existing at the centre of Yangon.

Afterwards, the Union Minister got to May Shan Hotel where he looked around the reception, bedrooms and restaurants. He went on to Garden Guest House at the corner of 32nd Street and Maha Bandoola Street, and Okinawa Guest House in the 32nd Street (Lower Block).

It was known that Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services has been providing those interested especially national races and foreign investors in making investments in that field since it found that there should be enough hotels in Yangon, Mandalay, Bagan and Inlay for hotel accommodations to tourists.

It is Yangon where there are about 190 hotels, motels and inns, which can serve a total of 8000 bedrooms.

Toll gates along Yangon-Mandalay Highway (Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay section) inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint on 14 May morning met with staff at the office of Public Works Main Workshop (North) in Mandalay Region, and stressed the need for those present to upgrade and innovate machinery as they are imperative in construction works, to ensure systematic application of machines, vehicles and machinery and to discharge duties in unity in accordance with the set rules and regulations.

In the afternoon, the deputy minister proceeded to Sagain toll gate, Thigon mini-toll gate (Meiktila), Thabyengu in unity in accordance with the set rules and regulations.

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Besides, there are a total of 140 hotels with reasonable prices in downtown Yangon and its suburbs, which about 1500 bedrooms can be supplied.

At the meeting with the hoteliers of Yangon Hotel Zone at Panda Hotel in Lanmadaw Township, the Union Minister said that the country now sees about 1500 tourists daily. Among them, about 1000 get hotel services. It would be much better than before only if the hotels under three stars contribute to the needs though there are about 8000 hotel bedrooms in Yangon.

He then urged those to be all eyes for doing their work to keep the tourism industry increase in rate.

Chief Justice of Yangon Region High Court receives Vice-President of Yunnan Provincial Supreme People’s Court

YANGON, 21 May—At the invitation of U Win Swe, Chief Justice of Yangon Region High Court, a delegation led by Mr. Wang Shuliang, Vice-President of the Yunnan Provincial Supreme People’s Court currently in Myanmar paid a call on the Chief Justice of Yangon Region High Court and justices at region chief justice hall this morning.

They discussed judicial affairs and also studied criminal cases.

Dy H & T Minister receives Jhon Swire Investment Group Director

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Hay Aung met Director Mr. Charles Bremeridge of Jhon Swire Investment Group of Singapore.

The Deputy Minister discussed procedures and regulations relating to foreign investment hotel industry in Myanmar and arranged for the meeting with the hoteliers.

Trainees from Malaysia Armed Forces Defence College (MAFDC) Course No. 32/2012 arrive

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Course instructors and trainees from Malaysia Armed Forces Defence College (MAFDC) Course No. 32/2012 led by Commandant of MAFDC First Admiral Aris Adi Tan bin Abdullah arrived here by air this afternoon. They were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Col Than Htaik of Nay Pyi Taw Command, senior military officers and Malaysian military attaché to Myanmar.

Correction

Please read “Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership” instead of “multilateral strategic partnership” in the last sentence of the third paragraph appeared in this daily issued on 15, May 2012. Error is regretted.—Ed

Sagai Region Chief Minister attends opening ceremonies of hospital, monastery building

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye, Region ministers and Region level departmental heads attended opening of Shwe Taawwin Hospital in Dawnaanchan ward in Monywa on 19 May.

Managing Director of the hospital Dr San Myint Aung explained purpose of opening the hospital.

Regional Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein, Medical Superintendent of Monywa Hospital Dr Than Hlut, Chairman of Shwe Taawwin Healthcare Company Dr Myan Lin formally opened the hospital.

The Region Chief Minister unveiled the inscription and sprinkled water on it. He also attended the merit-sharing ceremony for donation of a monastery building at Dhammavinya Dhammayon in Shwe Taung Oo Tapataka Dhamnapala Maha Vihaya Monastery. The Region Chief Minister and officials paid respect to Sayadaw Dr Nyahthiisara of Sitagu Buddha University in Sagaing and supplicated on religious affairs.

Commandant of NDSI of Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters arrives

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—A goodwill delegation led by Commandant of National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI) of the Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters General Padetgam Jansaewoke arrived in Yangon by air this morning.

The delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Commandant of Defence Services Medical Academy Brig-Gen Thai Lin Ohn, Commandant of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science Brig-Gen Zaw Myint and senior military officers. Thai military attaché to Myanmar and officials.

Chairman of Shwe Tawwin Healthcare Company Dr Myan Lin formally opened the hospital.

Provincial Supreme People’s Court

YANGON, 21 May—Together with the Director-General and officials concerned of the Hotels and Tourism Services, Myanmar Hoteliers Association Chairman U Yan Win and members, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tin Tint Hsan yesterday held a meeting with the hoteliers of the licensed medium and small hotels existing at the centre of Yangon.

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In the afternoon, the deputy minister proceeded to Sagain toll gate, Thigon toll gate (Meiktila), Thabyengu mini-toll gate, Pyinsi mini-toll gate, Kankaung mini-toll gate and Thigon mini-toll gate and left necessary instructions.
**Ceremony to give guidance on bone marrow transplant held**

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 May**—The health sector of the country is steadily increasing although it cannot compare with that of developing countries. In the past, the lifespan of man is 55 years and that of woman is 65 years. With the introduction of healthcare services such as ensuring availability of potable water, use of fly-proof latrines, vaccination, nutrition and laying down health plans, the lifespan of man has increased to 65 years while that of woman to 68 years. Much more still have to be done in that regard when compared with countries in the region. In taking reforms, it is required to have the strengths capable of bringing about reforms, said Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin at the ceremony to give guidance on bone marrow transplant held at the meeting hall of National Blood Centre here on 18 May morning.

At the ceremony, Professor Dr Rai Mra clarified on the formation of Bone Marrow Transplant Centre, background history of efforts for bone marrow transplant, and Director Professor Dr Nay Win reported on formation of Bone Marrow Transplant Centre and efforts being made for bone marrow transplant.

