President U Thein Sein receives delegates from six countries of MoU on drug control cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 9 May—President U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dato’ Seri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak on his re-election as Prime Minister of Malaysia.—MNA

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with delegates from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—President U Thein Sein met delegates from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) who are currently in Myanmar to attend six-country Ministerial-Level meeting of a memorandum of understanding on regional drug control cooperation to be hosted by Myanmar, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, this afternoon.

They held a cordial discussion on drug control of each of the country and cooperation among six countries and cooperation between six countries and UNODC. Also present at the call together with the President were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, U Wunna Maung Lwin and U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister Chief of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun and departmental heads.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Notification No. 31/2013

13th Waning of Tagu, 1375 ME

(8 May, 2013)

Formation of Board of Scrutinizing and Monitoring of Tax Collection

1. To scrutinize, monitor and give suggestions on taxation system being exercised in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Board of Scrutinizing and Monitoring of Tax Collection has been formed as follows:-
   (a) Thura U Thaung Lwin Chairman
   (b) U Maw Than Member
   (c) U Kyaw Min Tun Member
   (d) U Thein Aung Member
   (e) Daw Waiha Waiha Tun Member
   (f) Dr Naung Naung Lay Member
   (g) Daw Kyi Kyi Sein Member
   (h) U Kay Kay Member
   (i) Director-General Internal Revenue Department
   2. Functions and duties of the Board of Scrutinizing and Monitoring of Tax Collection are as follows:-
      (a) To scrutinize, in collecting the tax, whether taxes are collected properly or not
      (b) To scrutinize collection of tax on service, trade and production in the country
      (c) To report their findings and suggestions on tax collection to the Union Minister for Finance and Revenue
      (d) To give suggestions on current taxation system for ensuring proper tax collection and meeting international standards
      (e) To ensure systematic tax collection in Myanmar and to meet the target of ensuring full tax collection

By order,

Zaw Than Thin
Secretary
Union Government

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Notification No. 43/2013

13th Waning of Tagu, 1375 ME

(8 May, 2013)

Committee for scrutinizing the remaining prisoners of conscience reconstituted

The Committee for scrutinizing the remaining prisoners of conscience has been reconstituted with the following representatives from the government ministries, civil society organizations and some political parties shown hereunder. The aim of the committee is to scrutinize and release the remaining prisoners of conscience for ensuring the State’s peace and stability, implementing eternal peace-making process, national reconsolidation, all inclusiveness in the political process and turning them into those who contribute to nation-building endeavours in whatever way they can on humanitarian ground realizing the magnanimity of the State.

1. U Soe Thane Union Minister
   2. Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun Deputy Minister
   3. U Tun Tun Oo Deputy Attorney-General
   4. U Aung Saw Win Director-General Bureau of Special Investigation
   5. U Than Htay Director-General
   6. U Sit Myaung Myanmar Correctional Department
   7. U Kyi Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
   8. U Hla Maung Shwe Myanmar Egress
   9. U Bo Kyi Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP)
   10. U Nyo Tun Former Political Prisoners Federation
    11. U Ye Aung Former Political Prisoners Group
    12. U Thu (Zaganar) House of Media Entertainment
    13. U Nyan Win National League for Democracy
    14. U Khun Tun Oo Shan Nationalities League for Democracy
    15. U Ko Ko Giy 88 Generation (Peace and Open Society)
    16. Dr Win Naing National Democratic Forces
    17. U Thein Nyunt New National Democratic Party
    18. U Kaung Myint Htut New National Democratic Party
    19. U Aung Thein Secretary
    20. U Moe Aung Secretary
    21. U Aung Thein Deputy Minister
    22. U Soe Maung Secretary
    23. U Kay Kyaw Secretary
    24. U Thein Aung Secretary
    25. U Tun Tun Oo Secretary

By order,

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Mawlamyine sub-power station commissioned

Mawlamyine, 8 May—“With the surge in demand caused by increased electricity consumption in Mon and Kayin States, 230/66/11 KV 100 MVA Mawlamyine sub-power station and 230 KV 50-mile long Thaton-Mawlamyine power line were built for ensuring adequate supply of electricity. Thanks to arrangements are being made for extended installation of 230 KV power line from the sub-power station and Ye and Dawei regions and Hpa-an industrial zone in Kayin State will soon be connected to the power line.

Moreover, plans are underway to install 66 KV Mawlamyine-Chaungzon power line and 66 KV Mawlamyine-Thambuyuzay power line in order to supply more electricity to Mon State.” — Kyemon

Y 2012 sees most fire cases in decade

Yangon, 8 May—The year 2012 saw most fire cases in the past 10 years across the country, based on statistics of Fire Services Department. During a period from 2003 to 2012, the number of fire cases had reached 8903. A total of 51290 houses and buildings worth K 88,726.81 million were destroyed in the fires. In the past decade, 760 fire cases occurred in 2003, 956 in 2004, 835 in 2005, 833 in 2006, 944 in 2007, 799 in 2008, 714 in 2009, 920 in 2010, 923 in 2011, and 1219 in 2012 that saw the most. But the worth of property lost in the fires in 2010 exceeded that of 2012.

Fire negligence was the major causes of fire with 467 cases, followed by ember fire with 328 and electrical faults with 244. — Kyemon

Landslide kills two gold mine workers

Kawlin, 8 May—Two women were killed in a landslide at a gold mining block of Shwe Nyaung Myay goldmining company near Nyaungbin Hla village in Kawlin Township in Sagaing Region on 29 April.

While gold mine workers are carrying out gold mining at the block, a sudden landslide occurred and killed Nanda Aye, 18, and Nann Khin, 24, both are gold mine workers.

Kawlin Township police station is conducting necessary investigations into the death of two gold mine workers. — Kyemon

Tatmadawmen join hands with local people in drinking water supply

Yamethin, 8 May—With the aim of ensuring more water storage and contributing to adequate drinking water supply, renovation of drinking water lake in Nyaung-aiing village of Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region was carried out on 5 April. More than 500 Tatmadawmen led by Col Myint Soe and local people collectively contributed their voluntary services in the task.

Nyaung-aiing village with the population of 2968 relies on the lake for drinking water. The renovation works included digging two more feet depth of the 330 feet long and 90 feet wide lake. Thanks to renovation works, the lake will be able to store more water, thereby contributing towards adequate supply of drinking water. — Kyemon

Hit-and-run crash claims two lives, hurt one on Kaba Aye Pagoda road

Yangon, 8 May—Three riders on a motorbike without number plate had fallen victims to a head-on collision with a vehicle near Thitsar junction on Kaba Aye Pagoda road in Yankin Township at about 3 am on 5 May. Two young raiders, out of three on the motorbike, died on the spot at the scene and the remaining one had got serious injuries, and all of them were sent to Yangon General Hospital.

According to witnesses, the vehicle driving from north to south on the road by an unidentified driver suddenly swerved off its path and slammed into the motorbike driving on the opposite lane, causing two riders dead and one wounded.

As the driver fled the scene leaving his car, Yankin police station is making investigation to expose the hit-and-run driver. — Kyemon

MFF President clarifies undertakings for development of Myanmar football

Yangon, 8 May—President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw recently attended the 25th AFC Congress where he held talks on undertakings for development of Myanmar football with the FIFA President and the UEFA President. The FIFA President spoke words of praise about MFF’s efforts for Myanmar football development and social works during the past period, saying that he was very glad to see progress of FIFA 11 For Health Programme which is being implemented by MFF in cooperation with Education, Health and Sports Ministries. He expressed his belief that the programme could be successfully realized by MFF.

Moreover, the MFF President called on the UEFA President at the congress and held discussions on promotion of Myanmar football. The MFF President together with General Secretary U Tin Aung, MNL football tournament organizer U Ye Myo Hein and AFC Gold Star Award winner U Khin Maung Kyaw attended the congress held in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia on 2-3 May. — Kyemon
**Death toll in collapsed Bangladesh building rises to 700**

Dhaka, 8 May—Rescuers pulled out 15 bodies on Tuesday morning from the wreckage of an eight-story clothing factory complex that collapsed two weeks ago, raising the death toll to 700, rescue operation officials said. Rescue officials are not clear how many people are still buried in the concrete debris as authorities do not have a comprehensive list of workers who were at five garment factories inside the Rana Plaza in Savar at the time of the incident. A total of 2,437 people have been rescued, most shortly after the building collapsed on 24 April.

**French President to make state visit to Japan on 6-8 June**

Tokyo, 8 May—French President Francois Hollande will visit Japan between 6 and 8 June as a state guest to enhance bilateral relations, including security and economic cooperation, the Japanese government said on Tuesday. Hollande, who will become the first French President to make a state visit to Japan in 17 years, is planning to meet with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe during the trip. The two leaders “aim to build special partnership between Japan and France,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a news conference. They are likely to announce policies under which the countries “will cooperate in securing the stability and prosperity of the international community,” the top government spokesman said.

