Weather expert warns people in northern Myanmar of flash floods and landslides as “Norwester” approaches

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 28 April — A Myanmar top weather expert has issued a flash flood and landslides warning, urging people in the north of the country to be on alert as rain, thunderstorms and hail are likely to hit those areas within 72 hours beginning on Monday evening.

U Tun Lwin, an ex-meteorologist and former director-general of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, posted the warning on his Facebook page, saying that a “Norwester”, a cluster of thunder cloud, was approaching Myanmar from the North West.

The wind speed is expected to reach between 35 to 45 miles per hour during heavy rain fall, with some gusty winds likely to peak at 55 miles per hour, he added. “People working on farmland or near rivers should be particularly cautious. Anyone working on a ship must be on alert, even if they are far away from the coast off northern Myanmar,” U Tun Lwin said.

According to the weather forecast released at 2 pm on Monday by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, rain and thundershowers hit large parts of Kachin State, the upper part of Sagaing Region, Bago Region and Taninthayi Region, as well as Sagaing Region and Shan State within the last 24 hours. Heavy rain was also reported in Mandalay Region, with overcast skies in the remaining regions and states, according to weather experts.

On Sunday, strong winds and hail hit Ayeyawady Delta, with more than 100 houses damaged in Hinthada township. Nearly 110 people had to be evacuated and now live in temporary shelters, but officials said there have been no reports of casualties.

A building destroyed by strong wind and rainfall in Hinthada Township. — HINTHADA DISTRICT IPRD

Indian navy to hold concert at the National Theatre in Yangon

YANGON, 28 April — Three Indian Navy Ships (INS) arrived on Sunday at the Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa in Yangon, with officials saying the navy officers will stay here until April 30 to explore the country’s culture and hold a concert at the National Theatre.

The fleet is led by Captain Cdr Happy Mohan, with a total of 585 officer cadets from the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard currently staying in Yangon.

Officials said that the Indian Naval Band will perform at the National Theatre in Yangon on Tuesday, with the concert entitled ‘HARMONY AND FRIENDSHIP ACROSS THE SEAS.’

The naval cadets and personnel will visit historically and culturally significant places in Yangon and Bago regions in the next days to learn more about the country’s rich heritage.

The visit is aimed at highlighting the friendship between India and Myanmar and further strengthening bilateral ties.

Myanmar squad qualifies in Sitting Volleyball

YANGON, 28 April — The Myanmar sitting volleyball team has gone through to the next round after winning the qualifier event held in Mashhida city in Iran from 29 to 26 April.

Volleyball players of the Myanmar Paralympics Federation arrived back at Yangon International Airport on Monday morning after taking part in the qualifier.

A 15-member squad led by Col Kyaw Soe lost to Iraq 0-3 in the first match and beat South Korea 3-2 in the second match. In the third match, Myanmar was defeated by China with a 0-3 result. But, Myanmar trounced Mongolia 3-0. Despite losing to South Korea 0-3 in the last match, Myanmar was through to the next round.

Iran, Kyrgyzstan and China, standing first, second and third positions respectively on the table, have the opportunity to take part in the Sitting Volleyball World Championship to be held in Poland.

Irak, Kyrgyzstan, China, Iraq, South Korea, Myanmar, Japan and Mongolia ranging in positions from the first to eighth qualified in the matches will participate in the Asian Games to be held in Incheon in South Korea.— MNA

Traders Hotel re-branded as Sule Shangri-La

YANGON, 28 April — The 484-room Traders Hotel, now Sule Shangri-La, has been on Sule Pagoda Road in the heart of Yangon for nearly two decades.— Khin Cho Win

A refurbished executive room in the newly-branded Sule Shangri-La Hotel.

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**LOCAL NEWS**

**Thai monks and novices visit Kawthoung town**

**Kawthoung**, 28 April—Myanmar’s southernmost town of Kawthoung was visited by monks and novices from Thailand, who made the trip to visit pagodas in the area and collect alms. A total of 70 Thai monks and novices arrived from Ranong town in Thailand on 26 April, with many local Buddhist following the procession. After receiving alms, the monks recited the Paritta in order to protect the Pyidawaye Pagoda and Myanmar’s leading monk organization, Sasana Beikman.

With the permission of the Kawthoung Township Sangha Nayaka Committee, the Thai monks and novices also supported local monks in the propagation of Buddhism.

*Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)*

**Tax laws explained in Taunggyi**

**Taunggyi**, 28 April—The need to pay tax in order to develop the nation and its regions was explained by Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat at a meeting on Sunday in Taunggyi with entrepreneurs, tax payers and officials from Shan State to clarify the taxation system.

The Chief Minister and Shan State Minister for Finance U Khun Thein Maung presented certificates of honour to entrepreneurs who have paid tax without fail.

The Director of the Internal Revenue Department U Tun Than explained matters related to the Union tax law and income tax law, with Director U Soe Naing explaining issues related to commercial tax.

*Than Wai (Taunggyi)*

**Fire breaks out at oil field in Thayet Township**

**Thayet**, 28 April—A fire broke out on Sunday night at Sakhangyi oilfield in Thayet Township of Magway Region, where illegal oil explorations are being carried out, officials have said.

A worker, identified as Than Soe, 34, was working at the oil well No. A14, owned by a man identified as Mr. Aung, when the fire was caused by friction between equipment.

The fire engulfed the oil well and one barrel of crude oil.

Officials said the oil well owner did not receive permission from the Union government for operation.

Thayet Police Station has filed a lawsuit against worker Than Soe.

*Ko Ko Aung*

**Fire prevention measures taken at Thiri Yadana Myoma Market**

**Nay Pyi Taw**, 28 April—Thiri Yadana Myoma Market in Lewe Township will in future be safer as fire prevention measures have been taken, officials said Monday.

Water tanks, light-duty fire engines and reels of hose have been donated, with firefighters practicing an emergency situation at the market.

Officials from Dekkha District of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area said that in future more drills will be conducted, urging shopkeepers to participate in the next exercises on Saturday.

*Shwe Ko Ko*

**Traffic congestions cause major problems for commuters in Yangon**

**Yangon**, 28 April—Traffic jams in Yangon, particularly at the junction of Hlawga Road and Baigan Road in Dagon Myothit Township, have become a major problem for commuters, officials have said.

Although authorities have constructed two traffic islands at the junction in order to help ease the traffic, illegal vendors have been blocking the traffic islands and pavements to sell their goods, further hampering a smooth traffic flow.

Officials said they are discussing further action to resolve the problem.

*Myint Than (Oxygen)*
Problems in Rakhine State have impact beyond the state itself

NAV PYI TAW, 28 April—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham stressed the need to seek ways and means to avoid the recurrence of problems such as the ones in Ducheeyadan village in Rakhine State. The vice-president said that Rakhine State is still under threat despite the region seeing no violence, unrest and arsons attacks since the ones that spread across the state in 2012.

He pointed out the importance of aid from UN agencies and international organizations as the government’s support is not enough to tackle basic needs and social matters of the victims of communities comprising of hundreds of thousands of people. He called on agencies to ensure aid to all victims and follow agreements signed with the ministries concerned. Respective work committees are to monitor the humanitarian aid process, he added.

It is necessary to complete immigration and citizenship scrutiny process, to fully resettle internally displaced persons and to strive for resumption of livelihoods of victims, including their education, health, social and religious matters, he said.

It is required for UN agencies, international organizations and work committees to ensure greater transparency in providing assistance to displaced people.

He also called for a roadmap that is acceptable to both communities and everyone concerned.

National Parliament speaker gives assistance to locals in eastern Myanmar state

NAV PYI TAW, 28 April—National Parliament Speaker U Khin Aung Myint not only provided cash and material assistance to locals in Myanmar’s eastern Kayah State, but also small unions. Unity is essential in every region and state for the strength of the country. If extreme ideologies about single races, localities, faiths and religions destroyed the union spirit, the country would be on the brink of collapse.”

State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo, Chairman U Thein Zaw and Chairman Dr. Khin Shwe explained their donations.