Next, the Union Minister enquired after Baby U Khin Win-Daw Cho Cho Win, of Kyinpinsan Village in Paukkhaung Township who was at the newborn intensive care unit of Yangon General Hospital and attended to the needs.

Afterwards, the Union Minister proceeded to Yankin Children’s Hospital and inspected management of child ward, fulfillment of medical equipment and medical wards.

**KIA armed group blows up two trucks**

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 May**—Seven uniformed members of KIA armed group intercepted two six-wheel trucks steered by Thaung Htway and Aung Naing en route from Muse to Lashio near a pine forest between Nantpaw bridge and Nantoung village in Muse Township with gunfire at 10.20 pm on 19 May.

They distorted K 80,000 from the first driver and let four drivers and assistants run away before they blew up the trucks, throwing two grenades onto driver’s seat of each vehicle. Despite no casualty, the fronts of vehicles with License plate numbers 8I/7876 and 8I/7880 were damaged with two windows broken and windbreakers shattered. A grenade bearing words KRL 68 embedded on iron body with 2.5 inches length and 1.5 inches in diameter and 5-inch wooden handle was found unexploded at the scene. One of the two destroyed vehicle have been removed and the regular passage of vehicles resumed earlier yesterday morning. —MNA

**Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin inspects Yankin Children’s Hospital.** —MNA

**Tournament organization course for table tennis (2012) concludes**

**YANGON, 21 May**—Under the patronage of Myanmar Olympic Committee and Sports and Physical Education Department, tournament organization course for table tennis (2012), co-organized by Myanmar Table Tennis Federation and International Table Tennis Federation, was concluded at the Union Hall of Kyazikkasen Sports Ground in Tamway Township, Yangon Region, this afternoon.

MOC General Secretary Sports and Physical Education Department Director General U Thaung Huik presented completion certificates to the trainees. —MNA

**MMCWA President receives Thai ambassador’s wife**

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 May**—Wife of Thai ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Thepayasuda Suvanajata paid a call on President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Mon Mon Aung and CEC members, at MMCWA Office in Dekkhinathiri Township here on 18 May.

At the call, MMCWA Secretary Daw Tha Zin Nwe explained objectives, formation, duties, development and care of mothers and children. After that, the President presented gifts to the guest. Mrs Thepayasuda Suvanajata signed in visitors’ book. Afterwards, she viewed documentary photos of MMCWA’s activities and Myttasanyay clinic. —MNA

**President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Mon Mon Aung presents Wife of Thai ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Thepayasuda Suvanajata a gift.** —MNA

Union General Secretary of Malaysia Mr Chan Foong Keong explained the facts about the course. The director general then presented completion certificates to the trainees. —MNA

MTTF President U Kyaw Kyaw awarded outstanding trainees.

—MNA
Myanmar military delegation leaves for Kunming

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—A goodwill delegation led by Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut (Army) Office left for Kunming of the People’s Republic of China by air this morning. They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Yangon Command Headquarters Commodore Maung Oo Lwin, military officials and the Chinese Military Attaché to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.”

A delegation led by Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office leaves for Kunming of the People’s Republic of China. —MNA

Union F&R Minister receives Japanese and Thai guests

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun received Deputy President of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation of Japan Hiroshi Minoura and party. —MNA

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun receives Deputy President of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation of Japan Mr Hiroshi Minoura and party.—MNA

Union A&I Minister inspects cotton, sugarcane, paddy plantations

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Kyaw Win inspected cultivation of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton in 500-acre cotton plantation in Nyaunghpingyisu Village. —MNA

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspects cultivation of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton in 500-acre cotton plantation in Nyaunghpingyisu Village.—MNA

Zaw Myint of Myanmar Sugarcane Enterprise conducted the Union Minister around special high-yield sugarcane plantation. The Union Minister called for disseminating scientific cultivation methods and increasing sugar production. On arrival at Palethwe Basmati hybrid paddy plantation, Director-General U Kyaw Win of Agriculture Department reported to him on success of 100-acre strain production in Shwetaung Research Farm in Wundwin.

He also visited 100-acre plantation in Kyaku Village under joint venture of Shwetbanlwin Company and CETC Company of China. —MNA

Coord meeting for maintenance of Ayeyawady river water system and utilization of water way

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—A coordination meeting for maintenance of Ayeyawady river water system and utilization of water way was held at Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems this afternoon, attended by Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein, Adviser San Myint (Col-Retd) of the President Office, Dr U Win Thein (Professor-Retd) of Yangon Institute of Technology, Amyotha Hluttaw Delegate U Soe Myint (Director-General-Retd) of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, U Hla Myint Thein (Deputy Director-General-Retd) and responsible personnel from the ministry of Transport.

At the meeting, the Deputy Minister for Transport said that the committees need to form so as to implement action plan for the effective use of Ayeyawady River and maintenance of Ayeyawady river water system, long-and-short term plan and work implementation practically.

Afterwards, the director-general of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems explained main plan to develop Ayeyawady River and replied the queries asked by those attendees. —MNA
**Thutapadaytha library opens in Thungwa Township**

**Yangon, 20 May**—Opening of Thutapadaytha library was held in Kaingkone village in Thungwa Township, Yangon South District on 16 May. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Kyaw Thaung, staff officer Daw Tin Tin Hway of Township Information and Public Relations Department and village-tract administrator U Tun Tin formally opened it. After that, the township administrator delivered speech. And the staff officer explained the perpetuation of library that meets five standards, increase in numbers of books and publications and purpose of opening it. Officials accepted 100 books and publications donated by Myanmar Librarians Foundation, 50 books by the township administrator, one radio by Township IPRD, 50 books and publications by the chairperson of Township Women’s Affairs Organization, 50 books and publications by U Aung Kyaw Soe and Daw Nyein family of Thuwunna Township of Yangon Region and 75 books and publication by U Tin Tun Gyi family of Kaingkone village.—Township IPRD

**Yeagyo Township sees Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation**

**Yeagyo, 21 May**—Pakkkee District Administrator U Khin Maung Yi inspected farmer educative farm (100-day Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation in irrigated area of Shwechaung electric power pumping station in Yeagyo Township in Magway Region on 17 May. He gave instructions on systematic paddy harvesting, making preparations for putting paddy under covers and systematic harvesting in turn of model plot for prescribed yields.