**Israel PM orders freeze on construction in settlements**

Jerusalem, 8 May—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has ordered to halt the construction in the West Bank Jewish settlements, Army Radio reported on Tuesday. Netanyahu informed Housing Minister Uri Ariel the decision before he left for China. Ariel, from the hardline National Union, is a major player in the establishment of several settlements in the past decades. He had recently said that if the construction in the settlements would be frozen his party would not support the upcoming 2013-14 budget. Peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority came to a halt in 2010 over Israel’s construction in the West Bank territories, to the ire of the international community. This is not the first time Netanyahu ordered to freeze construction in the West Bank settlements. In a speech at the Bar Ilan University June 2009, Netanyahu endorsed the two-state solution with a “demilitarized Palestinian side” alongside Israel and called to freeze construction in the settlements period of ten months. —Kyodo News

**Teenager accused of lying in Boston bomb case out on bail**

Robel Phillipos (R), the teenager accused of lying to FBI agents in the Boston Marathon bombing investigation, appears in court in Boston, Massachusetts in this 6 May, 2013 court sketch. —Reuters

Boston, 8 May—The teenage accused of lying to FBI agents in the Boston Marathon bombing case was freed on $100,000 bail on Monday pending a later trial date, and investigators said bomb fragments suggest they were less sophisticated than homemade ones used by insurgents. While out on bail, Robel Phillipos will be under the custody of his mother and must wear a GPS bracelet, US Magistrate Judge Marianne Bowler ordered in federal court in Boston. The $100,000 bail for the 19-year-old was secured by real estate put up by a third party, the judge said.

Phillipos, of Cambri-
dge, Massachusetts, is accused of making false statements to FBI agents investigating the 15th April attack that killed three people and injured 264 near the marathon’s finish line. He was not charged with direct involvement in the attack. Phillipos’ mother was “very emotional,” after the ruling, the teenager’s attorney, Derege Demissie, said. About 60 people, including friends, family and a large contingent from the Boston Ethiopian community, appeared in the courthouse on Monday showing their support. Defence lawyers argued he was not a flight risk, has no prior criminal history and can refute FBI allegations that he interfered with their investigation, court records show. In affidavits of support filed with the court, Phillipos is described as a social worker’s caring son who read to kindergarten students. —Reuters

**1945 Tokyo bombing was against humanitarian principles**

Tokyo, 8 May—The US bombing of Tokyo in March 1945 that claimed some 100,000 lives ran counter to the humanitarian principles of international law, the Japanese government said in a document released on Tuesday. At the day’s Cabinet meeting, the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe endorsed the document prepared in response to a written question filed by Mizuho Fukushima, leader of the opposition Social Democratic Party and a member of the House of Councillors or the upper house. The document only noted that the then Japanese government had filed a protest with the US government shortly after the March 1945 air raid. More than 300 B-29s says the war with Japan in the Pacific theater of the global war was one against fascism. —Kyodo News

**Aso to explain Japan’s commitment to fiscal rehabilitation at G-7**

Tokyo, 8 May—Finance Minister Taro Aso on Tuesday expressed eagerness to explain Japan’s commitment to restoring its fiscal health, said to be the worst among developed nations, at a meeting of the Group of Seven finance chiefs this weekend in Britain.

“We have to keep in mind that a country will lose credibility” if it fails to show a resolute stance to achieve fiscal rehabilitation, Aso said at a regular Press conference. Noting the importance of economic recovery, Aso, who is expected to attend the two-day G-7 meeting starting Friday, also said the major economies have to implement fiscal and monetary policy measures “in a balanced manner.”

As for the Bank of Japan’s drastic monetary easing, Aso said it would take a few months before its effects become clearer, while the yen has weakened and Tokyo stocks have soared after the central bank on 4 April introduced a set of new steps, including additional purchases of government bonds and risky financial assets.

Last month, Japan was urged to “define a credible medium-term fiscal plan” in a communiqué issued following the end of a two-day meeting of Group of 20 finance chiefs in Washington. Aso reiterated that the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will draw up a medium-term fiscal consolidation plan by midyear. —Kyodo News

**Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso**

Japan's commitment to fiscal rehabilitation at G-7
New Light of Myanmar
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Vietnam successfully launches first remote sensing satellite

HANOI, 8 May—After three days of delay due to the bad weather, Vietnam’s first remote sensing satellite, VNRED Sat-1, was successfully launched on Tuesday morning by Ariane space from the Guiana Space Centre, French Guiana, local media reported. According to Tuoi Tre online, the earth observation satellite was launched by a Vega lightweight rocket at 9:06 am, Hanoi time. It is said that it hour 57 minutes and 24 seconds after taking off, the satellite would activate its propulsion engine to make its way to sun synchronous orbit (SSO) at an altitude of nearly 670 km.

This is an event of significance which will open new development of Vietnam’s space technology, state-run Vietnam News Agency quoted Professor Chau Van Minh, President of the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) as saying.

In addition, the successful launching contributes to confirm Vietnam’s integration into the world community, especially in the field of space exploitation for peace and interest of the human beings, he said.

Currently Vietnam has to buy satellite images from foreign countries at high prices and has to wait for one or two months to receive such images. According to VAST, the VNRED Sat-1 was launched with two other space vehicles, including a 140-kg Proba-V satellite of the European Space Agency (ESA) to map vegetation cover, and an 1.3-kg Estonian micro-satellite, ESTCube-1, to test an electric solar sail.

During its operation, the satellite, which measures 600 mm x 570 mm x 500 mm and weighs 115 kg, was built at a total cost of 55.8 million euros (73 million US dollars) from the Vietnamese Government.

As scheduled, the first image on the earth will be captured within the next two days, and that on Vietnam will be transmitted one day later. Vietnam will officially operate the VNRED Sat-1 after three months of testing operations with assessment and readjustment, reported the online VNEExpress.

Estonia’s first ever satellite begins circling Earth

TALLINN, 8 May—Estonia’s first satellite, ESTCube-1, was sent into orbit on Tuesday, making the small Baltic nation the 41st one in the world owning manmade object in space.

Launched from the Guiana Space Centre, the one-kilogram nanosatellite reached orbit at around 07:06 Estonian time (0606 GMT). It was accompanied by two other satellites, Europe’s Proba V and Vietnam’s VNREDSat1A.

Estonian Public Broadcasting (ERR) reported one of the project’s lead-ers, senior researcher Mart Noormaa, as saying, “I am very proud to see all these students here who are watching their handwork of five years.” Estonian Speaker of Parliament Ene Ergma, an astrophysicist by training who was in French Guiana to launch the project, said Estonia is now a “tiny space country,” but “it’s a really big deal in my opinion.” University students had been developing the nanosatellite since 2008 with preparations for the project made even earlier. ESTCube-1 will carry out innovative solar wind experiments.

Global warming changing nature of coral reefs

WELLINGTON, 8 May—Global warming might be killing off many species of coral as the world’s oceans acidify, but the future for biodiversity in coral reefs might not be as bleak as previously forecast, according to a study by New Zealand and Australian scientists. “It has been predicted that many reefs will end up being dominated by algae rather than corals, which will have negative effects on biodiversity and ultimately on the ability of humans to derive product from reefs,” marine biologist Dr James Bell, of New Zealand’s Victoria University, said on Tuesday.

“However, we propose an alternative scenario — as sponges and corals respond differently to changing ocean chemistry and environmental conditions, we may actually see some coral reefs transforming into sponge reefs,” Bell said in a statement.

Bell and scientists from Victoria University, the University of Auckland and the Australian Institute of Marine Science found palaeontological evidence from more than 200 million years ago that suggested past ocean acidification events were followed by a mass extinction of coral species and subsequent proliferation of sponges.

Intel revamps Atom chips in bid to find mobile footing

SANTA CLARA, (California), 8 May—Intel Corp on Monday unveiled the most extensive overhaul of its Atom mobile processors, with improved performance that the PC chipmaker expects will help it challenge Qualcomm in smartphones and tablets.

The new microarchitecture, code-named Silvermont, will carry a key building block in upcoming Intel chips for mobile gadgets, microservers and car entertainment systems. Chief Product Officer Dadi Perlmutter told reporters at an event on Monday.

“We have not only reduced the power in a significant manner but it comes with significant performance,” Perlmutter said.

Intel’s chips dominate the PC industry but the company has struggled to adapt its processors for smartphones and tablets, a market dominated by Qualcomm.

The Silvermont micro-architecture is analogous to redesigning an automobile engine that will be used a range of car models with various features, Perlmutter said.

He said it offers up to three times more computer power than current chips and as much as five times lower power consumption. Qualcomm and other mobile chipmakers design their processors using power-efficient technology licensed from Intel and ARM Holdings.

Intel introduced its Atom mobile processors for netbooks in 2008 and they have so far failed to be widely adopted in smartphones and tablets despite improvements made to them. Silvermont will be the basis for Intel’s 22-nanometer Bay Trail tablet chips due out later this year and Intel says it will more than double the performance of its current tablet chips.

It will also be used in Intel’s upcoming Merrifield smartphone chips and Avon chips for microservers.

While Silvermont improves the performance of Intel’s processors, the Santa Clara, California company faces other major challeng-es in mobile.

It has fallen behind in launching chips with Long Term Evolution, or LTE, a high-speed wireless technology already offered by Qualcomm and increasingly found in smartphones launched in the United States, including Apple’s iPhone and Samsung’s Galaxy line.

Reuters

A TV screen grab taken on 7 May, 2013 shows the launching of Vietnam’s first remote sensing satellite, VNRED Sat-1, in Hanoi, Vietnam. After three days of delay due to the bad weather, Vietnam’s first remote sensing satellite, VNRED Sat-1, was successfully launched on Tuesday morning by Ariane space from the Guiana Space Centre, French Guiana, local media reported. —Xinhua

VNRED Sat-1 will provide high-resolution satellite images that will serve social and economic development purposes, such as natural resources management, environmental protection, and natural disaster detection and control.

The satellite, which measures 600 mm x 570 mm x 500 mm and weighs 115 kg, was built at a total cost of 55.8 million euros (73 million US dollars) from the Vietnamese Government.

