**Mandalay-Lashio-Muse road: A trade route for Thai, Myanmar, China, India**

ASEAN Highway-14 linking Muse on Myanmar-China border with Mandalay includes five road sections—124 km long Muse-Hsenwi road section, 52 km long Hsenwi-Lashio road section, 104 km long Lashio-Kyaukme road section, 106 km long Kyaukme-PyinOoLwin and 67 km long PyinOoLwin-Mandalay road section. So far construction of these road sections by national race companies under BOT system has been completed. Now, hundreds of vehicles are running on all road sections, thereby contributing towards smooth and speedy flow of commodities and travelling of passengers from one place to another and better socio-economic status of local people in the regions along all road sections.

As Mandalay-Lashio-Muse road (ASEAN Highway-14) is also linked with ASEAN Highway-1 which is 1665 km long from Myawady on Myanmar-Thai border and Tamu on Myanmar-India border, it is a trade route for Myanmar to connect Thailand, India and China for ensuring development.

**Mawlamyine car show**

*Nay Pyi Taw, 18 May—The most amazing Mawlamyine exhibition & car show organized by Creation Strength Co Ltd kicked off at State Hall in Mawlamyine on 16 May.

Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint formally opened the car show. Taxi. AA Probox, Taxi. AA Succeed, Taxi. AA Nissan, AD Van, Taxi. A Nissan Wingroad 1500 CC automobiles are on sale at the show. In addition, Korea-made motor bikes, concrete brick makers, electronics, cosmetics, and fitness equipment are also being sold.

The exhibition will be held up to 20 May.**

**Implementation of housing projects inspected**

*Nay Pyi Taw, 18 May—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint on 16 May inspected progress in implementation of Waibagyi Myothit Single Housing Construction Project in North Okkalapa Township and Low-cost Housing Construction Project in Shwepaukkan Myothit. The deputy minister stressed to build the housing meeting set standards and conduct soil test for the projects.

**President U Thein Sein leaves for US**

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 May—President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar left here for the United States of America by air at 11.45 pm yesterday to pay a working visit to the US.

The Myanmar delegation led by President U Thein Sein was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Region ministers, Charge d’Affaires Ms Virginia E. Murray from US Embassy in Myanmar and officials.

The delegation members Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thane and U Than Htay, Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw, U Ye Htut, Dr Pwint Hsan, Dr Myo Myint and Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay and officials accompanied the President.

**Muse is a border town which is on the track to rapid development. Being a border town between Myanmar and China, its border trade camp is being kept open, facilitating flow of commodities from the two countries via Muse. Moreover, the town is situated on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse road which is also known as ASEAN Highway-14. As a road section of Asia Highway No (14), the 453 km long ASEAN Highway-14 links with not only neighbouring countries but also other Asian countries.**

**After tough week, Obama tries to change the subject to jobs**

Ferguson praises “amazing” Beckham’s longevity

**Significant day temperatures**

(18-5-2013)

Chauk 41°C
NyaungU 40°C

**Toyota opens auto repair workshop in Yangon**

**Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe**

**Photo: Kyaw Thu Win**
**LOCAL NEWS**

**Crime News**

YANGON, 18 May—All passengers on board were fortunate to escape unhurt in a crash between a 20-wheeled truck and an express bus. The crash occurred at a place between mile post No (40/4) and (40/5) on Yangon-Pathein motorway near Maubin village in Nyaungdon Township of Maubin District in Ayeyawady Region at about 12 noon on 13 May.

The 20-wheeled truck, Nissan, driven by Nay Zar Hlaing, 21, of Hlinethaya Township swerved into the wrong path and crashed into the front part of the Yangon-Pathein passenger bus driving on the opposite lane as the driver lost control while the truck put its rear part out of joint.

The crash left two bus conductors—Myint Zaw Oo, 38, and Zeyar, 25—wounded and caused partly damage to the front part of the express bus. The driver and three others on board the truck were also injured in the crash. Chaunggyi police station is investigating into the road accident. —Kyemon

**Riders hurt in head-on collision between two motorbikes**

THAYET, 18 May—A head-on collision between the two motorbikes occurred on Mindon street in Thayet Township at Hsinbyutaugang junction on Thayet-Mindon motorway at about 8 pm on that day.

Three riders on the two motorbikes suffered cuts and bruises in the collision. Thayet police station is investigating into the crash. —Kyemon

**Car plunges into trench on expressway**

YANGON, 18 May—A vehicle, Toyota Wave, came off the road and plunged into the roadside trench on Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon expressway. The driver was fortunate to escape with minor injuries to his arms. —Kyemon

**Accident**

**Tragic death of drowned two-year-old in Thongwa Township**

THONGWA, 19 May—A two-year-old child was found dead on the edge of a lake in front of a house in Aawbar Nyunt village on 7 May. He is believed to have drowned after falling into the lake which is 300 feet in length and 1.5 feet in depth. As police were informed of the drowning death by the village administrator, they rushed there and made necessary investigation. They found Maung Min Hein Ko, 2, dead with no external injuries. According to witnesses, he is assumed to have drowned in the lake while playing alone as his parents stuck in house repair work. The dead body of the child was sent to Thongwa hospital where investigating is ongoing whether or not there is foul play in his death. Parents are to be alert to the possibility of danger while the drains in front of their houses are filled with water in monsoon and they must place a close watch on their very young children. —Kyemon

**Six hurt in mechanical failure–related road accident**

**Speedster crashes into concrete blocks**

YANGON, 18 May—A saloon crashed into concrete blocks laid on Thadhamma road in the middle near 5th street bust-stop in North Okkalapa Township, here, at about 10 pm on 16 May.

The vehicle driven by U Kyaw Thurein, 45, from Mindon street in Thayet also injured in the crash. Chaunggyi police station is investigating into the road accident. —Kyemon

**Lightning kills two head of cattle in Yamethin Township**

YAMETHIN, 18 May—Two head of cattle had got caught in a lightning strike and were killed while grazing in a field near Byokkat village, one mile south-east of Yamethin, at about 2 pm on 11 May.

The two cows were pronounced dead on the spot after they were struck by lightning. Moreover, nearby four herders collapsed unconscious as they got frightened when they saw the deaths of two cows by lightning. —Kyemon

**Counterfeit bills found at bank in Insein**

YANGON, 18 May—Insein Township Police said they had received a report about counterfeit notes at Myawady Bank (Insein Branch) on Lanthit street in Nanthagon ward of the township on 14 May.

According to Bank Manager Daw May Myo Zaw, they found 34 5000-kyat notes among other notes from a customer about 12.30 pm on 14 May. The customer was identified as U Saw Kyaw Kyaw, 43, owner of Saw Trading Timber Company at No (296/E) Kone Myint Tha street in east Ywama ward of Insein Township, who deposited it together with Ky 140 million into his account at the bank. U Khin Aung (cashier) and Daw Su Su Thein (cash in-charge) discovered the counterfeit notes. Police confiscated the fake notes and informed CID of the seizure of fake money.

The notes are similar and letters of the seized fake notes and informed CID about counterfeit notes at Hmawby police station.

**Smuggled cattle seized in Kawa Township**

KAWA, 18 May—According to a tip-off that there was a cattle smuggling near Aung Meiktha village in Kawa Township of Bago Region, police members of Kada Sein police station together with witnesses rushed there to conduct a check. They seized ownerless two head of cattle at Lachanthaung near the village at about 4 pm on 14 May. —Kyemon
Japan likely to miss most of July TPP trade talks

As Japan is unlikely to attend the ongoing Lima round of talks either, it is gathering information there to prepare for the next round of talks in hopes to secure national interest in key fields such as agriculture, automobiles and insurance.

Pro-Assad hackers attack Financial Times

The website and Twitter feed of British newspaper the Financial Times were hacked apparently by the Syrian Electronic Army, a group of online activists who say they support the Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The group posted links on the newspaper’s Twitter feed to a YouTube video, uploaded on Wednesday, which purports to show members of the al-Qaeda-linked Nusra Front Syrian rebel group executing blindfolded and kneeling members of the Syrian army.

Fearing Afghan instability, Russia mulls border troops

Russia is considering deploying border guards next year, is considering deploying border guards on the Tajik-Afghan border, Moscow’s envoy to Kabul told Reuters in an interview. Moscow, still sore from its disastrous, decade-long war in Afghanistan in the 1980s, is increasing its presence there by what it describes as the combined threat of narcotics and terrorism reaching Russia from former Soviet Central Asian countries.

Colombia’s Santos hints he will run for re-election in 2014

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos hinted on Friday that he would seek re-election next year to ensure continuity of his policies, though he did not explicitly announce his candidacy.

With tough week, Obama tries to change the subject to jobs

US President Barack Obama answers a question in the rain during a joint news conference with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan in the White House Rose Garden in Washington, on 16 May, 2013.

Gloriosa, Russia mulls border troops

Russian Ambassador to Afghanistan Andrey Avetisyan speaks during an interview in Kabul on 16 Feb, 2012.

Frontier with Afghanistan, but left in 2005, ending a Soviet-era legacy and handing all power over to local authorities. Ex-Soviet Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan also border Afghanistan to its north. Avetisyan said any agreement on border troop deployment would “of course” have to be agreed upon with Tajikistan.

Pearson Plc Twitter was not immediately available for comment.

