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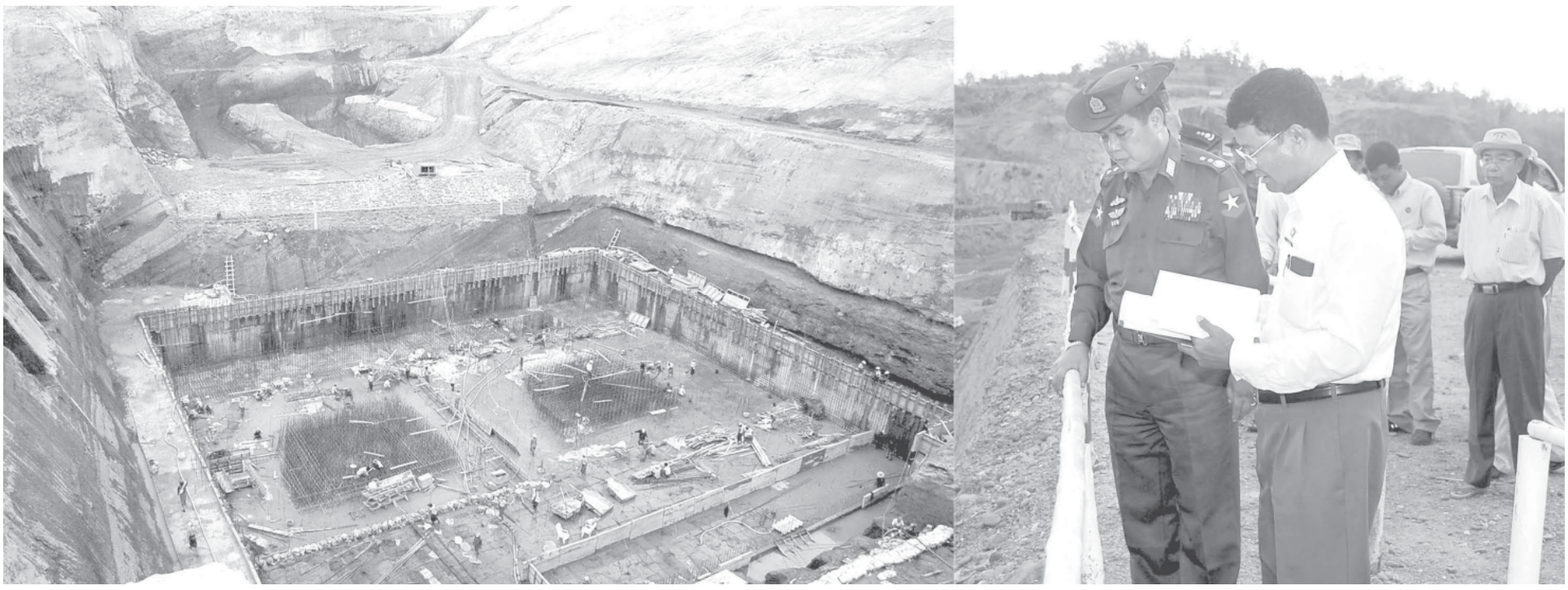
Magway Division witnesses more development facilities



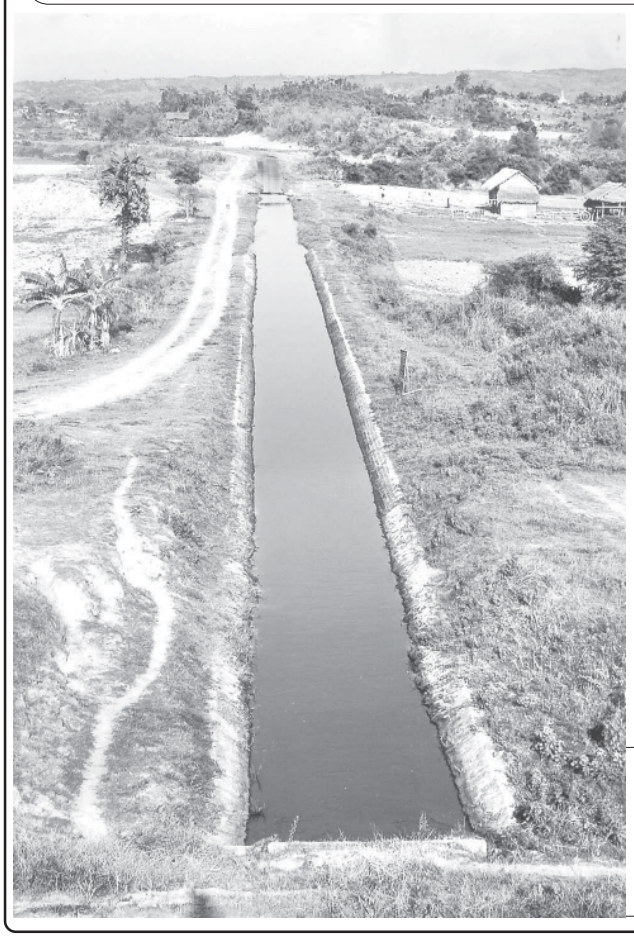
Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Dam Project in Pwintbyu Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—Accompanied by Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe, Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence viewed thriving tea plantations and saplings at the Natyegantaung tea plantation project in Ngaphe Township on 26 May morning.

At the briefing hall of Minbu-An-Tattaung-Road in Ngaphe Township, Lt-Gen Tha Aye heard a report on maintenance of the road presented by the District Senior Engineer and gave necessary instructions.

He looked into nursery of tea plants at Natyegan Cinchona Farm of Myanma Agriculture Service and thriving of model coffee and tea plantations at Natyegan coffee farm. *(See page 8)*

Thebyu Dam in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe benefits some 1200 acres of arable lands



The canal of Thebyu Dam designed to irrigate 1200 acres of farmlands both in the rainy season and in summer.

Article & Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

It was on 19 May when we were on the way to the opening ceremony of Madan Dam in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe, Nay Pyi Taw District. The whole sky was full of dark clouds as it was ushering in the rainy season. And the sun was shining sporadically due to the floating rainy clouds.

After we drove about one mile to the west of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe from the expressway, we saw a six-foot-wide canal with clear and bluish water flowing along it.

Staff Officer U Tha Yar of Construction (5) of the Irrigation Department who accompanied us in the car said that it was the water from Thebyu Dam. After a 10-minute drive along the straight canal, we saw a long and high earthen dam. He said that it was Thebyu Dam constructed by Construction (5) of the Irrigation Department; that it was inaugurated on 30 August 2004, and the whole irrigation system was completed on 31 March 2005; and the dam was handed over to the Maintenance Division in 2007.