As scheduled, the first image on the earth will be captured within the next two days, and that on Vietnam will be transmitted one day later. Vietnam will officially operate the VNRED Sat-1 after three months of testing operations with assessment and readjustment, reported the online VNEExpress.

The satellite will be designed to provide, for the first time from space, P-band radar measurements that are optimised to determine the amount of biomass and carbon stored in the world’s forests with greater accuracy than ever before, the world leading space agency added.

Biomass also has the potential to evolve into an operational system, providing long-term monitoring of forests, one of the Earth’s most important natural resources, according to the ESA. The launch of the mission is foreseen for 2020, it noted. The Earth Explorers are a series of satellites developed to further people’s understanding of the Earth.

Three missions currently in orbit are providing new insight into the Earth’s cryosphere, gravity and soil moisture and ocean salinity. Future missions will provide new information on the magnetic field, wind and how clouds and aerosols affect the radiation budget.

Xinhua
Doctors to older, heavy smokers: Get CT screening for lung cancer

That was the population in whom the largest-ever lung-cancer-screening study, the National Lung Screening Test, found CT screening cuts deaths from lung cancer.

A year-long measure defined as smoking 20 cigarettes a day for a year or any equivalent, such as two packs a day for six months.

This describes an estimated 7 million people, says chest physician David Midkiff of the Mayo Clinic.

The NLST, which studied 53,000 current or former heavy smokers, concluded in 2011 that CT screening reduced mortality from lung cancer in this high-risk group by 20 percent compared to no screening or to X-rays.

Berkshire may boost DaVita stake to 25 percent

NEW YORK, May— Warren Buffett’s Berkshire Hathaway Inc (BRKa.N), the largest investor in DaVita HealthCare Partners Inc (DVA.N), has entered an agreement allowing it to nearly double its stake in the largest US operator of dialysis clinics to 25 percent.

According to a regulatory filing, the companies on Tuesday entered a “standstill” agreement, which is often used to prevent unsolicited takeovers. DaVita shares were highest at 14.2 percent, as was disclosed.

Buffett’s company ended March with $49.1 billion of cash, of which $12.1 billion is being used to help fund the pending purchase of cupcake maker H.J. Heinz Co (HNZ.N).

DaVita has long been a favorite investment of Ted Weschler, one of two portfolio managers Buffett hired to run portions of Berkshire’s $95.9 billion of cash, of which $21.6 billion is to pay off the credit rating company Moody’s Corp (MCO.N), whose shares it has recently been selling.

Separately, Denver-based DaVita reported on Tuesday an adjusted first-quarter operating profit excluding a legal reserve of $196.9 million, or $1.84 per share. Analysts on average expected $1.79 per share, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.—Reuters

Omega-3 ruled out for protection against age-related blindness

WASHINGTON, May— Adding omega-3 fatty acids did not improve a combination of nutritional supplements commonly recommended for treating age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a new US government study has found. The plant-derived antioxidants lutein and zeaxanthin also had no overall effect on AMD when simply added to the combination, according to the study published online Monday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Anti-epileptic drugs dramatically reduced the seizures in about two-thirds of the treated mice and significantly reduced the severity of the seizures in the remaining one-third of patients. The remaining third, however, do not respond to any form of therapy, and those who take drugs can experience harmful side effects.

Researchers with the University of California at San Francisco injected new-born inhibitory nerve cells called Medial Ganglionic Eminence into the hippocampus in the brains of adult epileptic mice. They found that the treatment eliminated seizures in half of the treated mice and dramatically reduced the number of seizures in the rest.—Xinhua

Disney’s profit rises on parks, ‘Oz’ movie

LOS ANGELES, May— Media giant Walt Disney Co reported a 32 percent increase in profit that beat Wall Street expectations, boosted by higher spending and attendance at US theme parks, and the movie box office success of “Oz the Great and Powerful.”

Revenue for the company that operates cable networks, theme parks and a movie studio increased 10 percent to $10.6 billion. At the parks division, revenue gained 14 percent and operating income climbed 73 percent as resorts in Florida and California attracted more visitors and guests spent more. CEO Bob Iger said Disney parks drew more visitors thanks to investments in new attractions such as Cars Land at Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California, and the expansion of Fantasyland at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

“The product that we recently put online really worked, like California Adventure and Fantasyland, and the product we had online for years and years in many respects looked better to consumers,” Iger told analysts on a conference call. Profit rose 8 percent at the media networks unit, the company’s largest division, helped by higher advertising and fees from cable operators at sports network ESPN.—Reuters

Brain cell injections could quiet epilepsy

WASHINGTON, May— Epilepsy that does not respond to drugs may be halted by transplanting a specific type of cell into the brain, according to a new study conducted by US researchers and published online on Sunday in the journal Nature Neuroscience.

The study, the first ever to report stopping seizures in mouse models of adult human epilepsy, raises hope for a similar treatment in severe forms of the disease. Anti-epileptic drugs and other therapies reduce seizures in about two-thirds of patients. The remaining one-third, however, do not respond to any form of therapy, and those who take drugs can experience harmful side effects.

Researchers with the University of California at San Francisco injected new-born inhibitory nerve cells called Medial Ganglionic Eminence into the hippocampus in the brains of adult epileptic mice. They found that the treatment eliminated seizures in half of the treated mice and dramatically reduced the number of seizures in the rest.—Xinhua

SoftBank to meet Sprint investors, many eye higher bid

SoftBank Corp President Masayoshi Son speaks during a news conference in Tokyo on 30 April, 2013.—Reuters

SoftBank company, including the operator of Sprint Nextel Corp (S.N) its majority owner, is no longer the preferred bidder for Dish Network Corp (DISH.N) investors may have a tough time selling the deal, as several shareholders have told Reuters that SoftBank would need to raise its bid in order to win their vote at Sprint’s 12 June shareholder meeting.

Two big Sprint shareholders, Paulson & Co and Omega Advisors, have publicly said the Dish offer looks better than SoftBank’s. Other shareholders said on Tuesday that they would go to meet Son during his trip but they were skeptical about his arguments against Dish.

While Dish’s offer would provide more cash upfront to shareholders, Son has argued that Dish would not be good for the company as it would require Sprint to take on a heavy debt load.—Reuters

Berkshire Hathaway CEO Warren Buffett pauses during a bridge game in Omaha on 5 May, 2013 the day after company’s annual meeting.—Reuters

The crowd watches the premiere of the new Disney Dream show as part of the 20th anniversary celebrations of Disneyland Resort in Marne-la-Vallée, outside Paris on 31 March, 2012.—Reuters

R euteRs
Italy came to brink before being saved by “King George”

ROME, 8 May—On Saturday 20 April, the leaders of Italy’s two biggest political forces climbed the Quirinal, highest of Rome’s seven ancient hills, and begged President Giorgio Napolitano to stay for a second term. Premier Mario Monti, Northern League boss Roberto Maroni and finally the governors of Italy’s regions, in scenes that resembled schoolboys visiting the headmaster’s office.

The fact that Italy’s leading political élite felt compelled to implore an extremely reluctant 87-year-old grandfather to be the first President in Italian history to serve a second term is evidence of the depth of the most turbulent and intractable crisis seen for decades, even in a country synonymous with instability. Since an election in February that left no group with enough support to govern alone, one political party had followed another like a motorway pile-up, culminating in the failure of 100 “grand electors” from parliament and the regions to elect a new President after four attempts.

The political drama had implications far beyond Italy. The euro zone’s third biggest economy had once on the narrowly avoided sucking into the region’s financial crisis. Political gridlock brought renewed danger. The group’s pleas flew in the face of Napolitano’s repeated and fierce rejection of the idea, going back months. With his 88th birthday two months away, the former communist was looking forward to retirement, playing with his two grandchildren and taking a holiday on the island of Capri with his wife Clio.

Napolitano was so sure of leaving that removal men had already taken away most of his personal effects. Sources with knowledge of the events inside the former papal palace on the Quirinal hill said his office was so bare that there were not even notebooks available when he received the delegations.

He had told his aides the night before that he expected to hand over the presidency within days, the sources said. The presidential election was key to ending the two-month deadlock and installing Italy’s 64th post-war government with some hope of passing reforms vital to counter a deep recession, but the politicians were incapable of finding a way out of the impasse.

Napolitano eventually agreed to stand again, was overwhelmingly elected and has installed a right-left grand coalition under centre-left politician Enrico Letta, bringing the crisis to an end, for now. While fragile, the government is given a reasonable chance of lasting for a while at least, thanks mostly to the president’s powerful protection, and his threat to resign immediately if the politicians go back to playing games. —Reuters

Ammonium nitrate was cause of Texas explosion, state agency says

SAN ANTONIO, (Texas), 8 May—Investigators have determined that ammonium nitrate was the cause of the explosion at a West, Texas, fertilizer plant last month that left 14 people dead and some 200 injured, a spokeswoman for the Texas state fire marshal’s office said on Tuesday.

“The investigators have been able to narrow down the origin to the fertilizer and seed building on site, and we also know that what caused the explosion was the ammonium nitrate,” said Rachel Moreno, a spokeswoman for the Texas State Fire Marshal Office. “What we don’t know is exactly why.” The fire marshal’s office has been leading the investigation of the 17 April blast, along with the federal Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agency (ATF).