The ceremony was also attended by members of the state government, religious organisations and local people.

In the afternoon, the speaker visited Beluchaung No. 3 Hydropower Plant.

JAPAN'S MIYAZAKI UNIVERSITY TO COOPERATE WITH DEPARTMENTS UNDER HEALTH MINISTRY

NAV PYI TAW, 28 April – The Ministry of Health and Japan’s University of Miyazaki have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on close cooperation and exchange programmes, officials said Monday.

Several departments under the Health Ministry and the Japanese university will in future aim at conducting frequent research and student exchanges, as well as joint research.

The President of the University of Miyazaki, Dr. Tatsuo Suganuma and Directors-General of the respective departments signed the MoU and exchanged notes.
Monks recite Abhidhamma treatises

Library opens in rural Nyaunglebin Tsp

A library named ‘Bawa Shaesaung’ has opened in Thaunggyi Village of Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Region, on Sunday morning, aimed at broadening the minds of rural people, officials said.

Captain Khin Win from 17 to 26 April. To mark the successful completion of Abhidhamma recitation, over 200 monks participated in a procession to accept alms from local people in Mohinny on Saturday afternoon.—NLM-001

Taim said that he donated cash to fund the library in order to help the education of people from Thaunggyi Village as “they live too far from urban areas”.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)

Most outstanding students to get opportunity for further learning at foreign universities

BAGAN, 28 April— The Union government opened recreation camps for outstanding students to be able to cultivate Union Spirit and preserve culture and traditional customs and cultural traits, with outstanding students extending greetings to the youths.

A similar ceremony took place at No 1 Basic Education High School in Nyaungshwe of Shan State where there was also a recreation camp for outstanding students.

In her speech, Union Minister Dr Daw Khin San Yi said the government planned to scrutinize the most outstanding students in order for them to be able to pursue advanced learning in foreign countries, with the President arranging scholarships.

This year, a total of 525 outstanding students are honoured at recreation camps.

MNA hsaung Sub-Township, Ayeyawady Region, on Monday morning.

Following a song performed by the students titled “Myanmar School”, Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin and Ayeyawady Region Minister for Social Affairs Daw Khin Saw Mu delivered an address.

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin and Region Minister Daw Khin Saw Mu presented brooches to the outstanding students, with the head of the camp awarding a commemorative medal to the region minister.

At the ceremony, Shwe Thabye Construction Co donated K 5 million for the cause. Sub-Township IPRD

Recreation camp for outstanding students opens

NGWEHSANG, 28 April— The ceremony to open a recreation camp for outstanding students was held at Pearl Ngwehsaung Hotel in Ngwehsaung Sub-Township, Bago Region, on Monday morning.

The ceremony was attended by 176 outstanding students, with former outstanding students extending greetings to the youths.

The ceremony was held at the No. 3 Basic Education High School in Meiktila, the ancient city near Shwehsandaw Pagoda in Bagan, the ancient city of Mandalay Region, on Monday morning.

The ceremony was attended by officials from Thazi, Wundwin and Mahaung townships as well as NLD members and local people.

A similar ceremony was held at the NLD office in Yadana Maung Ward of Meiktila.

Stimulant tablets seized in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 28 April— Officials raided the house of a suspect identified as Myo Myo Zaw of Aungzeya region 3 in Meiktila city on Saturday, seizing 26 stimulant tablets worth K125,500.

Members of the Meiktila District Special Criminal Combating Squad searched the house, with police arresting Chan Nyein who was suspected to use narcotic drugs.

Myo Myo Zaw confessed she bought the stimulant tablets from Zu Zu Aung from Aung San Ward. Police then raided the house of Zu Zu Aung and seized 14 stimulant tablets.

Meiktila Myoma police station has taken action against the suspects under Sections 15/19(a)/20(a)/21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—NLM-018

Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association to meet on 9 May

YANGON, 28 April— The Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association will stage its annual general meeting at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel in Yangon on 9 May at 9 am.

Members of the association are invited to attend the meeting, officials said. Aung Thura

Meals offered to monks dedicated to late journalist U Win Tin

MEIKTILA, 28 April— Officials of the Meiktila District and Township have offered meals to monks in memory of the late patron of the National League for Democracy, veteran journalist U Win Tin.

The ceremony was attended by officials from Thazi, Wundwin and Mahaung townships as well as NLD members and local people.

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Rakhine National Conference kicks off in Kyaukpyu

SITTWAY, 28 April— A ceremony to inaugurate the Rakhine National Conference (Kyaukpyu) took place at the No. 3 Basic Education High School in Asoeya Ward in Kyaukpyu, Rakhine State, on Sunday.

Union Minister U Aung Min, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and Yangon Region Rakhine National Affairs Minister U Zaw Aye Maung made the opening speeches, with writers Kyaw Win and Pe Myint giving talks on socio-economic development of the region.

The conference will last from 1 to 5 May, and is aimed at drawing a framework to lay down a national policy, officials said without giving further details.—State IPRD

Mango Show, Contest and Paper-reading Session to be held from 10-12 May

YANGON, 28 April— The Myanmar Fruits and Vegetables Producers and Exporters Association will organize a Mango Show, Contest and “Paper-reading Session” at Shwe Pazun Confectionary in Dawbon Township of Yangon Region from 10 to 12 May.

Foreign and local experts will submit papers on Myanmar’s mango species. For those interested, please contact Tel: 01218367 and 0943127656. Aung Thura
Iraqis pin hope of changes on upcoming election

Baghdad, 28 April — Iraq’s 30 April general election is just around the corner, as candidates from different entities are making intensive public campaigns to attract more votes. Due to the escalating violence across the country, it’s not easy to see massive campaign activities on the streets. Many election candidates and their supporters choose relatively safe places to canvass for support.

At the old quarter of Baghdad, a winding alley named after the Iraqi poet Al Mutanabbi is one of the places. Bookstores and stalls of every description occupy the street-level spaces, selling technical manuals, ornate copies of the Quran and a nice selection of pirated software.

Mohammad Awmad, a translator in an Iraqi firm, was spreading name cards of the candidate his supports to the passersby in front of a bookstore.

“I support one candidate from Iraqi Coalition, and I will cast my vote on 30 April in the polling station,” Awmad said in fluent English. More than 9,000 candidates from nearly 280 political entities are vying for the 328 parliamentary seats in Iraq’s 30 April general election.

This is the first national election since the withdrawal of US troops from the country at the end of 2011. Many Iraqis pin their hope of changes on the upcoming election despite their suffering from bloodshed, lack of public services and a weak government.

“I will go to the polling station to cast my vote to support my candidate, and a democratic election is the best way to solve problems in Iraq is facing,” said Stair Muhsan, owner of a two-year-old bookstore in a second-hand book market.

“Iraq has experienced a long time of turbulence. I hope the upcoming parliamentary election can bring changes to my country, and can stop the relentless violence across the country,” Muhsan said. Al Mutanabbi Street was rocked by a car bombing on in March 2007 when around 30 people were killed. The government closed the street after the bomb for one year and reopened it in 2008. Muhsan said the business is getting worse because of security concerns. The authorities have cordoned off many routes, making it even harder for book buyers to get to the market.

“The security situation in Iraq should be the top concern of the new government, we need improve the security situation,” Mouhsan added. —Xinhua

Philippines, US sign new defence pact

Manila, 28 April — The Philippines and the United States on Monday signed a new 10-year defence pact that will give wider access to American forces on Philippine military bases and facilities, including airfields and sea ports. Philippine Defence Secretary Voltaire Gazmin and US Ambassador to Manila Philip Goldberg signed the pact, called the Philippines-US Enhanced Defence Cooperation Agreement.

The signing took place inside the Philippines’ main military headquarters a few hours before US President Barack Obama was due to arrive in Manila for an overnight state visit. —Kyodo News

Three troops killed, three injured in NW Pakistan’s blast

Islamabad, 28 April — At least three security personnel were killed and three others injured when a bomb went off near an army vehicle in Pakistan’s northwest tribal area on Sunday night, officials said.

The Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), the mouth piece of Pakistan army, said in a statement that an army vehicle was hit by a roadside planted device at the bordering area of North Waziristan and south Waziristan agency.

The injured troops were shifted to a nearby hospital for medical treatment. The vehicle was completely destroyed in the blast.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet.

Sunday night’s incident is a continuation of the recent string of terrorist attacks at army and police vehicles following the end of peace talks between the Pakistani government and Taliban.

The recent attacks have left over a dozen policemen and troops killed, and at least 50 injured in the country’s northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, south Sindh and southwestern Balochistan provinces over the last one week. —Xinhua

Ukraine rebels free Swedish hostage; Obama seeks unity against Russia

Kuala Lumpur/Slovanj, (Ukraine), 28 April — Pro-Russian rebels pardoned European monitors they are holding in eastern Ukraine on Sunday, freeing one but saying they had no plans to release another seven as the United States and Europe prepared new sanctions against Moscow. US President Barack Obama called for the United States and Europe to join forces to impose stronger measures to restrain Moscow.

In a move senior US officials said may come as early as Monday, the White House said it would add names of people close to Putin in Moscow who have a significant impact on the Russian economy and are in (Putin’s) inner circle, to designate people who are holding in eastern Ukraine on Sunday, freed Swedish hostage; and also impose new restrictions on high-tech exports.

“We’re going to be in a stronger position to deter Mr Putin when he sees that the world is unified and the United States and Europe is unified rather than this is just a US-Russian conflict,” Obama told reporters.

White House deputy national security adviser Tony Blinken said the new US measures would be focused mostly on adding to a list of those barred from travel to the United States and hit by asset freezes.

“We’re going to save a little news for Monday but what I can tell you is this,” Blinken told CBS television. “We will be looking to designate people who are in (Putin’s) inner circle, who have a significant impact on the Russian economy. We’ll be looking to designate companies that they and other inner-circle people control.” —Reuters

Officials from the OSCE special mission in Ukraine leave the mayor’s office with a detained international observer (C), in Slaviansk on 27 April, 2014. —Reuters

5.2-magnitude quake jolts South China Sea

Beijing, 28 April — A 5.2-magnitude earthquake occurred in the South China Sea at 8:43 am Monday (Beijing Time), according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre (CENC).

The epicenter was monitored at 19.8 degrees north latitude and 120.0 degrees east longitude, and the focus of the quake was 4 kilometers deep. —Xinhua

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A member of Iraq security forces guides traffic while taking guard in downtown Baghdad, capital of Iraq, on 27 April, 2014, ahead of the country’s parliamentary election which will be held on 30 April. This is the first parliamentary election of the country since the US troops withdrew in late 2011. —Xinhua

Sigrid Kaag(C), head of the joint Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)-United Nations mission for the destruction of Syria’s chemical weapons, speaks during a Press conference in Damascus, Syria, on 27 April, 2014. She said that 92.5 percent of Syria’s chemical materials had been removed from the country and destroyed, and stressed commitment to the timely removal of the remaining chemical materials by the 30 June deadline, to make sure that none of the chemical material falls in the wrong hands. —Xinhua

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The injured troops were shifted to a nearby hospital for medical treatment. The vehicle was completely destroyed in the blast.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet.

Sunday night’s incident is a continuation of the recent string of terrorist attacks at army and police vehicles following the end of peace talks between the Pakistani government and Taliban.

The recent attacks have left over a dozen policemen and troops killed, and at least 50 injured in the country’s northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, south Sindh and southwest Balochistan provinces over the last one week. —Xinhua

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“Phantom bridge” in Hokkaido attracting tourists

SUPPLIED PHOTO TAKEN IN MAY 2011 SHOWS TAUSHUBETSU BRIDGE, NICKNAMED THE “PHANTOM BRIDGE,” REFLECTED ON THE SURFACE OF LAKE NUKABIRA IN KAMISHIHORO, HOKKAIDO.—KYODO NEWS

Participants in costumes of World War I Army of the United States are seen at the World War I Museum in Meaux, Paris, France, on 27 April, 2014. Military enthusiasts attended a re-enactment to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the World War I.—Xinhua

Syria announces four new contenders for presidential race

DAMASCUS, 28 April — The Syrian parliament announced on Sunday the names of four new runners for the 3 June presidential elections in the conflict-torn country, according to the state-run SANA news agency. Sawsan Haddad, Samir Muala, Mohammad Yasin and Abdul-Salam Salameh were the latest to register their candidacy, bringing the overall number of contenders for the presidential vote to six.

Further details about the biographies of the new contenders are still forthcoming. The 10-day registration for the top Syrian post started on Tuesday. The voting for Syrians in the diaspora will start on 3 June, while overseas Syrians will cast their votes on 28 May. Several candidates are expected to run for the presidency in accordance with the new constitution. Syria’s electoral law stipulates that all applicants must have lived in Syria for 10 consecutive years prior to nomination, a condition which severely limits exile opposition members, many of whom have been living outside Syria for years.

By law, each runner for the elections must secure the backing of 35 parliamentarians. The Supreme Constitutional Court, which is tasked with overseeing the presidential elections’ process, must study their applications before announcing the candidates within five days after the 10-day registration time frame.

The timing of the presidential polls has raised the ire of many in the Syrian opposition, as well as in their regional and international backers who have labeled the upcoming poll a “parody of democracy.”

Government officials said President Bashar al-Assad is the “real guarantee” for the future of Syria, hinting that Assad, despite a barrage of criticism, would run for the elections and has a high chance to be re-elected for a third seven-year term.—Xinhua

Attack in Central African Republic kills 22, including chiefs, MSF staff

BANGUI, 28 April — At least 22 people, including 15 local chiefs and three members of staff of the medical charity Médecins Sans Frontières, were killed in an attack on a town in the Central African Republic, officials said on Sunday.

The attack on Saturday was in Nanga Bogoula, about 450 km (280 miles) north of the capital Bangui. Some 2,000 French and over 5,000 African peacekeepers are struggling to halt waves of violence that have gripped the country over the last 18 months.

Gilles Xavier Nguem-bassa, a former member of parliament for the area, said four people were killed as the assailants approached the town but the number has increased since the bridge was designed as a Hokkaido heritage site in 2001, according to Mitsuwa Kawada, 54, who heads the NPO.

Currently, some 2,000 people take the tours per year, while tens of thousands of people visit an observation deck near the bridge, Kawada said.

Roji Iwasaki, a 35-year-old photographer, relocated to the Nukabira area from Okegawa, Saitama Prefecture, in 2005 to take pictures of the bridge. His work includes capturing the bridge looking like several pairs of glasses when it is reflected on the water or standing on the drying-out lake bed.

He says it is “impossible to take the same picture twice” since the water level in the reservoir sometimes differs by more than 2 meters in the same season.

Kyodo News

Japan eyes APEC summit to improve ties with China

TOKYO, 28 April — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe recognizes the importance of a Pacific Rim leaders’ meeting later this year in Beijing as a chance for Japan and China to improve their strained relations, Tokyo Gov. Yoichi Masuzoe said on Monday.

“I told him we should consider APEC as one possible target,” Masuzoe, who visited Beijing last week, told reporters after meeting with Abe, referring to the annual summit of the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. Masuzoe, who visited the prime minister’s office to brief Abe on his three-day trip to China during which he held talks with China’s vice premier, said Abe agreed with him.

China will host this year’s APEC ministerial and working-level meetings before the leaders’ summit in November, potentially giving opportunities for Japanese and Chinese officials to discuss how to defuse bilateral tensions over territorial and historical issues on the sidelines of those meetings. Abe was also quoted by Masuzoe as telling him that Japan “will keep making efforts to improve relations” with China.