From the car running along the dyke, we enjoyed the beautiful scene of the bluish water surface and control tower of the dam and the lush and green lawn with dark clouds in the background. We saw a group of workers weeping wild plants on the edge of the dam.

When asked about the irrigation facility, Staff Officer U Tin Soe, acting in-charge of Thebyu Dam told the Myanma Alin that Thebyu Dam was constructed by damming the Thebyu Creek, about three and a half miles northwest of Yaypyayoe Village in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township; that it was designed to irrigate 500 acres of sugarcane and 700 acres of paddy in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township and to support the water surplus to Yayni Kyaukoh Diversion Weir to benefit the irrigated areas of the diversion weir; that the supply of irrigation water had met the target; that irrigation water was supplied adequately to the nearby paddy fields, and the remaining water level stood at 414.50 point and that amounted to 8667

(See page 10)

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 29 May, 2009

Take an active part in school enrolment

In the world today, science and technologies are progressing in a surprising way and every nation is trying their level best for enhancing their economic and social standard. And it is obvious that higher literacy rate is the necessity for national development.

In spite of unusual development in every nation, there are over 700 million people who are still illiterate and more than 70 million of children have no access to education.

In Myanmar, literacy work is being carried out with increased momentum in accordance with its policy of education for all. As a result, enrolment of school-age children has increased year after year. Moreover, programmes for basic literacy skills and constant learning are meeting with success because social organizations and well-wishers are cooperating in helping with extra curriculum activities.

National education promotion projects are being implemented region-wise and therefore a modern educational environment and highly-qualified human resources have emerged. The present-day education scenario has also changed a lot for the better.

In the basic education sector, yearly enrolments have been constantly on the increase. In the 2008-2009 academic year, kindergarten enrolments constituted 98 per cent of school-age children. It is also important that there is no discontinuity in children's education and they continue their education at higher levels.

Literacy helps improve people's way of thinking and develop critical thinking. Now is the time for school enrolment and we would like to call on regional organizations, parents and well-wishers to take an active part in school enrolment work.

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**

Fifth Monsoon Forum 2009 commences

*Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung delivers an address at opening ceremony of Fifth Monsoon Forum 2009.—*TRANSPORT

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—The opening ceremony of the Fifth Monsoon Forum 2009, jointly organized by Department of Meteorology and Hydrology and the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), was held at Multi-purpose Hall of the Ministry of Transport, here, this morning, with an address by Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung.

Chairman of the RIMES Director-General Dr Tun Lwin of Department of Meteorology and Hydrology extended greetings.

Representative of RIMES Ms Kareff May L Refisura explained the purpose of holding the forum.

The forum focused on present climate change situation in Myanmar, the general seasonal forecast for 2009 monsoon season, and the verification of meteorological and hydrological forecast for the last winter season, storm news and warnings on cyclonic storms Bijli and Aila which had formed in the pre-monsoon season of 2009, the expected possible storm impacts on the various sectors and on the storm news, early warning issued by DMH.

The discussion will be carried out by six working groups.

The monsoon forum has been held twice annually on regular basic starting from 2007 and the current forum is the fifth in the third year. It will continue till 29 May 2009.

The forum was also attended by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, departmental heads, resident representatives of UN agencies and scholars of the RIMES.

MNA

Made in Thailand Festival launched

YANGON, 28 May—The 2nd Made in Thailand Festival, jointly-organized by Gamonpwint Company Limited and DEP (Department of Export Promotion) was held at Gamonpwint Shopping Mall in Mayangon Township yesterday morning.

First, a responsible person explained the purpose of opening the festival and opportunities for the buyers and Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag formally opened the festival.

The festival will continue to open until 10 June. Thailand-made famous products such as clothing, cosmetics, personal goods, household goods and foodstuff will be sold at special prizes. Vanson, Vanheusen, Valentino Ruby, Pierre Cardin, Oasis and Kiddo are aimed at men and Sweet and other renowned brands at women. Lucky draws will be offered to those who will spend over K 30,000 on the products at a time within a day. After drawing lots, coupons in which name and address are filled are to be put in the designated box. The lucky draws include three flight tickets of Yangon-Bangkok-Yangon and the lucky draw programme will be opened on 10 June.

MNA

***Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Bansarn Bunnag formally opens 2nd Made in Thailand Festival.—*MNA**

SD Paints Co., Ltd to present prizes to buyers

YANGON, 28 May—SD Paints Co., Ltd will hold a ceremony to present prizes to customers who bought its products most in 2008 at Excel Treasure Hotel on Gaba Aye Pagoda Road (Shwegondine) in Bahan Township here from 5 pm to 7 pm on 31 May. At the ceremony, prizes will be presented to the winners for 2008 in Yangon Division.

MNA

Tobacco Kills

Photos show rape and sex abuse in Iraqi jails

LONDON, 28 May—Photographs of Iraqi prisoner abuse which US President Barack Obama does not want released include images of apparent rape and sexual abuse, Britain's *Daily Telegraph* newspaper reported on Thursday.

The images are among photographs included in a 2004 report into prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib Prison conducted by US Major General Antonio Taguba.

Taguba included allegations of rape and sexual abuse in his report, and on Wednesday he confirmed to the *Daily Telegraph* that images supporting those allegations were also in the file. "These pictures show torture, abuse, rape and every indecency," Taguba, who retired in January 2007, was quoted as saying in the paper.

He said he supported Obama's decision not to release them, even though Obama had previously pledged to disclose all images relating to abuses at Abu Ghraib and other US-run prisons in Iraq.

"I am not sure what purpose their release would serve other than a legal one," Taguba said. "The sequence would be to imperil our troops, the only protectors of our foreign policy, when we most need them, and British troops who are trying to build security in Afghanistan.

"The mere depiction of these pictures is horrendous enough, take my word for it." The newspaper said at least one picture showed an American soldier apparently raping a female prisoner while another is said to show a male translator raping a male detainee. — *MNA/Reuters*

A man who was wounded in a road side blast in Kirkuk, 290 kilometers (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, seen on 26 May, 2009.—INTERNET

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,303

WASHINGTON, 28 May— As of Wednesday, 27 May 2009, at least 4,303 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 3,446 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.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 31,285 US service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defence Department's weekly tally.—*Internet*

Roadside bomb kills US soldier in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 28 May – A roadside bomb killed a US soldier on Wednesday in Baghdad, making May the deadliest month for the American military since September.

