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Sunday, 10 May, 2009

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Government working hard from sunup to sundown every day for development of the whole nation

Prime Minister meets departmental officials, social organization members, townselders in Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 9 May—Prime Minister General Thein Sein held a meeting with departmental officials at the state, district and township levels, members of social organizations and townselders of Kachin State at the city hall of Myitkyina yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen Soe Win, ministers, the Auditor-General, deputy ministers, heads of department, service personnel, members of social organizations and townselders.

The commander reported on facts about Kachin State, harvesting of monsoon and summer paddy, cultivation of oil crops, per capita income of local people, ongoing projects in the region, and work progress in the



Prime Minister General Thein Sein cordially converses with medical superintendent, doctors and nurses at the Myitkyina People's Hospital.—MNA

education, health and social sectors.

Minister for

Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported on

regional development tasks, communication systems and services in Kachin State; Minister for Science and Technology U Thauang, on the plans being undertaken by the ministry, nurturing of the youth into intellectuals and intelligentsia and scientists, and technological universities, universities for computer

studies, government technical institutes and government technical high schools across the nation; Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, on programmes to upgrade Putao-Myitkyina Road into an all-weather one, the process of laying gravel on the earthen road, measures for tarring the facility, and condition of

Myitkyina-Mogaung-Shwebo Road under repair; Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, on functions of the ministry, extension of the runway of Myitkyina Airport, ongoing tasks to upgrade the airport and the runway, and flight schedules of the Myanma Airways in Kachin State. (See page 8)

After assuming State duties, the Tatmadaw government managed to regain national reconsolidation, so peace, stability and the rule of law could be restored even in border areas.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 10 May, 2009

Maintain infrastructural buildings for their durability

The inauguration of Warazwut Bridge No (2) on Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road Section in Phakant Township, Kachin State, took place at the pavilion near the road the other day, which was graced by the presence of Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Such a fine transport facility is, indeed, the result of the hard work the government and the people are exerting in concert to ensure better transport, one of the five rural development work programmes the government is undertaking.

In the past, railway and airway were the major transport means for Kachin State because the roads in the region were not in good condition. In consequence, local people faced poor transport and lack of security along Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai Road for many years.

In contrast, now peace and stability have been restored in the whole Kachin State, and mutual understanding, trust and cooperation have been established among national brethren. So, regional development tasks are gathering momentum now.

Putting Our Three Main National Causes in the fore, the government keeps in touch with and improves the economic, health, education and transport sectors with the aim of ensuring equitable development of all parts of the Union.

Up to 1988, the nation had only two river-crossing bridges: Sagaing Bridge over the Ayeyawady River and Sittoung Bridge over the Sittoung River. In its time, the Tatmadaw government has constructed eight bridges over the Ayeyawady River; two, over the Chindwin River; five, over the Thanlwin River; and one, over the Sittoung River.

Warazwut Bridge No (2) is the latest one among the 225 above-180-foot-long bridges the government has constructed throughout the nation so far.

Therefore, local people are to help maintain the infrastructural buildings for development for their durability as well as work together with a sense of Union Spirit in the drive for transforming the nation into a discipline-flourishing democratic one in line with the State's seven-step Road Map.

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects conservation of Hlawga Forest Reserve, Hlawga Wildlife Park



Lt-Gen Myint Swe visits Hlawga forest reserve and wildlife park.—MNA

YANGON, 9 May — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected conservation measures for Hlawga forest reserve and the protected forests in Hlawga Wildlife Park and conservation of the natural environment and wildlife this afternoon and left necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and departmental officials, arrived at the briefing hall of

Hlawga Wildlife Park by the side of Htaukkyant-Hlawga road in Mingladon Township Yangon (North) District. The director of Division Forest Department reported on facts about Hlawga forest reserve.

The manager of Hlawga Wildlife Park reported on conservation of wildlife. Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave instructions on possibility of more tourist arrivals by upgrading the park without harming the natural environment.

Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party inspected conservation of the natural environment and forests and wildlife in the park and left necessary instructions.

MNA

International cultural show held

YANGON, 9 May — Under the aegis of Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association, an international cultural show was held at the National Theatre on Myomakyaung Street in Dagon Township here this afternoon.

Among the audience were members of the panel of patrons of the association Daw Myint Myint Soe, wife of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Dr Daw Khin Mya Win, wife the Deputy Minister, CEC members, wives of departmental heads under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, wives of the ambassadors of ASEAN nations, wives of heads of foreign embassies and guests.

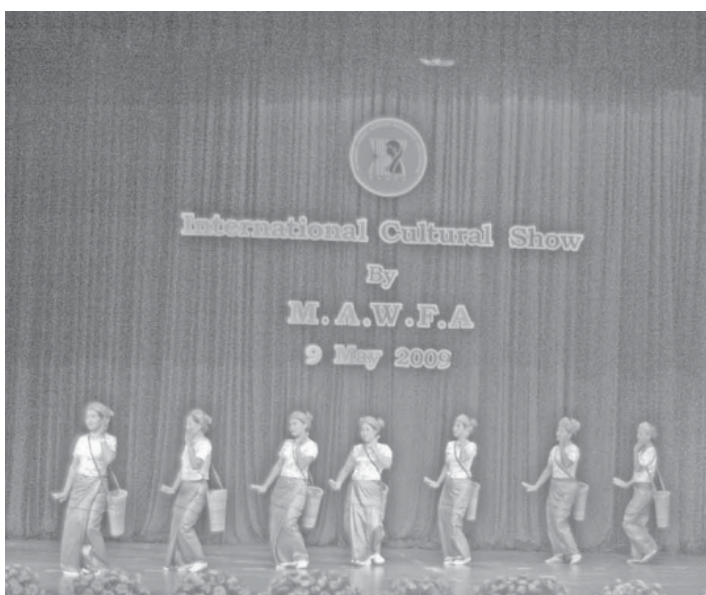
Vice-Chairperson of Myanmar ASEAN

Women's Friendship Association Madam Hisayo Chua, wife of the ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Myanmar delivered a speech. Next, ASEAN nations and Myanmar performed their respective cultural dances.

After the performances, Patron of the friendship association Daw Myint Myint Soe presented bouquets to the performers.

The embassies of ASEAN nations, the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Russian Federation, Republic of Korea and Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Fine Arts Department participated in the international cultural show.

MNA



Daw Myint Myint Soe, wife of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and party, wives of the ambassadors of ASEAN nations, wives of heads of foreign embassies and guests enjoy international cultural show.

MNA



A merchant looks at sacks of vegetables some strewn on the ground covered in dust and debris following a car bomb that detonated at a wholesale produce market, near Dura in southern Baghdad. Two bomb blasts ripped through busy areas of Baghdad on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Karzai says civilian deaths in US operation unacceptable

WASHINGTON, 9 May—Visiting Afghan President Hamid Karzai said here on Friday that the killing of Afghan civilians by US-led military operation against the Taliban forces is “not acceptable.”

“We believe strongly that airstrikes are not an effective way of fighting terrorism, that airstrikes rather cause civilian casualties and do not do good for the US, do not do good for Afghanistan,” Karzai told CNN.

“Airstrikes (against civilians) are not acceptable,” Karzai said.

It was reported that during a military operation, with NATO’s air support, against Taliban militants on Monday, some 140 people including Taliban and civilians were killed in the international troops’ airstrikes in the western Afghan province of Farah.—*Internet*

Hamas official denies ceasefire with Israel to be reached soon

GAZA, 9 May—A high ranking official in the Palestinian Islamic Hamas movement on Friday denied that a truce agreement will be reached soon between Israel and Palestinian militant groups in Gaza.

Ayman Taha, a Hamas official, clarified that his movement has not yet reached any agreement regarding the truce.

Taha told *Xinhua* that the Egyptian mediators are making efforts to bring about a ceasefire between the two sides, but any agreement has to be

under certain conditions.

Israel must comply with all the agreements and commit to any ceasefire agreement, he said.

Taha also accused Israel of thwarting the Egyptian efforts on reaching a period of calm by continuing the siege and aggression against Gaza.

Internet

People gather around a market-place to check the damage after a car bomb explosion in Baghdad, Iraq, on 6 May, 2009.
INTERNET



Afghan troops kill four Taliban militants, capture three others

KABUL, 9 May—Afghan security forces killed four Taliban militants as they came under attack and returned fire in the

northern Kunduz Province, provincial police chief Mohammad Razaq Yaqubi said Friday.

“The militants raided

police checkpoints in Chardara district Thursday night and police encountered killing four rebels and injured three others while three more were arrested,” Yaqubi told *Xinhua*.

However, Taliban purported spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid in talks with media from undisclosed hideout claimed that a police van was destroyed and all people onboard were killed.

The relatively peaceful Kunduz has seen increasing Taliban activities over the past couple of months.

Internet



A man injured in a car bomb blast gets treatment at a hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, on 6 May, 2009.