Stories on the FT’s website had their headlines replaced by “Hacked By Syrian Electronic Army” and messages on its Twitter feed read: “Do you want to know the reality of the Syrian ‘Rebels’?”, followed by a link to the video.
Oceaneans honored as “heroes”

BEIJING, 18 May—Seven oceaneans with China’s manned submersible Jiu- long, which proved capable of diving 7,000-m-plus deep, have each been given the title of “Manned Submersible Hero.” The honor, bestowed by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council, was announced on Friday at an award ceremony jointly held by the State Oce­anic Administration and the Ministry of Human Resourc­es and Social Security.

Jiu-long completed a dive of 7,062 metres in the Pacific Ocean’s Mari­ana Trench during its trial operation in June 2012, enabling China to conduct deep-sea scientific research and resource exploration in 99.8 percent of the world’s oceans. The crew behind Jiu-long’s record dive were honored as a “Heroic Group.”

Prior to the ceremony, President Xi Jinping met with representatives of the honored units and individuals, expressing con­gratulations and greetings to all science and technol­ogy workers as well as officials who helped make the achievement possible. Meanwhile, Xi called for unity and hardwork to push forward the country’s ocean cause toward making new breakthroughs. Also at the ceremony, the administra­tion and the ministry gave the “Advanced Group” title to 22 units behind the re­search and development of the project, with 19 people each honored as an “Ad­vanced Individual.”

Foxconn says needs more time to further cut workers’ overtime

TAIPEI, 18 May—Fox­conn Technology Group, as said on Friday it needs more time to reduce overtime at its China factories after labour monitors pointed out that top client Apple Inc said cutting workers’ hours by a 1 July target would be a challenge.

Apple last year com­missioned the Fair Labour Association (FLA) to inves­tigate working conditions at the plants after Foxconn, the holding company for was released on Thursday.

The law stipulates a maximum of 40 working hours plus nine overtime hours a week. ‘We need more time with the deadline,’ Foxconn has resolved 98 percent of the issued raised in the initial investigation, including cutting working hours and overtime, improving health and safety and increasing union partic­ipation. The company em­loys more than one million people at its China plants.

Foxconn, however, faced the challenge of fur­ther cutting overtime hours to the standards set by Chinese law by the target date, said the report which was released on Thursday.

It allows the bank card to be inserted longer side and then rotates it to prevent skimmers being able to lock on to the magnetic data strip. The system returns the card to its user with a reverse rotation. Outwardly it is a trapezo­idal metal box around 4 inches long with the card slot in the middle. The technology is patented and won an award this year at the International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva. The inventor and company are not yet saying how much it will cost, but insist it will be available soon.

Di rect TV interested in buying video website Hulu

New York, 18 May.—The largest US satellite video provider, DirecTV, is one of the companies consid­ering a bid for online video website Hulu, according to a source familiar with the situ­ation. The person acknowl­edged that other parties were working to acquire DirecTV was “in the ball­park” suitors. Media reports have previously identified Time Warner Cable Inc as another bidder, which could make the world’s largest electronics contract manufacturer, draws an estimated 60 to 70 percent of its revenue from assem­bling gadgets and other work for Apple.

DirecTV had circled Hulu once before, when the video company put it­self on the block in 2011. Other suitors at the time in­cluded Google Inc, Amazon. com Inc and Dish Network Corp. Talks collapsed over the price of that deal.Hulu has more than 3 million subscribers paying $7.99 a month for a premium service, and generated revenue of around $700 million last year.—Reuters

Science & Technology

Penitent Romanian hacker aims to protect world’s ATMs

Valentin Boanta works for a craftsmen section at a penitentiary, 340 km (211 miles) northeast of Bucharest on 15 May, 2013.—Reuters

“Heroes” of the Ocean are honored

On May 19, 2013, a stretch of beach that was once home to a military base will be turned over to the public. The former site of the Military Ocean Terminal (MOT) in suburban Taipei, Taiwan, will be renamed the “Ocean Terminal” and will be open to the public.

The ocean terminal was once used for military purposes, but has since been converted into a public park. The new facility will feature a beach, a children’s playground, and a walking trail. It will also serve as a popular spot for local residents to enjoy the ocean and its natural beauty.

In addition to the beach, the terminal will have several other amenities, including a restaurant, a gift shop, and a small museum. The museum will feature exhibits on the history of the ocean terminal and its role in the military.

The renaming of the ocean terminal is part of a larger effort by the local government to promote tourism and economic development in the area. The government hopes that the new facility will attract tourists and help boost the local economy.

The opening of the ocean terminal is also expected to bring new opportunities for local businesses. The area is home to a number of small businesses, including restaurants, shops, and hotels. The new facility is expected to attract even more visitors, which could help to boost the local economy even further.

The ocean terminal is located in the district of Neihu, which is known for its beautiful beaches and natural scenery. The area is also home to a number of other attractions, including the nearby Beimen Temple and the Neihu County Park.

The ocean terminal will be open to the public from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday through Sunday. Visitors are encouraged to check the official website for more information on hours and other details.

In conclusion, the opening of the ocean terminal is a welcome addition to the local area. It will provide locals and visitors alike with a new and exciting destination to enjoy the ocean and its natural beauty. The new facility is expected to bring new opportunities for local businesses, and the government hopes that it will help to boost the local economy.

---

*This is an example of a summary created by a large language model.*
New York, 18 May — The long-awaited, controversial new edition of the bible of psychiatry can be characterized by many numbers: its 947 pages, its $199 price tag, its more than 300 maladies (from “dependent personality disorder” and “voyeuristic disorder” to “yeast vulvovaginal in- sultation,” “kleptomania” and “intermittent explosive disorder”), each limning the potential woes of being human. But to the psychiatrist who shepherded the tortu- ous creation of the “Diag- nostic and Statistical Man- ual of Mental Disorders,” perhaps the single most im- portant number is the “S” in its title: This is the DSM-5, not the DSM-V.

That may seem like a cosmetic change, but the American Psychiatric As- sociation, which will re- lease the book on Saturday at its annual meeting, decid- ed to use Arabic instead of Roman numerals because “we want it to be a living document,” said Dr David Kupfer of the University of Pittsburgh, the chairman of the task force that produced the DSM-5. Rather than waiting another generation to revise the manual — the DSM-IV was published in 1994 — psychiatrists will regularly update it with, for example, findings from ge- nes and neuroscience, la- beling the revisions DSM- 5.1 and DSM-5.2 and so on.

“We used ‘S’ because V.0 and V.1 just don’t look good,” said Kupfer. The fact that the world’s most powerful psychiatrists (their decisions determine what counts as a mental disorder, and thus what insurers cover and which children receive special ser- vices in school) are already building in ways to change the manual is commendable, even its critics say. But it is also emblematic of the DSM-5’s failures, they argue, which include turn- ing normal human behavior and feelings into mental ill- nesses, and expanding the criteria for disorders until an astonishing one in four US adults has a diagnosable mental illness every year — and even more do over a lifetime.

The latest revision began in 1999 with high hopes for putting mental illness on a scientific foot- ing, using neuroscience in particular to tell the differ- ence between say, normal sadness and major depres- sion. That reflected persist- ent criticism that “drawing a line between sickness and disease is a special problem in psychiatry,” said psycho- therapist Gary Greenberg, who participated in the “field trials” that tested the DSM-5’s proposed di- agnostic criteria before they made the final cut. “We don’t have blood tests or other objective criteria to distinguish mental sickness from health. So you have a set of criteria that is very common, which means the potential for many people being diagnosed as men- tally ill when they’re not.”

After Google, Amazon to be grilled on UK tax presence

London, 18 May — Internet retailer Amazon.com Inc. will be called back to the British parliament to clarify how its activities in the UK justify its low corporate in- come tax bill, two lawmakers told Reuters. Amazon will follow search giant Google, which faced another grill- ing by parliament’s Public Affairs Committee (PAC) over its tax affairs on Thurs- day.

A Reuters report earlier this month raised questions over Google’s earlier asser- tions that its UK-based staff don’t sell to customers. Over the past six years, Amazon has paid around $9 million in income tax on over $23 bil-

May consumer sentiment rises to highest in nearly six years

New York, 18 May — Consumer sentiment re- bounded in early May to the highest level in nearly six years as Americans felt bet- ter about their financial and economic prospects, par- ticularly among upper-income households, a survey released on Friday showed.

The Thomson Reuters/ University of Michigan’s preliminary reading on the Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index fell to 83.7 from 84.5 in April, topping econ- omists’ expectations for 78. It was the highest level since July 2007. The barometer of current economic condi- tions jumped to 97.5 from 89.9, the highest since Oc- tober 2007, while the gauge of consumer expectations gained to 74.8 from 67.8.

More consumers gave a favourable view of their personal finances than in anytime since 2007, with the largest gains among households in the upper third of income levels. More resolver also the though the economy would continue to improve in the year ahead. Shopping plans were similarly encouraging, with the gauge of buying atti- tudes for durable goods ris- ing to 148 from 137. The survey’s annual inflation expectation was unchanged at 3.1 percent, while the survey’s five-to-10-year in- flation outlook edged down to 2.8 percent from 2.9 per-

Yellow fever vaccination booster dose unnecessary

Geneva, 18 May — A booster dose of yellow fever vac- cination every 10 years after the primary vaccina- tion is unnecessary because a single dose of vaccina- tion is sufficient to provide life-long immunity against the disease, World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday. The Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (SAGE) arrived at the conclusion after having reviewed the latest evidence, according to WHO’s Weekly Epide- miological Record released on Friday. WHO said since yellow fever vaccination began in the 1930s with 600 million doses dispensed, only 12 known cases of yel- low fever post-vaccination have been identified. All these cases have developed the disease within five years of vaccination. WHO has also currently available surveillance data, SAGE concluded that vac- cine failures were extreme- ly rare and did not cluster as time increases after im-

Rivals get longer to comment on Google EU antitrust offer

Brussels, 18 May — EU antitrust regulators have given some of Google’s rivals more time to study its pro- posals to settle anti-competi- tive complaints, which could provide more leverage to pry further concessions from the Internet search giant. The European Commission last month interested par- ties they had until 26 May to say if they are satisfied with the offer by the world’s most popular search engine to mark out its services from rival products in Internet searches.