Kyodo News
FDA okays start of BrainStorm stem cell trial in ALS patients

Air Berlin asks shareholders for cash after 2013 loss

China raises alert against surging cancer crisis

New Zealand scientists claim breakthrough find in fighting drug addiction

Toyota restructures US marketing arm; voluntary exits offered
Mission

Some examples of Mission are:

- CHANNEL’S Mission is to Enrich Women’s Beauty & Style.
- Ford Motor’s Mission is to provide easy and elegant transportation for as many people as possible.
- NAING Group’s Mission is the Construct Special, Stylish, Strong and Sophisticated Buildings for people to live in, to work in, to enjoy in, and to build strong family ties in.

How to Build a Mission Statement

M for Main Purpose (Reason for Being in Business)
I for Insight (Winning-Edge Views)
S for Strategy (Grand Strategy)
S for Strengths (Distinctive Capabilities & Resources)
I for Innovation (Creative Reinventing)
O for Opportunities (Chances for the Future)
N for Niching (Specializing)

What Should Be A Business’s Real Purpose?

Some very conservative Economists used to say that the Business of Business is Business. It might appear to be true in some conventional wisdom’s sense, but it is an out-and-out reactionary view, in my opinion. I strongly believe the Business of Business is Business is Social Progress, or Humanity Development as well as Profit. Profit is and should be just a By-product of Humane and equitable Social Progress.

Anyway, Enlightened Wisdom’s view of a Business Mission should be: To Do the Most Good for the Most People.

In other words, a business’s mission should be to serve the Stakeholders, viz.:

- Customers
- Employees
- Owners/Shareholders, and
- the Whole National Economy

Formerly, a business’s Mission generally used to be focused on Profit and Profit alone. Nowadays, the trend has been moving in the direction of Corporate Social Responsibility. So, the general MISSION of a Business should be in more or less the same direction. Therefore, I would like to suggest that the modern, enlightened Mission of a Business should be based on the Triple Bottom-Lines: People, Planet and Profit.

Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING GROUP Capital Co., LTD.

Correction

Please read “the Embassy of Japan (Mr. Maruyama, charge d’ affaires ad interim) and the Myanmar Government, signed a grant agreement for three projects” instead of “the Myanmar Government and JICA signed a grant agreement for three projects” in the news under the headline “Myanmar, Japan ink MoU on three grant agreements” published on Page 4 of this daily issue on 26-4-2014.—Ed

GOLD PRICE

(28-4-2014)

Yangon Gold Price
Buying K 666,100 per tical: Selling K 667,100

Mandalay Gold Price
Buying K 666,000 per tical: Selling K 667,000

Many local media organizations do not have the budget to properly train their staff and often show little interest in improving work conditions. Working under pressure and tight deadlines, most journalists can only resort to the journalism style they have known for many years.

As the new Myanmar government is relaxing its grip on various media, more modern media companies and organizations will be created in the future. With this development, all journalists should receive training in order to be able to compete in this environment.

We cannot go back in time, and therefore the circumstances need to improve for the media industry to be able to improve. Only then will the local media be able to raise its standard.

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Mission is a particular work that you feel it is your duty to do. It also means an important official job that a person or a group of people is given to do. —Oxford Dictionary

In management parlance, MISSION is: Reason for Being or Reason for Existence or Reason for Living, Moving and Having your Being.

Mission can be understood as the broad, strategic PURPOSE of an organization. Let us thrash out the myths in order to get to the real truth, e.g.

Is a medical doctor’s mission to make money or to cure a certain disease and restore health?

Is a teacher’s mission just to earn money, or to educate and enrich a child’s mind and life?

Think for yourself the following questions:

- What is a Mother’s Mission?
- What is a Father’s Mission?
- What is a Son’s or Daughter’s Mission?
- What is a Students’ Mission?

In a similar vein, ask yourself:

- What is an Employer’s Mission?
- What is an Employee’s Mission?
- What is a Business’ Mission?
- What is a Manager’s Mission?
- What is a Leader’s Mission?

Japan grants three projects worth US$ 57.9 million

YANGON, 28 April —

His Excellency Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, Charge d’ Affairs ad interim of Japan to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and Her Excellency Daw Lei Lei Thein, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, signed and exchanged the Notes for three Grant Aid projects in Myanmar, amounting to JPY 5.96 billion (equivalent to US$ 57.9 million). The signing was witnessed by Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development.

The Project for National Single Window and Customs Modernization by Introducing Automated Cargo Clearance System (amount to JPY 3.99 billion (US$ 38.7 million)). This Project aims to strengthen the function of the core hospital in Lashio to improve the quality of the medical service by providing assistance for the facility and the equipment.

The project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (amount to JPY 468 million (US$ 4.5 million)). This scholarship provides opportunity to study in Japan for young Myanmar officials to learn necessary skills and knowledge for problem solving and policy making to promote Myanmar’s reform and social and economic development as well as to establish friendly relationship between Japan and Myanmar.

The signing was witnessed by His Excellency Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, Charge d’Affaires, ad interim of the Japan Embassy in Yangon and Dr. Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development.

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Female-dominated Noble Profession in Myanmar & A Teacher Is Many Things

That title may be strange to the eyes of many. If living sentient creature/becoming is described as an inanimate object. But we very often use the words human beings and living things in writings and speech. In fact that is what we live. Here is the word, “many things” is meant for a person with many responsibilities. In dictionaries, a teacher is defined as a person who is teaching (a subject), especially in a school. In this sense, we may misconstrue a teacher as an ordinary salary man. But the title of the has never come into our pure minds. Instead, we deeply love and admire our teachers. According to our religion as well, we rank our teachers to the same level as our Lord Buddha, Dhamma [His Teachings], Sanghas [His Followers], and our parents. A teacher is called in Myanmar, “Sayar” which somewhat is to be corrupted Pali word, “sayar” which means shade. Shade gives us a shelter that protects from direct sunlight, wherein we get a cool feeling. Likewise, we can get many kinds of virtue under our teachers’ guidance and control. Our Lord Buddha Himself is the most sophisticated teacher of the whole world. For saying so, I never intend to liken teachers’ virtues to the Buddha’s Incomparable Virtues. But I want to say that, I believe deeply that a teacher is a man of nobility and learning. So much had been written and said about teachers and their devotion to their pupils. But I want to say again about our respected and devoted teachers in the past. Throughout our generations, teachers play an important role in our society, being well-thought-of around us.

Unlike other service-men, what makes a teacher special? Who had ever known pupils that were mostly in touch with our wrong-doing and stupidity? When we ourselves became teachers, we came to know that teaching profession has its own characteristics. Most of us tend at producing well-adjusted members of the society. As such, a teacher is not a perfect man but he needs to be endowed with many qualifications and responsibilities. Who will deny it? They are experts who train all-round development of future leaders. Every individual needs to do a job or something for their survival. In this frenetic age, youths are always busy trying to look for a promising career each. However, most of them are nowadays difficult to decide to eke out their living as a teacher, especially for boys. And it is more difficult to be a life-long teacher. But in the minds of today’s job-hunters, they cannot see that a teacher is blessed with great respect and trust from people—parents and their offspring. They go against the path of teaching, knowing it doesn’t fetch only a meager amount of income. Granted that money is important for survival, but it cannot be blamed. Thus, they—especially males are getting away from education career, before we recognized it. Nowadays, many of the girls who could not find a job to work for private companies eventually decided, faute de mieux, to choose the career. Some professions remain basions of male chauvinism and some are still exercising glass ceiling system in promoting their staff to higher places. In this way, teaching profession is seemingly becoming a female-dominated one. Even then, they avoid going to far-off regions. Every teacher must be happy and active at the advent of their setting foot in civil service, especially in teaching career. So long as a teacher who leads an urban life teaches their pupils, they find it more and more uninterested in teaching. They are feeling as if shouldering a great burden under varied pressure as it occurs in a class-room. Why? In answer to the question, I say that it is not all of the teachers cannot help thinking for finding an extra income to fulfill the need for their daily kitchen expenditure. To do so, they resort to secure private tuitions to weak students in their private hours. They cannot spend their free time with families, losing their privacy. There is no more burden added to the usual pressure in their class-rooms. Money occupies them nearly all the time. The ideas to pursue for excellence in job in their free time vanish only in their thoughts. We see most of primary assistant teachers go back home very late at night. How exhausting their days are! Teachers are piling up in towns and cities, whereas, as there is still a shortage of teachers in remote rural areas. Undeniably, there is a huge knowledge gap between urban and rural regions. We should not neglect this affair. It is an important factor of degrading these areas as educational and socially underprivileged locations that rural areas are considered to be sleepy backwaters for youths because there lack basic amenities: electricity, internet connection, connection, cinemas, shopping centers, places for recreation, etc. Occasionally, there is a rush on knowledge among today’s youths for their self-development. They think that these are available only in civilian areas. If we claim that the young minds are important in building up our nation from the state of lagging behind our neighbor countries in technology and in every field to the advanced state, we must try hard to alleviate the gap to the minimum level. Not unlike town-dwellers, rural sectors must do their utmost effort in art learning. To solve this problem depends not only on the government but also upon us all. The government must fulfill material needs, that is, to try to ensure the well-being of all its service-men. On our side, we must show our reliance, warm welcome and great respect for our teachers. Spiritual support is of vital importance for all, isn’t it? In order to receive such nourishment it is nutritious sustenance to our teachers. However hard the government tried to increase their pay and wages, the problem cannot be eradicated, even in existing circumstances. Increasing commodity prices follow pay raise. We have never seen any ultra-opportunities to behave otherwise. They have never missed an opportunity to manipulate commodity prices. All business-persons are not necessarily skilled in doing this problem is beyond our knowledge, and it is only a subject matter for the government, economists and experts to deal with. In my opinion, as we all are concerned with these salary-men in some way or other, it will be better for us to bear consideration and kindness in us. If so, boomerang effect will surely come to us. If we are free from worries and woes, we will be able to give our spare time to broaden our knowledge and wisdom which must be relayed to youth. Here I want to convince the younger that today’s outstanding dignitaries were mostly brought up in a better future, and they have experienced the most hardships, and evaluated progress. He does all this in cooperation with the fellow travelers.