INTERNET

Local official says drone crashes in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 9 May — A pilotless reconnaissance plane crashed in Ghazni Province of southern Afghanistan Friday night, provincial police chief said on Saturday.

“The drone crashed in Qara Bagh district Friday evening with no loss of live,” Khial Baz Shirza told *Xinhua*. He put technical problems on the incident.

However, Taliban purported spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed the responsibility added that his men shot down a helicopter of foreign troops and all soldiers aboard were killed.

Taliban militants, whose regime was toppled in US -led Coalition invasion in late 2001, have vowed to intensify their attacks against Afghan and

international troops stationed in Afghanistan.

There are around 70,000 international troops stationed in Afghanistan while US President Barack Obama has ordered over 20,000 strong combat forces and advisors in the coming months to join 36,000 US troops already fighting Taliban militants in the war-torn country.

Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,285

WASHINGTON, 9 May —As of Friday, 8 May, 2009, at least 4,285 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,440 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—*Internet*

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 610

WASHINGTON, 9 May—As of Friday, 8 May, 2009, at least 610 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Friday at 10 am EDT.

Of those, the military reports 450 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 67 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.

There were also four CIA officer deaths and one military civilian death.

Internet



A pump room at the suspended reactor of the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear plant, in Kashiwazaki, about 225 kilometres northwest of Tokyo, after a small fire was extinguished at the plant.—INTERNET

Japan nuke plant restarts two years after quake

TOKYO, 9 May—The world's largest nuclear power plant resumed part of its operations on Saturday, two years after it was shut down following a strong earthquake off the Japanese coast, the operator said.

One of seven reactors at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant, located 300 kilometres (185 miles) northwest of Tokyo, started test operations, said operator Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO).

The company earlier said it would shift to full power generation at the reactor after up to 50 days of test runs.

"But it is still uncertain when we can resume operations at the remaining six reactors," Akemi Otsuki, a TEPCO spokeswoman, told *AFP*.

TEPCO decided on the move after the municipal governments gave the formal go-ahead, company officials said.—*Internet*

Lebanon arrests five suspected of spying for Israel

BEIRUT, 9 May—Authorities arrested five people in southern Lebanon on Friday for allegedly spying for Israel as part of the two countries' long-running espionage battle, security officials said.

At least seven others accused of spying have been arrested in recent weeks in what appears to be part of a stepped-up campaign against those suspected of gathering information on Hezbollah militants for Israel. The Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrilla group fought a 34-day war with the Jewish state in 2006 that killed 1,200 people in Lebanon and 159 in Israel.—*Internet*

More than 30,000 ordered to flee Calif wildfire

SANTA BARBARA, 9 May—Turning the horizon a lurid orange and raining embers on roofs as it advanced, a raging wildfire that has destroyed scores of homes in the hills menaced this celebrity enclave and other coastal towns Friday, and the number of people ordered to flee climbed to more than 30,000.

Authorities warned an additional 23,000 to be ready to leave at a moment's notice, despite improving weather conditions.

"There will be a point in the incident when I will have cautious optimism but I'm not there yet," said Joe Waterman, the overall fire commander from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Columns of smoke rose off the Santa Ynez Mountains as the 4-day-old blaze grew to 8,600 acres, creating a firefighting front five miles long.—*Internet*

A DC-10 aerial tanker makes a retardant drop on an unburned area as efforts to fight the Jesusita fire continue in the mountains above Santa Barbara, Calif, on 8 May, 2009.
INTERNET



Medvedev warns Russia will defend interests

Moscow, 9 May—President Dmitry Medvedev warned against "military adventurism" on Saturday, saying Russia would firmly defend its interests — just as it did during World War Two when the Soviet Union defeated fascism.

Medvedev, opening the biggest and most spectacular Victory Day parade in modern Russia's history, clearly aimed his warning at post-Soviet

neighbour Georgia which Russia defeated in a five-day war last August.

"Our victory over fascism is a great example and a great lesson to all nations, the lesson which is still topical today, when again and again there appear the ones indulging in military adventurism,"

Medvedev said.

Russia says it had to defend its peacekeepers and civilian citizens in Georgia's rebel South Ossetia when Tbilisi tried to retake the region by force. Russia's ties with NATO plunged to a post-Cold War low after the conflict.—*Internet*

Obama says jobless number sobering but sees progress

WASHINGTON, 9 May—US President Barack Obama said Friday that latest job loss data was "sobering," but he noted that there have been "some-what encouraging" improvements in the economy.

"While it's somewhat encouraging that this number is lower than it's been in each of the past six months, it is still a sobering toll," said Obama after the government reported that the jobless rate climbed to 8.9 percent in April, the highest since late 1983.

"It underscores the point that we're still in the midst of a recession that was years in the making and will be months or even years in the unmaking, and we should expect further job losses in the months to come," said Obama at the White House.—*Internet*



US President Barack Obama listens as Maureen Pike tells her job training story at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington, on 8 May, 2009.—INTERNET

Obama wants Fed to be finance supercop

WASHINGTON, 9 May—The Federal Reserve could become the supercop for "too big to fail" companies capable of causing another financial meltdown under a proposal being seriously considered by the White House.

The Obama administration told industry officials on Friday that it was leaning toward making such a recommendation, according to officials who attended a private one-hour meeting between President Barack Obama's economic advisers and representatives from about a dozen banks, hedge funds and other financial groups.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and other officials made it clear they were not inclined to divide the job among various regulators as has been suggested by industry and some federal regulators. Geithner told the group that one organization needs to be held responsible for monitoring systemwide risk.—*Internet*



Samsung launches LED manufacturing base in N China

TIANJIN, 9 May— Samsung LED, a light-emitting diodes (LED) company of the global electronics giant Samsung, has set up its first overseas manufacturing base in north China's port city Tianjin.

The base, Tianjin Samsung LED Co, Ltd, was established with a starting capital of 30 million US dollars, according to the Tianjin Economic-Technological Development Area (Teda) Administrative Commission.

Commission spokes-

man Zhang Liang said Saturday initial investment to the Tianjin manufacturing base would reach 90 million US dollars.

He said the company had just finished registry with the local government in Teda, but it was not clear when the base would be constructed and begin production.

The base would be dedicated to the making of LEDs, a new generation of lighting source that excels traditional light sources, as it is less en-

ergy-consuming and long-lived, and improves image contrast and display.

LEDs are used in a wide range of products such as LCDs, mobile telecommunications devices and lighting equipment.

Samsung has so far invested in 11 manufacturing companies in Teda, with an overall investment of 1.6 billion US dollars. Tianjin takes about one third of the group's investment portfolio in China.

Xinhua



Workers sit on a bench next to the sculpture "Archaicature" by Richard Varano of the US during the international sand sculpture contest in Moscow on 7 May, 2009.—XINHUA



All items from Xinhua News Agency

Kids draw pictures of their mothers, at Yixiu kindergarten in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 8 May, 2009, to celebrate the Mother's Day, which falls on 10 May this year. —XINHUA

A humanoid robot named "Saya" (C) speaks to school pupils as she takes on a role as a school teacher, during a demonstration at an elementary school in Tokyo on 7 May, 2009. The robot, developed by the Tokyo University of Science professor Hiroshi Kobayashi, which can speak different languages, make facial expressions like happiness, surprise, sadness, fear, anger or disgust with motors inside her face. XINHUA

Study finds job losses lead to health problems

LOS ANGELES, 9 May— In addition to causing financial hardships, job losses can also lead to health problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, heart attack and stroke, a new study has found.

In the study, researchers at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation analyzed US data on a wide range of occupations: managerial and professional positions; sales, clerical and craft jobs; machine operator jobs; and service positions.

Among white or blue collar workers who lost a

job through workplace closure, the likelihood of reporting fair or poor health increased by 54 percent, according to the study published in the 8 May issue of Demography.

The odds of developing a new health condition rose by 83 percent among those who had no preexisting health problems, the study said.

Even when these workers found new jobs, they still had an increased risk of new stress-related health problems, according to the study.

Xinhua

EU to enhance cooperation on energy with Central Asia, Middle East

PRAGUE, 9 May— The European Union and four countries from Central Asia and the Middle East signed a declaration here Friday to cooperate more closely in seeking alternative energy supplies and transportation routes in order to reduce the EU's dependency on Russia.

After meeting with EU officials, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Georgia and Turkey signed a joint declaration on the "Southern Corridor" that involves countries from Central Asia, Southern Caucasus, Mashreq and the Middle East.

The parties are trying to establish direct connections between both sides of the Caspian Sea as a key element of energy cooperation and support linking

the Southern Corridor with the EU through strategic infrastructure projects necessary for carrying natural gas by pipelines or ships, the declaration said.

Representatives from Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan present at the meeting did not sign

the document.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso called the initiative a key priority project for the EU to enhance its energy security by diversifying its energy resources and routes.