**Oxygen concentrator donated to Kawlin Township People’s Hospital**

**Kawlin, 21 May**—A ceremony to donate an oxygen concentrator worth K 485,000 to Kawlin Township People’s Hospital in Sagaing Region took place at the hospital on 15 May. U Thein Maung (Retd school head) Ya Dairy Product trading family handed over it through head of Township Health Department Dr Maung Maung Soe.

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**DISTRICT NEWS**

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**Workshops on capacity building of staff held in Putao**

**Putao, 21 May**—Workshops on capacity building of staff in Information and Public Relations Department, development of self-reliant libraries and human resources development, was held at Putao District IPRD in Kachin State on 10 May. At the ceremony, Staff Officer U Aung Kyaw Tun of District IPRD explained purpose of holding the workshop and process. Staff Officers from Khaunglanphu, Nagmon and Putao, Machanbaw townships and Pannadin Sub-township, participated at the workshops. After that, Head of State IPRD U Nyunt Shwe reviewed the discussions.

**Fire breaks out in Amarapura Township**

**Myitning, 21 May**—A fire broke out in Saaktawwa village, Amarapura Township in Mandalay Region on 14 May. The fire started from the home of Ko Aung San Soe and destroyed one house. Two fire engines from Amarapura Township Fire Brigade and one from Myitning Railway rushed to the scene. It could be put out at 1.45 pm. Myitning Police Station takes action in connection with it.

**Writers association formed in Hline Township**

**Yangon, 21 May**—A Plenary Meeting and meeting on formation of writers association were held at Hline Township Information and Public Relations Department on 20 May. At the ceremony, executive committee members of Township Writers Association were elected in the presence of commission members including deputy head U Tun Naing. U Myat Soe (Myat Soe Hlaing) was elected as chairman; Maung Maung Tun Aung (health) as vice-chairman; Min Sai Paing as secretary; U Cho San as joint secretary; Dr Kyaw Lwin as treasurer and U Win Wai Naung, U Aung Kyaw Min, Daw Myint Myat Thida Aye and Daw Ei Ei Myat as members. After that, chairman and vice-chairman were elected as conference delegates.—Township IPRD

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**Faked eggs sold in Myitkyina**

**Myitkyina, 21 May**—Myitkyina of Kachin State sees a lot of faked chicken eggs imported from border area soon. These eggs are flowing into Mawlu, Nanseeaung and Mawhant regions by Myitkyina down-trains. The faked eggs are sold together with real ones. Local people are now buying cheap faked eggs.—Kyemon

**Pyigymyatshin car market faces nosedive**

**Mandalay, 21 May**—Mandalay Pyigymyatshin car market faces nosedive soon as the government allows citizens to import cars freely without permit from abroad. According to the brokers, the car prices are likely to fall temporarily. Japanese car companies would invest in Myanmar. Cars are in low demand as people keep watchful eyes on market condition.—Kyemon

**Food poisoning occurs in Einme Township**

**Einme, 21 May**—A total of 17 people suffered from food poisoning at a wedding ceremony in Phokelchaung village in Einme Township on 15 May. The victims were sent to Myaungmya People’s Hospital. The same day, eight others were also suffered from poisonings and six others on another day. They were sent to Myaungmya Private Hospital. Among them, U Kyaw Htoo aged 43 is in critical condition and 38 are experiencing dizziness and vomiting. The Lukaung village administrator and police station are giving close care to them after opening health care center.

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**UNIFORMS PROVIDED:**

A ceremony to present uniforms to staff members of Botataung Township General Administration Department was held at the hall of the township department on 11 May. Township Administrator U Thant Zaw Oo provides uniforms worth K 461,000 to the staff. GAD
**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

Tuesday, 22 May, 2012

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**Alibaba buys back 20 percent stake held by Yahoo for $7.1 billion**

**SHANGHAI, 21 May—** Chinese Internet entrepreneur Jack Ma is buying back up to half of a 40 percent stake in his Alibaba Group from Yahoo Inc for $7.1 billion, in a deal that moves the Chinese e-commerce leader closer to public listing.

Under the agreement, Yahoo will sell half of its stake in Alibaba for at least $6.3 billion in cash and up to $800 million in new Alibaba preferred stock. The deal, announced in a joint statement on Monday, caps years of talks between the two firms over Alibaba reclaiming some or all of the 40 percent stake that Yahoo bought for about $1 billion in 2005.

A source familiar with the deal said Yahoo built in incentives for Ma, who operates the popular Chinese online marketplace Taobao, to hold an initial public offering by end-2015.

Yahoo, which has come under fire from shareholders for failing to take aggressive action to reverse a decline in advertising revenue in the face of competition from Google Inc and Facebook, will hand most of the sale proceeds to its stockholders.

“For Yahoo it’s a decent compromise, they’re never going to keep the 40 percent stake and expect to see that go up IPO,” said investor Michael Cullen, a LongTech Advisers in Shanghai.

“Yahoo still has a lot bigger problems ahead of them, I mean, they are a portal so they’re going the way of the dodo bird.”

“Of course, Jack Ma’s a wheeler and dealer and he got a very good deal on this one,” he added.

According to the statement, Alibaba would buy back half of Yahoo’s remaining stake—a 10 percent holding—at the IPO price or allow Yahoo to sell those shares in the offering before end-2015. Alibaba Group is valued at $30-35 billion.

**Government proposes exposing New Zealand airlines to foreign control**

**WELLINGTON, 21 May—** The New Zealand government is proposing to scrap foreign ownership limits on New Zealand airlines, Transport Minister Gerry Brownlee announced on Monday.