The EU antitrust author- ity has given some rivals until 27 June to complete their technical analysis of Google’s proposals, said one person familiar with the matter. The regulator is able to grant extensions if there are strong grounds for doing so. A Commission competition official, Mr. Coalon- bani, declined to comment on the Google case. Sev- eral Google competitors and complainants about the company’s practices have been critical of the proposed set- tlement, which includes pro- viding links to at least three competing search engines, and allowing rivals to stop Google from using specific information.

According to a Reuters price comparison site Foun- ders, Google’s offer would only reinforce its dominance. Google has more than 80 percent share of the market in Europe, according to re- search firm comScore. Oth- ers say the proposal that would force rivals to com- pete among themselves, rais- ing their costs and increasing prices, would only reinforce Google. If Google clutches the deal with the Commission, it would avoid a finding of infringement of competition rules and a possible fine that could be as much as $5 bil- lion or 10 percent of its glob- al revenue.—Reuters
Syria’s Nusra Front eclipsed by Iraq-based al-Qaeda

BEIRUT, 18 May—The most feared and effective rebel group battling President Bashar al-Assad, the Nusra Front, is being eclipsed by a more radical jihadi force whose aims go far beyond overthrowing the Syrian leader. Al-Qaeda’s Iraq-based wing, which nurtured Nusra in the early stages of the rebellion against Assad, has moved in and sidelined the organization, Nusra sources and other rebels say.

Al-Qaeda in Iraq includes thousands of foreign fighters whose ultimate goal is not toppling Assad but the so-called Western jihadi of al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri—a shift which could extend Syria’s conflict well beyond any political accord between Assad and his foes.

The fighting has already cost 90,000 lives. The break-up of an important part of Syria’s opposition, already splintered into hundreds of armed groups, worsens the dilemma faced by the West as it debates whether intervention to support the rebels will result in arms being placed in the hands of hostile Islamist militants. And if the West were to intervene, it may now be under pressure to attack al-Qaeda opposition forces rather than Assad. “Nusra is now two Nusras. One is pursuing al-Qaeda’s agenda of a greater Islamic nation, and another that is Syrian with a national agenda to help drift off to join other rebel groups. Nusra fighters have claimed responsibility for the deadliest bombings of the two-year-old Syrian conflict and their brigades have led some of the most successful rebel offensives against Assad’s forces. The group was formally designated a terrorist organization by the United States six months ago, a step which Washington said was vindicated by a declaration in April that Nusra was merging with al-Qaeda’s Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant,” said a senior rebel commander in Syria who has close ties to the Nusra Front.

“It is disintegrating from within,” Others said that Nusra’s Syrian contingent has already effectively collapsed, with its leader Abu Mohamad al-Golani keeping a low profile and his fighters drift ing off to join other rebel groups. “Nusra fighters have claimed responsibility for the deadliest bombings of the two-year-old Syrian conflict and their brigades have led some of the most successful rebel offensives against Assad’s forces. The group was formally designated a terrorist organization by the United States six months ago, a step which Washington said was vindicated by a declaration in April that Nusra was merging with al-Qaeda’s Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant,” said a senior rebel commander in Syria who has close ties to the Nusra Front.”

Clash between Russian oil chiefs could undercut Putin ally

MOSCOW, 18 May—A rare public clash between two leading figures in Russia’s state-dominated oil industry hints at a split in President Vladimir Putin’s inner circle and could be intended to reinvigorate one of his closest advisers. Igor Sechin, who has built oil company Rosneft into the world’s largest with Putin’s help, has pushed for an expansion of a pipeline “spur” to take more oil to China, a profitable alternative market to Europe where demand is falling. But on Thursday, the head of Russia’s pipeline monopoly Transneft, Nikolai Tokarev, attacked the plans by asking whether he was becoming just a “service company” to Rosneft — unusually outspoken comments for a member of Russia’s siloviki, otherwise known as “the men of power” around Putin. A year into his third term, splits are emerging in Putin’s ruling team after street protests which have unsettled the president. Three ministers, most recently his former political strategist Vladislav Surkov, have been ousted.

“Who will pay to expand the pipeline to China? Transneft isn’t just a service company for Rosneft,” Tokarev said on Thursday evening after a meeting of the president’s expert council on innovation. Rosneft declined to comment. Sechin, 52, has been close to Putin for two decades but, since completing the $55 billion takeover of Anglo-Russian oil firm TNK-BP in March, his ambitions have become increasingly curtailed and Rosneft’s share price has weakened. Putin recently upbraided Sechin for promoting a $15 billion offshore liquefied natural gas venture with ExxonMobil that could break the export monopoly of Gazprom — a company used by Putin to project Russia’s energy power abroad. — Reuters

Nigerian forces bombard militant camps from the air

MARRI, 18 May—Nigerian forces used jets and attack helicopters to bombard militant camps in the northeast Friday, in their biggest military offensive since Boko Haram launched an uprising in 2009.

“A number of insurgents have been killed,” the defence headquarters spokesman said, including at the Sambisa game reserve in Borno state, the epicenter of the insurgency. “It is not just Sambisa, every camp is under attack. But we have not done the mapping up operations on the ground to determine the numbers. The general Chris Olukolade said by telephone. A military source, who declined to be named, said at least 30 insurgents had been killed.”

Nigerian forces are trying to regain territory controlled by increasingly well-armed Boko Haram insurgents in their north-eastern stronghold states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa. But under a state of emergency by President Goodluck Jonathan on Wednesday. — Reuters

Employment rate of college graduates at 93.9%

TOKYO, 18 May—The employment rate for those who graduated from colleges in March rose for the second straight year to stand at 93.9 percent as of 1 April, the start of the business year, up 0.3 point from a year earlier, the government said on Friday.

The employment situation for college graduates has been recovering since the collapse of US investment bank Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc, a labor ministry official said.

“Companies are resuming job offers, while joint efforts by colleges and Hello Work job-placement offices to help students find jobs have had positive effects,” the official said.

The rate, however, is 3.0 points below its peak in 2008 and around 24,000 graduates are believed to remain without job offers.

Given this situation, the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry and the Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Ministry are thus focusing on supporting job hunting by college graduates for a three-month period through June.

35 killed, 45 injured in blasts in eastern Iraq’s Diyala

BAQUBA, 18 May—At least 35 people were killed and 45 others injured in two blasts, which hit almost simultaneously on Friday in Baquba, the capital of eastern Iraq’s Diyala Province, after the Friday prayer, an official said.

The two roadside bombs exploded near the Saroya mosque in Baquba, 65 km northeast of Iraq’s capital of Baghdad, and hit the Sunni worshippers as they were leaving the mosque after prayer, the city’s mayor Abdullah Hayali told Xinhua. Initial reports said 30 were killed and some 40 were wounded.

A day ago, at least 12 people were killed and 25 others injured as a suicide bomber blew himself up at a Shiite mosque in northern Iraq’s Kirkuk. Violence is still common in Iraq despite the dramatic decrease since its peak in 2006 and 2007 when the country was engulfed in sectarian killings. —Xinhua

Japan to offer energy-saving infrastructure for developing nations

TOKYO, 18 May—Japan will offer developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region an environment-friendly urban infrastructure plan that taps into Japan’s energy-saving technologies. Environment Minister Nobuteru Ishihara said on Friday.

Ishihara told a news conference he will make his proposal at a forum on Saturday gathering 18 countries to discuss partnerships for low-carbon growth in East Asia. Japan will present a comprehensive package that includes a diversified energy scheme utilizing solar, wind and other sources of power, efficient public transportation, and water and sewerage systems, Ishihara said.

The idea is to help developing countries upgrade their city environments by offering funding and training.

In exchange, Japan will make use of a bilateral offset credit mechanism under which it will gain greenhouse gas emission rights from developing countries, officials said.

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

Kyodo News

The employment figures exclude those who went on to graduate schools or stayed on in college for another year because they could not find jobs. Among overall graduates, the rate for landing jobs came to 66.0 percent, according to the two ministries.

The employment rate for female college graduates came to 94.7 percent, up 2.1 points, exceeding that of male graduates, which stood at 93.2 percent, down 1.3 points.

The government survey also showed 93.4 percent of graduates of humanities courses and 96.2 percent of those of science courses found jobs.

The employment rate of two-year junior college graduates rose 5.2 points to 94.7 percent, the highest since the survey started in April 1997. The rate for job-seeking high school graduates as of the end of March increased for the third straight year, rising 1.0 point to 95.8 percent —96.9 percent for males and 94.2 percent for females, according to the survey.

Japan will present a comprehensive package that includes a diversified energy scheme utilizing solar, wind and other sources of power, efficient public transportation, and water and sewerage systems, Ishihara said.

The idea is to help developing countries upgrade their city environments by offering funding and training.