Ammonium nitrate is a dry fertilizer mixed with other fertilizers such as phosphate and applied to crops to promote growth. It can be combustible under certain conditions, and was used as an ingredient in the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995 that left 168 people dead.—Reuters

Six people killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 8 May—Six people were killed in shootings and bomb attacks in Iraq on Saturday, police said. In Iraq’s northern province of Nineveh, Sanaa Abdulla, a female provincial council member, escaped unharmed a bomb explosion in the city of Mosul, some 400 km north of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, a provincial police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Abdulla’s driver was killed by the blast which occurred just after the councilor left her car in the garage of the provincial council in central city, the source said. In a separate incident, gunmen using weapons fitted with silencers broke into a car repair shop in Biaiya District in the southern part of Baghdad and killed two workers before they fled the scene, an Interior Ministry source anonymously told Xinhua. In Iraq’s eastern Province of Diyala, unidentified gunmen in their car shot dead a policeman and a civilian near a village in the city of Khasis near the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a provincial police source told Xinhua. Also in the province, a member of a government-backed paramilitary group, known as Awakening Council group, was shot dead and a woman was wounded —by gunmen who attacked their house in a village near the city of Baquba, the source said. —Xinhua

Two attack incidents in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 8 May—At least six people were killed and 20 others injured when a bomb hit a political gathering in Pakistan’s west District of Lower Dir on Tuesday afternoon, local media reported.

Dunya TV said that the bomb blast occurred just after the councilor left her car in the garage and a woman was wounded —by gunmen who attacked their house in a village near the city of Mosul, some 400 km northeast of Baghdad, a provincial police source told Xinhua. Also in the province, a member of a government-backed paramilitary group, known as Awakening Council group, was shot dead and a woman was wounded —by gunmen who attacked their house in a village near the city of Baquba, the source said. —Xinhua

Target for completion of debris disposal in Fukushima Prefecture delayed

TOKYO, 8 May—The government will postpone the March 2014 target for completing disposal of debris in Fukushima Prefecture caused by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster, government officials said on Tuesday. As the disposal work is substantially behind schedule due to the radioactive contamination following the nuclear disaster at the Fukushima Daini power plant, the Environment Ministry plans to set a new target this summer and to build more incinerators to complete the debris disposal in the prefecture, the officials said.

Disposal of debris in two other disaster-hit prefectures of Iwate and Miyagi will be completed by the end of March 2014 as targeted, they said. Meanwhile, the government on Tuesday decided to reclassify the no-go zone in the town of Futaba, Fukushima Prefecture, into two areas with varying levels of accessibility, the officials said. Futaba and its neighbour town Okuma jointly host the disaster-hit nuclear power station operated by Tokyo Electric Power Co.

At midnight on 27 May, the town’s no-go zone will be reclassified into an area difficult for residents to return home as their homes will still not be able to return to, the officials said. The prefecture released a report on the progress of disposal of debris in the three prefectures, which it also saw during the inspection trip to Fukushima, Iwate and Miyagi as of the end of March this year.

The report showed that 92.4 million tons, or 58 percent of the total disaster debris, such as combustible and wooden waste, have been disposed of in the three prefectures. It also said 3.19 million tons, or 32 percent of the total tsunami deposits, such as dirt carried by the waves, have been disposed of.

By prefecture, 1.80 million tons, or 49 percent of the total disaster debris, have been disposed of in Iwate Prefecture, 6.76 million tons, or 65 percent, in Miyagi Prefecture, and 680,000 tons, or 40 percent, in Fukushima Prefecture, the report showed. —Kyodo News
**Libyan Defence Minister tenders resignation**

**Tripoli, 8 May**—Libyan Defence Minister Mohamed al-Bargathi tendered his resignation to the Libyan Prime Minister on Tuesday, state-run Libyan news agency reported. — Xinhua

The move came on the backdrop of a siege imposed by gunmen on government ministries for more than a week, the report said. Last week, scores of gunmen surrounded Libya’s justice ministry and foreign ministry in the capital Tripoli to demand approval of the political isolation law. The militiamen call for banning those working under the former administration of the fallen leader Muammar al-Gaddafi from holding senior positions. The siege continued this week in spite of a adoption of a law to bar gaddafi-era officials from their posts. — Xinhua

**Yemen jails 10 al-Qaeda suspects for plotting attacks**

**San'a, 8 May** — A Yemeni security court on Tuesday upheld sentences for 10 al-Qaeda militants, including a Syrian national, state media reported.

The convicts were accused of joining al-Qaeda and plotting attacks against local and foreign facilities during the years of 2005-2010, and were sentenced to three to four years in prison after a series of trials that began on 6 Feb, 2011 in the capital San'a, according to official Saba news agency.

Two of the defendants were convicted of participating in a terrorist gang affiliated with the al-Qaeda wing from 2005 to July 2010, during which they carried out attacks against local and foreign interests. The Yemeni government has arrested and tried scores of al-Qaeda suspects since the beginning of 2013 as part of a US-backed counterterrorism campaign.

Also, dozens of militants have been killed by US drone strikes in the campaign. The Yemeni troops defeated al-Qaeda fighters in the southern province of Abyan and recaptured their strongholds in May 2012 after a year-long battle.

The Yemeni government has engaged in a large-scale offensive on terrorist groups to restore security and stability to the country after the 2011 political turmoil. — Xinhua

**Nigerian military jet crashes in Niger, two dead**

**Khartoum, 8 May** — Sudanese Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamid disclosed that the Sudanese army killed 60 rebels of the revolutionary front which attempted to attack Um Braimbita area in South Kordofan State on Sunday, Khartoum’s Al Roy Al Am daily reported on Tuesday.

The paper quoted the minister as saying that "the Sudanese Armed Forces have killed 60 rebels and confiscated 6 armored vehicles and great amount of ammunition from the rebels.” He explained that the army found big sums in money in the pockets of the rebels in addition to mobile phones that the rebels looted from the citizens, the report said. Last Sunday the Sudanese army announced that it repulsed a fresh attack by the rebels in Um Braimbita area in South Kordofan state. South Kordofan and Blue Nile states have been witnessing armed clashes between the Sudanese army and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/ northern sector since 2011 after South Sudan’s independence. — Xinhua

**Sudan army kill 60 rebels in attack on Um Braimbita area**

**Brazilia, 8 May**— Brazil plans to hire 6,000 Cuban doctors to serve in remote parts of the country where medical services are deficient or nonexistent, despite controversy over the quality of their training.

Brazilian medical associations have opposed Cuban-trained doctors practicing in their country, arguing that standards at Cuba’s medical schools are lower than in Brazil and equivalent in some cases to a nursing education in Brazil. Over the past decade Cuba’s communist government has sent 30,000 doctors to work in poor neighbourhoods of Venezuela, Havana’s closest political ally in Latin America, under an agreement reached with the late Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez that involved an exchange of medical services for cheap oil.

The Cubans are expected to be sent to poor corners of the Northeast of Brazil and the Amazon jungle where Brazilian doctors are reluctant to serve. “Cuba is very proficient in the areas of medicine, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology and Brazil is considering receiving Cubans doctors in talks that involve PAHO,” Patterson said at a news conference with Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez.

The Federal Council of Medicine, a body that represents doctors in Brazil, criticized as “irresponsible” the government’s proposal to allow in doctors whose “technical and ethical quality was in doubt.”

It issued a statement demanding foreign doctors be reclassified in Brazil before being allowed to practice. Foreign Minister Patricia said the plan to bring Cuban doctors to Brazil would strengthen ties between Havana and Brasilia that have expanded since the leftist Worker’s Party came to power a decade ago.

He announced that Brazil will finance the modernization of five airports in Cuba, where Brazilian construction conglomerate Odebrecht is already building a container terminal at the port of Mariel. — Reuters

**Iran begins registration of presidential candidates**

**Teheran, 8 May** — Candidates for Iran’s 11th presidential election began to register on Tuesday, Iranians, who obtain the requirements stipulated in Iran’s Constitution, will be able to sign up for the race until 11 May at the country’s Interior Ministry.

In a two-week period, the Iranian Guardian Council of Constitution will study the qualification of the candidates on the basis of a number of principles among them their belief in “the fundamental tenets of the Islamic republic and the country’s official religion.”

According to Press TV, more than 20 religious and political figures have so far shown interest in running for presidential election slated for 14 June. The president of Iran is elected for a four-year term through a national election. — Xinhua

**Brazil to deploy 6,000 Cuban doctors in remote areas**

Brazil has begun recruiting Cuban doctors to serve in poor areas of the country where medical services are deficient or nonexistent, despite controversy over the quality of their training. Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota said on Monday negotiations were under way involving the Washington-based Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) to allow the Cuban doctors to practice in Brazil.

Brazilian medical associations have opposed Cuban-trained doctors practicing in their country, arguing that standards at Cuba’s medical schools are lower than in Brazil and equivalent in some cases to a nursing education in Brazil.

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“The investigation is going on to find out what happened. They were on a normal routine flight about 60 km (37 miles) west of Nia- mey when something happened,” Anas told Reuters.

Asking if there was any evidence of anti-aircraft fire, he said: “We don’t know but it was inside Ni- gerian territory.” A Niger security source said the jet crashed near Dargol in the Tillabery region which border- ers Mali. “The plane was not shot at. It was not in en-emy territory so for now we are looking at maybe a me- chanical problem,” another security official from Niger, who asked not to be identi- fied, said. — Reuters

Performers dance in a traditional ceremony praying for peace and prosperity dur- ing the first Qishan Cultural Festival in the Qishan scenic spot in Lingu County, east China’s Shandong Province, on 7 May, 2013. — Xinhua

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Two Myanmar sports contingents go abroad

Yangon, 8 May—Myanmar PETEN sports team left here for Thailand to have a joint training at 8 am today.
The team comprises of 35 athletes—18 male and 15 female. Likewise, Myanmar shooting contingent comprising of 22 athletes and coaches left here for China at 11 am today.