2/ A teacher is a guide.

The teacher teaches in the centuries-old sense of teaching. He helps the development of the student, and learn things he does not know and to understand what he learns. Modern methods and devices do not reduce the need of traditional teaching. There will always be an important place for the ancient process of teaching: explaining, making clear, and informing. The students will not always learn from such teaching. Whether or not he does learn will depend upon many conditions. The chief conditions are probably a) his motivation and readiness to learn, b) his level of emotional and mental development, and c) his relation to the teacher.

b/ his level of emotional and mental development in relation to the content of the lesson, d) his ability to learn by means of words, and e) the degree of his freedom from fear.

c/ his relation to the teacher.

d/ his ability to learn by means of words, and e) the degree of his freedom from fear.

e/ the teacher’s skill in sharing his knowledge and experience.

If these conditions are reasonably good, then by means of the teaching-learning process, the student can learn so much that is meaningful.

4/ A teacher is a modernizer.

The teacher expresses the experience of man in terms that have meaning for the student. The older generation in their operations have difficulty in understanding each other. The experience and language of their parents have more meaning for us than that of our parents’ parents. This is true for every generation.

A student learning today is a great distance from a large portion of experience of man, which, however, he must understand and make a part of his thinking and actions if he wants to be educated. The teacher must help the students lessen the distance: otherwise they cannot get the learning that will enable them to express their potential. As part of the educative process, the teacher will try to modernize styles of language and ways of viewing nature and society which seem unusual and unfamiliar to the student because they are old. The principle of modernity applies not only to books and pictures, but also to all the records of man’s experience. The teacher’s task is to express this wealth of wisdom and experience in modern terms—in terms that are meaningful to the students of today. As it is said, it may be true that there is no new thing under the sun, but it is encouraging to remember that old ideas always need to be modernized. At least they will be new to our students.

One of the main purposes of education is to release the human mind bound by narrow and limited experience. Then the student can move forward to the modern and experimental that leads to the discovery of new truths. Thus, true education causes the person to be less and less tied to a particular time and therefore less limited to a particular way of living. As a modernizer of the old, of the unfamiliar, as a bridge between the old and the new, the teacher must be or must become such an educated person.
Search for missing Malaysia plane enters new phase

SYDNEY, 28 April — The chance of finding floating debris from a missing Malaysia Airlines jetliner has become highly unlikely, and a new phase of the search would focus on a far larger area of the Indian Ocean floor, Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott said on Monday.

The international search effort for Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370, which vanished on March 8 with 239 people on board, which disappeared on March 8, 2014, “will do everything we humanly can, everything we reasonably can, to solve this mystery,” he told reporters in Canberra.

Authorities had focused their search on a 10 square km (6.2 square mile) stretch of seabed about 2,000 miles northwest of Perth after detecting what they suspected was a signal from the plane’s black box recorder on 4 April. But Abbott’s comments appeared to be an acknowledgement that the search by a US Navy Bluefin-21 underwater drone in that refined area had failed to find any sign of the jetliner.

Abbott admitted, however, that it was possible nothing would ever be found of the jetliner. “We will do everything we humanly can, everything we reasonably can, to solve this mystery,” he told reporters in Canberra.

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Hungarians march against anti-Semitism after far-right poll gains

BUDAPEST, 28 April — Tens of thousands of Hungarians joined a protest march on Sunday against anti-Semitism, three weeks after the far-right Jobbik party won nearly a quarter of votes cast in a national election.

Budapest’s annual “March of the Living” walk in remembrance of the more than half million Hungarian Jews that died in the Holocaust during World War Two, in Budapest, on 27 April, 2014. Reuters

The marchers, many holding European Union and Israeli flags, attended the inauguration of a Holocaust memorial on a bank of the Danube where Jews were executed during the war. They then marched in silence through the city to an old railway station from which trains departed 70 years ago for Nazi death camps.

More people are taking part because they fear anti-Semitism is again on the rise, said Miklos Deutsch, 64, a restaurant manager, after a shofar, a traditional Jewish instrument made from a ram’s horn, gave the signal for the march to start.

“The cause, indeed, is poverty. When the economy does not really work and people are poor, somebody has to be blamed, and the Jews and the gypsies are blamed,” he said.

“The strengthening of Jobbik is dangerous,” added Deutsch, whose parents lost most of their relatives in the Holocaust.

Unemployment has fallen under the rule of Prime Minister Viktor Orban’s conservative Fidesz party, which again secured a two-thirds parliamentary majority in this month’s election. But many Hungarians still struggle to make ends meet and this discontent has helped Jobbik increase its support to 21 percent of the national vote from 16 percent four years ago.

Jobbik denies being anti-Semitic but does little to dispel its reputation for intolerance. Its followers are often openly hostile to Jews and other ethnic and religious minorities.

“Anti-Semitism has risen. You can feel that in all segments of society: in politics, in media, in schools and in social intercourse,” said another marcher, Gyorgy Burjan, a retired engineer, adding that Jobbik had capitalized on that.

Jewish groups have also protested against a plan to build a memorial to Hungary’s 1944 German occupation, saying it would conceal the responsibility of local authorities who collaborated with the Germans to ship hundreds of thousands to the camps.

After Sunday’s march, around 600 participants boarded a train bound for Poland, where they were due to take part in a commemoration at the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz near Krakow.

Japan, EU to launch dialogue on cybersecurity

Tokyo, 28 April — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and European Union leaders will agree at a summit in Brussels on 7 May to launch a dialogue to boost cybersecurity, according to a draft of a statement to be issued after the meeting.

With China as a suspected source of cyberattacks in mind, the draft joint press statement, a copy of which was obtained Sunday by Kyodo News, says, “Facing more severe, widespread and globalized risks surrounding cyberspace... protection of a safe, open and secure cyberspace is needed.”

Abe and the EU leaders, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso will also agree to hold an inaugural meeting of a Japan-EU dialogue on the stable use of outer space in the latter half of this year in Tokyo, the draft says.

Kyodo News

Pro-Russian protesters occupy TV building in eastern Ukraine

KIEV, 28 April — Hundreds of pro-Russian protesters stormed and occupied a regional television station building in Ukraine’s eastern city of Donetsk Sunday afternoon, the Interfax-Ukraine news agency reported.