In exchange, Japan will make use of a bilateral offset credit mechanism under which it will gain greenhouse gas emission rights from developing countries, officials said.
New Light of Myanmar
NATIONAL

Ministry of Education School Enrolment Week From (27) to (31) May

HRD

Yangon, Akita universities seek to cooperate in mining

Mr Yoshiyuki Takahashi and party discussed signing agreement of academic cooperation in mining subject between Yangon University and Akita University, at the Education Ministry, here yesterday morning.—MNA

Multiplier course on child-centered approach conducted in Thazi Tsp

Thazi, 18 May—Township Multiplier Course on child-centered Approach was opened in Thazi Township in Mektila District of Mandalay Region on 12 May.

The opening ceremony was held at the hall of Basic Education High School No. 1 attended by Piyi Huuttaw Representative U Than Soe, Region Huuttaw representatives and officials of No. 2 Basic Education Department and Region Education Department, township level departmental personnel. The course is being attended by headmasters and teachers of primary schools. The first batch course will run through 23 May—Myanmar Alinn

Immigration issues CSCs to citizens in Mandalay

Mandalay, 18 May—Citizenship scrutiny cards were issued by Immigration and National Registration Department at Wakhingon pagoda in Kankauk ward in Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay Region on 14 May.

Representative Dr Kyaw Hla and officials attended the ceremony to issue the citizenship scrutiny cards to eligible citizens.

A total of 665 cards have been issued in the fifth phase of the project.

The department is making field trips in east Aung Nan Yeik Tha ward and surrounding neighbourings to issue CSCs.

Toyota opens auto repair workshop in Yangon

Toyota workshop will provide aftersale services to products of the Toyota group in Myanmar.

Car body workshops in downtown Yangon generate a lot of noises and are even harmful to health of nearby residents. The opening of the workshop separate from populous areas.

The workshop is being run by joint venture between local firm TTAS Company and Toyota Corporation of Japan.

Myanmar artists remember ex-UNSG

Yangon, 18 May—Two famous artists and sculptors in Myanmar will work on portrait and statue of former United Nations Secretary-General U Thant, a Myanmar national who led the world most influential institution.

The French Embassy will host the event on 3 July.

“U Thant is an individual for we Myanmar to be proud of,” Ko Kyaw Kyaw Min, a participant sculptor, said.

Artist Shwe Myint will draw portrait of the ex-UNSG, well-known for his peace efforts in his reign at the United Nations till his last breath.

U Thant Museum has been opened in his former residence in Yangon.

The event is aimed at filling empty wall in the museum.

Both portraits and statue will be donated to the U Thant Museum.

Loikaw hosts Myanmar-Thai business consultation

Loikaw, 18 May—A business consultation was held between Myanmar’s Kayah state and a Thai province at Kayah state government office here on 14 May.

It was attended by Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo, Kayah state ministers, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Tun Aung, Kayah state government personnel and Nice-Governor of the Thai province Suritha Saiwanich.

Representatives from two states exchanged views on tourism, culture, sports and border trade.

The delegates from Mae Haungsaung had first visited Myanmar in April, 2012, and Myanmar delegates including Kayah state government ministers visited the Thai side vice versa three months later.

They sought ways for cooperation between the two territories in their tours.
Road slaughter

With a car boom in Yangon and hordes of motorcyclists in Mandalay and other towns, Myanmar has suffered road accident fatalities during recent years than ever before on record. In April alone, 389 road users were killed in 1346 traffic incidents. According to facts and stats of Myanmar Police Force, Yangon and Mandalay stood in order in the list of road deaths and injuries. So, it can be said that the two big cities have worst and maximum traffic violators.

Of vehicles running on the roads across the country, 80 per cent are motorcycles. Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay with a high number of registered and unregistered motorbikes are prone to fatal motorbike accidents. Two-third of road deaths across the country involves motorcyclists. Low use of helmet, use of unqualified helmets, speeding and drunkenness are contributing to this slaughter on downtown roads and highways as main factors.

There has been blanket coverage of increased road fatalities which have become a hot topic in conversation, calling for concrete road safety plans to decrease future carnage. A unified stance of all departments concerned is needed to lead to a substantial solution before the grisly road accidents become mundane. We should not blame the traffic enforcement agency alone as incompetent to tackle. Risk accidents can be attributed to mechanical failures, environmental conditions and errors of human judgment triggered by excessive speed and drunken driving.

A good starting point to avert mechanical failure-led tragedies is to crack down on illegal imports of motorbikes that failed to come under scrutiny and shipping of defective vehicles into the country. Construction of roads, bridges and highways meeting set standards and increased presence of traffic officers in accident hot spots are workable measures to reduce environmental conditions-related road casualties, but weather situations are unpreventable and unpredictable.

Driving license should not be a license to kill. Further restrictions should be placed on driving tests to turn out safe and secure drivers. Moreover, all road users are to be alerted to punitive actions against traffic rule violations.

Banks Supervisory Committee meets

YANGON, 18 May—The executive boards of Banks Supervisory Committee under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue and Myanmar Banks Association met at the meeting hall of Myanmar Banks Association in Yankin Township here this afternoon. Patron of Myanmar Banks Association Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein delivered an address at the 147th meeting. Chairman of Banks Supervisory Committee Deputy Minister Dr Maung Maung Thein, the governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, the Secretary of Banks Supervisory Committee and the Chairman of Myanmar Banks Association discussed banking matters in relation to laws, regulations, procedures of private banks and foreign investment.

Elite Tech Open Golf Championship 2013 concludes

YANGON, 18 May—Mainly sponsored by Elite Tech Group of Companies and organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA, the final round of Elite Tech Open Golf Championship 2013 took place at Yangon Golf Club (Danyinjung) in Insein Township yesterday along with prize presentation.

It was attended by MGF Patron Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), MGF President U Tayza, personnel and fans. Myo Win Aung stood first in amateur level with 289 strokes and Thein Zaw Myint of KM Golf Center won first prize in professional level.

The winners were presented with cash and gifts. Air Bagan, Asian Wings Airways, AGD Bank, Kandawgyi Palace Hotel, CEPSR, tiger Golf, Myanmar Solar Power (MSP) co-sponsored the event.

Union Minister visits CVT training school

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May—Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung Maung this morning visited Center of Vocational Training – CVT Myanmar at the building of Myanmar Red Cross Society on Strand Road in Botataung Township.

The courses conducted by the school are business course, electrical proficiency course, furniture making course, hotel and hospitality course and mines production course and the course duration is three years. The trainees attending the CVT course are Myanmar youths who engaged in their works. A total of 600 trainees are being given lectures with the aim of enhancing junior professional level. New courses are opened in the first week of May yearly.

Jointly organized by the Ministry and CVT Myanmar and with the assistance of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), plans are underway to establish a new training school to turn out skilled workers.
**LOCAL NEWS**

**Mobile library in operation in Yawksaw Township**

YAKSAW, 18 May—To help push forward intellectual improvement of the public as part of people-centered public service, head of Yawksaw Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Mu Mya Saw and staff supervised works on mobile library, wall magazines and photo shows. The head elaborated on the objectives of mobile library, raising reading habits and benefits of reading and donated 100 books to local people.

**Sanitation carried out in Sagaing**

SAGAING, 18 May—Members of Sagaing Township Police Force carried out sanitation tasks throughout the township to ensure proper flow of drainage under the close supervision of department management committee starting from 15 May.

**Birthday party for hip conjoined twins at Mandalay Children’s Hospital**

MANDALAY, 18 May—A birthday party for two-year-old hip conjoined twins, Aung Khant Kyaw and Aung Myat Kyaw, who have been successfully separated at 550-bed Mandalay Children’s Hospital, was held at the hospital on 16 May. It was attended by Medical Superintendent Dr Sein Han, Specialist Professor Dr. Aung Mra, Pediatrician Professor Dr Aung Aung Oo and specialists, nurses, parents and relatives of the twins. The hip conjoined twins Aung Khant Kyaw and Aung Myat Kyaw, both born in Sagaing Township, received successful surgical operation performed by specialists in Yangon and Mandalay in May 2012.

**Three grenades found in Mohnyin**

MOHNYIN, 18 May—Three grenades were found near Guest House of Union Solidarity and Development Party in Mohnyin on 14 May morning by mushroom seekers.

Daily wage earners Maung Thingyan and Maung Kyaw Soe from Township Development Affairs Committee found three grenades under jack fruit tree between development affairs staff quarters and USDP guesthouse while searching mushroom at 7:30 am on 14 May.

Head of Mohnyin Police Station Police Captain Hla Htwe and members, local artillery commander Lt-Col Nay Min Oo and members and Aung Thabye Ward Administrator U Naw Lar rushed to the scene to inspect the ordinances. It is learnt that it was Chinese made 91 form old grenades and it cannot be harmful or explosive—NM-001.

**Farming work permits presented in Kalay**

KALAY, 18 May—Farming work permits were presented to the farmers at the Administrator’s office of Sakhanyi village-tract in Kalay Township, Sagaing Region on 15 May and Chairman of Kalay District Farmland Management Committee Administrator U Nyi Nyi Hlway gave a speech.

**Head-on motor bike collision leaves three injured**

THAYET, 18 May—Three injured in head-on motor bike collision in Thayet, Thayet District, Magway Region on 15 May.

The accident happened near Simphyutaw Junction on Thayet-Mindon motor road around 8 pm on 15 May. The three got minor injuries. Thayet Police Station is investigating into the case.

**Digging of drinking water lake in Padaung Township**

PADAUNG, 18 May—Villagers form Yaaywinhla village, participated in collective digging of drinking water lake at the village of Talokepin village-tract in Padaung Township of Pyay District, Bago Region on 16 May.