Also on Wednesday, the government's watchdog agency announced that nearly 1,000 arrest warrants have been issued this year as part of a crackdown on corruption. They include warrants for nearly 50 senior civil servants, the agency said.The fatal attack occurred two days after a blast struck a US convoy west of the capital, killing three Americans, including two civilians and a soldier.

The spike in deaths comes as US forces face a June 30 deadline to pull back from urban areas as part of a US-Iraqi security pact that took effect this year.At least 20 American service members have died so far this month, compared with 25 in September.

In Wednesday's incident, the soldier from the Multi-National Division — Baghdad died of injuries suffered when a bomb exploded near a patrol in a western section of the capital, the military said in a statement.In all, at least 4,302 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war, according to the AP count.Four US civilians also have been killed in Iraq since Friday.

Internet

Suicide bombing kills two civilians, wounds two foreign soldiers in Afghanistan

KABUL, 28 May — A suicide attack against international forces in Afghanistan's southern Ghazni Province killed two civilians and wounded two foreign soldiers on Wednesday, Provincial police chief Khyal Baz Shirzai said.

"A man driving an explosive-laden car blew it up next to a convoy of international troops in Gilan district at 6 pm, killing two civilians, including a woman, and wounding two foreign soldiers," Shirzai told *Xinhua*.

However, he did not identify the nationality of the wounded soldiers, saying they belonged to international forces.

Mostly, Polish forces were stationed in Ghazni serving within the framework of NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to stabilize security there.

This is the second attack against international forces in Afghanistan over the past two days. A similar attack on Tuesday in the northeastern Kapisa Province left three foreign soldiers dead.

Internet

IAF "MiG -21" crashes in western India

NEW DELHI, 28 May—Indian Air Force (IAF) premier *MiG-21* fighter aircraft Bison Wednesday crashed near Jodhpur in the western Indian state of Rajasthan, a senior Indian Defence Ministry official said.

"The mishap took place while the aircraft was on a routine flight. It crashed near Luni Village soon after taking off from the Jodhpur airbase. However, the pilot ejected safely," the official said.

This was the third fighter aircraft mishap in less than a month and with this the IAF in total lost five aircraft this year. A probe has been ordered to ascertain the cause of the crash.

MNA/Xinhua

Gabon rejects entry of French journalists

LIBREVILLE, 28 May—Gabonese authorities have rejected the entry of two French reporters working for France 24 television, citing the violation of visa management, amid the country's displeasure with the West media over their leader's health condition. Arnaud Zajtman and Marlene Rabaud could return to France on Tuesday night from the Leon Mba international airport of Libreville, the capital of Gabon, the authorities said.

The two journalists arrived at the airport on Monday from Brazzaville, the Republic of Congo, claiming to hold an entry visa granted by the Gabonese Embassy in Kinshasa, the Democratic Republic of Congo, where they were based.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Military Division formed to strengthen protect security in Afghan capital

KABUL, 28 May — Afghan Defence Ministry in efforts to ensure durable security in the capital city of Kabul and surrounding areas, formed a new military establishment of Division 111 on Wednesday.

"In line with the order of President Hamid Karzai, work for the formation of Division 111 began six months ago and today it is complete," commander of the newly formed military Division General Hafizudin Meraj told the audience attended the inaugural ceremony.

The priority of the newly formed Division is to protect security in Kabul and adjoining districts, he added.

Meraj further asserted that Division 111 would support police in case the forces faces problems in ensuring law and order in the capital city.—*Internet*

Unknown gunmen kill district chief in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 28 May—Unknown gunmen Wednesday ambushed and killed Mohammad Nadir, district chief of Omna, in eastern Afghan province of Paktika, said a statement of Interior Ministry.

"It occurred at 1:30 pm (0900 GMT) when a group of gunmen ambushed and opened fire at Nadir in Yaya Khil district as he was traveling in a car from provincial capital Sharan district to Omna," the statement said.

Three sons of Nadir were also killed during the firefighting and another son was wounded, it added.

No group or individuals have yet to claim responsibility while Taleban militants, who have vowed to launch Spring Offensive against government and international troops, often killed or kidnapped those working for government.—*Internet*

Iranian Govt defends Ahmadinejad's economic policies

TEHERAN, 28 May — Iran's government spokesman Gholam-Hossein Elham defended President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's economic policies amid increasing attacks from election rivals, local Press TV reported on Wednesday.

"Quick-return businesses saved the country from the monopoly that a certain set of individuals held and gave the people access to financial resources," Elham told university students in Iran's Kerman city on Tuesday.

Ahmadinejad introduced a unique economic package, which included plans to set up small-scale cooperative businesses that aimed at quick returns to tackle the unemployment problem.

"Of the 3 million people who were unemployed when Ahmadinejad took office (four years ago) from the reformist administration, 1 million have jobs today," Elham said.

Two reformist candidates — former Parliament Speaker Mehdi Karroubi and former prime minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi — and the conservative former Revolutionary Guards chief Mohsen Rezaei were also approved to contest the presidential race slated for 12 June.

Internet

Rwandan children cook sweet potatoes and corn cobs in a hot spring near the Nyiragongo volcano, on the shores of Lake Kivu, on 21 May , 2009. The Rwanda Red Cross on 26 May, 2009 updated the risk-reduction plan for the communities that lie in the shadow of the volcano amid signs that it is showing increased activity again. — INTERNET

China finds plastic bag habit hard to break

ZHENGZHOU, 28 May — No trip to rural China was without scenes of plastic bags gathering like patches of white snow.

No city street was clear of bags blowing through the air.

A year after the government enacted the Regulation on Limiting Production; Sales and Usage of Plastic Shopping Bags, pollution is slowly clearing from the country's landscape, but still some habits are hard to break.

On 1 June last year, all stores- from major supermarkets to small shops- were banned from giving out free plastic shopping bags to customers.

The production and sale of bags thinner than 0.025 millimeters was also prohibited, however, thicker plastic bags are still allowed but at a price consumers must pay.

The law encouraged millions of Chinese to switch from plastic to fabric or other reusable bags.

Most retailers obeyed the ban to avoid a fine of up to 10,000 yuan (1,464 US dollars).