With amity China would bare every expense in the joint training between Myanmar and Chinese athletes.—MNA

Two Myanmar sports contingents go abroad

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 May—Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko received Director of Treaties Department of UNODC Office Mr John Sandage and party at the ministry, here, at 3.30 pm today. The meeting discussed cooperation in drug elimination.
The Union minister also received Israeli Ambassador Mr Hagay Moshe Behar and party at 4.30 pm today and focused on cooperation between the two countries.
Minister of Judicial Affairs of Thailand Pol Gen Pracha Promnog and party called on the Union minister at 5.30 pm. They had a discussion on cooperation in drug elimination between the two countries.

Correction
Pleased read “Importation of fertilizer, pesticides and farm implements and equipment...” instead of “Exportation of fertilizer, pesticides and farm implements and equipment...” in second paragraph of second column at the Notification No. 735/2013 of Finance and Revenue Ministry that appeared on the front page in this daily issued on 8-5-2013.—NLM
Magway, a tourist attraction with arid climate

**Magway, 8 May—** Magway has become one of the major tourist destinations with its Shwehsettaw Sanctuary and Natural Park, the habitat of Raceraccoon-eared deers and star tortoises. The dawn is the best time of the day to enjoy the scenic beauty of Upper Hseettawya with Mann Creek snaking round the mountain—so moving that there is even a saying—Never visit Shwehsettaw alone, otherwise you will lose yourself in yearning. In addition, Kyaungdawya is also famous for its religious significance with ancient cultural heritage sites. Upper Minhla, Minhla Fortress, and Kwechaung Fort are also the tourist attraction. Moreover, Popa, the extinct volcano sharing border with Magway has all the things deserved to discover, renowned as the oasis of arid zone.

M *agway saw a significant increase in number of foreign tourist arrivals in the first quarter, according to official data.*

**Free rabies vaccine for Mandalarians**

**Mandalay, 8 May—** As of January 2013, rabies vaccine were given free to domestic pets—cats and dogs—at wards and villages of Mandalay and PyinULNwin districts by a mobile vet group comprising members of Myanmar Veterinarians Association and Mandalay Veterinarians Association in Mandalay.

To honour supporters and donors who made a lot of contributions to the campaign a ceremony was held at Oriental House on 5 May. Head of Mandalay Region Department of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Dr Thaung Haik (Retd) spoke words of thanks. He presented certificates of honour to the group leader. About 200 people had reportedly lost their life by the bite of dogs carrying rabies in Mandalay in 2012.—Kyemon

**Farmers preparing farms after first monsoon rain in Meiktila**

**Meiktila, 8 May—** Meiktila farmers are preparing for a new cultivation season as the town received the first monsoon rain in the beginning of May.

A farmer from Magyichauk Village said, “We are preparing the farm as we are growing sesame before cultivating monsoon paddy. We got a bumper harvest of sesame two years ago.” Last year, Meiktila received relatively lower amount of rainfall in the beginning of monsoon, causing difficulties to farmers. Rain is still pivotal for farmers across the country. It is a widespread belief among farmers that preparing the farmland along with the first monsoon rain could help farming tasks complete in time with bumper harvest. —Kyemon

**People in Sayay East village in Sagaing happy with potable water**

**Sagaing, 8 May—** People in Sayay East village in Sagaing Township celebrated the success for sinking a tube-well in May.

The village had to face shortage of drinking water in every summer. Village administrator, town elders and ardent youths made collective efforts for sinking tube-wells.

They failed to find safe drinking water although they sank two tube wells before. But third tube-well gets drinking water.

“The village with 310 households and 287 houses has a population of 1550. People there have to carry water from Ayeyawady River about 5 miles from the village. Local people are very happy, and attendees were served with snacks,” said Village administrator U Cho Chin (a) U Myint Htwe.

Sayay East Village is constituted with 1550 people from 310 households of 287 houses. In the past, the local people took water from Ayeyawady River, five miles from the village.

It was carried out with the contributions for sinking tube-well of K 2.5 million by U Myo Chit and Daw Khin Sun Wai of Mandalay KMC Automobile Manufacturing and K 5 million for construction of 10000-gallon-capacity water tank by U Maung Ko and Daw Shwe U of Htarwara Co., Ltd of Chammyathazi Township of Mandalay.

Traffic accident leaves three injured

**Katha, 8 May—** There was a motorbike accident at the corner between Mogok Meditation Centre Street and No. (2) Police Station of Katha District in Sagaing Region yesterday, attended by Commander of Katha District Police Force Police Li-Col Myo Kyi.

A total of 20 trainees from urban wards and villages are attending the courses which take 14 weeks to complete.—Kyemon

**Stimulant tablets seized in Sangyong, Thingangyun Tsps**

**Sangyoung, Thingangyun Tsps**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 8 May—** IP Zaw Zaw Naing and members of Yangon East Anti-Drug Special Squad searched Ko Htay near Thamhsuma car dealers supervisory office in Sanpya Ward of Thingangyun Township at 1.15 pm on 1 May and seized 186 stimulant tablets from him.

Likewise, IP Myo Kyi of Yangon West Anti-Drug Special Squad and party searched Thura Hlaing and Aung Zaw Myat at the administrative office in Myenigon (North) Ward of Sangyoung Township at 6 pm on 2 May and seized 32 pink stimulant tablets from the pants of Thura Hlaing. According to the investigation, the combined team searched the room of Thura Hlaing on Moemakha Street in South Mokleksaunggon Ward of Sangyoung Township. The authorities then seized 1559 pink stimulant tablets in a milk powder box under his bed.—Kyemon
Three women missing for a decade found alive in Cleveland home

TUNIS, 8 May — The Tunisian army and police force were hunting more than 30 suspected al-Qaeda linked militants close to the border with Algeria on Tuesday, and President Moncef Marzouki traveled to the area to oversee the operation in a signal of its importance.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said there were about a dozen militants in the city of El Kef and about 20 in the remote area of Mount Chambi in the west of the country where police and militants have clashed regularly in recent weeks. “President Moncef Marzouki arrived in Mount Chambi to raise the morale of soldiers and check on the conduct of pursuit operations there,” an official in the president’s office said. The Interior Ministry spokesman said security forces had apprehended someone who had been delivering food to some of the suspected militants, cutting them off from supplies.

Tunisia, long among the most secular countries in the Arab world, has become increasingly concerned about attacks the authorities blame on hardline Islamists. Police say Salafists — extremists — were behind the assassination of secular opposition politician Chokri Belaid in February, which triggered the biggest street protests in Tunisia since the 2011 overthrow of dictator Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali.

A resident participates in the second phase of the Regional Tables for Peace at Republic’s Congress, in Bogota, capital of Colombia, on 6 May, 2013. During the opening session called by congress commissions for peace and supported by United Nations (UN), armed conflict victims participated with objects and testimonies to be exposed during the dialogues between Colombian government and Colombia’s Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC, for its acronym in spanish), in Havana, capital of Cuba. — Xinhua

Roadside bomb kills four Afghan police, wounds one

GHANZI, 8 May — A roadside bomb struck a police van in Ghazni Province 125 km south of Kabul on Tuesday killing four policemen and injuring another, a spokesman for provincial administration Nabi Jan said.

“A mine planted by anti-government militants struck a police van on Jabarwal area outside provincial capital the Ghuzni city this morning killing four personnel of Public Order Police and wounded another,” Nabi Jan told Xinhua.

Taliban militants fighting the government and had launched their so-called spring offensive dubbed “Khalid Bin Waleed” on 28 April have yet to make comment.

Six ETA suspects arrested in France

MADRID, 8 May — French authorities, working in collaboration with the Spanish Civil Guard, have arrested six members of the Basque separatist group ETA, it was announced on Tuesday.

The arrest of the six suspected terrorists, who are thought to be involved with the group’s logistical operation, took place in an operation in three different places in France.

The suspects are thought to be Raul Valinas, Adana, Andoni Goikoetxea Gabirondo, Ekhine Izaguirre, Kepa Artau Zubillaga, Igor Uriarte Lopez de Vicuna and Julen Mendizabal Elezkano, while the operation is thought to be linked to that which saw ETA member, Irazun Lesa Arguelles detained in October last year.

The operation is a blow to the structure of ETA, whose 45-year armed struggle for the independence of the Basque region in the north of Spain has led to 829 deaths.

The logistical part of the organization had been considered as the most active following a ceasefire in October 2011, in the run up to the Spanish general election. The logistical part of the operation has been responsible for continuing the supply of ETA members currently living undercover in France, helping them maintain their secrecy. Tuesday’s operation could point to the fact that although ETA called a “permanent” ceasefire, the organization has neither dissolved nor begun any process of handing over its weapons, as demanded by the Spanish government.

A total of 43 arrests have been made since the October 2011 ceasefire, 11 of which were made this year. French Interior Minister Manuel Valls on Tuesday praised the “excellent cooperation between France and Spain in questions of information and judicial information,” while lamenting that although progress was being made in Spain, France had still not stopped being “a logistical and military base for the clandestine structure of ETA.” — Xinhua

Pentagon’s cyber attack accusations irresponsible

WASHINGTON, 8 May — A Pentagon report that China is conducting cyber attacks against the United States is irresponsible and harmful to the mutual trust between the two countries, accor- ding to a military expert on Tuesday.

In its annual report to Congress on Chinese military developments, the Pentagon said the US govern- ment continues to be targeted with (cyber) in- trusions, “some of which appear to be attributable directly to the Chinese govern- ment and military.”

In response, Wang Xijun, a researcher with the Academy of Military Sciences of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army, said it was irresponsible of the Pentagon to make such an assertion as the Chinese government and armed forces have never sanctioned hacking activities.