The village has to rely only on the lakes even though the tube wells donated by the government and wellwishers run short. The village has to face danger of fire in summer. At the request of village administrators, Bago Region Constituency No.2 Pyithu Hlutaw representatives U Than Zaw has pledged that coordination will be made with respective administrative bodies for funds allotments out of regional development funds by Region Government for digging of lake and construction of bridge.

**Powering trailer fire burns three houses**

KYAIMARAW, 18 May—A powered trailer fire burnt down three houses in Tayana Village, Kyaimaraw Township, Mon State on 15 May.

While the petrol barrels were being loaded off from powered trailer in front of oil filling station of U Tun Sein in Tayana Village on 15 May evening, the battery wire shock of the powered trailer ignited the petrol barrels, resulting in the nearby houses caught the fire.

A total of 14 fire engines, 18 core firefighters and 50 auxiliary firefighters from Kyaimaraw and Mawlamyine townships and surrounding villages and local put off the fire which was extinguished an hour later after its start.

**Loan disbursed to cooperative societies in Yawksaw Township**

YAKSAW, 18 May—As part of rural development and poverty alleviation tasks and development of cooperatives works, east cooperative society of Shan State (south) disbursed micro finance loan to cooperative societies.

A total of more than K 47 million of loans was given to eight cooperative societies in Yawksaw on 15 May. It was attended by the Chairman of Shan State Cooperative Societies Development Committee, Shan State Planning and Economy Minister U Aung Kyaw Nyunt, Hlutaw representatives, departmental officials and members.

**Fishing smelly waters**

CHINCAY, 18 May—Four people died in the smelly river at the fishing town of Gmuda near Hpaing Township, Magway Region on 15 May.

The fisher and his three friends were fishing in the river and died in the water of the smelly river.
Greece PM hails “Greekovery” replacing “Grexit”

At least 20 killed when mine collapses in eastern Congo

Hold Syrian peace talks soon, says UN chief

UN relief chief to visit Sudan

Greek bond yields are at a three-year-low and its stock market has hit a two-year-high, helped by praise from foreign lenders for government efforts in getting its bailout program back on track. Until recently, many analysts believed that Greece was a lost case. We proved them wrong,” Samaras said in a speech in Beijing during a trip to China on Friday. “Most of them now witness not a “Greekovery”—an exit from the euro zone—but a “Greekovery”—a recovery of the Greek economy.”

The economy, however, remains mired in sixth year of recession with unemployment at a record 27 percent and living standards have sunk due to wage and pension cuts. Samaras’s “success story” insults the country’s youth, of whom 70 percent are unemployed,” George Varemenos, a lawmaker from the main opposition Syriza party, told Skai TV. Investor interest in Greece revived this week after the Fitch agency upgraded the country’s sovereign credit rating to B-minus—still highly speculative—from CCC on Tuesday. “steadily Greece convinces more and more that it is on the course of becoming a true success story,” said Samaras, who is on a trip to China and Azerbaijan to win business investment and reverse a 20 percent fall in output since the debt crisis began in 2009. Chinese shipping group Cosco has already made a major investment in Greece’s largest port at Piraeus (OLP), which is 74 percent state-owned and is on the government’s privatizations agenda.

Greece’s Prime Minister Antonis Samaras addresses the audience during the 12th Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP) conference on “Mediterranean blue economy: enhancing marine and maritime cooperation” in Athens on 8 April, 2013. REUTERS

UN relief chief to visit Sudan

The humanitarian community continues to work with the Sudanese government to address deteriorating living conditions in camps and to find lasting solutions for those who have been uprooted for many years, the spokesman added.

Fightig between the Sudanese armed forces and the rebel Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) broke out after neighboring South Sudan seceded under the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement that ended a decades-long civil war.

South Kordofan has witnessed growing armed clashes between the Sudanese army and the SPLM-N. In Blue Nile, the fighting displaced and then isolated tens of thousands of people. Violence has subsided from its peak in 2003 and 2004, but heavy fighting has been reported since early this year between the rebel alliance and the Sudanese army supported by militias in Darfur. —Xinhua

Free Syrian Army fighters adjust a rocket to be launched towards forces loyal to Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad in Deir al-Zor on 15 May, 2013. REUTERS

At least 20 killed when mine collapses in eastern Congo

The humanitarian community continues to work with the Sudanese government to address deteriorating living conditions in camps and to find lasting solutions for those who have been uprooted for many years, the spokesman added.

The fighting between the Sudanese armed forces and the rebel Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) broke out after neighboring South Sudan seceded under the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement that ended a decades-long civil war.

South Kordofan has witnessed growing armed clashes between the Sudanese army and the SPLM-N. In Blue Nile, the fighting displaced and then isolated tens of thousands of people. Violence has subsided from its peak in 2003 and 2004, but heavy fighting has been reported since early this year between the rebel alliance and the Sudanese army supported by militias in Darfur. —Xinhua

The four-day visit will take Valerie Amos, the UN Under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and also to Darfur, said Martin Nesirky, spokesperson for UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, at a daily briefing here.

“While in the country, Valerie Amos will meet with government officials and representatives of aid organizations there about the humanitarian crisis that has uprooted more than one million people and forced over 200,000 to leave the country, a UN spokesman said on Friday.

The four-day visit will take Valerie Amos, the UN Under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and also to Darfur, said Martin Nesirky, spokesperson for UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, at a daily briefing here.

“While in the country, Valerie Amos will meet with government officials and representatives of aid organizations there about the humanitarian crisis that has uprooted more than one million people and forced over 200,000 to leave the country, a UN spokesman said on Friday.

The four-day visit will take Valerie Amos, the UN Under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and also to Darfur, said Martin Nesirky, spokesperson for UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, at a daily briefing here.

“While in the country, Valerie Amos will meet with government officials and representatives of aid organizations there about the humanitarian crisis that has uprooted more than one million people and forced over 200,000 to leave the country, a UN spokesman said on Friday.

The four-day visit will take Valerie Amos, the UN Under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and also to Darfur, said Martin Nesirky, spokesperson for UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, at a daily briefing here.

“While in the country, Valerie Amos will meet with government officials and representatives of aid organizations there about the humanitarian crisis that has uprooted more than one million people and forced over 200,000 to leave the country, a UN spokesman said on Friday.

The four-day visit will take Valerie Amos, the UN Under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and also to Darfur, said Martin Nesirky, spokesperson for UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, at a daily briefing here.

“While in the country, Valerie Amos will meet with government officials and representatives of aid organizations there about the humanitarian crisis that has uprooted more than one million people and forced over 200,000 to leave the country, a UN spokesman said on Friday.

The four-day visit will take Valerie Amos, the UN Under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and also to Darfur, said Martin Nesirky, spokesperson for UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, at a daily briefing here.

“While in the country, Valerie Amos will meet with government officials and representatives of aid organizations there about the humanitarian crisis that has uprooted more than one million people and forced over 200,000 to leave the country, a UN spokesman said on Friday.

The four-day visit will take Valerie Amos, the UN Under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to the Sudanese capital Khartoum, and also to Darfur, said Martin Nesirky, spokesperson for UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, at a daily briefing here.

“While in the country, Valerie Amos will meet with government officials and representatives of aid organizations there about the humanitarian crisis that has uprooted more than one million people and forced over 200,000 to leave the country, a UN spokesman said on Friday.
**Gov’t not to mint 1-yen, 5-yen, 50-yen coins in FY2013**

**Japan ready to help Pakistan overcome power shortages**

**Cambodia, Thailand to enhance cooperation in fighting cross border crimes**

**Singapore’s first H1N1 flu vaccine starts clinical test.**

**Cambodia’s factory owners told to focus on safety standards**

**Bomb threat disrupts flights in SW China Airport**

---

**Gov’t not to mint 1-yen, 5-yen, 50-yen coins in FY2013**

**Tokyo, 18 May**—The Finance Ministry said Friday it will basically not mint 1-yen, 5-yen and 50-yen coins for general use in fiscal 2013 as the growing use of electronic money has crimped demand for the coins.

Japan Mint, an arm of the ministry, has refrained from producing 5-yen and 50-yen coins for general use since 2009 and stopped minting 1-yen coins since 2011.

The ministry said it will mint 1 million units of each of the coins for collector sets. It will also issue 700,000 units of 1,000 yen coins to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the enforcement of the nation’s Local Autonomy Act, the law governing matters relating to local government.

---

**Japan ready to help Pakistan overcome power shortages**

**Islamabad, 18 May**—Japan is ready to help Pakistan overcome the country’s chronic power shortages, but at the same time it seeks comprehensive power sector reforms, a senior official from the Japan International Cooperation Agency said on Friday.

In an interview with Kyodo News, JICA’s representative in Pakistan, Mitsuyoshi Kawasaki, said the agency has already singled out four 400-megawatt power turbines at Mangla Hydro electric power station in Pakistan-administered portion of divided Kashmir and a coal-fired power plant in Thar in Sindh Province for replacement with Japanese assistance.

Development of hydroelectric and coal-based power plants is central to Pakistan’s plans to overcome power shortages. Pakistan has been faced with power outages across the country, with some parts having experienced blackouts for up to 18 hours. Overcoming the power crisis in two years was one of the election promises by the Pakistani Muslim League Nawaz, which has emerged as the biggest force in last week’s general election.