However, Air New Zealand, the national carrier, would be exempt from the new rules, said Brownlee in a statement to launch a discussion document on New Zealand’s international air transport policy.

**Possible engine problem delays US rocket launch**

**COPA CANAVERAL, 21 May—** The launch of a privately owned Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station was delayed on Saturday when a computer detected a possible problem with one of the rocket’s engines, a Space Exploration Technologies official said.

Preparations for the company’s trial cargo run to the International Space Station proceeded smoothly until 4:55am EDT (08:55 GMT) when an onboard computer aborted the launch.

“I lifted off... we’ve had a cutoff,” Liftoff did not occur,” said NASA launch commentator Marc Guleff, caught off guard by the sudden, last-minute turn of events.

A computer monitoring the rocket’s nine engines detected a climbing pressure reading in one engine’s chambers and halted the launch 0.5 seconds before liftoff, SpaceX president Gwynne Shotwell told reporters.

“Just like a pilot at the end of a runway revs the gauges and we decided not to fly,” Shotwell said, adding that the problem was unlikely to be a sensor issue.

The company’s next launch opportunity is at 3:44 am EDT (07:44 GMT) on Tuesday.

It is trying to send the unmanned rocket, carrying a Dragon cargo capsule, to the International Space Station, and would be the first private company to do this.

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**Australia’s Qantas to cut 500 jobs**

**SYDNEY, 21 May—** Australia’s largest airline Qantas Airways announced on Monday that it will cut 500 jobs following a review of its heavy aircraft maintenance and engineering operations in Australia.

The airline said it would consolidate heavy maintenance work into Brisbane in Queensland and Victoria’s Avalon.

Qantas said the restructuring was necessary as there was not enough heavy maintenance work required for three separate facilities and the introduction of new technology and modern aircraft would lead to a further 60 percent reduction in heavy maintenance requirements over the next seven years.

As a result of the restructuring, heavy maintenance on Boeing 737 aircraft will move from its base at Tullamarine in Melbourne and be maintained in Brisbane along with 8767 aircraft line management, the airline said.

The base at Avalon will continue to maintain 30 aircraft.

The airline said consolidating heavy maintenance and other engineering initiatives would save the company up to 100 million AU dollars ($84.54 million US dollars) annually.

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**Bangladesh’s trade deficit widens to 6.59 billion US dollars in first 3Qs**

**DHAKA, 21 May—** Bangladesh’s trade deficit swelled to 6.59 billion US dollars in the first three quarters of the current fiscal year ending next month, a 13.04 percent increase from a year earlier, official statistics showed on Sunday. Statistics of the Bangladesh Bank showed that the country exported $17.633 billion US dollars of goods while it imported items worth $24.223 billion US dollars in the July–March period of the current fiscal year (July 2011–June 2012).

The overall trade deficit in the same period of last fiscal year was $8.836 billion US dollars when Bangladesh’s export earnings and import payment stood at 16.012 billion and 21.838 billion US dollars respectively, the bank data showed. In the first nine months of the current fiscal year, it showed, Bangladesh’s export earnings and import earnings surged 10.44 percent and 11.13 percent respectively compared with a year earlier. The South Asian country now has over 42 percent year-on-year to 7.33 billion US dollars last fiscal year—Xinhua

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**Cambodia launches first ever life insurance**

**PIKOM PENANG, 21 May—** Cambodia launched the first economic life insurance with the official inauguration of Cambodian Life Insurance Company (Cambodian Life) on Monday, seen as another landmark in the kingdom’s financial market after the opening of stock market in mid-April.

Cambodian Life is a joint venture established on 10th January, 2012 by Cambodian’s Ministry of Economy and Finance and four other partners, namely PT Asuransi from Indonesia, Asia Insurance from Hong Kong, Bangkok Life Assurance and Bangkok Insurance Public from Thailand. The Ministry holds 51 percent of stake in the joint venture.

Operating throughout the whole country, Cambodian Life is tasked to provide life insurance products in the form of private voluntary for Cambodian people’s safety nets, which is a new mechanism going to supplement the country’s social security system under the Labour Law. As a newly-born enterprise, only three types of insurances are found on the company’s productlist, so far, namely mortgage insurance, whole life insurance and term insurance.

According to the company’s product introduction, the Mortgage Insurance has a coverage period of 2-20 years on the insured person’s outstanding loan with a minimum amount of 1,500 US dollars; the Whole Life Insurance is up to 90 year old under the condition of natural death, accident death and death of disease; while the Term Insurance provides life coverage for a limited period of 3, 5 or 10 years under the condition of natural death, accident death and death of disease.—Xinhua

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**People hold a sedan chair decorated as an ambulance in a parade during the Markham International Sedan Chair Challenge 2012 in Markham, Ontario, Canada, on 20 May, 2012. This annual event included some competitions such as sedan chair races, a parade with costumes and decorations and so on. Xinhua**
**An annular eclipse seen across Japan**

Tokyo, 21 May—An annular solar eclipse was visible over a wide area of Japan on Monday morning, giving thrillers to observers across the nation. For the first time in 932 years, the rare astronomic event could be seen from a wide area of Japan including Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka. It was seen from Kagoshima Prefecture in the southwestern region of Okinawa.

An annular eclipse occurs when the sun, moon, and Earth are exactly in line. Instead of obscuring the sun, the eclipse creates a bright ring, called an annular, around the moon’s silhouette.

In Japan, the moon began sliding in front of the sun from 6.45am. At Cape Muroto in western Japan, a partial eclipse began at around 6.15 am, and the “ring of fire” was formed about one hour later. The moon’s edge is a close-up look at an annular eclipse. A full eclipse can be seen from the west coast to east in a quick succession, from Osaka in the southwest to Fukushima in the northeast of Japan. The last annular eclipse was seen in 1999.