Although it is common sense that you cannot determine sources of cyber attacks only through IP addresses, some people in the Pentagon still prefer believing they are from China as they always bear a sense of rivalry,” Wang said. “It is an allegation based on presupposition.”

He continued, “The groundless accusations reflect the US Distrust of China.”

In an information era, the international community is increasingly threatened by cyber security problems.

Both China and the US are victims of cyber crimes and should work together to tackle the problems, Wang said.

People visit the preview of China Guardian 2013 Spring Auctions in Beijing, capital of China, on 7 May, 2013. The three-day preview that opened on Tuesday displayed some 3,900 treasures to be auctioned on Friday. — Xinhua

Photo taken on 7 May, 2013 shows a road with designs in style of Mongolian ethnic group at the Beijing Garden Expo Park in Beijing, capital of China. The 9th China (Beijing) International Garden Expo will open on 18 May. — Xinhua

Amanda Berry and Gina DeJesus in a combination image. — Reuters

Three women missing for a decade found alive in Cleveland home

CLEVELAND, 8 May — Three women believed abducted separately about a decade ago were found alive together on Monday at a Cleveland house near where they had last been seen, and three brothers were arrested as suspects in their disappearances, police said. Police said they were alerted to the whereabouts of the women by a frantic emergency call from one of them, Amanda Berry, moments after she was freed from the house by a man who said he heard screaming and came to her assistance.

“Help me! I’m Amanda Berry. … I’ve been kidnapped and I’ve been missing for 10 years and I’m here. I’m free now,” Berry, now 26, is heard frantically telling a 911 operator in a recording of the call released by police and posted on the website of the Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper. During the call, she gave the name of her alleged abductor, said he was “out of the house” and urged police to come quickly. She indicated that she knew her disappearance had been widely reported in the media.

The neighbour, Charles Ramsey, said in an interview broadcast by CNN that when he arrived, Berry appeared desperate to get through the door, which did not open properly. “I see this girl going nuts trying to get outside,” he said, adding that he was astonished when she identified herself.

“Then I realized I’m calling 911 for Amanda Berry. I thought that girl was dead,” he said. He said Berry had emerged from the house with a little girl. Berry had last been seen leaving her job at a fast-food restaurant the day before her 17th birthday in April 2003.

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**Regional**

**China pledges to strengthen defence, security cooperation with ASEAN**

Chang Wanquan made the pledge during a meeting with his counterparts from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations on the second day of a two-day ASEAN defence ministers’ meeting.

“What we need to do is to properly handle the disputes in the South China Sea, persist in seeking peaceful solutions through bilateral negotiations and consultations,” Chang told his ASEAN colleagues at the meeting.

Chang, however, made no reference to the establishment of a “code of conduct” in the South China Sea, an issue on the agenda of the meeting. In a declaration released after the meeting, the ASEAN defence ministers reiterated the regional group’s determination to work out a legally binding code of conduct with China to prevent maritime conflicts in the region.

**Beijing wants to have a bite of heritage list**

Beijing, 8 May—Bidding for the national status aims to prevent traditions from disappearing. The Chinese capital is trying to get its traditional snacks recognized as intangible cultural heritage items. Beijing has filed an application asking authorities to list more than 100 of its traditional snacks as national “relics.”

The move aims to prevent centuries-old culinary traditions from dying out and to ensure better overall food value for consumers, according to Beijing’s commerce commission.

If successful, it would mean that dishes such as aiwowo (sticky rice with a sweet filling), douzhii (mung bean milk) and doufumao (bean curd stew) will be en joyed by future generations. The application, made by the commission and the Beijing Traditional Brands Association, has been submitted to the central government’s cultural heritage body. In addition to the application, the city is also considering carrying out a survey of traditional snacks to rank the top small bites.

According to Wang Zuoju, deputy director of the Beijing Folklore Committee and a member of the capital’s non-tangible cultural heritage committees, the application may stop traditional food from disappearing.

“Cuisine is all about culture and tradition, and the snacks are the living fossils of the city,” he said. Wang said that despite the capital boasting some 378 varieties of traditional snacks, only about 100 are being eaten these days. Previous efforts to list many of the individual snacks as cultural heritage items have failed.

“We used to have so many varieties of refreshments, fried, boiled or baked, but many of them only remain in the memory of the old generations,” he said. “In addition to the dishes long lost, many snacks eaten today are not authentic,” he said. Yao Sheng, 66, has lived in Beijing’s Dongcheng District all his life.

**New Zealand, Australian, US troops begin joint land exercise**

Wellington, 8 May—New Zealand, Australian and US troops have begun a joint military exercise at the Wairou training camp in New Zealand’s central North Island, the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) announced on Tuesday.

Forces from the New Zealand army and air force were conducting Exercise Alam Halfa with the US Army and Marine Corps and the Australian Army from 3 to 28 May, said a statement from the NZDF.

The exercise included the increase in training opportunities the NZDF was sharing with its defence counterparts, it said. It would consist of a live-fire component in Waiouru involving troops and light armoured vehicles, followed by a switch to blank firing at the Wairarapa-Tararua area.

Exercise Alam Halfa was the first of two major field exercises this year for the New Zealand Army and was designed to exercise a combined arms task group concept within both counter-insurgency and conventional environments.

The exercise would test personnel under a variety of conditions to replicate conflict scenarios.

**New Zealand frigate on tour of East Asian ports**

Wellington, 8 May—A Royal New Zealand Navy frigate is visiting China and other ports in East Asia and the Pacific in support of “defence diplomacy” over the next month, the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) announced on Tuesday.

The HANZS Te Mana was visiting ports in Vietnam, China, the Republic of Korea, Japan and Guam as part of a long-standing programme of defence diplomacy in the region, before returning home in June, said a statement from the NZDF.

The statement did not name the ports, except for the Ho Chi Minh City in Viet nam.

The Te Mana had just successfully participated in Exercise Bersama Shield, a Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) exercise that also involved forces from Australia, Malaysia, Singapore and the United Kingdom in waters of the South China Sea, Singapore and Malaysia.

In the waters around Guam, the Te Mana would take part in activities with the US Navy and do an “a-bun” on visits by nuclear-armed and nuclear-powered ships in the early 1980s. In 2011, the Te Mana had to abandon a port visit to Shanghai after breaking down during a tour of Asia. The Five Power Defence Arrangements provide a framework for defence co-operation between the five nations and was established in 1971.

**Philippine govt reveals Filipinos from bringing arms**

Manila, 8 May—The Philippine government on Tuesday warned Filipino travellers against carrying devices and other articles which are classified as “arms” by domestic laws in their countries of destination or transit. The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) issued the warning after a recent surge in arrests of Filipinos nationals who have been found carrying such devices while travelling in or transiting India and Hong Kong, China.

In India, a Filipino national was recently apprehended for carrying ammunition in a checked-in luggage while on a stop-over in Mumbai, the department said. The Filipino national is now facing criminal charges under the Indian Arms Act.

Violations of the Indian Arms Act could fetch a minimum penalty of five years imprisonment. The Philippine Embassy in New Delhi stressed that any person caught carrying such articles without the necessary licenses shall not be absol ved or acquitted of the charges by way of explaining the articles’ use as talismans, amulets or charms.

In Hong Kong, the Philippine Consulate reported that 14 Filipino nationals were arrested in violation of the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance in the first quarter of this year, the DFA said. According to the DFA, the Filipino nationals had purchased those devices in places prior to their travel to Hong Kong and were either en route to the territory or were transiting through the city’s international airport.

“As a general rule, all hand-carried and checked-in baggage, including those of transiting passengers, are subjected to security screening in airport terminals.

Any of the prohibited devices or articles found in a luggage can be used as grounds to arrest the person in possession of such devices or articles,” the DFA said.

**Plans to woo tourists from Middle East, Russia**

Thiruvananthapuram, 8 May—Bowed by the growing popularity of its ‘Age Halt’ programme that provides Ayurveda treatment on the go, Kerela Tourism Development Corporation is all set to woo tourists in a big way, especially from the Middle East and Russia, during the monsoon season.

Tourists are coming mostly from Germany, Britain, Russia and France, said KTDC is keen to enter the Gulf countries in a substantial manner.

**New Light of Myanmar**

**Elementary school students participate in an earthquake drill in Seoul, South Korea, on 7 May, 2013.**—Kyunhua
US honours two Indian-Americans as ‘champions of change’

WASHINGTON, 8 May — The US has honoured 15 Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) from two Indian-Americans, as “champions of change” in recognition of their significant contribution to the community. The two Indian American women — Aparna Banerjee from Atlanta and Pramila Jayapal from Washington State — were recognised at a White House event yesterday. — PTI

TELCO to pay Rs 2.5 lakh for selling defective car

NEW DELHI, 8 May — Tata Engineering and Locomotive Co Ltd (TELCO) has been directed by the apex consumer commission to pay Rs 2.5 lakh to customer as compensation for selling him a defective car. The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) passed the order while upholding the decision of the Delhi State Consumer Commission which had directed TELCO to pay the compensation. — PTI

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RANCAK VOY NO (717)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RANCAK VOY NO (717) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2013 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PROMETHEUS LEADER VOY NO (60)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV PROMETHEUS LEADER VOY NO (60) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2013 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: NYK LINE
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGLARSHIKA VOY NO ( )
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGLARSHIKA VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S BAY LINE SHIPPING PTE LTD.
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Hitachi, SMBC conclude electricity accord with Mongolia

 TOKYO, 8 May — Hitachi Ltd and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp said on Tuesday they have concluded a comprehensive agreement with the Mongolian Ministry of Energy concerning electricity-related projects. Under the accord, Hitachi will consider providing cooperation in building power transmission line networks and generation facilities in the central Asian country, they said.