Internet

Actors perform dragon dance during the opening ceremony of a culture festival in Jiaxing, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 26 May, 2009, to celebrate the Chinese traditional Duanwu Festival which falls on 28 May this year.
INTERNET

Microsoft to launch new portable media player this fall

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 May—Microsoft on Wednesday confirmed that it will launch a new version of its Zune portable media player in the United States this fall, which is seen as a direct rival to Apple's high-end iPod models.

The new Zune HD will feature a high-definition (HD) radio receiver, organic light-emitting diode touch screen, Wi-Fi connectivity and an Internet browser.

Its HD video output capabilities will enable customers to playback HD video files from the device through a separate docking station direct to HD television set, Microsoft said. "This news marks a turning point for Zune as it brings cross-platform experiences and premium video content to living rooms around the world," Enrique Rodriguez, a corporate vice president at Microsoft, said in a statement released on Wednesday. — *MNA/Xinhua*

EU warship captures seven suspected pirates off Somalia

BRUSSELS, 28 May — Seven suspected pirates were captured on Tuesday by the EU anti-piracy mission in the Gulf of Aden after they attacked a Greek bulk carrier, said the EU naval mission through the EU Council website on Wednesday. The suspects are currently being held on board the Swedish warship *HMS Malmo*.

The Swedish frigate pursued the pirates' skiff after picking up a distress call from the Greek vessel which was fired at by the pirates with small arms and rocket propelled grenades. The *Malmo* repelled the attack by firing warning shots and flares at the skiff and sending a vessel protection detachment to board it.

The detachment found weapons, global positioning satellite equipment, grappling hooks and barrels of fuel on board the skiff.

Malmo joined the EU operation in mid May. Twelve ships and two Maritime Patrol Air Surveillance aircraft are currently taking part in the operation codenamed "Atalanta."

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia imprisons Singapore radical Mas Selamat

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 May — Malaysia's Government has imprisoned the suspected leader of a Singapore radical Islamist group linked to the 2002 Bali bombings, state news agency *Bernama* reported on Wednesday.

Mas Selamat Kastari, who shot to fame when he escaped from a Singapore prison in February 2008, was caught in the southern Malaysian state of Johor on 1 April . Bernama said, citing unnamed sources, that he had been imprisoned for two years under Malaysia's Internal Security Act, which allows imprisonment without trial.

Internet

Kazakh climber dead in Mt Qomolangma region

KATHMANDU, 28 May — At least one mountaineer has been confirmed dead and hundreds of others affected by a heavy snowfall in Mt Qomolangma region over the last two days, *The Himalayan Times* reported on Thursday.

According to the daily, the victim was identified as Sergey Samoilov, a Kazakh national, who had been caught in a massive snowfall and died on his way back to Camp II from Camp IV Wednesday afternoon, said Surendra Sapkota, the under-secretary at the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation.

According to Ang Tshering Sherpa, former chairman of Nepal Mountaineering Association and owner of Asian Trekking, Samoilov was trapped in an avalanche while he was returning to a safer place after withdrawing his mission to ascend Mt Qomolangma due to the adverse weather conditions.

Samoilov was a member of the expedition organized by Asian Trekking.

There have been a total of six deaths, three Nepalis, in the snowy Qomolangma region this season, Sherpa said, adding that more than a hundred mountaineers who were stranded in the base camp couldn't make their way to destinations on Wednesday as well.

A team of the Seventh Tenzing-Hillary Everest (Qomolangma) Marathon is waiting for a favorable weather condition at Gorak Shep to move to base camp, organizers said. —*Internet*

HK's Expo 2010 exhibition wins international design accolade

HONG KONG, 28 May—An exhibition on Hong Kong's participation in World Expo 2010 Shanghai was awarded an international design accolade, a government press release said on Thursday.

The Information Services Department of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government said the German-based "iFCommunication Design Award" was presented to the HK SAR's Expo 2010 exhibition in the "corporate architecture" category, which included exhibitions and events, as well as communications media for public spaces.

The exhibition was first staged in Hong Kong in October 2008 at the old Central Police Station. It will be displayed for two weeks at the Exhibition Center of the World Expo 2010 in Shanghai from 1 July.

The exhibition is divided to two parts.One part highlights Hong Kong's "unlimited potential" by bringing out the themes of connectivity and creativity which are part of the Hong Kong Pavilion experience at Expo 2010.

The other explains Hong Kong's participation in Expo 2010's Urban Best Practices Area (UBPA) under the theme "smart card, smart city, smart life".

Xinhua

The Russian Soyuz TMA-15 spacecraft carrying the crew of European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut Frank De Winne of Belgium, Russian cosmonaut Roman Romanenko and Canadian astronaut Robert Thirsk blasts off from the Baikonur cosmodrome on 27 May, 2009. The craft is on a mission that will increase the International Space Station crew to six for the first time.—XINHUA

Japan dispatches two surveillance aircraft on antipiracy mission off Somalia

TOKYO, 28 May—Japan on Thursday sent off two Maritime Self-Defence Force (MSDF) *P-3C* aircraft on an antipiracy mission off Somalia, said reports from the Atsugi naval air base in Kanagawa Prefecture.

The dispatch, which was ordered by Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada on 15 May, marks the first overseas mission for MSDF patrol planes.

The two antisubmarine and maritime surveillance planes of the 3rd Air Patrol Squadron will be deployed in Djibouti international airport and begin patrol flights in around mid-June in support of the two Maritime Self-Defence Force (MSDF) destroyers escorting Japanese-related ships in the pirate-infested Gulf of Aden.

Some 100 MSDF personnel, including the aircraft's crew and engineers, and about 50 Ground Self-Defence Force (GSDF) troops, will be involved in the air patrol operations.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

S Korea posts current account surplus in April

SEOUL, 28 May—South Korea posted a current account surplus for the third straight month in April thanks to a surplus in the goods balance, the central bank said Thursday.

According to a report by the Bank of Korea (BOK), South Korea's current account marked a surplus of 4.28 billion US dollars in April, down from a record high of 6.65 billion US dollars in March.

The current account has stayed in positive territory since February as a decline in imports led to an improvement in trade conditions.

The goods balance logged a 6.17 billion-US dollar surplus in April, down from a 6.98 billion-US dollar surplus a month earlier due to a decline in imports.

The deficit in the service account increased to 1.11 billion US dollars from 645.7 million US dollars a month before mainly due to an expanded spending on overseas trips.—*Xinhua*

Korean Air launches new flight between Seoul, Xi'an

BEIJING, 28 May—Korean Air on Wednesday launched a new airline between Seoul and Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shanxi Province. It operates five flights per week between the Incheon International Airport and the Xianyang Interantional Airport in Xi'an.