The protesters broke the gate of the building and entered the regional television facility as about 30 policemen stood idle near-by and did not intervene, it said.

Some 500 protesters gathered in front of the building, chanting slogans like “RuSSiA!” and “Kiev cannot administer Donetsk!” and demanding the television station did not give them a chance to speak.—Xinhua

US, Europe must act collectively to impose sanctions on Russia

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 April — US President Barack Obama said here on Sunday that the United States and European countries should act collectively to impose sanctions on Russia for its actions in Ukraine.

“We’re going to be in a stronger position to deter Mr Putin when he sees that the world is unified and the United States and Europe is unified rather than this is just a US-Russian conflict,” Obama said at a joint press conference after meeting Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak.

Obama said although an international agreement had been signed to de-es-calate the crisis, Russia had not lifted a finger to help. “In fact, there is strong evidence that they (Russia) have been encouraging the kinds of activities that have taken place (in Ukraine),” he said.

Obama is on a three-day official visit to Malaysia, which began on Saturday.—Xinhua

Reuters
Hague challenges Scottish leader’s EU membership plans

LONDON, 28 April — The United States supports Pakistan’s peace dialogue with the Taleban militants to promote peace and reduce violence, a US envoy has said.

James Dobbins, the US special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, who held talks with senior Pakistani leaders, said Washington backs Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif’s policy to hold dialogue with the Taleban. “We support Pakistan’s efforts to establish the rule of law in Pakistan to eliminate violent extremism, not just the violent extremists who attack Pakistan, but the violent extremists who operate from Pakistan territory and attack neighbouring societies,” Dobbins told the Pakistan Television in an interview aired on Saturday.

He said Pakistani leaders have also adopted a policy to give a tough response to the militants if they resort to terrorism.

Besides Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, the US envoy met the army chief, Gen Raheel Sharif, and several key ministers and discussed bilateral cooperation between the two countries in various fields and peace in Afghanistan.

Talking about Afghanistan, the US envoy said Pakistan’s relations with Afghanistan have improved under Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, saying that some statements from Afghan President Hamid Karzai has caused tensions.

For Washington, Palestinian pact not the end of Middle East peace hopes

WASHINGTON, 28 April — The unity pact between Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and the militant group Hamas dealt a sharp punch to US-driven peace negotiations with Israel, but the Americans insisted it was not a fatal blow to the struggling talks.

Washington was stunned by the deal announced on Wednesday between Fatah, the faction that leads the West Bank, and Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip and is viewed as a terrorist organization by the United States, the European Union and Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu immediately suspended participation in the peace process brokered by US Secretary of State John Kerry.

But US negotiators are not expected to give up on the process, in which Kerry has invested thousands of hours and a great deal of political capital. There is also little for Washington to lose by monitoring developments, while pushing the two sides toward reconciliation.

“This will probably slow things down, but it will resume at some point,” said Aaron David Miller, a former US State Department peace negotiator now at the Wilson Center in Washington.

“There is no need for the United States to walk away from this, and it would be stupid, frankly,” he said.

Washington is Israel’s closest ally, and President Barack Obama has already faced strong criticism at home and abroad over his handling of foreign policy.

Obama has been accused of neglect for Asia — where he has traveled this week — and weakness in Europe, where Russia has annexed the Crimean Peninsula and is threatening eastern Ukraine.

Months of meetings since last summer have produced no sign of progress in the talks, aimed at creating an independent Palestinian state on land captured by Israel in a 1967 war. Palestinians want East Jerusalem to be capital of the state they seek in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and want Israeli soldiers and more than half a million settlers gone.

Israel settlement construction has been a major obstacle in the negotiations. Citing security concerns and historic and Biblical links to the territory, Israel says it intends to keep large settlement blocs in any future peace deal. — Reuters

UK to host international meeting on stolen Ukrainian assets

LONDON, 28 April — London will host a two-day international meeting this week aimed at helping Ukraine’s government to recover stolen assets, Britain’s interior ministry said on Monday.

The 29-30 April Ukraine Forum on Asset Recovery, jointly organised by Britain and the United States, will be attended by senior government officials, judicial experts, prosecutors, financial intelligence analysts and regulators.

Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov and US Attorney General Eric Holder will be among those meeting in London. The meeting would work on international cooperation for the early tracing of assets and look at ways to trace assets hidden behind complex corporate structures.

“The message is clear — we are making it hard — we are making it hard, not only for corrupt and criminal elements, but for individuals around the world to move, hide and profit from the proceeds of their crime,” said May.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague arrives for a cabinet meeting at 10 Downing Street in central London on 8 April, 2014. — Reuters

Senior Fatah official Azzam Al-Ahmed (L), head of the Hamas government Ismail Haniyeh (C) and senior Hamas leader Moussa Abu Marzuq hold their hands after announcing a reconciliation agreement in Gaza City on 23 April, 2014.—REUTERS

UNIC/Yangon

United Nations Secretary General’s Message on the day of remembrance for victims of chemical warfare

29 April, 2014

On this annual Day of Remembrance, we pay tribute to the victims of chemical warfare.

The horrific use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic in 2013 casts a shadow over this year’s commemoration. I cannot forget the deeply shocking images I saw. The use of chemical weapons in Syria was a deplorable offense against humanity.

The multinational effort to rid Syria of its chemical weapons programme shows what can be done when the international community comes together. Although there is still more to do, 90 per cent of Syria’s chemical weapons have now been either removed or destroyed.

I take this opportunity to reiterate that any use of chemical weapons under any circumstances would be a grave violation of the 1925 Protocol and other relevant rules of customary international law.

I also reiterate the importance of the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention. Six countries remain outside the Convention: Angola, Egypt, Israel, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Myanmar and South Sudan.

Until membership is universal and the last stockpiles of chemical weapons are destroyed, our work will not be done. We must not relax our vigilance. We must do our utmost to deter any future incidents.

On this solemn day, let us renew our common pledge to eliminate all chemical weapons. I once again urge all States that have not yet done so, to adhere to the Convention without delay. Only then can we finally put to rest the threat of chemical weapons.

UNIC/Yangon

UNIC/Yangon

UNIC/Yangon

Senior Fatah official Azzam Al-Ahmed (L), head of the Hamas government Ismail Haniyeh (C) and senior Hamas leader Moussa Abu Marzuq hold their hands after announcing a reconciliation agreement in Gaza City on 23 April, 2014.—REUTERS

UNIC/Yangon

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UNIC/Yangon

UNIC/Yangon

UNIC/Yangon

UNIC/Yangon

UNIC/Yangon
Thai opposition leader meets military head as crisis deepens

BANGKOK, 28 April — Thai opposition leader Abhisit Vejjajiva met the head of the armed forces on Monday to discuss ways to avert a potential showdown between political groups next month that threatens more violence and a further economic damage in a six-month crisis.

Former prime minister Abhisit, who met Armed Forces Supreme Commander General Thanasak Patimaprakorn, has asked for two weeks to try to resolve the crisis peacefully.

“He (Thanasak) supports what I want, which is to bring all sides together to find a way out for the country,” Abhisit told reporters after the two-hour meeting. “The commander underscored that political problems must be solved through political means.”

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra has faced months of anti-government protests aimed at removing her to make way for an unelected “people’s council” that would oversee reforms to tackle alleged unelected “people’s council” that would oversee reforms to tackle alleged

Thailand’s opposition leader and former Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva gestures during an interview with foreign media at his Democrat Party headquarters in Bangkok on 23 April, 2014. — Reuters

Bangkok nuclear power plant

BEIJING, 28 April — An analysis of the sources of air pollution in Beijing, Tianjin and Shijiazhuang will be finished by the end of June, an official with China’s environmental authority said on Sunday.

The environmental authorities are working with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Engineering to conduct the research and will jointly release reports on the results in the near future, said Zhao Yingmin, director of the pollution control and management department of the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

Zhao made the remarks when giving a report on air pollution in China to the Environment and Resources Protection Committee of the National People’s Congress, China’s top legislature.