**Guatemala volcano spits lava and ash**

GUATEMALA CITY, 21 May—Guatemala’s Fuego volcano belched burning lava and black ash into the sky early Saturday, leading the government to issue an airborne advisory and close several highways.

The volcano, about 25 miles (40 kilometres) southwest of the capital, erupted about 2:45 am (0745 GMT), spewing a column of ash up to 16,400 feet (5,000 metres) above the crater and launching burning red lava down 3,300 feet (1,000 metres) high.

The national emergency commission issued an advisory, warning planes not to fly within a 25-mile (40 kilometres) radius of the volcano. The La Aurora international airport in Guatemala City remained open.

The commission also closed two stretches of highways threatened by lava flows that reached the base of the mountain.

Guatemala’s four active volcanoes have a history of causing shut downs. In 2010, an eruption at the Pacaya volcano about 25 miles (40 kilometres) south of Guatemala City coated the city in a thick layer of black ash and rock, forcing hundreds of families to evacuate and closing the international airport.

**Saudia police seize heroin**

Mecca, 21 May—The Saudi Highway Patrol in Medina seized 35 kilograms of heroin which were hidden in a truck spare tire, officials said.

Highway patrol officers pulled over a truck on Friday after noticing suspicious behaviour and discovered the heroin while conducting a search of the vehicle, the Saudi Gazette reported.

Brig Gen Misfer al-Asadi, director of Highway Patrol Department, told al-Medina newspaper that the heroin was discovered during a traffic stop.

“The driver was on his way to Medina to deliver the drugs when he was apprehended by highway patrol officers and referred to the Narcotics Department in Medina. “Saudi Arabia still suffers from serious drug trafficking problem despite many law enforcement drug units and heavy punishment,” Aram News said. —Internet

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV HOANG ANH 05 VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HOANG ANH 05 VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-5-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (1) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: SANG THAI SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA RATU VOY NO (493)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RATU VOY NO (493) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22-5-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (303)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (303) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-5-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (118)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (118) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22-5-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS PAC CONTAINER LINE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV RUKUN VOY NO (637)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV RUKUN VOY NO (637) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22-5-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**DHgate**

DHgate, Alibaba and others are trying to sell you forged goods. One way to avoid buying fake goods online is to simply check the rating of the seller. If a seller has a bad rating, it is likely that their goods are also fake. Additionally, if a seller only has a few sales and no reviews, it is likely that they are selling fake goods. In this case, it is best to avoid doing business with that seller.

**Claire’s**

Claire’s is a specialty retailer of fashion accessories and gifts, including personal care products, jewelry, hair accessories, fashion jewelry, and novelty items. Claire’s was founded by Robert Greenberg and John Menchillo in 1985 as a private company. In 2014, it was acquired by Apollo Global Management, LLC. Claire’s has over 2,000 stores in the United States and Canada and operates in a number of other countries as well. It is one of the largest specialty retailers in the world.

**MeYou**

MeYou is a Chinese online consumer goods platform. It was founded in 2010 and is headquartered in Beijing. MeYou operates in a number of countries throughout Asia, including China, Japan, South Korea, and Vietnam. It is a B2C platform, meaning that it connects consumers with manufacturers and distributors. MeYou offers a wide range of products, including clothing, electronics, and household items. It has a strong focus on offering high-quality products at affordable prices. MeYou is owned by the Alibaba Group and is one of the largest online consumer goods platforms in China.
**Horse rescued from Pacific Ocean**

A horse that flew from a California beach photo shoot was rescued after swimming more than two miles out to sea.

Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol Officer Ryan Kelly said William, a 7-year-old Arabian horse, was spooked by the water in the evening and ran into the water from the Summerland beach, CNN reported.

**Woman swallows toothbrush**

Israeli doctors say they were able to safely remove a toothbrush from a woman’s stomach after she accidentally swallowed it.

But El-Panker, 24, came home from work on 11 May, and went to brush her teeth. When she bent over the faucet and went to brush her teeth, she said it slipped down her throat.

Panker told Ynetnews she tried to get it out, but to no avail. She rushed to the hospital and had an X-ray, but the doctors couldn’t see the toothbrush, and sent her home from work on 11 May.

She, however, swallowed it.

The next day, the doctors didn’t believe her. “We’re just people who want a little help when we’re troubled, and it’s important that doctors listen,” she said.

**Montana man world’s oldest clown**

According to onlookers, the 75-year-old Douglas Flint Dillard was part of The Dillards, a top-tier bluegrass band that helped popularize the genre in the 1960s and was inducted into the Bluegrass Hall of Fame in 2009.

The Dillards made regular appearances on television’s “The Andy Griffith Show” as The Darlings, with Griffith — as Sheriff Andy Taylor — frequently sitting in with the group. They have been credited with laying the groundwork for the development of country rock music, The Los Angeles Times said.

**Banjo icon Doug Dilllard dead at 75**

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**Bans ‘break-up’ party as Paris Hilton and LiLo enjoy wild night out**

LONDON, 21 May—Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan, who have long-standing reputations as Hollywood wild ones, recently partied at a LA home until 7 in the morning. However, there was so much noise and racket in the Hollywood Hills residence that the neighbours called the police to intervene, according to onlookers.

After the party broke up, both the actresses reportedly made a quiet exit.

Hilton was later spotted leaving the property wearing dark sunglasses and a cap along with her friend, oil heir Brandon Davis, the Daily Mail reported.

Meanwhile, Lohan is understood to have made an undercover exit, hiding under a towel in the back seat of a friend’s car — Internet

**Finger found in Arby’s sandwich**

A former Montana rancher and carpenter has made it into the Guinness Book of World Records as the world’s oldest clown.

Floyd Creekmore, who still gets to wear a Creeky the Clown at the age of 95, told the Voice of America he got his training from clowns when the circus came through town.

“Barnum and Bailey Circus come through Great Falls and most of the kids would go up to the circus grounds and they could get little jobs and they’d work for a ticket to get into the circus,” he said. “I went and found the clowns and I got a lot of pointers from the clowns.”