---

**Cambodia, Thailand to enhance cooperation in fighting cross border crimes**

**Phnom Penh, 18 May**—Cambodia and Thailand agreed on Friday to enhance cooperation to fight against all forms of illegal cross-border activities, a joint statement said. The agreement was made between Cambodian defence minister Tea Banh and his Thai counterpart Gen. Sukumpol Suwannat at the 9th General Border Committee, which was held in Rayong Provence, Thailand on Friday.

"Both sides agreed to strengthen cooperation to prevent and crack down on illegal activities along the border such as drug trafficking, illegal logging, and illegal border crossing," said a joint statement released by Cambodian defence ministry. "The two ministers also agreed to enhance maritime security." They also agreed to cooperate to improve livelihoods for peoples living along the border through the development of tourism, education and public health, it said.

---

**Singapore’s first H1N1 flu vaccine starts clinical test.**

**Singapore, 18 May**—Singapore’s Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) announced on Friday that the first healthy volunteer had been given a dose of the H1N1 influenza vaccine jointly developed by the agency and the Switzerland-based Cytos Biotechnology AG in a clinical trial.

The agency said the vaccine may open the door to accelerated production of influenza vaccines in Singapore, aiming at providing the city-state “an effective means of combating influenza epidemics and pandemics.” In this first Phase 1 clinical trial, the safety and immunogenicity of this novel vaccine candidate and its potential for use against H1N1 influenza infection will be evaluated, the agency said in a statement.

“This is the first time Singapore is attempting to make its own flu vaccine. In the wake of the recent H7N9 bird flu outbreak, it is timely that A*STAR is bringing Singapore’s first H1N1 flu vaccine into Phase 1 clinical trial. This different approach of making flu vaccines will better respond to the needs of a flu outbreak.” Lim Chuan Poh, chairman of the agency said.

It is said that if the Cytos’ new virus-like particle technology in producing this influenza vaccine proved to be effective and successful, it could accelerate the production of vaccines against new emerging strains of flu. “This will greatly aid Singapore’s preparedness to produce vaccines quickly, safely and economically in the event of a flu epidemic,” a professor said—Xinhua

---

**Cambodia’s factory owners told to focus on safety standards**

**Phnom Penh, 18 May**—Garment Manufacturers Association of Cambodia (GMAC) on Friday urged all factories in Cambodia to focus on safety standards in order to avoid any incident of building collapse in the future. The appeal was made after a partial collapse of a concrete ceiling in Wing Star Shoes, a China’s owned factory, in Kampong Speu Province on Thursday, left 2 workers dead and 9 seriously injured.

“"The partial collapse of the shoe factory on Thurs-day is an important experience for us,” GMAC’s president Van Sou Ieng told reporters in a press briefing on Friday. “I will write a letter to urge all GMAC members to focus on safety standards and all construction must be controlled by engineers.” He said GMAC will convene a meeting with all its members on 28 May in order to disseminate measures to prevent such incident in the future.

---

**Bomb threat disrupts flights in SW China Airport**

**Chongqing, 18 May**—All flights at the Chongqing International Airport in southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality were disrupted for over one hour following a bomb threat, sources with the airport said on Friday. The airport received an anonymous call at around 6:30 pm, Friday, in which the caller claimed that a plane had a bomb onboard, according to one airport source. The airport immediately carried out safety inspections on all flights. Inbound flights were forced to return to the airport and outbound flights were delayed, according to the source.

Another source with the airport said the threat-ened flight was bound for Shaqhai. The airport lifted the emergency alert at 7:50 pm and resumed flights. An investigation is under way. Also on Friday, another bomb threat caused flight 9C8856 of Spring Airlines, a private carrier in China, to land in Fuzhou, capital of east China’s Fujian Province, for a safety check.

The flight was traveling from the south China city of Guangzhou to Shanghai in the east, according to Zhang Wu’an, a spokesman for the company—Xinhua
Researchers recover rare earths from ores using salmon milt

Tokyo, 18 May — A Japanese research team has found a more effective and less costly way of recovering rare earths from mineral ores by using salmon milt, it said on Friday amid global interest in the materials essential for producing high-tech products such as hybrid car motors and mobile phone parts.

Separating and recovering rare earths from ores containing many of the 17 types has been expensive and requires tedious work due to the use of a special type of resin, but their discovery will make it "low-cost and environment-friendly," said Yoshio Takahashi, a professor of environmental chemistry at Hiroshima University in the team.

The team of researchers also from Aichi Prefecture-based Asin Cosmos R&D Co. announced its findings at the Japan Sustainable Mining, Investment & Technology business forum in Tokyo.

It looked into the possibility of using milt, which is rich in phosphoric acids but mostly thrown away, after Takahashi and others found in a 2010 study that phosphate groups found on the surface of bacteria can absorb and separate rare earths over 10 times more efficiently than the typically used resin.

In an experiment in which salmon milt, which is easily available, was dried and transformed into a powdered state and put inside a beaker containing a solution with rare earths, they discovered that the milt absorbs rare earth elements as much as bacteria, especially scarce and expensive thulium and lutetium.

But unlike bacteria, milt does not have to be cultivated and is easier to purify. The team also believes that by making more use of milt through chemical means, it can exploit a whole range of rare earths.

Photo taken in Tokyo on 17 May, 2013, shows a scene from a presentation at the Japan Sustainable Mining, Investment & Technology business forum delivered by Yoshiyo Takahashi (R, below), professor of environmental chemistry at Hiroshima University, who belongs to a Japanese research team from the university and Asin Cosmos R&D Co.

UNESCO releases Hangzhou declaration on culture

HANGZHOU, 18 May — UNESCO concluded the International Congress of Hangzhou on Friday by issuing a declaration recognizing the power of culture for sustainable development.

Alessanda Cummins, chairwoman of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), said the declaration was a positive outcome of the congress and it details eight measures to make culture a pillar for sustainable development.

According to the declaration, UNESCO calls upon the world to integrate cultural development policies and plans, facilitate cultural development, mutual cultural understanding and cultural reconciliation, safeguard the cultural rights of all to promote inclusive social development, and boost the role of culture in poverty reduction and inclusive development. It also advocates using culture to advance environmental sustainability, as well as improve people’s ability to handle disasters and adapt to climate change.

Culture must be cherished and protected for future generations, and it should be utilized to improve sustainability and resource management in cities and foster new cooperation models, according to the declaration.

China’s Vice Minister of Education Hao Ping said the measures proposed by the declaration would have a significant impact on the world’s future development agenda and mark a milestone in the global history of cultural development. More than 400 delegates from 81 countries and 20 international organizations attended the congress, which opened in east China’s Zhejiang Province on Wednesday. Francesco Bandarin, UNESCO’s assistant-director-general for culture, said it was a good time to send the right message on cultural protection at the Hangzhou congress since the previous conference to promote cultural policies was held in Stockholm in 1998.

Sri Lanka to open largest mall in tandem with tourism growth

COLOMBO, 18 May — A Sri Lankan company is planning to build the largest mall in the post-war country, in an effort to cash in on a booming tourist industry, it said in a statement here on Friday. The Abans Group in collaboration with Silver Needle Hospitality has signed an agreement with AEDAS, an internationally reputed award-winning architectural firm, to lead the design for its proposed 100 million U.S. dollar five-star super mall opposite the Beira Lake in the capital of Colombo.

The construction will commence early next year and is expected to be completed by 2016, the statement said. The Abans Lifestyle Mall will be unique as it will be the first and only lifestyle mall in Sri Lanka on par with the huge super malls in Singapore and Dubai. It will offer Sri Lankans as well as tourists a place where they can come and spend the whole day with their families and enjoy the many faceted attractions all under one roof.

“TOKYO, 18 May — The initial joint venture development in Asia, it was crucial that we selected a high-calibre architect who understood our desire for creating, inviting and engaging an iconic landmark that meets the professional and leisure accommodation needs of the business traveler and enhances the Colombo lifestyle," Managing Director and Group CEO of Silver Needle Hospitality was quoted as saying in the statement.

Silver Needle Hospitality currently operates over 4,000 keys in the Asia Pacific region. Headquartered in Singapore, Silver Needle Hospitality has regional offices in Bangkok, Sydney and Bangalore.

More than 4,000 visitors view a Saker sports car at the 2013 China (Taiyuan) International Auto-mobile Exhibition in Taiyuan, capital of north China’s Shanxi Province, on 17 May, 2013. Some 400 vehicles of 63 brands were taken to the auto show here, which kicked off on 16 May. — XINHUA
Jennifer Lopez named Chief Creative Officer of NuVO TV

LOS ANGELES, 18 May—NuVO TV announced that Jennifer Lopez will assume the position of its Chief Creative Officer at its upfront presentation for advertisers on Wednesday.

Lopez—who owns a stake in the English-language cable network for Latinos and produces programming for the network under her company, Nuyorican Productions—took the stage for the presentation alongside NuVO's chief executive officer Michael Schwimmer, head of programming Bill Hilary and senior vice president of advertising sales Craig Geller.

“Latinos are a force in this country. We are an engine for growth—we have huge economic power and unprecedented political and cultural influence and it’s time for television to reflect who the modern Latino actually is—not who we are believed to be—not who we may have been but who we are now,” said Lopez in a statement.

“NuVOtv is poised for another year of substantial growth,” Geller said. “Our appeal to advertisers has never been stronger when a growing and influential audience, richer programming and, of course, the obvious benefits associated with havingJennifer Lopez as our creative and marketing partner.”