The analysis of the sources of air pollution in Beijing has already been finished and published earlier this month and the result revealed that about 64 percent to 72 percent of the air pollutants in Beijing are locally generated, Zhao said.

The official said the yearly average density of fine particulate matter, or PM2.5, in Beijing last year was 89.5 micrograms per cubic meter, far beyond the pollution control cap target of 60.—Xinhua

Asia to remain 5.4 pct economic growth in 2014, IMF report

HONG KONG, 28 April — Economic growth in Asia is projected to remain steady at 5.4 percent in 2014 and 5.5 percent in 2015, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in a report published on Monday.

External demand is set to pick up alongside the recovery in advanced economies, and domestic demand should remain solid across most of the region, said the IMF’s Regional Economic Outlook for Asia and Pacific.

The report — Sustaining the Momentum: Vigilance and Reforms — said that the region has strengthened its resilience to global risks and will continue as a source of global economic dynamism.—Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (042)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (042) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.4.2014 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 INTERASIA LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (366N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (366N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.4.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV HONG LINH VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HONG LINH VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.4.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(2) 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 HANARRA SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 2301185

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NINOS VOY NO (1015W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1015W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.4.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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.

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(8/2014)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanma Kyats.

Sr No | Tender No | Description | Remark
--- | --- | --- | ---
1 | IFB-001(14-15) | Skid Mounted Water Transfer Pump with Motor Driven (700 gpm, 700 ft head) | US$8,000
2 | IFB-002(14-15) | API Class ‘G’ Cemeny (1,000 Ton) | US$8,000
3 | IFB-003(14-15) | Spare for HDD Rig | US$6,000
4 | IFB-004(14-15) | Spares for HDD Engine/Rig Pump EX HDD Rig | US$6,000
5 | IFB-005(14-15) | Assorted Sizes of Drilling Rock Bits | US$5,000
6 | DMP/L-001(14-15) | B-40, B-60 & B-80 Shale Shaker Screens | KS3,000
7 | DMP/L-002(14-15) | CCTV Camera and Accessories | KS3,000
8 | DMP/L-003(14-15) | 18R 22.5-20 PR Radial Tyre Complete Set | KS3,000
9 | DMP/L-004(14-15) | 6.0 Sqmm Wire Cable and Heat Shrink Tube | KS3,000
10 | DMP/L-005(14-15) | 9.5/8” Float shoes and Collars | KS3,000

Tender Closing Date & Time - 26-5-2014, 16:30 Hrs.
Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 29th April, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/41206

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Bank Holiday
All Banks will be closed on 1st May (Thursday) 2014, May day, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

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Death toll rises to 11 as Tornadoes strike central, south US

HOUSTON, 28 April — A severe storm system hit the central and southern United States on Sunday, spawning powerful tornadoes and killing as many as 11 people in Arkansas and Oklahoma, according to media reports. The storm swept across the midwest, central and southern parts of the country on Sunday afternoon. More than a dozen tornadoes formed and touched down in several states including Arkansas and Oklahoma, which are the most devastated areas.

A total of 10 people were confirmed dead in Arkansas, according to local TV KTHV. Matt DeCample, a spokesman for the Governor’s office, told the media earlier the tornado killed four people in Faulkner County, three people in Pulaski County and one person in White County. But the Faulkner County Sheriff’s Office said at least six people were confirmed dead and the toll is expected to rise.

The storm ripped through the area at around 7 pm CST and continued creating destruction for more than an hour, the report said. An interstate highway was shut down due to multiple wrecks, including overturned trucks and destroyed vehicles.

Homes in several towns are flattened, according to Sheriff Andy Shock with the Faulkner County Sheriff’s Office. Emergency crew members are scouring the area for people.

In Oklahoma, a tornado touched down in Quapaw, a small town around 320 km northeast of Oklahoma city late Sunday, the Oklahoman reported.

Media reports said earlier at least two have died, but an official later confirmed one was dead and six others were injured. The injuries were believed to be non-life-threatening.
Kevin Spacey’s Lungi Dance with Deepika Padukone steals the show at IIFA 2014

TAMPA BAY, (Florida), 28 April — Hollywood actor-cum-filmmaker Kevin Spacey was the showstealer at the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards — he danced on the stage to the tunes of the Lungi Dance number with Bollywood star Deepika Padukone.

The occasion was at the IIFA Awards night on Saturday when the show’s hosts Farhan Akhtar and Shahid Kapoor requested Kevin to shake a leg to the Bollywood number. He happily obliged them.

Wearing a lungi, the wrap-around for males, the actor danced to the hit number from super hit Hindi movie Chennai Express with Deepika, who played the female lead in the rom-comedy. Farhan and Shahid also joined in.

“It is great to be here and see the performances at IIFA,” said the Oscar winning actor, known for his work in The Usual Suspects and American Beauty. He also clicked a selfie with a few celebrities who attended the award function.

‘Other Woman’ seizes box office crown from ‘Captain America’

LOS ANGELES, 28 April — Hollywood is remodeling one of its most cherished traditions: the summer blockbuster.

Unlike last year, when every summer weekend seemed to bring one or more mega-budget films, this year studios have spread out their most expensive entries for the warm weather months that traditionally make up roughly 40 percent of annual ticket sales.

This year, the parade of super heroes, animated films and big-budget sequels started two months earlier, in March instead of May. So far, moviegoers are responding, with the two women to get revenge on her cheating husband, played by Danish actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, known for his role as Jaime Lannister in the popular HBO series “Game of Thrones”.

“We significantly overperformed,” said Spencer Klein, senior vice president general sales manager for 20th Century Fox, the unit of Twenty-First Century Fox that released the film. “The ‘Other Woman’ once again proves the power of female comedies,” Klein said, adding that timing also contributed to its success.

Los Angeles / New York, 28 April — “The Other Woman,” a female-centered comedy about marital infidelity, elbowed aside three-time box office champion “Captain America: The Winter Soldier” to win the race at US and Canadian theaters this weekend.

“The Other Woman” had ticket sales of $24.7 million, while “Captain America: The Winter Soldier” took in $16 million, bringing its total domestic sales since its 5 April release to $225 million.

The PG-rated faith-based drama “Heaven Is for Real” came in third with $13.8 million for the period of Friday through Sunday, according to estimates from box office tracking firm Rentrak.

“The Other Woman,” starring Cameron Diaz and Kate Upton as women dating the same married man, overcame largely negative reviews to far surpass industry expectations of an opening weekend in the region of $17 million.

The $40 million film also stars Leslie Mann as the wife who teams up with the two women to get revenge on her cheating husband, played by Danish actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, known for his role as Jaime Lannister in the popular HBO series “Game of Thrones”.

“We significantly overperformed,” said Spencer Klein, senior vice president general sales manager for 20th Century Fox, the unit of Twenty-First Century Fox that released the film. “‘The Other Woman’ once again proves the power of female comedies,” Klein said, adding that timing also contributed to its success.

Singer Mr Probz arrives on the red carpet for the Echo Music Awards ceremony in Berlin on 27 March, 2014.—Reuters

Last week’s number one, Canadian singer-songwriter Kiesza’s debut single “Hideaway”, dropped one spot to second place while fellow former chart-topper London-based dance music duo Sigma also slipped one place to number three with “Nobody to Love”. In the album chart, Paolo Nutini spends a second week at number one with his third album “Cautious Love”, the fastest selling album of the year so far.—Reuters

Priyanka Chopra: I have a huge fear of failure

TAMPA BAY, (Florida), 28 April — National Award-winning Bollywood actress Priyanka Chopra, who attended a panel discussion on acting with Hollywood actor-cum-filmmaker Kevin Spacey at the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Weekend and Awards here, says she has a huge fear of failure.

Priyanka has proved her mettle through films like Saat Khoon Maaf, Barfi! and Fashion, but says she always had the fear of failure.

“I have a huge fear of failure. Failure drives me. If the film fails, it feels bad. I stay in a room for two weeks.