Creekmore says he would have run off to join the circus if he had the opportunity.

Instead, he worked as a ranch hand, ran his own ranch and became a carpenter.

When he retired in 1981, he joined Shriners International. The group which helps sick children, runs its own circuses and Creekmore got a chance to tour the northwestern states.

**Demi Moore to play Elizabeth Olsen’s mum in first movie since split**

LONDON, 21 May—It seems that Demi Moore is keen to bounce back to work following her painful split from Ashton Kutcher and subsequent meltdown.

The 49-year-old has been cast as Elizabeth Olsen’s mother in forthcoming film ‘Very Good Girls’.

Cops ‘break-up’ party as Paris Hilton and LiLo enjoy wild night out

The next step is to find a director for the film, which The Hollywood Reporter says has no release date. The newspaper said “Mad Dogs” is being produced by BiteSize Entertainment, a newly launched company led byGene Kirkwood, who oversaw “Rocky,” and Movief CEO Ron Bloom— Internet

Colin Firth to arrive on the red carpet at the BAFTA Awards at the Hollywood and Highlands Centre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 26 Feb, 2012.— Internet

**Banjo icon Doug Dilllard**

NASHVILLE, 21 May—Bluegrass star Doug Dilllard has died of a lung infection in Nashville, his family said. He was 75. Dillard died on Wednesday, a publicist said.

**Demi Moore**

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**Lippi relieved with fast start as Guangzhou coach**

**Guangzhou, 21 May**—Celebrated Italian coach Fabio Lippi declared the future was bright for Guangzhou Evergrande after winning his first match in charge of the Chinese Super League. Guangzhou beat Qingdao Jonoon 1-0 on Sunday to go four points clear at the top of the Chinese Super League in Lippi’s first match since being appointed on Thursday.

“I have been here for three days. But the team has played in a total of 17 matches in the past three months. I found the team is a little bit tired,” the 2006 World Cup-winning coach was quoted as saying by the Asian Football Confederation website (www.the-afc.com) on Monday.

The 64-year-old took over from South Korean Lee Jung-soo, who had led the big-spending club to the last 16 of the Asian Champions League.

“The players need some time to adjust its new position and condition,” said Lippi, adding he was relieved to get a victory in his first game.

“In my career, with Juventus, (Inter) Milan or the Italian national team, my debut match has always been a little bit afraid about the first match actually.

“Now I have the opposite result, I feel very happy and have more confidence for the future.”

Lippi is the biggest name to join Chinese soccer following Shangh hai’s move for French striker Nicolas Anelka from second-tier league side Angers.

**Spain’s Munoz wins LPGA**

**Match Play crown**

**Gladiate, 21 May**—Spain’s Azahara Munoz defeated Taipei’s Candie Kung 2 and 1 in Sunday’s final to capture the $1.5 million LPGA Sybase Match-Play Championship and claim her first LPGA Title. With the match squared through 10 holes, Munoz birdied to win the par-5 11th and went 2-up when Kung squared through 10 holes, Munoz birdied to win the par-5 second and fifth holes with a birdie and appeared to have taken the 12th for a 3-up edge.

But Pressel, who was warmed about slow play as she started the back nine, took 39 seconds more than the maximum 90 seconds to make her putt at the 12th and as a result forfeited the hole, her lead plummets to 1-up. Internet

**Napoli win first trophy since Maradona era**

**Rome, 21 May**—Napoli won its first major title since the Diego Maradona era, denied Serie A champions Juventus the double and handed their captain Alessandro Del Piero an unhappy end to 19 seasons at the club by beating the Turin side 2-0 in the Italian Cup final on Sunday.

Edinson Cavani broke the deadlock with a penalty just after the hour and Marek Hamsik finished off a counter attack as Napoli claimed their first trophy since the Maradona-inspired team won Serie A in 1989-90.

Juventus had substitute Fabio Quagliarella sent off on the 80th minute for a full-blooded elbow in the face of Salvatore Aronica after only 17 minutes on the pitch.

“This was a club that didn’t exist, said Italian president Aurelio De Laurentiis, a film-maker who re-founded the club after it was declared bankrupt in 2004 and led it from Serie C back to the top flight.

“In a few years we’ve brought something home.”

above all the knowledge that Napoli exists, lives and can be the world champion of the sport.” Napoli coach Walter Mazzarri said: “It seemed unthinkable to beat Juve.

“We had won this season (in Serie A) and to beat them 2-0 was magnificent work. The team has done something extraordinary in the last three years: Cavani, (Ezequiel) Lavezzi, Hamsik are on everyone’s lips, but it’s an entire team that should be acclaim as one.”

This was the 51st game of the season. Anyone who plays football knows that playing these games at that level is hard. We have paid in the championship for this. You can lose to anyone in our league, and we dropped too many points.”

Although Juventus had completed their 38-match campaign in Serie A without losing, there was some debate over their 2-2 Italian Cup draw extra time against AC Milan in their semi-final second leg.— Reuters

Tens of thousands greet victorious Chelsea team

**Tens of thousands of Chelsea fans flocked to the west London streets to welcome back their team members after they defeated Bayern Munich in the Champions League final.**

**LONDON, 21 May**—Tens of thousands of Chelsea fans gave their team a hero’s welcome on Sunday as they made an open-top bus parade through their west London home after their Champions League win over Bayern Munich.

The bus was emblazoned with a banner proclaiming ‘Champions of Europe’ and Drogba, who scored the decisive spot-kick in the penalty shoot-out, milked the cheers of the crowd.

Fans, rang from lampposts and sounded horns as the bus passed along the route, Midfielder Frank Lampard, who was the captain in the final, told the crowd: “We’ve been here a long time waiting to win this thing and it was the most amazing night of all our careers.