Xinhua



China's CSR, Japan's KHI Group win contract for Singapore subway train production

BEIJING, 9 May—China South Locomotive and Rolling Stock Corporation Limited (CSR) said here Friday one of its subsidiaries had obtained contract to supply for subway vehicles in Singapore.

CSR Sifang Locomotive & Rolling Stock Co, Ltd and Japan's Kawasaki Heavy Industries (KHI) Group together got the contract, which is worth 368 million Singapore dollars (252.3 million US dollars), from the Land Transport Authority (LTA), a board under Singapore's Ministry of Transport.

The contracted subway vehicles would be delivered in batches between 2011 and 2012 and put to use in the existing north-south and east-west subway lines in Singapore, according to the agreement.—Xinhua

Fidel Castro defends Cuba's state-controlled Press

HAVANA, 9 May — Fidel Castro defended Cuba's government-controlled Press on Friday, arguing that news coverage is manipulated by those wealthy enough to finance newsgathering even in countries guaranteeing Press freedom.

In a column posted on a state Web site, the 82-year-old ex-president wrote that "today, only through gigantic investments can you provide centers that produce the news for the whole planet."

"And only those who manage them decide what gets reported and how it gets reported," he said.

In Cuba, all television, radio, newspapers, magazines and publishing

houses are state-owned, and severe limits on private ownership and enterprise ban competing with official propaganda.

The Internet is also strictly controlled, and while a small number of Cuban bloggers with illegal Web access express their opinions openly, most do not enjoy as wide followings on the island as legions of official bloggers who repeat the government's line. Some military and government officials are allowed Internet access and Castro has become an official blogger of sorts recently, almost every day posting online a column that is subsequently read on state radio and television and published in official newspapers.—*Internet*

Chavez slams Obama for Afghan attack

CARACAS, 9 May — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Friday slammed US President Barack Obama for air strikes in Afghanistan that killed scores of civilians, criticism that came weeks after the leaders shook hands in a sign of warming ties.

Afghan officials said 147 civilians died as a result of attacks by US warships on Taliban militants this week. Chavez, a socialist, has

welcomed Obama's efforts to improve ties after a decade-long war of words between Caracas and Washington, but he accuses the new US leader of maintaining an "imperialist" foreign policy.

"President Obama, let's see if it's true, take apart the forces of imperialism and end the abuse of innocent peoples of the world," Chavez said during a televised speech.

Chavez and Obama

met at a summit of Western Hemisphere leaders in Trinidad last month, shaking hands in a highly publicized encounter. The move drew praise for Obama from Latin American leaders but harsh condemnation from US conservatives. Venezuela and the United States have had a tense relationship for years, even though Venezuela accounts for more than 10 percent of US oil imports.

MNA/Reuters



Top Russian officials and World War II veterans watch the annual Victory Day parade in Moscow's Red Square, Russia, on 9 May, 2009. Heavy weaponry including tanks and missiles rolled through Red Square in the annual Victory Day parade.—INTERNET

Louisiana has US's highest gun-related death rate

HOUSTON, 9 May — The state of Louisiana has the highest rate of gun-related deaths in the United States, while the island state of Hawaii has the lowest rate, according to the results of a study released on Friday.

In Louisiana, 45.6 percent of households are gun-owners, leading to a gun-related death rate of 19.58 per 100,000, the highest in the nation.

But in Hawaii, only 9.7 percent of households own at least a gun, keeping the gun-related death rate there at 2.58 per 100,000 residents, the lowest among

the 50 states.

The study, conducted by the Violence Policy Center, was based on just-released 2006 national data from the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Following Louisiana, other four states with the highest per-capita gun death rates were Alabama, Alaska, Mississippi and Nevada.

Each of these states had a per-capita gun death rate far exceeding the national per-capita gun death rate of 10.32 per 100,000 for 2006. —*Internet*

Car thieves beware: Leopard in boot!

The owner of a rare species of leopard said his car was stolen on Tuesday in Saint Petersburg and the thieves were in for a surprise. There is a baby leopard in the boot.

"My driver and I were in the process of settling the leopard in the trunk of my Mercedes... when three masked assailants attacked us. They managed to get away with the car," Mikhail Barakin told AFP.

Barakin is offering a reward of 70,000 euros (90,940 dollars) for the return of his exotic pet, an Asian Leopard Cat, worth more to him than the Mercedes SUV.

"I am worried about the leopard. I don't need the Mercedes. If someone returns the animal, I won't press charges," he said.

Barakin, who heads a private television station in Saint Petersburg, said the rare breed of Asian Leopard Cat was a gift from a Moscow businessman he had dealings with. He could



The owner of an Asian Leopard Car, as seen here, said his car was stolen on Tuesday in Saint Petersburg and the thieves were in for a surprise as the exotic cat was in the boot.

not say where the animal had been procured. The leopard is worth about 270,000 euros (350,760 dollars) by Barakin's estimates.

The Asian Leopard Cat, which is no bigger than an average house cat, is native to Russia's southern border with China and across Southeast Asia, but only a few thousand of the rare species remain. It is not an endangered animal.

Russia developing anti-satellite weapons

The Russian military are developing anti-satellite weapons, according to deputy defence minister, Vladimir Popovkin.

The general said it was necessary, as other nations, namely the US and China, were doing the same.

"We can't sit and watch others do it. I can only say similar works are done in

Russia too," he told the Interfax news agency.

He added Russia needed the capability to shoot down satellites in case "somebody put weapons into space."

Previously Russia had been calling for weapons in space to be banned, as well as weapons that could be used against spacecraft and satellites.

Thief steals two wheels from California AG's car

Even California's top law enforcement official isn't immune to petty crime.

Attorney General Jerry Brown's office said Thursday that a thief made off last week with the two passenger-side wheels from his state-owned Toyota Camry hybrid as it was parked outside his Oakland home.

Brown wrote about the crime on

his Facebook page, saying "even though I am California's 'top cop,' 2 of my tires were stolen. No matter. I got 2 new ones and I'm rolling again!"

Oakland Police Sgt. Rich Vierra says no arrests

have been made. Police don't know if the culprit knew the car was used by the attorney general.

Brown is a former two-term governor of California and a former mayor of Oakland.

An undated photo shows a wild giant salamander, which is 110 centimeters in length and 13.5 kg in weight. It was found recently in Gaoba Village of the Longtan Township in Quxian County, southwest of China's Sichuan Province.

NEWS ALBUM



A spectator wears a spires hat in the paddock before the 135th Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky.





Naingngan Gonye magazine to continue to try to be a successful publication with bright future being able to stand on its own feet

10th anniversary of Naingngan Gonye magazine marked

YANGON, 9 May —Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addressed the 10th anniversary of Naingngan Gonye magazine of the Ministry of Information celebrated at the assembly hall of the central press of Printing and Publishing Enterprise on Theinbyu Road in Botahtaung Township here at noon today.

Present on the occasion were departmental heads of the ministry, Chairman of Myanmar Writers and

Journalists Association U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) and CEC members, the chief editor of Naingngan Gonye magazine and members of editing board, literati and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said that Naingngan Gonye magazine is to continue to try to be a successful magazine with a bright future being able to stand on its own feet; that it needs to promote itself in both form and

content; and it is to feature various subjects to match the name of the magazine Naingngan Gonye.

Next, the chairman of MWJA made a speech and Chief Editor U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) explained facts about the magazine. U Ohn Maung presented K 300,000 for staff welfare funds of Printing and Publishing Enterprise to General Manager U Ye Tint and K 200,000 for the funds of MWJA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gives away gift of honour to writer Myint Thein Aung.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts cash donation from wellwishers.—MNA

Naingngan Gonye magazine is to feature various subjects to match its name.

(Central) to Vice-Chairman U Than Maung (Than Maung).

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received K 3 million for Rural Libraries Development Foundation presented by Chairman U Maung Maung and Vice-

Chairman U Maung Maung Soe of Myanmar Publishers Association.

Next, the minister presented gifts to writers of the magazine Hsinphyukyun Aung Thein, Myint Thein Aung, Salin Phone Kyaw, Zaw Min Min Oo, Zaw

Myo Han (Ngathaingchaung), Myo Khaing (Muse), Naing Myo Thitsa (Namatu), Kyu Kyu Thin and Ma Lay Po. On behalf of the writers, Zaw Myo Han (Ngathaingchaung) spoke words of thanks.

MNA



Passengers being screened at Mandalay International Airport (TadaU) for prevention against swine flu A/H1N1 on 9 May.—MNA



Passengers being screened at Yangon International Airport for prevention against swine flu A/H1N1 on 9 May.—MNA



Government working hard from sunup to sundown...

(from page 1)

The Prime Minister said that ministers and deputy ministers come along with him to fulfil the requirements for development of Kachin State in compliance with the guidance given by the Head of State.

and national race youths for human resource development that can contribute towards development of Putao. The courses include basic engineering course and vocational training course for women.