"The new international flights between Seoul and Xi'an will definitely give rise to tourism development of both China and South Korea," said Zhou Aiquan, director of Xi'an Tourism Administration.

On April 30, 2009, Xi'an opened its international flights to Singapore via Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan Province in southwest China.Korean Air is among the world's top 20 airlines, and operates nearly 400 passenger flights everyday.

Xi'an is one of the birthplaces of ancient Chinese civilization. The Mausoleum of Qin Shi Huang and Huaqing Hotspring (Huaqing Chi) on the outskirts of the city attract millions of tourists from around the world every year.—*Xinhua*

Philippine economy slows to unexpected 0.4% in Q1

MANILA, 28 May—Philippine economic growth slowed to 0.4 percent in the first quarter as the global economic crisis eased consumption and weakened the manufacturing sector, the government said on Thursday. The gross domestic product (GDP) growth in the January-March period was down from 3.9 percent in the first quarter of 2008, the National Statistical Coordination Board said.

This is the lowest GDP growth rate posted by the Philippine economy since the fourth quarter of 1998 when GDP contracted by 2.4 percent at the height of the Asian financial crisis.

"The Philippine economy continued to bear the brunt of troubled global economy," Philippine Socio-economic Planning Secretary Ralph Recto said.

Recto previously expected the economy to grow above 2 percent in the first quarter.

"A big challenge to the economic managers during the remaining month of the second quarter is the fact that the Philippine economy is now teetering into recession," said Romulo Virola, the board's secretary general. Indeed, the modest growth in both farm and services sector which expanded by 2.1 percent and 1.4 percent, respectively failed to offset the sharp decline in the manufacturing and exports sectors.—*Xinhua*

Flagship of Beijing culture industry inaugurated

BEIJING, 28 May—Beijing Performing Arts Group was officially established here on Wednesday aimed at promoting the development of Beijing's culture industry and boosting people's cultural spending.

The group is a state-owned enterprise with a registered capital of 150 million yuan (about 22 million US dollars).

The Beijing municipal government merged nine companies including China Acrobatics Company, Beijing Film Company and Beijing Theatre to form the giant group.

The move came after China unveiled a 4-trillion yuan economic stimulus package last year, in which the culture industry was put as the fourth priority following lower-rent housing, infrastructure and medical care.

"We've merged nine companies that used to operate separately before. With the establishment of such this group, we can operate more efficiently to boost the development of Beijing's culture industry," said Kang Wei, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Beijing Performing Arts Group.

Xinhua

Tourists play with a turtle at the "Turtle Bay" in the submarine world of Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, on 27 May, 2009. XINHUA

India releases tenders for attack, heavy-lift helicopters

NEW DELHI, 28 May — In a bid to boost the combat capabilities of its Armed Forces, India has released two global tenders for the procurement of 22 attack and 15 heavy-lift helicopters for the Indian Air Force (IAF).

"The Request for Proposals (RFP) for 15 heavy-lift helicopters is being issued today and the RFP for 22 combat helicopters was released yesterday," IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal Fali Homi Major told a Press conference here.

The choppers participating in the combat attack contract include Bell's *AH-1 Super Cobra*, Boeing's *AH-64 Apache*, Eurocopter's *Tiger*, Russian Mil for *Mi-35* and Agusta Westland's Mangusta.

The RFP for 22 combat attack helicopters comes out within two months after the previous tender, released before the Berlin Air Show in May 2008, was cancelled in March this year.

The earlier tender was cancelled after the American vendors opted out of the race, citing the 50 per cent offsets clause in the contract.

US' *Bell* helicopters had moved out as their *Super Cobra* chopper was not available for the Direct Commercial Sales route.

Internet

Canadian appointed new UN deputy envoy for Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS, 28 May—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has appointed Robert Watkins of Canada as deputy United Nations envoy for Afghanistan, with responsibility for development and humanitarian affairs, a UN spokesperson announced here on Wednesday.

Apart from being the Secretary-General's deputy special representative, Watkins will also serve as the UN Resident Coordinator and the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Afghanistan, the spokesperson, Marie Okabe, told reporters here.

Watkins brings to this position broad experience in preparing and managing responses to complex humanitarian emergencies and postconflict recovery programmes in the Middle East, the Caribbean and Europe/CIS (the Commonwealth of Independent States).

Since 2006, he has served as UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative in Georgia. He replaces Bo Asplund of Sweden, who will be completing his assignment with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) this summer.—*Internet*

Three wildlife reserves from India added to UNESCO's list

NEW YORK, 28 May — Three wildlife reserves from India are among the 22 new sites from 17 countries added by United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to its Worldwide Network of Biosphere Reserves.

The reserves at Simplipal in India's eastern state of Orissa, Norkek in north-eastern state of Meghalaya and Panchmarhi in central state of Madhya Pradesh were added to the list Wednesday bringing the total number of sites to 553.

UNESCO, whose International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB-ICC) is meeting on the Island of Jeju in South Korea, now has its Biosphere Reserves in 107 countries.

Internet

Indonesia's auto export down 35.1% in first quarter

JAKARTA, 28 May— The export of Indonesian Completely Built-Up (CBU) cars dropped to 21,931 units in the first quarter this year, or 35.1 per cent lower compared to 33,811 units in the corresponding period last year, *Bisnis Indonesia* daily reported on Thursday.

According to the data issued by Indonesian carmaker association (Gaikindo), the shrinkage of car export was incited by economic crisis which occurred in the export destination countries.

Gaikindo also said the Indonesian automakers experienced a landslide export drop by 63.7 per cent to 3,813 units in April this year from 10,528 units in the corresponding period last year. —*Internet*

Rare blue whale found dead on New Zealand beach

WELLINGTON, 28 May— The carcass of a rare blue whale washed ashore in southern New Zealand after it apparently died of old age, a marine expert said on Thursday.

The body — with bite wounds and its tail chewed off — already had been attacked by scavengers ahead of the rare stranding on New Zealand's South Island, Te Papa National Museum expert Anton van Helden told National Radio."It's ... probably the biggest recorded to have come ashore on the New Zealand coast," he said.

Fewer than 2,000 blue whales — the largest mammals known to have lived — remain from a population of 200,000 in 1900.

Internet

NEWS ALBUM

A pair of chameleons fight inside a park in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad on 27 May, 2009.
INTERNET

iPhone to replace register at Japan university

A Japanese university is giving away Apple Inc's trendy iPhone to students for free, but with a catch: the device will be used to check their attendance.