“And we’re just so pleased to come back here and celebrate with all our fans. You’ve been amazing. Thank you, thank you, thank you. The best club in the world — easy.” The first time that Chelsea have won Europe’s biggest club prize and fulfilled the ambition of theirola-garch-owner Roman Abramovich, who has pumped hundreds of millions of pounds into the club.

The Russian owner and interim manager Roberto di Matteo were onboard as the bus made its way through the streets of south-west London.

Veteran Drogba, 34, could be on his way out of Stamford Bridge after a hugely successful eight-year stay, but he was met with chants of “we want you to stay” by grateful fans lining the route.—Internet

**My time at United is running out, says Berbatov**

**Manchester, 21 May**—Striker Dimitar Berbatov wants to leave Manchester United because he feels he has fallen out of favour with manager Alex Ferguson.

“My time at Manchester United is running out,” the 31-year-old Bulgarian told BT on Sunday. “I no longer feel like a valuable part of this team.”

The Premier League club took up an extra year’s option on the former Bulgaria captain’s contract in March despite him slipping down the pecking order at Old Trafford.

“I think I did well in the few opportunities that I received,” he said. “But I am a little frustrated by the way this happened, do I think I deserved it.”

Berbatov, who is Bulgaria’s all-time leading scorer with 48 goals, joined United from Tottenham Hotspur in 2008 for 30.7 million pounds.—Reuters

**Worst moments of my career with Chelsea, Torres says**

**Madrid, 21 May**—Chelsea’s Spanish striker Fernando Torres has said he has had the worst moments of his career with the club this season and needs clarity about his future role with the English Premier League’s crowned European champions.

Torres told Spanish sports daily As he had been bit- terly disappointed at being left out of the starting lineup for Saturday’s Champions League final and said if he had been fit for the support of the fans during a difficult campaign he would have “thrown in the towel.”

“This season I have felt things that I had never felt before,” As quoted Torres as saying.

“I felt that they treated me in a way that I was not expecting, not in the way we spoke about when this club signed me,” added the former Liverpool player.

“We have had a lot of conversations and at the end of the season we will talk to see what happens with my career because what I have experienced this year is not a role for me, the one I thought I would have when I came, I am not happy,” he said.
**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**Weather forecast for 22nd May, 2012**

- **7:00 am**
  - 1. Parrita By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
  - 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
  - 3. Nice & Sweet Song
  - 4. Health Programme
  - 5. Songs Of Yester Years
  - 6. Dance Of National Races
- **4:10 pm**
  - 7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
  - 8. Musical Programme
- **5:00 pm**
  - 9. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - FirstYear (Chemistry)
- **7:40 am**
  - 10. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
- **8:00 pm**
  - 11. Teleplay (Health)
  - 12. Sweet Melody
  - 13. Sing A Song
- **7:50 am**
  - 14. TV Drama Series
- **8:00 pm**
  - 15. News
  - 16. TV Drama Series
  - 17. India Drama Series

**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

**World’s biggest dairy firm to develop Chinese specific products in Shanghai**

**Wellington, 21 May** — New Zealand-based Fonterra, the world’s biggest dairy company, announced on Monday it is to develop unique products for the booming Chinese market at a new innovation centre in Shanghai.

The development of innovative products designed to meet the needs of Chinese consumers was critical to the integrated milk business the company was building in China, Fonterra chief executive officer Theo Spierings said at the opening, according to a statement issued by Fonterra.

“Demand for dairy nutrition is expected to double by 2020 and the way people consume dairy will change. The opening of the state-of-the-art Shanghai Innovation Centre will help us understand and grow beyond our current product and ingredient offerings and better meet the needs of local Chinese consumers and customers,” Spierings said.

“China is a significant priority for Fonterra’s global strategy and our innovation centre will help us develop unique products and formats that suit the needs of the local population,” he said.

“As incomes rise across China, people are looking for nutrition that supports the health of their families, particularly young children, and dairy is one of the most nutritious foods there is. People’s lives are also becoming busier, which means they’re often looking for dairy products that they can eat on the go or use to make quick, easy and nutritious meals.”

Fonterra China president Phillip Turner said the Shanghai Innovation Centre would allow Fonterra to work more closely with major customers and the foodservice industry, and carry out product training courses for major customers.

**MCPA-certified exams on 17 June**

**Yangon, 20 May** — Myanmar Computer Professionals Association (MCPA) will hold MCPA-certified exams on 17 June in Yangon Region, Mandalay Region, Ayeyawady Region, Sagaing Region and Shan State on 17 June from 9 am to noon simultaneously. Those interested may sit for MCPA-certified Fundamental Exam held by the Yangon Region, Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region and Shan State.

**Weather forecast for 22nd May, 2012**

- **2012.05.22.09:30 am — 2012.05.23.09:30 am**
  - **0973088300.**—
  - 2277-2908—
  - may enquiry at MCPA Office and dial 652276 and chances to apply for oversea scholarship to be awarded by Associate (NA). The deadline for registration is 13 June.
  - interested may sit for MCPA-certified Fundamental State on 17 June from 9 am to noon simultaneously. Those certified exam centers in Yangon Region, Mandalay Professionals Association (MCPA) will hold MCPA-certified exams on
  - **R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.**
Nadal beats Djokovic to win Italian Open

ROME, 21 May—Rafael Nadal won his record sixth Italian Open title Monday by beating top-ranked Novak Djokovic 7-5, 6-3. Djokovic made 41 unforced errors in the match, including a double-fault on the last point to give Nadal his 49th career title and his 35th on clay.

Djokovic played well at the start but the turning point came midway through the 10th game when a line judge called the Serb’s shot out. The umpire overruled the decision, but Nadal won the replayed point then held his serve to make it 5-5.

The victory is Nadal’s third Italian Open victory in four years, with his winning streak interrupted last year by Djokovic. The win also moved Nadal back to No. 2 in the rankings, ahead of Roger Federer.

Monday’s match was the first time the same two players competed in back-to-back finals since the tournament began in 1930.