In addition,

State lacked security due to the fact that national races became to engage in armed conflicts against each other following suspicions among them stemming from the divide-and-rule policy of the colonialists.

After assuming State duties, the Tatmadaw government managed to regain national reconsolidation, so peace,

Kachin State means that of the nation, and the state will develop only if rural areas develop. So, rural development tasks are to be carried out effectively.

Sharing the border with the People's Republic of China in the northeast and with the Republic of India in the northwest, Kachin State occupies a strategic location in the areas of security, bilateral relations and trade.

Kachin State is rich in natural resources, so it needs development of human resources capable of effectively harnessing the natural resources for regional and national development.

The government is improving the education sector for human resource development. In response, those responsible and social organizations have to make combined efforts to ensure that all school-age children go to school and complete their education. Only then will it be possible for human resource development.

It is required to sharpen the skills of educated people and help them keep themselves fit. The government is working hard to improve the health of the people. In that regard, medical staff have to give health

to sundown every day for development of the whole nation. In the meantime, it is trying to materialize the State's seven-step Road Map for democratic transition. Now, the State constitution, the fourth step, has been approved by the great majority of the voters.

As a national duty, all are to participate in the task for successful completion of the elections due to be held in 2010 in accordance with the constitution.

Kachin State is a part of the Union. So, it is required of every local wherever they live in the state to cultivate a sense of

The Prime Minister presented clothes to Myitkyina District PDC Chairman U Sein Oak.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye, the commander and the ministers presented TV set, and publications to local people, uniforms, medicines, exercise books, textbooks and sport equipment to social organizations.

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw demonstrated bio-batteries to provide light and the methods to make a bio-battery, and instructed officials concerned to ensure extensive use of bio-batteries in rural areas.

The Prime



Prime Minister General Thein Sein donates robe and provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA

In the trip, they have made inspection tour of the four districts of Kachin State. Putao District is located in the northernmost part of the nation and is difficult of access. The government is implementing projects for equitable development of all regions of the nation, and it is taking measures for Putao District to catch up with other districts in terms of development.

The Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs has launched many courses for progress of border areas

Government Technical High School and Government Technical Institute have been opened for enabling such students who want to acquire knowledge and education and job training skills simultaneously to enjoy greater opportunities to learn respective technical subjects.

Long ago, Kachin

stability and the rule of law could be restored even in border areas.

With stability and peace, the government could expedite the tasks for progress of border areas. So, the people have to maintain security, stability, and the rule of law generation by generation.

Development of

As a national duty, all are to participate in the task for successful completion of the elections due to be held in 2010 in accordance with the constitution.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein greets departmental officials and townselders of Myitkyina.—MNA

education and disease prevention methods to local people at rural areas to help achieve the national health goal.

The government is working hard from sunup

Union Spirit without sticking to racism, localism and dogmatism. He pointed out that with the concept that Union Spirit is exactly patriotic spirit that all national people have to preserve for ever, the people are to do their bit hand in hand with the government in the drive for transforming the Union of Myanmar into a modern, developed nation.

Minister and entourage members proceeded by car to Myitkyina People's Hospital where they were welcomed by Head of Kachin State Department of Health Dr Aye Nyein, Medical Superintendent U Khin Tin, doctors and nurses.

The Prime Minister gave instructions to the doctors and nurses. (See page 9)

Kachin State is rich in natural resources, so it needs development of human resources capable of effectively harnessing the natural resources for regional and national development.



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets departmental officials, members of NGOs and local people.—MNA

Government working hard from sunup to sundown...

(from page 8)

He also visited Myitkyina Sasana Beikman building and received the Eight Precepts from State Ovadacariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abbot Bhaddanta Silavamsa of Wuntho Monastery.

He offered the monk robes, rice and edible oil, and his entourage members, rice,

edible oil and alms to the monks.

The abbot delivered a sermon, and the congregation shared merits gained.

They proceeded to the office of Kachin State Union Solidarity and Development Association in Myitkyina and attended the commemorative tree growing ceremony.

The Prime

Minister met townsellers and national entrepreneurs at the venue.

He touched upon facts that the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working together in nation-building tasks; significant development of all regions of the nation inclusive of border areas thanks to participation of social organizations including USDA; quick start of rescue and rehabilitation tasks after the nation was

hit by the cyclone "Nargis"; and successful approval of the new constitution. He urged the attendees to do their bit in implementing the national goal of building a peaceful, modern, developed nation, upholding Our Three Main National Causes, and to organize local people to have Union Spirit.

Next, the Prime Minister inspected the

project to extend the runway of Myitkyina Airport. Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe reported on the location and historical background of the airport, and tasks to upgrade the runway from a 6000' x 100' one to a 7000' x 100' one.

Director-General of the Civil Aviation Department U Tun Hlaing and Superintending

Engineer U Khin Maung Kyaw reported on work progress. The Prime Minister gave instructions on the tasks.

The commander and state level service personnel saw off the Prime Minister and party at Myitkyina Airport.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back here in the afternoon.

MNA

News and information on outbreak of swine flu A/H1N1 released in time

Ministry of Health: there has been no case of swine flu A/H1N1 in Myanmar up to date

NAY PYI TAW, 9 May—Swine flu A/H1N1 has broken out since 17 April. So far, 3440 people have been infected worldwide. A total of 48 people were killed. According to the news released today from World Health Organization, the disease has spread to 29 countries including Mexico.

The Ministry of Health has been taking preventive measures against the spread of the disease in Myanmar since 25 April as Swine flu A (H1N1) may be transformed into global human flu.

The Ministry of Health is undertaking preventive measures against the spread of the pandemic in Myanmar, monitoring the disease, making preparation for medical treatment, distributing medicines, medical and laboratory equipment to the hospitals and preparing quarantine patient wards.

With regard to the situations of outbreak of swine flu, the preventive measures and dissemination of health knowledge are being released to the people through TV, radio and dailies in time.

Passengers have been screened at airports, seaports and borders since 29 April.

Up to now, there has been no case of swine flu A /H1N1 in Myanmar, according to the Ministry of Health.

MNA

A/H1N1 virus in humans has spread to 29 countries The virus has not been found in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 9 May —A/H1N1 virus in humans has spread to 29 countries to date infecting 3440 people and killing 48. The flu has been detected in 13 people in South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia and New Zealand in Asia Pacific region.

On 7 May, FAO, WHO and OIE issued a joint warning as follows:

The flu virus in pigs has not been found to infect humans by consuming pork and pig products.

The virus cannot survive if pork and pig products are cooked at 70 degree centigrade or 160 degree Fahrenheit.

FAO, WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission and OIE remarked that there would be no infection of the virus if pork and pig products were handled and cooked in a systematically hygienic way.

Local authorities and the public are not to process, trade and consume infected pork and pigs that died from infection under no circumstances.

Now, state/division, district and township level branches of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries are working together with local authorities, development affairs committees, the Myanmar Livestock and Fisheries Federation and livestock breeding entrepreneurs in raising public awareness about the swine flu, distributing pamphlets, taking surveillance measures and raising bio safety.

In states and divisions, field surveillance and educative measures are being taken for prevention against consumption of pork and pig products imported from foreign countries and through border gates.

Up to date, A/H1N1 virus has not been found in pig farms in Myanmar, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries announced today.—MNA

Reviewing incidents occurring from 1948 to 1988, objective conditions of the nation from 1988 to date, people to sustain stability, peace and development of the nation

Information Minister meets local people of Hlinethaya Township

YANGON, 9 May—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan had a meeting with local people of Hlinethaya Township in Yangon North District at the gymnasium of the township this morning.

Local people of the wards and villages in the townships reported on progress of regional development tasks.

In response to the reports, the minister attended to the needs, saying that the government is trying to fulfil the people's three fundamental requirements: stability and peace; development; and the right to earn a living freely under the framework of the law; and that the people are now enjoying the fruits of development, stability and peace. He called for maintaining the already-achieved development momentum.

He stressed the needs of the people to sustain the stability, peace and development of the nation, reviewing the incidents that occurred from 1948 to 1988, and the objective conditions

of the nation from 1988 to date.

In response to the reports on measures to be taken for supply of water to Atwin Padan Village, the minister fulfilled the requirements for water supply through underground water tapping, and upgrading Khaing Shwe Wah Road in Kasin Village to a laterite one.

The minister presented K 700,000 for roofing Alin Thit library in Ward (11) in Hlinethaya Township with corrugated iron sheets; 500 dozens of exercise books to No. (8) Basic Education Primary School in Ward (20); school textbooks to needy students of the township for 2009-2010 academic year; and K 450,000 for sinking hand pumps in Ale Village through officials.

Present on the occasion were departmental heads under the ministry, local authorities, and local people from 20 wards and nine villages, totalling more than 2100.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan donates exercise books to No. 8 BEPS through an official.—MNA

Government is trying to fulfil the people's three fundamental requirements: stability and peace; development; and the right to earn a living freely under the framework of the law.