The core bank of Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc will consider drawing up financing schemes for power projects that may be agreed upon through consultations with Hitachi and the ministry, they added.

Kyodo News

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER
TENDER NO. (1)TAMD-RT (2013-2014)

1. Open Tenders are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, for the supply of following stores which will be purchased (in Myanmar Kyats.)

Sr No Description Quantity
1. Spare Parts for Power Tiller 3 Lot
2. Tender Closing date: (23-5-2013), (Thursday) 16:00 HR
3. Tender documents are available at the Research & Technical Section of Agricultural Mechanization Department Building No. (50), Npy Taw, during the office hours.
4. For further details, please call 067-431242

Director General
Agricultural Mechanization Department

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/5/13)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/5/13) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T(3) 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S HUB SHIPPING SDN-BHD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FANFARE VOY NO (490)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV FANFARE VOY NO (490) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2013 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S RICKMERS LINE (GmbH & Cie-KG)
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

A family cross a water hole formed by rainwater in Yinchan, capital of northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 7 May, 2013. The local meteorological observatory issued a yellow alert on thunderstorm on Tuesday as a thunderstorm hit Yinchan the same day.

XINHUA

Thursday, 9 May, 2013

New Light of Myanmar

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

New Light of Myanmar
Carey Mulligan: The Great Gatsby’s Daisy is tricky

**London, 8 May—**Actress Carey Mulligan believes her role in the upcoming film The Great Gatsby was tricky as her character constantly contradicted itself.

The 27-year-old plays Daisy Buchanan in Baz Luhrmann’s adaptation of F Scott Fitzgerald’s iconic novel, reported Digital Spy.

“Daisy is kind of a tricky character, because she contradicts herself constantly, but she’s also not very consistently laid out. She’s eccentric, but seems to feel things passionately, but not necessarily for very long,” Mulligan said.

The actress who has previously appeared in films such as Shame, Drive and Never Let Me Go said that The Great Gatsby was by far the biggest movie she has worked on. “The scale of it is huge in comparison to all the films I’ve done,” she added.

The Great Gatsby is slated for a release in the US on 10 May and in UK on 16 May.—**PTI**

Keira Knightley marries in French village with 11 guests

**New Delhi, 8 May—**Keira Knightley married James Righton in front of 11 guests in France on (04.05.13).

The couple — who got engaged in May 2012 — were married in Mazan, 67 miles from Marseilles, before speeding back to her family’s nearby $5 million vineyard for their reception in a silver Renault Clio.

A source told MailOnline website: “It was a very moving ceremony. Keira looked extremely moved by the whole thing—there were certainly tears of happiness.

“There was a sunny day without a cloud in the sky. There were cheers of ‘Well done, Keira’ when she came out, but there were so few people present so they didn’t make much noise. ‘It was amusing to see them being driven away in a battered old Renault Clio — it certainly looked as though it had seen better days.”

The 28-year-old Anna Karenina star wore a custom-made short strapless dress, believed to have been created by Karl Lagerfeld, pale pink ballet flats, a cropped Chanel jacket and a delicate floral garland around her head.

Among the small number of guests at the ceremony included the actress’s playwright mother Sharman MacDonald, father Will Knightley and Keira’s brother Caleb, as well as James’ father Nicholas and his brother Bill.

The Shaxons keyboardist is tipped to join his bandmates to entertain guests at their marquee reception, which is expected to be attended by 50 close friends and family.

Several tents have been erected on the sprawling 20-acre estate, which was purchased by the British star in 2010, and guests will indulge on 120 bottles of wine sourced from local vineyard Chateau Minuty.

**PTI**

Justin Bieber, Usher targeted in copyright infringement lawsuit

**Los Angeles, 8 May—**One of Justin Bieber’s hit songs is the target of a $10 million (6.4 million pounds) copyright infringement lawsuit that also accuses Bieber’s mentor, R&B singer Usher, of funnelling the song to the teen pop star.

R&B singer Devin Copeland, known professionally as De Rico, and songwriter Mareo Overton filed a lawsuit last week in US District Court in Virginia alleging that they came up with the song “Somebody to Love.”

Bieber, who is managed by one of Usher’s business ventures, released “Somebody to Love” in 2010 with Usher also singing on the recording. The song peaked at No 15 on the US Billboard chart. Copeland and Overton allege that “Somebody to Love” has the same title, time signature, underlying beat pattern as well as similar chords and share similar lyrics, including the chorus “I… need somebody to love.”

There is essentially a zero probability for the number of points of congruence between the two versions of ‘Somebody to Love.’” Copeland and Overton said in the lawsuit.

Bieber, songwriter Hea- ther Bright and the Stu- rtypoies are credited as the writers of Bieber’s “Somebody to Love.” Messages left with attorneys for Bieber and Usher were not immediately returned. Copeland and Overton allege that music scouts presented “Somebody to Love” to Usher in 2009, and that Usher’s mother, who also serves as his manager at times, asked Copeland to re-record the song and go on tour with Usher.

After not hearing back from Usher, Copeland alleg- es in the lawsuit he heard his song being sung by Bieber on the radio.

Usher, who first record- ed the song as a demo for his 2010 album “Raymond v Raymond,” later recorded a remix version with Bieber singing backing vocals on the song. The lawsuit lists 19 defendants, including record label Universal Music Corp, a unit of French media company Vivendi.—**Reuters**

Helen Mirren gives noisy drummers a royal ticking off

**London, 8 May—**Actress Helen Mirren stunned onlookers when she stormed out of a London theatre to scold noisy street performers while in costume as Queen Elizabeth II.

The 67-year-old star got angry when the first half of her production The Audience was interrupted by a band of 25 drummers playing outside the Gielgud Theatre, reported Daily Star.

Explaining the incident, she said, “I’m afraid there were a few ‘thespian’ words used. They got a very stern royal ticking off but I have to say they were very sweet and they stopped immediately.”

“I would love to track them down and invite them to see the play. I felt rotten but on the other hand they were destroying our performance so something had to be done. The drumming just slowly got louder and louder and then settled right outside the stage door.”

“There was just a thin wall between drumming and the theatre so it was unbelievably loud on stage. (Co-star) Paul Rit- ter and I could hardly hear each other speak and the audience couldn’t hear us speak at all,” she added.

The actress apologised to the audience for the disruption, and was given a standing ovation for her foul-mouthed rant.—**PTI**

Actress Carey Mulligan

Actress Helen Mirren

Singers Justin Bieber and Usher (R) pose together after perform- ing on NBC’s “Today” show in New York on 23 Nov, 2011. —**Reuters**
**Djokovic stunned by Dimitrov in Madrid second round**

Madrid, 8 May—World number one Novak Djokovic was dumped out of the Madrid Open when he lost 6-7, 6-7, 6-3 to unseeded Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov after suffering an ankle strain in the second round on Tuesday. Djokovic, who had a bye in the opening round, was already a break down to the promising 21-year-old in the second set when he twisted the same ankle he damaged playing for Serbia in the Davis Cup last month.

After a lengthy medical timeout, he managed to break back and saved a match point on the way to taking the tiebreak 10-8 to force a deciding set. However, the Serb immediately lost his serve for the third time and Dimitrov battled through cramp to secure another break in the ninth game and seal by far the biggest win of his career and end Djokovic’s bid for a fourth title of 2013.

In the second round, Dimitrov faced 21st seed American John Isner. The US player had a bye in the opening round but was struggling with a right hip injury and was eventually beaten by 7-6(5) 6-4.

**Monty decides to compete in US full-time, as a senior**

Los Angeles, 8 May—Britain’s former world number two Colin Montgomerie repeatedly resisted the lure of the PGA Tour during his prime but now says he intends to compete full-time in the United States on the Champions Tour for players aged over 50. The Scotsman, a winner of a record eight order of merit titles on the European Tour between 1993 and 2005, will be eligible for the senior circuit after his 50th birthday on 23 June.

“I look forward now in many ways to starting a new life, a new chapter of my life to come over here now,” Montgomerie told Reuters on Monday. “I was often tempted at the idea of playing full-time in the United States and was even asked on numerous occasions by former PGA Tour commissioner Deane Beman and current head Tim Finchem to come over.”

Family commitments kept me in Europe. I was very happy and comfortable at home, and my wife and children were in school. I felt there was no need at that stage to come over here,” said Montgomerie.

Montgomery became one of the first British golfers to attend a US college, earning a degree in business management at Houston Baptist University in May 1987 before he decided to embark on a career as a playing professional.—Reuters

**Serena makes serene progress in Madrid**

Madrid, 8 May—World number one and defending champion Serena Williams continued her serene progress at the Madrid Open when she eased past Spanish wildcard Lourdes Dominguez Lino 6-2, 7-5 in the second round on Tuesday.

Chasing a fourth title of the year and the 50th of her career, Williams had too much power for the slightly-built Dominguez Lino, who nonetheless managed to unsettle her illustrious opponent with some clever drop shots and lobs.

Williams was joined in the third round by Maria Sharapova after the Russian second seed thumped American qualifier Christina Mchale 6-1, 6-2 in Tuesday’s night session.

Sharapova, a former number one who won her 29th career title in Stuttgart last month, will play Sabine Lisicki for a place in the last eight. The unseeded German upset 15th seed Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia 7-6,7-6.