Nadal broke first in the fifth game of the first set but Djokovic broke back when the Spaniard hit a forehand into the net. Djokovic appeared to be in control of the match, holding to love, while Nadal was struggling with his serve, only landing 48 percent of his first attempts.

However, Djokovic appeared to be affected after a long rally ended with the overturned line call. Had the Serb won the point, it would have given him two break points.

But Nadal held and then broke in the next game, drawing Djokovic to the net before sending a sharp volley past him.

Djokovic was so angered that he smashed his racket against a net post and was given a warning.

Nadal took the first set with the second of three set points after Djokovic hit long. And the Serbian was immediately broken again in the second set as Nadal continued to control the match.

Sharapova wins Rome, fans rage at men final call-off

Maria Sharapova (2nd L, front) of Russia and Li Na (2nd R, front) of China pose for photographs during the awarding ceremony of the women’s singles final at the Rome Masters tennis tournament in Rome, Italy, on 26 May , 2012. Maria Sharapova won 2-1 to claim the champion. — XINHUA

ROME, 21 May—Maria Sharapova won her second straight Rome title Sunday, defeating China’s Li Na 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/5), in a match full of momentum shifts, a lengthy rain delay, and noisy distractions from football fans.

“It was a crazy match,” said Sharapova. “Either one of us could have won it. There really is no loser. “It was really difficult with so many swings. It was tough having to wait two hours. It’s difficult to have a loser and a winner, but I’m happy. “It’s great to beat someone with the level she played last year,” added Sharapova, after defeating the defending French Open champion.

Donovan, Altidore, Onyewu to join US camp

TAMPA, 21 May—Strikers Landon Donovan and Jozy Altidore and defender Oguchi Onyewu were among 11 players announced on Sunday by US Soccer as additions to the American training camp ahead of 2014 World Cup qualifiers.

US coach Jurgen Klinsmann welcomed Los Angeles Galaxy forward Donovan and four other Major League Soccer players plus Bonnasia Dortmund forward Terrence Bood as Sunday arrivals at Orlando, Florida, for twice-a-day workout sessions.

Sporting Lahen’s Onyewu is set to arrive Monday, a week ahead of AZ Alkmaar’s Altidore, who figures to be in the final 23-man roster pool as the country looks for its unlikely matches that Klinsmann will select next Friday.

“We are excited now to get towards full numbers with the MLS guys and also the players from Europe who are coming in with great form,” Klinsmann said.

“We want them to pick up the rhythm as fast as possible and make them understand that we are taking the next couple weeks very seriously.”

Donovan is the all-time US scoring leader while Altidore scored 19 goals for AZ Alkmaar this season.— Internet

Montpellier clinch maiden title as season ends

AUXERRE, 21 May—Montpellier players kept their cool to clinch a maiden Ligue 1 title with a 2-1 win at AJ Auxerre although the match descended into chaos as police were called in after local fans pelted the pitch with flares, tomatoes and toilet paper to interrupt the game three times on Sunday.

Nigeria’s John Utaka scored the two goals after relegates Auxerre had opened the scoring through Olivier Kapo.

Montpellier finished the season in 82 points, leading second-placed Paris St Germain, who won 2-1 at Lorient, by three points.

Eden Hazard scored three in his farewell game as third placed Lille, who will be in the Champions League playoffs next season, beat Nancy 4-1.

Olympique Lyon, who had nothing to gain or lose, finished fourth with a 3-2 defeat by visitors Nice.

Giorgiels Bordeaux, fifth, secured a Europa League spot with a 3-2 victory at St Etienne.

Dijon and Caen were relegated to Ligue 2 with AJ Auxerre. “It’s incredible. I can hardly find the words,”

Montpellier keeper Geoffrey Jourdren told Canal + as fans descended on to the pitch to celebrate the title.

“Our only goal was to stay in the top flight and in the end we are champions. I’m going to enjoy it because it will probably be the only time it happens to me.”

The joyous celebrations at the team were in stark contrast to the crowd trouble that repeatedly marred the second half of the contest.— Reuters

Meanwhile, Post Nos. 73, 206, 207 and 208 of Shweli Power Plant were destroyed in a mine blast on 19-5-2012. Consequently, 200 megawatts of electricity was being generated by Shweli Power Plant was subtracted from the total amount.

As there have been only about 1100 megawatts of electricity nationwide, State-owned steel plants, cement plants, fertilizer factories and river-water pumping projects and private industries have lost about 500 megawatts to supply to the public as a priority.

In order to ensure enough power supply in summer, plans are under way to build more power plants as a long-term project in cooperation with General Electric Co and Caterpillar Co of the United States of America.

As a long-term project, plans are also being made to build a 600-megawatt coal-fired plant near Yangon on a joint-venture basis with J Power Co of Japan and a 500-megawatt gas-fired power plant in collaboration with BKB Co of the Republic of Korea.

Myanmar has invited local and foreign companies to invest in electricity generation for boosting power supply.

The people are requested to understand the current situation in which electricity is being alternately supplied to the public dividing them into three groups, and to save electricity.

Ministry of Electric Power No.2

There are 18 hydro-power stations, one coal-fired power station and 10 gas-fired power plants in the country. The hydro-power plants can generate a maximum of 1270 megawatts of electricity. But the decreased level of water in the dams in summer can generate a maximum of about 1000 megawatts only.

Being operated with gas, gas-fired power plants can generate an average of 340 megawatts of electricity annually. All the power stations can therefore generate a maximum of about 1610 megawatts of electricity in the rainy season and a maximum of about 1340 megawatts in summer.

The nationwide electricity consumption in monsoon is only 1560 megawatts at a maximum. As production exceeded consumption in this season, enough electricity could be distributed to the people, factories, workshops and businesses.

However, power consumption in summer is far more that in monsoon, and there can be a maximum of 1850 megawatts of electricity in the hot season. Since the consumption exceeded the generation of 1340 megawatts, electricity was alternatively distributed to the public, factories, workshops and businesses, dividing them into three groups.