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan speaks in meeting with departmental officials, members of NGOs and townsmen of Hlinethaya Township.—MNA

MWEA meets

YANGON, 9 May— The 14th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association took place at the Sedona Hotel, here yesterday morning.

Chairperson of the association Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Khin Myint Myint (Outstanding Performance in Social Field-First Class) extended greetings.

Secretary Daw Hla Wady read out the report for 2008-2009 of the executive committee and sought the approval of the meeting. Next, Daw

Khin Htay Yu, financial advisor, submitted the financial account for 2008-2009.

After that, Founder and Advisor Professor Daw Yi Yi Myint (Retd) spoke on the occasion.

The chairperson and party presented cash to the elderly patrons and advisors of over 70. Vice-Chairperson Daw Nu Nu Yi spoke words of thanks.

Later, member entrepreneurs displayed and sold their products at the meeting.—MNA

MCPA: Geospatial Technology Certificate Course (2/09) on 2 June

YANGON, 9 May—To bring about development of Information and Communication Technology, Geospatial Technology Certificate Course (2/09) will be opened by Myanmar Computer Professionals Association and Myanmar Credent Technology at e-learning centre of Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township here, from 5.00 pm to 6.30

pm every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2 June to 6 August.

Only 20 trainees will be admitted to attend the course for further information and those interested may contact and enroll at MCPA office, Room-4, Building-4 of Myanmar Info-Tech of Hline Township and not later than 29 May (Tel: 652276).

MNA



Nawaday Bridge (Pyay) conducive to all-round development of local people

Article: Win Naing (Kyemon); Photos: Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)

(from page 16)

Then, we turned at the feeder road near the signboard and continued to drive to Mingyi Mountain where Nawaday Bridge is located through the uphill detour road. On arrival at the top of the mountain, we made ourselves refreshed, breathing the fresh air that passed through the river. We noticed the communication tower, TV retransmitting tower and grids that carry cables across the river.

The living standard of the people of a region can be measured according to the education, health and transport sectors of the region. With this concept, the government is now constructing roads and bridges throughout the

Ayeyawady River from 1988 onwards. Previously, a person wishing to go to Rakhine State from Pyay had to cross the Ayeyawady River by Z-craft first to reach



Assistant Engineer-1
U Soe Yee.

Padaung. Then, he had to use Padaung-Taungup Road. So, he had to spend a lot of time and brave many forms of difficulties in the trip. Now, thanks to Nawaday



We can use the bridge at any time, so it is very convenient for us to get across the river. (Ko Ko Aung of Migyaungye Ward (Hsinzu)).

nation. Now, the network of transport facilities covering the whole nation has well taken its shape.

Nawaday Bridge crossing the Ayeyawady River is crucial for linking the interior regions with Rakhine State. It is the first among the bridges that were constructed over the

Bridge, local people can travel to Taungup through Pyay-Okshitpin Road and to Rakhine State through main entrances: Minbu-An Road and Gwa-Ngathaingchaung Road. In addition, Pyay-Padaung-Taungup road and Pathein-Monywa Road cross each other at Okshitpin, from which people can proceed to



The approach road to Nawaday Bridge on Pyay side.

Ayeyawady Division in lower Myanmar and to Magway and Sagaing divisions and Chin State in upper Myanmar thanks to the bridge. Moreover, marine products of Rakhine and the products of the factories of Ayeyawady Division can be transported to any other region in the nation, and construction materials for ongoing Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad Project can be transported easily.

In an interview, Assistant Engineer-1 (Civil) U Soe Yee of Public Works (Pyay) said that Nawaday Bridge (Pyay) Project was launched in 1994 and completed in 1997; that the 4183 feet long bridge had a 28 feet wide motorway and two five feet wide walkways on it; that the lower structure of the bridge was reinforced concrete type and the upper structure, steel girders; it could withstand 60 tons of loads; that in the past people had to face many difficulties to go by Z-craft to Hsinde on the west

bank from Nwa-mayan on the east bank of the Ayeyawady River; that due to the bridge, marine products of Rakhine State such as crabs and prawns can be transported easily; that on average the bridge coped with over 400 vehicles a day; and that the bridge was indispensable for improving the education, health and social standard of local people.

In response to my question, the driver of a motorcycle en route on the bridge from Okshitpin said, "I am Ko Ko Aung from Hsinzu in Migyaungye Ward, Pyay Township. Now, I come from the Shwebontha Pagoda on the other bank of Pyay. In the past, we had to take a motorboat if we wanted to go there. Now it takes me only about two or three minutes to get across the river because I take my motorcycle to pass through the bridge. We can use the bridge at any time, so it is very convenient for us to get across the river."

The driver of the mo-

torcycle bound from Pyay said, "I am Ko Hla Tun Win. I am from Nyaungbintha Village in Padaung Township. It has been a long time since the bridge was constructed, and I use this bridge every day. So, I don't remember much of the conditions in the past. What I remember till now is that in my youth, we had to take a motorboat if we wanted to cross the river. Now, I fetch my kid from the pre-primary school in Pyay. I have a motorcycle, so I use this bridge at any time."

At that time, a thought struck my head that if there was no bridge there, any person on the other side would not have an idea to send his kids to a school on Pyay side. And only with the bridge would they be able to send their kids to a school of their choice. So, such children would have a promising future.

Surely, the bridge will continue to contribute towards all-round development of local people in the long term.

Translation: MS
Kyemon: 4-5-2009



Now, I fetch my kid from the pre-primary school in Pyay. I have a motorcycle, so I use this bridge at any time. (Ko Hla Tun Win, Nyaungbintha Village, Padaung Township)

CARE Public Tender Announcement

CARE is a non-profit, non-government organization (NGO) and has been operating since 1995 in Myanmar. Our aim is to improve the living standards of rural communities through health education, agriculture, emphasizing HIV prevention and nutritional support for children and pregnant mothers. We also provide micro-credit, and water and sanitation programs, as well as ensuring families have enough food for healthy and productive lives. CARE invites all interested and registered businesses to send their **sealed bids** to the CARE Logistics Office in Yangon. **All bids must be submitted by no later than 5pm on 15-May-09 including sample of the seeds.**

Specifications:

- Rice Paddy Seeds packed in 1.5 basket bags equivalent to 31.36 KG.
- Quantity: 17,340 bags
- Type: Bay Gyar (Paw San) Seeds should be the same variety as what farmers now use in the townships in which we are requesting delivery. Meaning, seeds should be of a variety that is specific to each township. Further enquires contact to:
CARE Yangon No.77, Pyi Htaung Su Yeik Thar Street, West Pyay Road Ward Dagon Township Phone +95-1-224647, 224507, 221708
- CARE Pyarpon No.3, 6th Street, Pyarpon Phone-045-40408
- CARE Dedaye No.3, Dedaye Bridge Road, Dedaye, Phone-09-8610110
- CARE Bogalay No.56, Kan Nar Road, Bogalay-Phone-045-45056

India's aids to Palestine make it a "true friend" of masses

RAMALLAH, 9 May—Appreciating India's "timely help" with US dollars one million worth humanitarian relief in the aftermath of Gaza war and ten million dollars in budgetary assistance, the Palestinian Authority has called New Delhi a "true friend" of the Palestinians.

India was among the first to contribute the humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency after Israel wreaked havoc on the civilians there during the December-January attacks.

"It (India) has proved itself a true friend and well wisher of the Palestinian masses by being among the first ones to provide the Palestinian Authority (PA) with budgetary support," Palestinian deputy Foreign Minister Ahmed Soboh said.

Speaking to PTI at a ceremony to lay the foundation stone of a multipurpose sports facility here being funded by IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa), Soboh said the facility will help "channelise Palestinian youngsters energy in constructive activities".

MNA/PTI

Petronet ties up 1.5-m-tons/year LNG import from Australia

NEW DELHI, 9 May—Petronet LNG Ltd, India's largest liquefied natural gas importer, has tied up 1.5 million tons of fuel imports from the Gorgon project in Australia. Petronet has concluded term sheets for all agreements for buying 1.5 million tonnes a year of LNG from Exxon Mobil Corp for 20 years, beginning 2014, company Managing Director and CEO Prosad Dasgupta told PTI here.

"The Gas Sales and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) will be signed before 30 June," he said. Petronet will import the LNG at its under-construction Kochi terminal in Kerala. Exxon has further said it can sell another 1.3 million tons of LNG to Petronet but the Indian buyer has not yet committed to additional volumes as it has not tied-up consumers for that.—MNA/PTI

Japan to provide stockpile of 500,000 courses of antivirals to ASEAN

BANGKOK, 9 May—Japan is going to provide a stockpile of 500,000 courses of antivirals and 750,000 personnel protective equipment for 750,000 people of the ASEAN country members, said Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General of the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Friday during the second day of the special meeting of health ministers from the ASEAN and China, Japan and South Korea.