Williams, 31, said she had enjoyed the test against Dominguez Lino and the experience would stand her in good stead the next time she came up against a player like the 47th-ranked Spaniard, who likes to mix up her shots.

“I made a lot of errors, but her game kind of forces you to make errors,” the American told a news conference. “It was a really good claycourt tennis match for me.” Seeing as I have a few more tournaments on clay, it was perfect to play a match like this, so I know if I face another opponent like that I’ll have experience and I’ll know how to play.”

A 15-times grand slam singles champion, Williams will play unseeded Frenchwoman Kristina Mladenovic or 13th-seeded Russian Maria Kirilenko in the quarter-finals.—Reuters

**Wigan on brink of relegation after defeat by Swansea**

Swansea City’s Michael Vorm (L) collides with teammate Neil Taylor during their English Premier League soccer match against Wigan Athletic at The DW Stadium in Wigan, northern England on 7 May, 2013.—Reuters

Wigan, 8 May—Wigan Athletic’s Premier League survival hopes suffered a huge blow on Tuesday when Swansea City hit back from 2-1 down to win 3-2 at the DW stadium and leave the FA Cup finalists staring at relegation.

Wigan, who face Manchester City in the cup showpiece at Wembley on Saturday, fell apart in the second half and remain third from bottom on 35 points with two matches to play.

The battle to avoid joining Queens Park Rang-

ers and Reading in the Championship (second divi-

sion) next season is set for a gripping finale with Newcastle United, Norwich City and Sunderland all on 38 points.

Southampton, on 39, and Aston Villa and Ful-

ham with 40 are not yet as

sured of safety. Manchester City moved a step closer to securing runners-up spot after a first-half Eden Dzeko goal proved enough for a 1-0 victory at home to mid-

table West Bromwich Albion.

City need three more points from their last two games to guarantee finishing second behind champion Manchester United.

Wigan have made a habit of escaping the drop in their eight-season stay in the top flight but they must now rely on other sides slipping up. Honduran Roger Espinoza, making a rare start, struck a left-foot volley from keeper Michel Vorm’s misguided punch clear back past the keeper on the stroke of halftime to give Wigan the lead but Swansea hit back after the break.
Chelsea return nothing special for Villas-Boas

LONDON, 8 May
Sacked last year after less than nine months in charge at Stamford Bridge before rebuilding his reputation at Tottenham Hotspur, Andre Villas-Boas said his return to Chelsea for a key Premier League clash on Wednesday was “not very special”. “It’s a club that I have gone past,” Villas-Boas told a news conference on Tuesday. “I have good and bad memories like everybody else, but it’s a pity it didn’t finish as I would have liked.”

Villas-Boas was fired by Chelsea in March 2012 after a poor run of results amid reports of dressing room disharmony with his coaching methods. Former Chelsea midfielder Roberto Di Matteo took over from Villas-Boas and guided the club to a penalty shootout victory over Bayern Munich. Villas-Boas, appointed Spurs manager in July, said he bore no grudge against his former side.

“I’ve told you in the past that, in a situation like we were in, normally it dictates for a manager to lose his job,” he said. “It’s understandable and has happened in various clubs for the same reason with the same effect, which is immediate success afterwards. “It’s nothing new in football and it is something that unfortunately works in moments of maximum difficulties. “You either believe in what you’re doing or don’t believe. At that time the club had to make a decision that proved successful for them. Villas-Boas’ past and current clubs are embroiled, along with Arsenal, in a three-way battle for a top-four finish and a Champions League place.

Chelsea, on 68 points from 35 games, can effecttively guarantee finishing in the top four if they beat Spurs, who are fifth on 55 points from 35 and have a far inferior goal difference. Fourth-placed Arsenal have 67 points from 36 games.

“It is still very, very open because of the remaining fixtures,” said Villas-Boas. “Obviously if Chelsea win they are in (third) which means one less spot available and we wouldn’t be depending on ourselves to achieve (a top-four finish).” Moussa Dembele and Aaron Lennon, both at Tottenham in Taken’s 1-0 victory to home to Southampton on Saturday because of niggles, are in the squad.

“Mousa and Aaron will be selected, whether or not they will be available is something we prefer to hold onto and let people know when we get there,” said Villas-Boas. “They had discomfort and tightness against Southampton and we decided not to risk them.” —Reuters

Seven tourists suffer fractures after bus overturns

NANNING, 8 May—Seven people from a Hong Kong tourist group suffered fractures while others sustained minor injuries after their bus flipped on its side in south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, local authorities said on Tuesday.

The accident happened around 7 pm on Monday near the village of Zhenyi in Longan County, sources with the county’s publicity department said. A total of 24 people were on the bus, including 21 tourists from Hong Kong, a local guide and two bus drivers, sources said. Seven tourists who suffered fractures were treated in hospital, while others suffered only minor injuries like bruises and scratches.

Health authorities in Nanning, the provincial capital, have sent an expert team to Longan to carry out further checks on the injured, whose conditions are not life-threatening, sources said.

The bus, which was heading from Daxin County to Nanning, the provincial capital, has a loading capacity of 39 people, according to the sources. A further investigation into the cause of the accident is underway. —Xinhua

Air China launches Geneva service

BEIJING, 8 May—Air China on Tuesday announced its launch of a new service from Beijing to Geneva, marking the first direct route from Asia to the Swiss city.

The new route will further promote economic and cultural exchanges between the two cities, said Fan Cheng, general secretary of Air China’s Party committe. It will also provide more convenience for tran sit passengers from Tokyo, Seoul, Hong Kong, Bangkok and Manila, the company said. —Xinhua

Tractor collides with jeep, one killed, eleven injured

BUNDI, 8 May—A 65-year-old woman was killed and 11 others were injured, including three women and four children, when a tractor collided with a jeep on Kota-Jaipur highway, police said on Tuesday. “Around 1.30 am that morning, the tractor collided with a jeep near Badanayagan on NH 12, killing 65-year-old Kanti bai on the spot and injuring 11 others,” ASI Ramchandra Gochhar said.

Among the injured, 14-year-old Payal is in coma and has been admitted to a private hospital in Kota.—PTI

Students cheer for their coming-of-age ceremony at Bayi Middle School in Urumqi, capital of northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 7 May, 2013. More than 800 senior high school students in Bayi Middle School attended their coming-of-age ceremony on Tuesday.—Xinhua

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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives former Member of House of Councilors of Japan President of Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association

YANGON, 8 May—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received a Japanese delegation led by former member of House of Councilors of Japan President of Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr. Hideo Watanabe.

Myanmar, Israel eye enhanced cooperation in agricultural development

NAY PYI TAW, 8 May—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing accompanied by Deputy Minister U Ohn Than, Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hagay Moshe Behar and Israeli agriculturalists visited 500-acre model farmland irrigated by Ngaleik Dam, here, this morning.

Next, they observed farmland near Chiang village in Dekkhanthiri Township. Then they proceeded to Ahlyinlo village in Pyinmana Township where they viewed round 440-acre Palethe summer paddy plantation, farmer educative farmland, paddy strain booth, dragon ball plantation, cattle breeding farms, farm equipment and pollination process of Palethe hybrid strain at 100-acre farmland.

On their arrival at a mango research farm, the Union minister discussed matters related to production of highly-qualified agricultural produce so that Myanmar agricultural produce will have access to international market, technology transfer from Israel, cooperation between the two countries in agricultural sector and establishment of model farmlands in the arid zone with the help of Israeli technology in water management.

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 May—Central Committee for Rakhine State Peace and Stability and Development Secretary Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win and members Deputy Ministers U Thein Aung, U Kyaw Kyaw Win and Dr Ba Shwe, accompanied by State ministers and regional in-charges from UNOCHA, UNHCR and UNICEF, visited the sites for construction of makeshift camps, accommodation and health care of victims in Kyaukpyu and Myepon Townships on 6 May. They held discussions with the in-charges of relief camps on temporary accommodation and measures for agriculture, fishery and drinking water supply.

Pin Creek Bridge in Yenangyoung comes into operation

New concrete bridge crossing Pin Creek near Yenangyoung is going to be put into service soon. There are a flood of creeks in Magway Region. Among them, Yin creek, Daungnay creek and Pin creek are the biggest and widest ones.

In the rainy season, cars and trucks had to wait for two or three nights until the water level subsided. Sometimes the cars were swept by the creek water causing loss of life and property. Due to this, drivers and passengers have to face so many difficulties in the past.

Ministry of Construction has built Yin Creek Bridge on Magway-Taungswenti road and Daungnay Creek Bridge on Magway-Yenangyoung road in Magway Region. In 1972, Pin Creek Bridge was built on Chunk-Kyaukpaduang road and completed on 1 May, 1974. The one-way bridge was awash with traffic jam. Special Project (3) of the Ministry of construction started the construction of new Pin Creek Bridge with 24-ft-two-way motor road on Mandalay motor road at the entrance to Yenangyoung on 9-9-2012. It has two 2.6-ft-wide walkways and can withstand 75 tons of loads. It was built at a cost of K 2903 million by Special Project (3). Upon completion, it contributes to smooth flow of trades and avoid traffic jams. Myanmar Alim (7-5-2013) Trs: MT

UNODC Bangkok Resident Representative Mr Jeremy Douglas extended greetings. The high-ranking officials from Myanmar, China, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam discussed work activities, MoU, the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration, sub-work plan of MoU and cooperation in UNODC’s regional programs.—MNA

U Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

It was also attended by Pyithu Hluttaw committee chairmen U Htay Oo, U Maung Maung Thein, U Thein Swe, U Soe Naing and U Htay Myint and members of the committees and commissions and officials of the Hluttaw office.

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