The project, which is being tested ahead of its formal launch in June, involves 550 first and second year students and some staff of a department at Aoyama Gakuin University, which is located just outside Tokyo in Sagamihara city.

The school's iPhones are meant to create a mobile information network between students and professors, but they are also a convenient way for the teachers to take attendance in class.

As students enter the room, instead of writing their name on a sheet, they simply type in their ID number and a specific class number into an iPhone application.

To prevent students from logging in from home or outside class, the application uses GPS location data and checks which router the students have logged in to.

"We don't want to use this to simply take attendance. Our hope is to use this to develop a classroom where students and teachers can discuss various topics," professor Yasuhiro Iijima told *Reuters* as he demonstrated the application.

University officials insist the project is not intended to infringe on students' privacy or track them down.

Meditation may lead to a bigger brain

Push-ups may lead to a better body, but meditation may lead to a better brain, researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles, said.

The researchers used high-resolution magnetic resonance imaging to scan the brains of people who meditate.

The study, published in the journal *NeuroImage*, found certain regions in the brains of long-term meditators were larger than in a control group.

"We know that people who consistently meditate have a singular ability to cultivate positive emotions, retain emotional stability and engage in mindful behavior," lead author Eileen Luders, a postdoctoral research fellow at the UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, said in a statement. "The observed differences in brain anatomy might give us a clue why meditators have these exceptional abilities."

The former US Air Force missile-tracking ship General Hoyt S Vandenberg begins to sink after cutting charges were detonated seven miles off Key West, Florida, on 27 May, 2009. The 523-foot-long Vandenberg was sunk to create an artificial reef to attract recreational divers and anglers. Some 70 percent of the $8.6 million budget was expended to rid the vessel of contaminants before it was scuttled.

Five-million-year old sloth fossil found in Peru

The nearly intact fossil of an ancient sloth that lived 5 million years ago has been unearthed in Peru, a find about 4 million years older than similar ones discovered in the Americas, researchers said. The sloth was found beneath the cement floor of a house in the Andean region of Espinar in southern Peru when workers were installing a water system. Parts of a giant armadillo that has also been dated to 5 million years ago were also found nearby.

The sloth, about 10 feet (3 metres) long, was an herbivore and lived during the Mio-Pliocene era, said palaeontologist Rodolfo Salas of Peru's Natural History Museum and one of the scientists on the dig sponsored by the French government.

"This skeleton of the sloth is especially important as it is the first complete skeleton of its kind that is 5 million years old in the Americas," he told *Reuters*. "Previously, discoveries have been made of partial skeletons of similar animals, but from the Pleistocene era, meaning from the last million years."

The sloth was found at 13,000 feet (4,000 metres) above sea level. Salas said the sloth was relatively small compared with other animals of its type and would help researchers better understand evolution of mammals in the Andes.

Charges against US citizen Mr John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma heard for ninth day

US citizen Mr John William Yettaw demonstrating how he entered the residence of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi from the backyard on Inya Lake side.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—Yangon North District Court continued its criminal case 47/2009 for the ninth day at 10 am today, hearing the charges against US citizen Mr John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma.

When questioned by the court, defence witness U Kyi Win in his statement said that he got his B.A degree in 1969, and LLB degree, in 1971; that he completed chamber in 1972, and since then he had been practising law as a Higher Grade Pleader; that he became a Supreme Court advocate in 1976; that in 1998-99 his Supreme Court advocate licence was revoked, following the case sued against him under Article 505 (b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure; that he considered the expression "not to communicate with outsiders by letter" manifested in paragraph (b) of the extended prohibition order of evidence (b-1) meant not to communicate with outsiders, and it was not concerned with an outsider who came and communicated with the person concerned; that he said so, because the phrase of Article 3 (a) of Chapter II definition of expressions law 1973 said that "the definition of the expressions stated in the provisions shall be the same as their everyday use"; that that was why he stated that the 1974 constitution was no longer effective; that Mr John William Yettaw entered the restricted house twice and if security members allowed him they too could be considered to have violated the law; that if action was not taken in that case, it had to be considered that he was legally allowed to do so and he was innocent; and that the host who had allowed him to get into the house would be legally allowed to do so.

Mr John William Yettaw's lawyer U Khin Maung Oo, cross-questioning defence witness U Kyi Win, said that if asked which sections could be applied to take action against Mr John William Yettaw for his entering the restrited house at night, action could be taken against him under Articles 451/452 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; that it would be right if action could be taken against him only under Article 456 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for his entering the house at night; that if it was said that the restricted building was Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's current property, it was the State's current property because the State had deployed security members around it; and that if it was said that if asked whether the building belonged to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, it could not be said that it was hers.

When cross-examined by Prosecutor District Law Officer, defence witness U Kyi Win said that it was likely that he happened to reply to the questions of Mr John William Yettaw's lawyer by referring to wrong article of law; that he did not know the fact that one who wants to enter the house compound of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi prohibited by authorities must do so only after asking permission from her; that it was true that once, the request of Mr Gambari himself to meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was turned down by her; that according to the Article 456, although a person secretly enters a house, it does not mean that he commits a crime if his entry is approved by the host; that whether the intruder Mr John William Yettaw committed the crime of intruding the house, it does not mean that he did so because he was given shelter by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi herself; that whether Mr John William Yettaw made contacts with her, according to the restrictions law, it does not mean that he did so as he gave her books and documents and left the house carrying photos and video documents with him on the way back; if the 1974 constitution was the existing one or the one still in force, it was null and void; that it was said so according to the Notification No 1/90; that according to the Declaration No 6/88 of State Law and Order Restoration Council, it was true that all the existing laws were valid so long as the SLORC abolished and revoked them when it assumed State duties on 18 September 1988; that the constitution was not applicable; that it was true that the Law to Safeguard the State Against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts had not been abolished; that he did not know that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's lawyers U Kyi Win and U Hla Myo Myint claimed the right to defend in the appeal form dated 9 October 2008 submitted to the government referring to Article 23 and Article 167(B) of the 1974 constitution; that he did not know either that U Kyi Win wrote letters to the Special Branch requesting to hear the appeal form by referring to the 1974 constitution; that if he was examined as a defence witness or a law expert, he helped to ensure fair and justice both as a defence witness and a law expert.

Then, Mr John William Yettaw from Criminal Case 48/2009 was examined. He stated that he entered the house compound of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in the morning of 4 May 2009; that it was at about midnight on 5 May that he left Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence and that he went to her house of his own accord.