The two-day special meeting, which was hosted in Thailand's capital Bangkok, had started from Thursday in order to brainstorm in finding precautionary measures to prevent the A/H1N1 flu outbreak in the region.

"Though we have shown our resolve that our health systems remain capable of containing the spread of the disease, this is not the time to be complacent. We can not afford to let our guards

down. A pandemic remains a formidable challenge to our region," said Surin.

Hence, the ASEAN Secretary-General said, the ASEAN region is committed to the realization of the ASEAN Charter towards building a caring and sharing community, through helping one another, ensuring peace and prosperity, and protecting the people of our region and of our neighbours.

MNA/Xinhua



Performers of local troupe wait to play "Shibuxian", a traditional opera can be traced back to Qing Dynasty, for villagers at Sancheng village, Zhuozhou city, central China's Hebei Province, on 8 May, 2009. "Shibuxian", originated in Zhuozhou in Qing Dynasty, got its name as it opera needs the performer to play several music instruments by using hands and feet consistently during his performance. —INTERNET

Philippine passenger bus crashes with truck, killing three

MANILA, 9 May—Three people were killed while 30 others were wounded as a passenger bus rammed into a truck on a highway south of the Philippine capital at dawn Saturday, police said.

Local police said the three fatalities were passengers of the Manila-bound PP Bus Lines, whose driver might have dozed off when it collided head-on with a six-wheel truck at Santo Tomas town of Batangas province. The injured were hospitalized.

The bus fell into the trench along the highway after the crash, police said. The authorities are investigating the accident.—MNA/Xinhua

Indian "Oscar" to be unveiled in Macao

MACAO, 9 May—As an effort to promote Indian movies globally, the 10th edition of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards and Indian movie festival will be held in Macao's largest casino resort The Venetian Macao next month, the IIFA announced here on Friday. The IIFA Awards is the biggest South Asian media event with a viewership of almost 600 million worldwide, the organizer said in a Press release.

Along with the ceremony of the Awards, the events will also comprise world premieres of Indian films, various film festival activities, FICCI IIFA Global Business Forum and IIFA Fashion Extravaganza during the event period of 11 to 13 June.

The nominees of the IIFA Awards have already been announced in India with six

Indian films being nominated for best picture this year, including A Wednesday that depicts the emotions of a common man in a city succumbed to terrorist activity, the action thriller Ghajni, epic movie Jodhaa Akbar which brings to light an important but forgotten bit of Indian history, and other movies.

As the film Slumdog Millionaire, which stars Indian actors and tells the rags to riches story of a boy from an Indian slum, swept eight Oscars including best director and best picture this year, the Indians are ready to push their film industry to a higher level. The organizer disclosed there was a "98 percent" possibility that the actors of the Slumdog Millionaire might participate in the upcoming IIFA event in Macao.

Internet



Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan speaks at the Fashion Extravaganza during the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards weekend in Bangkok on 7 June, 2008.—XINHUA



People line up as they visit Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore's living room in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 9 May, 2009.—INTERNET

Mexican expert warns of infection risks of used masks

MEXICO CITY, 9 May—The National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) suggested on Friday to treat the masks used in preventing spread of the A/H1N1 flu virus as polluted remains, due to the risk that they could become infecting sources if left at open air.

Benjamin Ruiz Loyola, expert of dangerous remains from the UNAM, said in a communiqué that because people can not

know exactly which masks are infected, the protection measure should be to treat all the masks used as polluted remains.

Ruiz said that the masks used should be put inside plastic bags before being disposed of properly. "Although the A/H1N1 flu virus can be destroyed in the open air with sunlight, it is necessary to be cautious when throwing them (the masks) away," he said.

Ruiz stressed the importance of using the masks and warned that the masks should be periodically changed. He also suggested that people adopt extreme hygienic measures in their daily life, from washing hands to keeping the house and the working place clean.

"With the adoption of such measures and by keeping all the places with few people, we can prevent infections," Ruiz said. —Internet

Breast cancer occurrence in Beijing doubles in 10 years

BEIJING, 9 May—The occurrence of breast cancer among Beijing's women residents has doubled over the past decade, according to the Beijing Municipal Health Bureau.

Breast cancer had been the most common tumor among women in Beijing. The number of breast cancer cases has now reached 515 out of every one mil-

lion people, an increase of 107.9 percent over that in 1998, Deng Xiaohong, the bureau's spokeswoman.

"Among ten newly-diagnosed cancer cases, two are breast cancer," she was quoted as saying by the *Beijing Youth Daily* on Saturday, adding most breast cancer patients are above 40 years old and the trend is turning younger.

Deng said breast cancer ranks the third in mortality rate among diseases, while it ranked the fifth ten years ago. Ouyang Tao, director of the Center for Prevention and Treatment of Breast Cancer of the Beijing Tumor Hospital, told *Xinhua* that the center treats much more breast cancer patients than before. —Internet

NASA set for Monday Hubble launch

BEIJING, 9 May—NASA will set off on the final shuttle mission to the Hubble space telescope on 11 May.

Space shuttle Atlantis is scheduled to blast off at 2:01 pm EDT 11 May from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Shuttle weather officer Kathy Winters told reporters there was an 80 percent chance of favorable meteorological

conditions for the launch of space shuttle Atlantis.

The countdown for NASA's trip to the Hubble Space Telescope began Friday as the astronauts arrived at the launching site.

The 11-day mission will be lead by Commander Scott Altman and six crew mates. They will be tasked with refurbishing the Hubble with state-of-the-art instruments

that are expected to expand the telescope's capabilities and extend its lifetime through at least 2014.

The Hubble Telescope has been in space for 19 years at this point which is already twice the length of time it was initially expected to work.

The mission — code named STS-125 — is the fifth and last of its kind.

Internet

Confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases jump again in US state of Illinois

CHICAGO, 9 May—Confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases in the US state of Illinois jumped again Friday to 393, according to state health officials.

Recent days have seen the numbers climb as state labs began taking over from the federal health authorities, and a backlog of samples from possibly infected patients has been cleared. There is only one probable case unconfirmed in Illinois. In Illinois, 258 cases were confirmed by Thursday, with 22 more probable cases being investigated, according to the state Department of Public Health.—Internet

Canada's confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases rise to 242

OTTAWA, 9 May—The total number of confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases in Canada has risen to 242, with 28 new cases confirmed on Friday, according to the latest figures from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Among the 28 new cases added on Friday, nine are in Alberta, six in British Columbia, five in Ontario, four in Quebec, one in Prince Edward Island and three in Nova Scotia.

Alberta reported the country's first A/H1N1 flu related death on Friday.

The flu contributed to the death of a northern Alberta woman, said Andre Corriveau, Alberta's chief medical officer, at a press conference in the provincial capital Edmonton on Friday afternoon. —Internet

Five new cases of A/H1N1 flu confirmed in Britain

LONDON, 9 May—Britain's Department of Health confirmed on Friday five new cases of A/H1N1 flu, bringing the total cases in the country to 39.

The new cases were all from southeast London. One was an adult, and four children of school age. All are associated with the same school. As a precautionary measure to contain the spread of the virus, the school is closed, and all children and staff are on antiviral medicine. "So far, all infections in UK have been mild, and cases have been diagnosed and treated early. This reduces the severity of symptoms, and helps to limit the spread. But we must not be complacent — it is right to prepare for the possibility of a global pandemic," said a statement from the Department of Health. —Internet

Two more H1N1 cases confirmed in France, raising total to 12

PARIS, 9 May — Two more people have been diagnosed with the H1N1 flu virus in France, bringing the total number of confirmed cases in the country to 12, the national Institute of Medicine in France (InVS) said on Friday.

The InVS said in a bulletin that all confirmed cases are "imported" — the two new cases had once stayed in New York and the others in Mexico.

There are 28 suspected cases of A/H1N1 flu, commonly known as swine flu, in France, all of them in a mild condition, the InVS said. —Internet

Japan, Australia confirm first cases of swine flu

TOKYO, 9 May—Japanese authorities scrambled Saturday to track travelers who arrived on the same flight as three people diagnosed with the country's first confirmed cases of swine flu. Australia also joined the ranks of affected countries with its first confirmed case.

Authorities in Tokyo quarantined a high school teacher and two of his teenage students who returned Friday from a school trip to Canada on a flight from the US after they tested positive at the airport. A lab at the National Institute of Infectious Diseases later confirmed they had the virus that has killed at least 47 people and sickened more than 3,100 in 30 countries, most in the US and Mexico, Health and Welfare Minister Yoichi Masuzoe said.—Internet



Quarantine officers prepare to inspect passengers on a flight from the US at Narita international airport in Narita 9 May, 2009. Japan announced on Saturday its first confirmed cases of the new strain of flu — a teacher in his 40s and two male teenage students who had spent time in Canada.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Pienaar wins plaudits as Everton look for 5th spot

LIVERPOOL, 9 May—Leighton Baines has hailed Steven Pienaar as one of the keys to Everton's success this season as David Moyes' side look to continue their push for fifth place against Tottenham on Saturday.