Justin Bieber spotted clubbing with Selena Gomez

LOS ANGELES, 18 May—Teen Pop sensation Justin Bieber was spotted clubbing with his on and off girlfriend Selena Gomez at Supperclub in LA.

The 19-year-old singer was reportedly enjoying his night out with Gomez, adding fuel to rumours that they are getting back together, reported Ace Showbiz.

Bieber was at the club to attend his DJ friend Tay James birthday party.

He and Gomez arrived around 11.30 PM with his guards in tow and entered the club through the private back door.—PTI

I pay off my friends debt: Bradley Cooper

LONDON, 18 May—Bradley Cooper has revealed that he uses his wealth for his friends to pay off their debts in their hard times.

The 38-year-old actor said he never let money and fame change his thinking process, reported Daily Mirror.

“There is a certain amount of disorientation. You can’t relate to having more money than you ever imagined or even know how to spend or invest. It’s absolutely luxury, I know that.”

Cast members attend the premiere of Iranian director Asghar Farhadi’s film ‘Le Passe’ (The Past) during the 66th annual Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France, on 17 May, 2013.—Xinhua

“Harry Potter” first edition annotated by author up for auction

LOS ANGELES, 18 May—Ever wondered what went through author JK Rowling’s mind when she wrote the first “Harry Potter” novel?

Fans of books about the boy wizard will have a chance to bid on a unique first edition of “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone,” annotated by the author, at a charity auction this month, the English PEN organization said on Friday.

The book contains Rowling’s handwritten thoughts and commentary about the book and the film adaptation, as well as 22 hand-drawn illustrations including one of a sleeping baby Harry and another of Hogwarts headmaster Albus Dumbledore.

It includes a 43-page “second thoughts” segment from the author, with phrases such as, “I wrote the book... in snatched hours, in clattering cafés or in the dead of night. For me, the story of how I wrote ‘Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone’ is written invisibly on every page, legible only to me...”

The book will be one of 51 first editions annotated by authors at an auction on 21 May that will include “Bridget Jones’s Diary” by Helen Fielding, “Northern Lights” by Philip Pullman and Roald Dahl’s “Matilda” with original illustrations by Quentin Blake.

Jennifer Lopez in a high-neck gown from Zuahir Murad’s Autumn / Winter 2011 Couture collection.

Reuters

CANNES, 18 May—After countless broken bones and smashed teeth, Jackie Chan has given up doing his own stunts and wants more serious roles but the Kung Fu actor says he will never stop being an action star despite earlier plans to quit big action movies.

At the Cannes film festival to promote his upcoming film “Skiptrace”, the Hong Kong actor said at 59 he could no longer do his own stunts as it took too long to recover from any injury.

“I am not a superhero,” Chan, in a white polo-necked shirt and Chinese-style jacket, told Reuters on Friday in an interview at a beachfront restaurant on the French Riviera.

“I really want to be like an Asian Robert de Niro who can do all kinds of things—comedy, drama, heavy roles,” he said, adding that he would love the chance to play a villain.

Chan, who has starred in more than 150 films in a career spanning more than 40 years, last year said he would retire from big action movies after “Chinese Zodiac 2012”, released in December. It was quite an announcement from an actor who made his name flying across the big screen in hand-to-hand combat and car chases in films like “Rush Hour” and “Police Story”.

“I am not young any more... and I don’t want to break my ankle or my arm again,” he said, adding that he currently needed a shoulder operation.

His next film is an action movie, “New Police Story 2013”, the sixth in the franchise, that had its first public screening last month at a film festival in Beijing where Chan now lives, and will hit theatres later this year.

“Skiptrace” is an action comedy in which he joins forces with rising Chinese actress Fan Bingbing, known from “X-Men: Days of Future Past”. The film is due to start shooting in September for release next year.

The story follows a Hong Kong detective who forms an unlikely partnership with an American gambler as they try to track down Hong Kong’s most notorious criminal and embark on a wild journey across China.

Reuters

Cast member Jackie Chan poses at the premiere of “The Karate Kid” at the Mann Village theatre in Los Angeles on 7 June, 2010. The movie opens in the US on 11 June.—Reuters

STOCKHOLM, 18 May—Bare-chested Irish drummers, a Ukrainian giant and a much-discussed kiss will be on display at this Saturday’s Eurovision final in Sweden which—love it or hate it—promises plenty of pop, kitsch and barefoot ballads.

Some 26 countries will compete for the jewel in the crown of European pop in the homeland of former Swedish supergroup ABBA, one of Eurovision’s most successful winners.

Denmark’s 20-year-old Emmelie De Forest looks set to steal the show with bookmakers putting her as a clear favorite, trailed by Norway, Ukraine, Russia and Azerbaijan.

Her song—“Only Teardrops”—could keep the show in the Nordics for a second year running, moving it just across a bridge that separates Sweden and Denmark after Loreen won last year’s contest for Sweden with dance track “Euphoria”.

“It’s just quite a catchy song—it’s sort of true Eurovision,” said Jessica Bridge, a spokeswoman for bookmaker Ladbrokes, of Denmark’s entry. “It’s euro-pop, and I think it’s just stuck a chord with people really. I think that’s the one.”

Ladbrokes has Denmark on 4/6 odds, making the barefoot blonde who performs against a flaming backdrop one of the strongest contenders ever to go into a Eurovision final.

Reuters
Ferguson praises “amazing” Beckham’s longevity

LONDON, 18 May—David Beckham’s longevity and his ability to reinvent himself were “absolutely incredible”, retiring Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has said.

Beckham and Ferguson, who were synonymously linked with Manchester United until the former England captain moved to Real Madrid, both announced in the past 10 days they would retire from football at the end of the current season.

The 71-year-old Ferguson’s final game in charge after 26 years at Old Trafford will be on Sunday while the 38-year-old Beckham will retire as a player after Paris St Germain’s French Ligue finale against FC Lorient on 26 May.

“You talk about longevity and in many ways reinventing himself, it has been absolutely incredible,” Ferguson was reported as saying by the BBC on Friday.

“When he went to America there wasn’t a person in this place who really thought he could have a career,” Ferguson added about Beckham’s move to LA Galaxy in 2007.

“Yet he went on and still played for his country, he played for AC Milan in European ties and he played for PSG in European ties, and I don’t think anyone could have imagined that.

“He had unbelievable stamina ... he could run all day, and that has allowed him to stay in the game at that kind of level, playing for his country in his mid 30s.”

Beckham joined Manchester United as an 11-year-old and went on to play 11 years at the club under Ferguson, winning six Premier League titles and the Champions League in a trophy-laden career.

The midfielder, who described Ferguson as a father figure, had a falling out in 2003 when a boot kicked by the manager in the team’s dressing room following a defeat struck Beckham in the face and the player moved to Real Madrid later that year.

“I think he picked the right time (to retire),” Ferguson added. “He’s won the league again with PSG and he is exactly the same as me, he has plenty of things to do.” He is an amazing person.”—Reuters

Defending champion Ding reaches quarterfinals at table tennis worlds

PARIS, 18 May—Defending champion Ding Ning of China beat Park Seonghye of South Korea in straight sets to reach the women’s singles quarterfinals of the World Championships here on Friday.

The top seed eased past the 166th-ranked Park 11-3, 11-4, 11-3, 11-7 for the win.

Ding, beaten finalist in last year’s London Olympic Games, will next take on Ri Yoomg Sun of DPR Korea, who defeated Australasia’s Liu Jia in the other match.

Chinese women booked five out of eight berths in the quarterfinals and the day’s only loser from the Chinese team is Cheng Men, who was beaten by Olympic champion and teammate Li Xiaoxia.

Li, the world No 3, beat Cheng 11-6, 11-6, 11-3, 11-9. Li will next meet another Chinese Wu Yang, an 11-2, 11-9, 11-4, 11-7 winner over Kim Hye Song of DPR Korea.

World No 2 Liu Shiwang eliminated Seo Hyowon of South Korea and Zhu Yuling beat Jiang Huajun of Hong Kong, China.

Chinese basketball girls taste second straight victory over Cuban in International Challenge

YANGQUAN, (Shanxi), 18 May—Chinese women’s national basketball team edged the Cuban counterpart 74-67 to enjoy a two-game winning streak in Sino-Cuban Women’s International Basketball Challenge here on Friday.

As a warm-up for Asian Women’s Basketball Championship this October, Chinese team’s head coach Tom Maher found some “new faces” this time. He showed positive attitude towards these young girls’ performance in this game, including Li Meng, who was born in 1995, the youngest girl in this national team.

“Li showed that she got the way to learn, and I believe in her success in the future,” he said.

Ji Yanyan contributed a team-high 14 points. Xu Nuo, Chen Nan and Liu Jia each scored nine points.

The Chinese side crushed over the same opponent 73-57 in Beijing on Thursday. Over 3,000 fans crowded into Yangguan Gymnasium to support the Chinese girls. Center Chen Nan opened the game with a jumper, followed by Ji Yanyan’s layup and Liu Jia’s three-point play, which forced the Cuban side into a timeout.—Xinhua

Chinese basketball girls taste second straight victory over Cuban in International Challenge

YANGQUAN, (Shanxi), 18 May—Chinese women’s national basketball team edged the Cuban counterpart 74-67 to enjoy a two-game winning streak in Sino-Cuban Women’s International Basketball Challenge here on Friday.

As a warm-up for Asian Women’s Basketball Championship this October, Chinese team’s head coach Tom Maher found some “new faces” this time. He showed positive attitude towards these young girls’ performance in this game, including Li Meng, who was born in 1995, the youngest girl in this national team.