Then, when the district law officer, prosecutor, cross-examined Mr John William Yettaw, he stated that he applied for a visa to visit Yangon in November, 2008, and in May, 2009. He also stated that, in applying for the visa, it was true that he had to sign to pledge that he would abide by the existing laws of Myanmar and the particulars of visa rules and regulations during his stay in Myanmar, that, in entering Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's house twice, it was true that he secretly entered the house at night without asking for permission, that he knew Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's house was guarded by security members and it was a restricted area where outsiders were not allowed to enter, that he had to wade through water in entering the house twice, and that, if by doing so it amounted to breaking the immigration law of Myanmar and the law of Yangon City Development Committee, he did not mean to breach those laws.

Mr. John William Yettaw said his statement for the lawsuit filed against him under the Criminal Case No.48/2009 was the same as his statement for the Criminal Case No. 49/2009 filed against him under the Yangon Municipal Act 28.

Later, in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure Article 539 b. (1) and provisions of the article 621 of court manual, members of the jury at Yangon North District Court, law officers and Lawyer U Khin Maung Oo, went to the residence of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to inspect how Mr. John William Yettaw entered and left the residence.

The proceedings are adjourned until 10 am on 1 June to hear the final proceedings of the trial against US citizen Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma.—*MNA*

Magway Division witnesses more development…

(from page 1)

Lt-Gen Tha Aye met with servicemen and family members at Padan Station Hall in Ngaphe Township and presented gifts to the regiments and units of the station.

At the hall of the Township PDC, he met with township level departmental officials, members of social organizations, town-selders and local people.

At Ngaphe Township Hospital, Lt-Gen Tha Aye presented cash and medicines for the hospital to the medical superintendent.

At Padan Station Hospital, he comforted the patients and presented cash and foodstuffs to them.

After fulfilling the requirements of the hospital, he presented cash to the funds of the hospital and medicines to the official.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected Mezali Bridge in Pwintbyu Township.

Officials of the Irrigation Department reported on supply of water from Mezali Diversion Weir to the farmlands in Salin, Pwintbyu and Minbu townships. Lt-Gen Tha Aye gave necessary instructions.

After viewing construction of Kanchaung embankment near Lema Village in the township, Lt-Gen Tha Aye gave necessary instructions. While in Pwintbyu Township, Lt-Gen Tha Aye visited Kyeeohn-Kyeewa Dam Project site.

At the briefing hall of Pathein-Monywa construction project, Lt-Gen Tha Aye heard reports on maintenance works at Okshitpin-Mindon-Padan-Kazunma road section presented by the deputy superintending engineer and left necessary instructions.

He visited Salin Township Hospital and comforted the patients. Next, Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Col Phone Maw Shwe presented cash and refreshments to the patients.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye attended to the needs of the hospital. The director of Health Department presented medicines to the medical superintendent.

MNA

Managing Director Mr. Peter Ong of Myanmar Brewery Limited donates K 3 million to National Blood Center through In-charge of center Dr Daw Thida Aung.—MNA

Blood donation ceremony of Myanmar Brewery Limited held

YANGON, 28 May — The fourth blood donation ceremony of Myanmar Brewery Limited, jointly-established by Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited and F&N Limited of Singapore, took place at the National Blood Center of Yangon People's Hospital yesterday morning with an opening address by Managing Director Mr. Peter Ong.

In-charge of the centre Dr Daw Thida Aung accepted K 3 million presented by Mr. Peter Ong and spoke words of thanks.

Next, Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Nu Nu Tha, Dr Daw Thida Aung, Mr Peter Ong and officials viewed donation of blood by blood donors.

Myanmar Brewery Limited will donate K 1 million to Mandalay Blood Centre.

The collective blood donation ceremony of Myanmar Brewery Limited started from 2006 to date and so far, 633 bottles of blood had been donated. A total of 184 bottles of blood were donated in 2006, 201 in 2007 and 248 in 2008. — *MNA*

Industry-1 Ministry special sales in Katha, Patheingyi

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—A special sales of the Ministry of Industry-1 was opened at the sports ground in Katha, Sagaing Division on 26 May.

Assistant Factory Manager U Aung Kyi of Myanma Textile Industries and Chairman of the Township Peace and Developmetn Council U Min Aung formally opened the special sales.

Head of Sagaing Division Industrial Supervisory and Inspection Department U Tun Shwe unveiled the signboard of the special sales. A similar special sales was held in front of the ground of Patheingyi No. 6 Basic Education Primary School in Mandalay Division this morning.—*MNA*

Myanmar goodwill delegation arrives back from Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win meets with Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Yang Jiechi in Hanoi, Vietnam.—FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May— The Myanmar Delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam via Bangkok by air yesterday afternoon after attending the 9th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Hanoi from 25 to 26 May 2009.

While in Hanoi, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win attended the Opening Session of the 9th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting held at the National Convention Centre in Hanoi at 4 p.m on 25 May 2009. The ASEM Meeting was attended by Foreign Ministers/ Deputy Ministers and senior officials from 16 Asian States, 27 European States and heads of the ASEAN Secretariat and European Commission.

In the afternoon, Minister U Nyan Win attended the Asian ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting and 1st Closed Session of the ASEM Foreign Ministers where discussions were held on cooperation to address the global financial and economic crisis.

In the evening, Minister U Nyan Win attended the working dinner hosted by H.E Mr Phan Gia Khiem, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. During the Working Dinner, Minister U Nyan Win apprised the meeting of the recent developments in Myanmar under the agenda item of regional and international developments.

Minister U Nyan Win then attended the 2nd Closed Session of the ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in the morning of 26 May 2009 at the National Convention Centre, Hanoi. At the meeting, Ministers exchanged views on the global issues such as energy security, food security, and infectious diseases. Minister U Nyan Win attended the working lunch where Ministers discussed Future of ASEM and ASEM Expansion. Minister U Nyan Win then attended the 3rd Closed Session of the ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting which took up the issues of Dialogue on Cultures and Civilizations, and attended the closing session of the Meeting.

In the evening, Minister U Nyan Win attended the Gala Dinner at the Hanoi Melia Hotel hosted by H.E Mr. Nguyen The Thao, Chairman of Hanoi People's Committee, in honour of the ASEM delegates.