Everton's Steven Pienaar postures after scoring during their Premiership football match against Aston Villa in Aston Villa at Villa Park Stadium, April 2009.—INTERNET

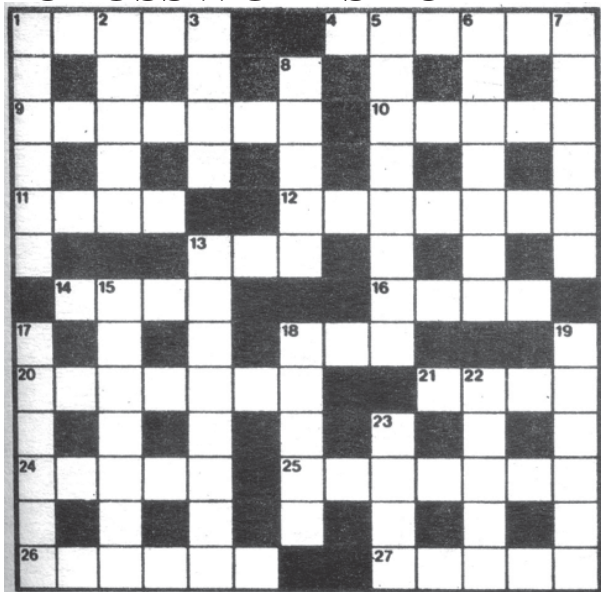
South African winger Pienaar has taken on plenty of creative responsibility since Mikel Arteta's season was ended with a serious knee injury in February. Moyes has a hard-earned reputation for unearthing bargain signings of real quality and capturing Pienaar has to be one of the best pieces of business he has ever done.—Internet

Berdych defeats Hewitt to reach Munich Open semis

BERLIN, 9 May—Czech fourth seed Tomas Berdych fought hard to oust former world number one Lleyton Hewitt from Australia 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(4) at the Munich clay court ATP event quarterfinals on Friday.

Ranked 55th in the world, Hewitt showed signs of his old form in taking the first set, only for Berdych to fight his way back before taking the deciding tiebreaker in the third set. Berdych will now take on unseeded Frenchman Jeremy Chardy, who pulled off a shock win as he sent Croatian second seed Marin Cilic packing 3-6, 7-5, 6-4.—Internet

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Harmonious sound
- 4 Channel port
- 9 Enigma
- 10 Cuttlefish
- 11 Condiment
- 12 Exterior
- 13 Metal
- 14 Close by
- 16 High voice
- 18 Enthusiast
- 20 Humorous
- 21 Operatic song
- 24 North African port
- 25 Trade
- 26 Throws out
- 27 Take off

DOWN

- 1 Yellow flower
- 2 Grass used in ropemaking
- 3 Character on the stage
- 5 Wolf-like dog
- 6 Designate
- 7 Declared
- 8 Poet
- 13 The stick (anag.)
- 15 Huge
- 17 Grass-cutter
- 18 Wind instrument
- 19 Reckless person
- 22 Allude
- 23 Deep voice

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

(9-5-2009)

Blackburn	2 – 0	Portsmouth
Bolton	0 – 0	Sunderland
Everton	0 – 0	Tottenham
Fulham	3 – 1	Aston Villa
Hull City	1 – 2	Stoke City
WBA	3 – 1	Wigan Athletic
West Ham Utd	0 – 3	Liverpool



Tottenham Hotspur's Robbie Keane stretches for the ball during their English Premier League soccer match against Everton in Liverpool, northern England, on 9 May, 2009.—INTERNET

Euro high leaves United keen to finish league mission

LONDON, 9 May—The prospect of a Champions League final meeting with Barcelona has left Manchester United's stars impatient to wrap up a third straight Premier League title as early as possible.

Having demolished Arsenal in midweek to book their ticket to Rome for the European showpiece, the Red Devils entertain crosstown rivals Manchester City on Sunday confident of taking another big step towards retaining the domestic trophy.

By then, Liverpool could have returned to the top of the table with Rafael Benitez's men in action at West Ham on Saturday evening. But even if Liverpool take maximum points from that match and their subsequent two fixtures, United know they will be champions again with seven points from the four matches they have still to play.—Internet

Djokovic cruises through to semis in Serbia Open

BELGRADE, 9 May—Serbia's Novak Djokovic beat compatriot Viktor Troicki 6-3, 6-2 on Friday to cruise through to the semifinals of the Serbia Open in Belgrade. Top-seeded Djokovic defeated fifth seed Troicki in just over an hour and will face fourth-seeded Italian Andreas Seppi in the semifinals.

"The obstacle for me was tough because I had to face my fellow countrymen. I am taking it step by step and I am not thinking about the finals. Seppi is a tough competitor, but I think that the advantage is on my side." said Djokovic.

Internet

Brazilian swimmer Felipe Franca breaks world record in 50m breaststroke

RIO DE JANEIRO, 9 May—For the first time at the Maria Lenk Trophy swim meet, a Brazilian swimmer broke a world record. Felipe Franca broke the record in his performance on Friday in the 50 meters breaststroke. Using a new swimsuit, the athlete set the new mark at 26.89 seconds. Franca broke the record set by South African swimmer, Cameron Van Der Burgh, who clocked in at 27.06. Franca has had his eyes set on breaking the record since last year.

"Since last year, I have been thinking about the world record. This may have led me to lose my focus. I think that was the reason behind my poor performance in the Olympics," declared Franca, who placed 22nd in the 100 meters breaststroke in Beijing last year. The 50 meters breaststroke is not disputed in the Olympics.—Internet

Barca forward Henry likely to miss Champions League final due to injury

MADRID, 9 May—Spanish club Barcelona announced on Friday that their striker Thierry Henry will be sidelined for two weeks due to strained right knee ligament, making him doubtful for the Champions League final.

Henry, 31, hurt his knee badly in Barca's historic 6-2 win away to Real Madrid last Saturday, and missed Wednesday's last-gasp 1-1 draw away to Chelsea, which qualified Barca for the Champions League final.

The French striker, who scored two goals against Real and was in good form, will miss the Copa del Rey final and might not play in the Champions League final in Rome against holders Manchester United.—Internet

Safina, Kuznetsova reach final of Italian Open

ROME, 9 May—Russia's world number one Dinara Safina clawed back to beat Venus Williams 6-7(3), 6-3, 6-4 and set up an all-Russian final against Svetlana Kuznetsova at the Italian Open on Friday.

Kuznetsova, eighth ranked in the world, had a far easier semi-final as she stormed past Victoria Azarenka 6-2, 6-4. The Russians' clash on Saturday will be a repeat of last weekend's Porsche Grand Prix final at Stuttgart, where Kuznetsova upset Safina in straight sets to capture her first WTA title in almost two years.

Safina had 32 winners to 38 for Williams. But she also committed fewer unforced errors, and stayed mentally strong to pull off her third successive comeback from a set down this week. The American, by reaching the semifinals in Rome, is still assured of jumping from No. 5 to 3 for her highest ranking in six years.

Internet



Liverpool's English midfielder Steven Gerrard (left) still believes his side can win the Premier League this season as the Reds go into their clash at West Ham hoping to close the three-point gap on leaders Man Utd.—INTERNET



Russia's Dinara Safina returns a backhand to Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova, during the final match of the Italian Rome Masters tennis tournament in Rome, Saturday, 9 May, 2009.—INTERNET

Teenager kills brother in Guatemala gang shootout

GUATEMALA CITY, 9 May—A teenage member of a violent street gang in Guatemala killed his younger brother for belonging to a rival group, police said on Friday, as the two criminal groups battle for dominance across Central America.

Hector Mazariegos, 18, who belongs to the Mara 18 gang, shot dead his 13-year-old brother Cesar, a member of the rival Mara Salvatrucha, outside the house they shared in a dangerous run-down district of Guatemala City. The younger brother wounded his sibling.