When I was doing Barfi!, people told me it is not a heroine kind of a film, don’t do it. But I was sure I would do it and I am happy with the response,” she said.

Recalling her journey as an actress in the Hindi film industry, she said: “For me, acting happened by chance. I was 17 years old when I became Miss World. I was reading a leading film magazine and I happened to read the interview of Amitabh Bachchan where he said how many scenes one does in a film is not important. What is important is that people should remember you when they come out of the theatre after watching the film.

“In commercial Indian cinema, female actors don’t have parts to prove. But I feel fortunate that whatever roles I have done till now, be it big or small, all have done well for me,” she added.—PTI
Liverpool's Suarez named English PFA player of the year

Liverpool striker Luis Suarez

LONDON, 28 April — Controversial Liverpool striker Luis Suarez was named the English Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) player of the year on Sunday.

The 27-year-old Uruguayan, who will lead his country at the World Cup in Brazil in June, has scored 30 goals and contributed 12 assists this season as Liverpool head the Premier League table with two matches remaining.

“The Premier League is full of really great players and so it is a great honour when these players recognise your work on the pitch,” Suarez said.

He claimed the honour ahead of team mates Steven Gerrard and Daniel Sturridge, as well as Chelsea midfielder Eden Hazard, Manchester City’s Yaya Toure and Adam Lallana of Premier League surprise packages Southampton.

The irrepressible Suarez, the first Liverpool player since Ian Rush in 1986-87 to score 30 league goals in a season, has helped the likes of fellow striker Sturridge to flourish.

His personal haul has arrived despite missing the first five league games of the season as he served the remainder of a 10-match ban for biting Chelsea’s Branislav Ivanovic last April.

That incident occurred just before Tottenham Hotspur forward Gareth Bale claimed last season’s award and the announcement of Suarez in the Premier League’s Player of the Year award for the 2013-14 season.

“When you are playing for Liverpool you know how difficult it is,” Suarez said.

His 27 league goals have helped the Reds to the title race, with just five games left in the season.

Three killed in execution-style murder in Houston apartment

HOUSTON, 28 April — Three people were killed in an apparent execution-style murder at an apartment complex in the US city of Houston on Sunday, local media reported.

Police rushed to the scene in northwest Houston after receiving calls Sunday night and found two Hispanic women and a man shot to death, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Preliminary investigation found as many as three suspects, possibly wearing masks, burst through the door of the apartment around 6:15 pm CST on Sunday. The victims had been shot multiple times with more than one weapon, police said.

Houston police called the triple murder an execution-style shooting because all the victims were shot at close range. The gunman remained at large and the police is carrying out a manhunt.—Kyodo News

15 killed in attacks in Iraq’s Anbar Province

RAMADI (Iraq), 28 April — A total of 15 people were killed and 26 others wounded in separate attacks across the Iraqi western province of Anbar on Sunday, security and medical sources said.

An explosive-laden car was blown up by a suicide bomber outside a base of police commando force in the western of provincial capital city of Ramadi, some 110 km west of Baghdad, killing five policemen and wounding two others, a provincial police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Another suicide attack occurred in the western part of Ramadi when an explosive-packed car rammed into an army checkpoint, killing two soldiers and wounding five others, the source said.

Separately, gunmen blew up a bridge while a police patrol was passing on in the southern part of Anbar Province, killing a policeman and wounding three others, along with destroying the bridge, the source added. Also in the province, three civilians were killed and 12 others wounded by mortar barrage in the morning on several neighbourhoods in the besieged city of Fallujah, some 50 km west of Baghdad, a medical source told Xinhua.—Xinhua


“Yosakoi” dance festival held in New York

New York, 28 April — New Yorkers joined Japan’s traditional “yosakoi” dance festival held in Manhattan on Sunday.

Groups of dancers not only from Japan but also from the United States performed the dance which originated in Kochi Prefecture, western Japan, with colourful costumes and instruments.

“It is very hard to do,” said Tracy Craig, 47, who tried yosakoi dance with her 11-year-old daughter Zoe. “It’s a beautiful dance.”

The festival was the second of its kind in New York following one last year.

“We want to continue doing this in the years to come,” said Chisato Sentani, 51, head of the festival’s organizing committee, which has held a yosakoi festival in Tokyo annually.

“I was happy to be able to dance with them (local citizens) in New York, the center of the world,” said Yasunori Takebuchi, 42, who heads a yosakoi team from Tochigi Prefecture, eastern Japan.—Kyodo News
**Myanmar youths sweep four more gold in Youth Athletics Championships**

**NAY PYI TAW, 28 April** — The IX SEA Youth Athletics Championships continued at Wunna Theikdi Stadium, here, on Monday morning.

Ye Hein Htet (134) of Myanmar and Ma Thi Thi Aung (089) grasped one gold medal each in men’s and women’s 3000-m race events. In the final of men’s 3000-m race, Thiha Zaw (154) stood first while Ma Soe Sanda Win (165) grasped one gold in the women’s 3000-m race final.

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**Chelsea derail Liverpool title bid, Man City pounce**

**London, 28 April** — With a first title in 24 years close enough to touch Liverpool were undone by old nemesis Jose Mourinho whose Chelsea side inflicted a potentially mortal blow with a 2-0 win at Anfield on Sunday. Chelsea’s victory might have come too late for Mourinho’s side to win the Premier League title, but it flung the door wide open for Manchester City who took full advantage with a 2-0 win at Crystal Palace.

At the bottom, Sunderland demolished Cardiff City 4-0 to leave the Welsh club propping up the table and lift themselves out of the bottom three at the expense of Norwich City.

In the latest twist of a fascinating Premier League season, under-strength Chelsea cut the gap at the top to two points with two games remaining, although City are only three points behind with a game in hand and healthier goal difference. Should Liverpool and City both win their remaining games, City would almost certainly grab the title on goal difference just as they did two seasons ago, although if both drop points Chelsea could sneak through on the rails.

Victory on Sunday was Mourinho’s seventh win in nine Premier League matches against Liverpool and completed the double over Brendan Rodgers’s side this season - ending their 11-game winning streak that has propelled them towards the title.

Dembé Ba, capitalising on a calamitous slip by captain Steven Gerrard, and Willian did the damage for a weakened Chelsea side but despite Mourinho’s tactical triumph he immediately ruled his team out of contention for the title.

“We are Champions League for sure,” Mourinho shrugged.

“We need one point to finish third… the champions, whether it is Liverpool or Man City we can say we won both matches against them. Forget the title, forget it.”

City’s supporters at Selhurst Park cheered news of Liverpool’s defeat and had further cause for celebration as Yaya Toure, returning from injury, made the first goal for Eden Dzeko with a perfect cross.

Toure scored the second, his 19th in the league this season, before halftime after a fine run from the halfway line. While City are now masters of their own destiny coach Manuel Pellegrini was refusing to get carried away.

“The only thing that is different is that we are not depending on other teams and what matters is only what we do between now and the end of the season,” the cautious City coach told the club’s website.

“I was obviously very happy with Chelsea’s win, but this is far from the end of the title race because all three teams have very hard games still to play.”

Chelsea have beaten both City and Liverpool home and away and despite missing five leading players through injury and suspension, Mourinho rested others ahead of Wednesday’s Champions League semi-final, second leg against Atlético Madrid.

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**Taiwan’s Yao cruises to 1st win in Japan**

**KAWANA, (Japan), 28 April** — Joint overnight leader Phoebe Yao of Taiwan pulled away in the final round with a 68 to post a commanding win for her first title in Japan at the Fijian Ladies Classic on Sunday.

The 21-year-old Yao, who again the day tied at the top with Shiho Oyama and South Korea’s Esther Lee, knocked down four birdies in a flawless round at Kawana Hotel Golf Club in Shizuoka Prefecture to secure the first prize with 5.85 point in the women’s long-jump event.

Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan, Deputy Minister U Thaung Htaik and officials presented awards to the winners.

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**Phoebe Yao of Taiwan**

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**Reuters**

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**Kyodo News**