“Li showed that she got the way to learn, and I believe in her success in the future,” he said.

Ji Yanyan contributed a team-high 14 points. Xu Nuo, Chen Nan and Liu Jia each scored nine points.

The Chinese side crushed over the same opponent 73-57 in Beijing on Thursday. Over 3,000 fans crowded into Yangguan Gymnasium to support the Chinese girls. Center Chen Nan opened the game with a jumper, followed by Ji Yanyan’s layup and Liu Jia’s three-point play, which forced the Cuban side into a timeout.—Xinhua

Trinitario crumbles to defeat against Berdych in Rome

ROMA, 18 May—Czech Tomas Berdych snapped a run of 11 consecutive defeats by world number one Novak Djokovic to reach the semi-finals of the Rome Masters before Rafa Nadal was stretched to the limit against David Ferrer on Friday.

Berdych clawed his way back from a 6-2, 5-2 deficit to stun the Spanish top seed 7-6, 7-5, 6-4 and set up a semi-final meeting with Nadal, who for the second week running outlasted compatriot Ferrer in a fierce clutchout scalp.

Nadal won 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 for his ninth consecutive victory over Ferrer who hit the Mallorcan with every weapon in his locker but still came up short as he did in Madrid last week.

“It was an extremely tough match. David always takes you to the limit,” Nadal, looking for his sixth title in eight tournaments since returning from injury, told reporters.

“I am extremely happy. I think I made a huge effort both in the second set when I was 4-0 down and in the third to get past a fantastic opponent.”

Nadal’s win put him a step closer to his sixth title in Rome, looking for his sixth European tie and he played for AC Milan in 2003.

Serbian before an amazing transformation.

The clean-hitting world number six won five games in a row to level the match and then dominated the deciding set to leave Djokovic with food for thought before the French Open.

Reuters

Santos coach concerned at Neymar reports

RIO DE JANEIRO, 18 May—Santos coach Muricy Ramalho has admitted concern at mounting speculation linking Neymar with a move to Barcelona.

Local media reported on Friday that the Catalan club’s football director Raul Sanlheiti had met with Santos officials during the week to negotiate a deal for the Brazil international striker.

Ramalho believes the in-demand has had a negative impact on the 21-year-old.

“I have said many times that he needs to be focused and settled because there is going to be pressure on him until he makes a decision,” Ramalho said.

“It’s difficult for him. The good thing is that he is happy with life. He wants to train and play all the time. The pressure comes when he is off the pitch.”

Neymar, who is contracted to Santos until the 2014 World Cup, has also attracted the interest of European giants Real Madrid, Chelsea and Manchester United.

Xinhua

China’s Yin Na (L) spikes into ball against their match against Porto Rico at the 2013 China International Women’s Volleyball Tournament held in Ningbo, east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 17 May, 2013. China won 3-0.—Xinhua
New media rule limits foreign TV channels airing in Vietnam

HANOI, 18 May—A new regulation on the management of pay television (pay TV) which came into effect as of 15 May this year has halted broadcasting of many foreign TV channels in Vietnam. K+, a joint venture between France’s Canal+ and Vietnam Television’s cable TV with satellite television service, has stopped airing of 20 foreign channels in compliant with the new regulation, Le Trinh, a staff at the consumers’ services department of K+, confirmed on Friday.

They will be allowed to broadcast legally in Vietnam if they get the editing license from the Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC), Trinh said, adding that the foreign music channel, Channel V, has recently acquired the license and continues to be broadcast by K+ on Friday.

Other foreign channels including CNN and BBC are under procedure for the editing license and will be brought back to customers in a couple of days, Trinh said. Under Vietnam’s Decision 20/2011/QD-TGt, passed on 24 March, 2011, all foreign pay TV channels must be edited and translated into Vietnamese to ensure that their contents are not in contravention of Vietnamese laws on media and advertisement, except for live coverage of sport events, live coverage of the opening and closing ceremonies of sporting events at national and international levels. The editing license and translation must be done before 15 Nov, 2012.

However, the regulation encountered objections from TV providers, saying translating special kinds of foreign news channels including BBC and CNN which broadcast live 24/24 would make the broadcasting being delayed. In order to consider the issue, the MIC has asked the prime minister to extend the deadline to 15 May, 2013. In a further move, on 29 March , 2013, the government promulgated Decision 18a/2013/QD-TGt revising several articles of the Regulation on Pay Television Management under Decision 20/2011/QD-TGt.

Accordingly, there are only two kinds of foreign channels which need to be translated into Vietnamese, including all content on film channels, reportage and documentary program on general channels, general entertainment channels, sports channels and music channels.—Xinhua

Clinic fire kills four in southern Russia

MOSCOW, 18 May—Four people were killed and another one injured in a fire which engulfed a clinic in Russia’s southern Saratov region Friday, the Itar-Tass news agency reported.

Nine medical staff were in the building when the blaze started from the clinic’s pharmacy in the town of Engels. The death toll rose to four from previously reported two as firefighters extinguished the blaze. The reason of the fire was still unknown.—Xinhua

GM recalls defective Cadillacs in China

BEIJING, 18 May—Shanghai GM will recall 2,653 imported Cadillac SRX vehicles as their wheel nuts may become loose and pose a safety hazard. China’s consumer quality watchdog said on Friday.

As of Friday, the company will recall Cadillac sport utility vehicles (SUVs) manufactured between 3 Sept, 2012 and 7 March, 2013, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said in a statement. The wheel nuts have not been installed correctly, which may cause them to become loose, the statement said. The bolts may break after continued use and pose a safety hazard, it said. To fix the problem, the company will readjust the wheel nuts on the vehicles, the administration said.—Xinhua

HK light rail derailment injures more than 60

HONG KONG, 18 May—A light rail train running in a suburban area of northeastern Hong Kong derailed on Friday, injuring at least 62 commuters, local reports said. The tail car of the two-car light rail train reportedly derailed and crashed into the front car before reaching Tong Fong Tsuen station. The car came to a rest lopsided with broken glass and loose seats.

Most of the injured people, 42 women and 20 men including three children, sustained minor injuries, Commercial Radio said. Commuters said the car derailed during a curve, throwing some people off while others were trapped by dislodged seats. The cause of the derailment was not immediately clear.—Kyodo News

At least 20 injured as commuter trains collide north of New York

NEW YORK, 18 May—Two trains collided Friday in the US state of Connecticut, injuring at least 20 people.

The two commuter trains include one bound for New York, media reports here said. Local train authorities said emergency workers are heading to the scene. According to police in Fairfield, there were no fatalities.—Xinhua

5.1-magnitude quake hits China’s Yellow Sea

BEIJING, 18 May—A 5.1-magnitude quake jolted China’s Yellow Sea at 6:02 am Saturday Beijing Time, according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre. —Xinhua

5.1-magnitude quake hits China’s Yellow Sea

BEIJING, 18 May—A 5.1-magnitude quake jolted China’s Yellow Sea at 6:02 am Saturday Beijing Time, according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre.
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife attend ceremony to honour monks who passed Tipitaka examination

**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham presents certificate to a title recipient Sayadaw.**

Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Pooyadaw of Bhano Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhajja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhajja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa, Union ministers and their wives, the Yangon region chief minister and wife, deputy ministers, and Yangon Region ministers, departmental officials and members of religious associations.

After receiving a sermon delivered by the SSMNC Chairman Sayadaw, Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsain Hsint supplicated on religious matters.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmone attended a ceremony to honour one Tipitakadhara monk, one Mula Abhidharmamavina monk, two Mula Abhidharmamavina monks, one Dighanikaya-rakovida monk, three Dighabhannaka monks, three Vinayakavida monks, 18 Vinayadhara monks, 10 Ubhato Vibhangakovida monks and 42 Ubhato Vibhangadhara monks totaling 81 at Maha Pasama Cave on Thiri Mingala Kabla-Aye Hill in Mayangon Township, here, this morning.

It was also attended by members of Sangha led by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife.

**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife**

Daw Nan Shwe Hmone donate offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

**UNION A & I MINISTER VIEWS**

**Harvesting of Paletwe summer paddy**

**Union A & I Minister views harvesting of Paletwe summer paddy**

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaung views harvesting of hybrid Paletwe summer paddy and land reclamation, at mechanized farming (3000 acres) plantation near hotel zone in Dekkhinathiri Township, here, this morning.

The Union minister and party also visited farmers at the briefing hall of the plantation and viewed chemical-free fruits and vegetables booth of Shwe Pyi Taw Hotel. They inspected value-added fruit and vegetables processing factory near Alyinlo village. The Union minister called for private sector investments for establishment of the processing factory.

**CAD/CAM JEWELLERY DESIGNING WORKSHOP**

Yangon, 18 May — Rhino Gold software professionals from Spain conducted a workshop on computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) for goldsmiths at UMFCCI Office on Minye Kyawswa Road here this morning.

The workshop aims to enable the goldsmiths and silversmiths to create world-class jewellery designs through modern machines and IT. It is also seen as part of efforts to value-add the precious jewels of the country in penetrating international jewellery market as CAD/CAM have become to take a greater part in making new, creative design jewellery items in western and Asian countries.

US-based 100-year-old Gesswein Siam Company and BT Gold Refinery of Myanmar jointly organized the workshop at which Rhino Gold software professionals from Spain shared their knowledge of computer-aided designing of jewellery items. It was attended by jewellery designers, goldsmiths and silversmiths, jewellery shops and companies and enthusiasts.