"They had been arguing for a few days when it built up to a fire-fight in the street," police spokesman Marco Trejo told *Reuters*. Hector Mazariegos was captured a few blocks from the scene. He was treated for bullet wounds in hospital while under police guard. Trejo said both brothers had tattoos showing their allegiance to the rival gangs.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (10.5.2009) (Sunday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

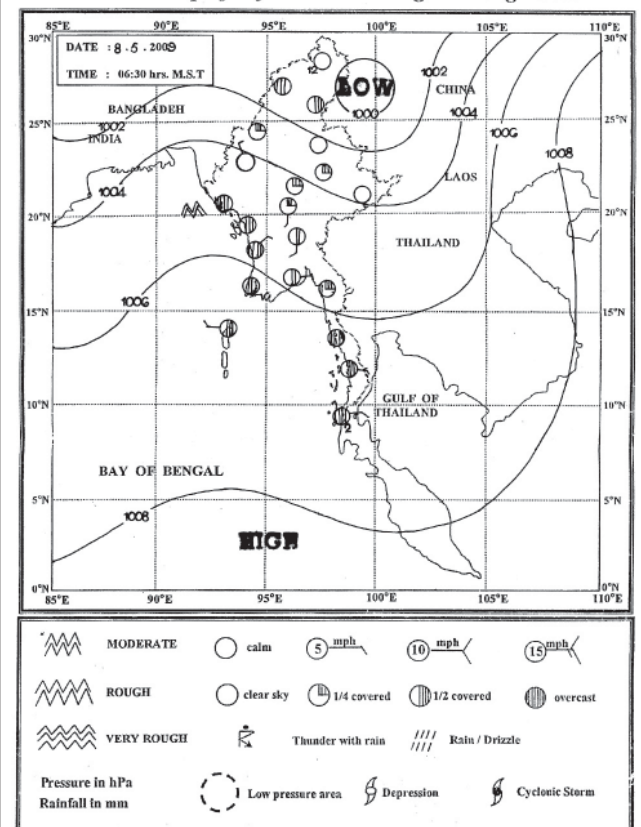
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Poem Garden "The Days of the Week"
- * Inle's Beauty for Eternity
- * A Pilgrimage to Dhammayangyi
- * Mularsheedi we Love!
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Sights to see in PyinOoLwin
- * Slates for Decoration with Striking Natural Perfection
- * Music icon: Violinist U Tin Yee
- * Parabaik writings
- * Rakhine Traditional Festivals in the Month of Kason
- * A creator of Collage
- * The royal animal weights of the Myanmar empires
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Poem Garden "The Days of the Week"
- * Inle's Beauty for Eternity
- * The Gok Hteik Viaduct
- * A Pilgrimage to Dhammayangyi
- * Mularsheedi we Love!
- * Palm Leaf Inscription
- * Tiger Population Counting (Part-I)
- * Coconut Juice and Its Palm-Leaf Hat
- * Learning Opportunities for Disabled Persons
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 9 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) above May average temperatures in Sagaing and Bago Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, Mandalay, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (4°C) below May average temperatures in Taninthayi Division and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Monywa, NyaungU, Chauk (44°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Ye (0.99) inch and Kawthoung (0.98) inch.

Maximum temperature on 8-5-2009 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 9-5-2009 was 76°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 9-5-2009 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 8-5-2009 was (9.6) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 9-5-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (2.40) inches at Mingaladon, (3.62) inches at Kaba-Aye and (5.63) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from West at (21:30) hour MST on 8-5-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10th May 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 10-5-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-5-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-5-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



Sunday, 10 May
View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်၊ ယောဆရာတော်ဟောကြားတော် မူအပ်သောဥပသုတ္တံပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:45 am

- ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မော်(၃၈)ပြာမင်္ဂလာ

7:55 am

- အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

- Musical programme

8:15 am

- နားဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- ဝေတနာပန်းများဖူးပွင့်ဝေစည် ငွေတောင်ပြည်

11:00 am

- Martial song

11:10 am

- Round up of the week's international news

11:20 am

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အားကိုးချစ်သူကျေးတောသူ" (အပိုင်း-၄၄)

12:25 pm

- Golf Magazine (TV)

12:45 pm

- မြန်မာ့ရုပ်ရှင် "ချစ်ရေစင်" (မောင်တင်မောင်၊ မေရှင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်တင်မောင်)

2:45 pm

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:10 pm

- Musical programme

4:20 pm

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:25 pm

- ရုပ်မြင်ရသတေးစုကဏ္ဍ

4:45 pm

- အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)

5:00 pm

- Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:10 pm

- Dance of national races

5:15 pm

- စက်နှင့်စက်ကိရိယာပစ္စည်း ထုတ်လုပ်မှုစက်ရုံ

5:20 pm

- Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် "Pocket Dragon Adventure"

6:55 pm

- တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ "သုံးတစ်" (ဆုလီ၊ ရွှင်မော်၊ ရာဇပေါက်စိ၊ မိန့်ပန်းသီး၊ ချစ်စမိုး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-တင်တင်)

7:15 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူသက်ထား" (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

8:00 pm

- News

15. International news

17. Weather report

- ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် "ဒိုင်နိုဆော့မိသားစုစွန့်စားခန်း" (အပိုင်း-၆)

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါသည်" (အပိုင်း-၉)



Nawaday Bridge (Pyay) conducive to all-round development of local people

Article: Win Naing (Kyemon); Photos: Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)

It was at over 1.30 pm when we members of the media group of the Kyemon Daily left Nat-hmawtin river water pumping project in Shwedaung Township. It was very hot at that time, but I could not wait to reach our destination: Nawaday Bridge spanning the Ayeyawady River linking Pyay in the western part of Bago Division and Padaung Town-

ship on the west bank.

The trip evoked my memories that vehicles had to get across the river by Z-craft from Nwa-mayan jetty to the west bank of the river. At that time, the region had not seen Nawaday Bridge, downstream of Nat-hmawtin river pumping project. However, now it has changed a lot in the

region.

Just as we passed Nwa-mayan, we saw the Ayeyawady River on the left and mountain ranges and grooves of young teak trees on the right. Some time after that, we were greeted by the signboard saying "Welcome to Pyay".

(See page 11)



Nawaday Bridge is seen with the mountain ranges in the background.

West Ham United 0-3 Liverpool



Fernando Torres of Liverpool and Matthew Upson of West Ham United battle for the ball.

LONDON, 9 May—Steven Gerrard struck twice as Liverpool kept their title challenge alive against West

Ham United.

It took the Reds just 76 seconds to go ahead, as fit-again Fernando Torres slid a perfect pass through to Gerrard and he rounded Robert Green before stroking the ball into an empty net.

The crucial second goal came seven minutes before the break, and it was a needless one for the Hammers to concede. Luis Boa Morte hauled down Torres as he raced into the box and conceded a penalty. Gerrard's spot-kick was saved by Green but he followed up to tap home the rebound. Liverpool were in total control after the break, and added a third six minutes from time when Ryan Babel scored from close range.—*Internet*

Level of cellular stress determines longevity of retinal cells

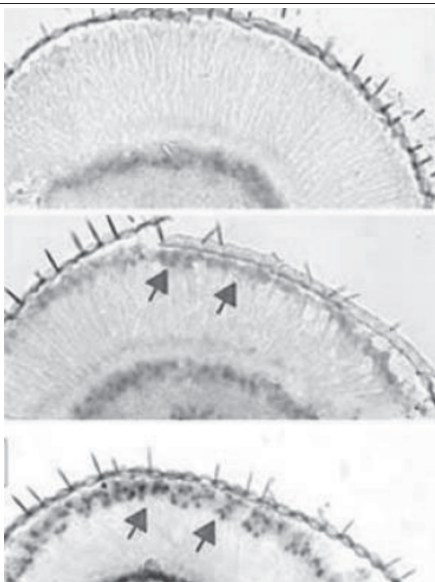
SCIENCE DAILY, 9 May—Stress can be adaptive. It can make you sharper, help you focus and it can even improve your performance. But too much of it can tax cells to the point where they can no longer cope and slowly self-destruct.

Scientists at Rockefeller University now show that when the protein-making factory of the cell is exposed to moderate stress, neurons in the fruit fly retina and other cells not only resist death but also shore up their defenses against damaging free radicals and ultraviolet radiation.

The finding sheds light on the molecular mechanism by which cells compute their fate, and may point to therapeutic targets that protect against or delay the onset of neurodegeneration.

In their work, Hermann Steller, head of the Strang Laboratory of Apoptosis and Cancer Biology, and César Mendes, a former graduate student in the lab, genetically turned on three known cell death signals in fruit fly retinal cells, each of which directs the cell to undergo a process of controlled suicide.

Internet



Compared to normal fruit fly retinas (top), those that lack one copy of NinaA (middle) or both (bottom) increase the expression of proteins (blue).

C-in-C (Navy) championship shield basketball tourney kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 9 May—Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Championship Shield Basketball tourney for 2009 commenced at Thanlyin Station Gymnasium on 4 May.

The Acting Commandant of No.1 Naval Training School made an opening speech.

Among the spectators were senior military officers, family members of Yangon and Thanlyin stations and guests.

Altogether 13 teams are taking part in the tourney that runs until 11 May.—*MNA*

Get-together of disabled brethren

YANGON, 9 May—A get-together of the disabled brethren organized by Shwemintha Foundation (Myanmar) took place at the Central Hotel here yesterday. Patron Director-General Col Soe Kyi (Retd) of Social Welfare Department extended greetings. Chairman of the foundation U Myat Thu Win submitted annual report and Patron Col Myo Myint spoke on the occasion.

Next, Dr Moe Aung made an honorary speech. The film stars and vocalists, hearing and visual impaired persons, and the physically handicapped entertained the attendees with songs and dancy.—*MNA*