While attending the ASEM Meeting, the Myanmar delegation led by Minister U Nyan Win held talks with the EU Troika at the Ministerial level. From the EU side, the meeting was attended by H.E Mr. Jan Kohout, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic, H.E Mr. Carl Bildt, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and officials from the European Commission and European Council. During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views to promote understanding and relations between Myanmar and EU. Minister U Nyan Win briefed the meeting on recent developments and progress on implementation of democratization process in Myanmar.

While in Hanoi, Minister U Nyan Win also held separate bilateral talks with the Japanese Foreign Minister H.E Mr. Hirofumi Nakasone and H.E Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and discussed issues of mutual interests. Minister U Nyan Win also met with Mrs. Ferraro Waldner, Commissioner of the European Council at a separate meeting to discuss promotion of Myanmar-EC co-operation.

On 25 May 2009, Minister U Nyan Win visited the Embassy of Myanmar, Hanoi and met with the staffs and family members of the Embassy and gave necessary instructions.

Members of the Myanmar delegation U Kyaw Tin, Director General of Political Department, and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also arrived back together with the Minister.

MNA

No case of influenza A/H1N1 infected to pigs in Myanmar L&F Ministry raising awareness against A/H1N1

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May — Influenza A/H1N1 has infected in 48 countries since 17 April to date. The virus infected 13,398 persons and killed 95.

Joining hands with local authorities in states and divisions, Health Department, Development Affairs Committee, Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation and business men, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries have raised awareness against the flu and distributed pamphlets to the people, surveillance of the flu and raising the bio-security in the pig farms.

To prevent and control the disease, those working at pig farms are urged to separate and not to move pigs and to inform the LBVD if they find the symptoms of respiratory pain in pigs; to promote the bio-security; to raise personal hygiene including washing hands and legs at pig farms; not to sell unhealthy pigs at markets and not to cook them and not to breed strange pedigree.

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries released the news that so far there has been no case of influenza A/H1N1 infected to pigs in Myanmar; that the virus cannot survive if pork and pig products cooked well at 70 degree centigrade/160 degree Fahrenheit; and that if food is cooked cleanly, the virus cannot be infectious.

MNA

***Surveillance tasks are being carried out to prevent spread of A/H1N1 to Myanmar at Yangon International Airport.*—MNA**

***Health staff carry out preventive measures against A/H1N1 at Mandalay International Airport (TandaU).*—MNA**

Health Ministry says Myanmar is still free from influenza A/H1N1

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—Influenza A/H1N1 has broken out since 17 April. The World Health Organization yesterday approved the numbers of casualty in the outbreak of influenza that had so far infected 13,398 people and killed 95 and the influenza infected in 48 countries including Mexico.

The virus A/H1N1 may be transformed into the global human pandemic disease. Therefore, the Ministry of Health commenced the necessary preparedness task on 25 April.

In order not to break out the influenza A/H1N1 in the territory of Myanmar, the Ministry of Health is carrying out preparedness measures such as daily virus observation, preparations for medical treatment, providing of medicines and medical equipment and distribution of laboratory apparatuses to the hospitals and making ready for use of the special patient wards.

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

Since 29 April, the visitors have been under medical checks at international airports, international seaports and exits of borders.

Up to now, the Ministry of Health released the information that there is no case of influenza A/H1N1 in Myanmar.—*MNA*

UMFCCI officials meet Israeli Ambassador and party

YANGON, 28 May — Vice-Presidents of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung, U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin, General Secretary Dr Maung Maung Lay, CEC members and executives met Israeli Ambassador Mr. Yaron Mayer and Agriculturalists Mr. Zion Shemer and Mr. Yaacov Moskovitch from Israel at the federation on 22 May.

They held discussions on agricultural production in Myanmar, opportunities for cooperation in agricultural sector, sending of staff from private sector to on-job training course in Israel and cooperation in conducting agricultural training courses.—*MNA*

***UMFCCI Vice-President U Win Aung and party meet with Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Yaron Mayer, Agriculturalists Mr. Zion Shemer and Mr. Yaacov Moskovitch.*—MNA**

Myittamon blood donors' association makes blood donation

YANGON, 28 May — Myittamon blood donors' association held the 55th blood donation ceremony for Tatmadaw men who are receiving treatments at No.1 Defence Services General Hospital (1000-bed) at Blood Bank of the Hospital this morning.

Head of Pathological Department of No.1 Defence Services General Hospital (1000-bed) made an opening speech and a professor explained the knowledge on health related to blood donation.

After that, head of Pathological Department received the cash donated by a responsible person of the association and spoke words of thanks.

Afterwards, the association donated blood.

MNA

XMM-newton takes astronomers to black hole's edge

LONDON, 28 May — Using new data from ESA's XMM-Newton spaceborne observatory, astronomers have probed closer than ever to a supermassive black hole lying deep at the core of a distant active galaxy.

The galaxy – known as 1H0707-495 – was observed during four 48-hr-long orbits of XMM-Newton around Earth, starting in January 2008. The black hole at its centre was thought to be partially obscured from view by intervening clouds of gas and dust, but these current observations have revealed the innermost depths of the galaxy.

X-rays are produced as matter swirls into a supermassive black hole. The X-rays illuminate and are reflected from the matter before its eventual accretion. Iron atoms in the flow imprint characteristic iron lines on the reflected light.—*Internet*

Thebyu Dam in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe benefits some 1200 acres of arable lands

Article & Photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

The spillway of Thebyu Dam.

(from page 1)

acre feet of stored water in the dam on 19 May 2009; that to irrigate 500 acres of summer paddy from 15 January to 30 April 2009 was on target, and irrigation water was being supplied to 348 acres of summer paddy; and that in 2009-2010, the dam will benefit 309 acres of monsoon paddy fields.

Thebyu Dam is of earthen type. Its main dam is 2650 feet long and 60 feet high, and each of its two dykes, 380 feet long and 30 feet high. The main canal is 12,800 feet long with 98 structures along it. The region gets an average annual rainfall of 50 inches. The inflow water capacity is 6900 acre feet and the maximum water storage capacity is 8718 acre feet.

The irrigated areas of the dam in the west of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe such as Gyogon, Meelaunggon, Yabein and Sharchaung villages used to see sugarcane plantations only due to insufficient water supply. Now, irrigation water is available both in the rainy season and in summer. Now, they have reclaimed the vacant lands covered with In (dipterocarpus tuberculatus) trees that grow naturally and grow paddy. And 348 of the targeted 500 acres for 2008-2009 have been put under summer paddy.

Myanmar being an agro-based country, the government is working hard in various aspects to boost agricultural production across the nation including low-lying areas and highlands for improvement of the agricultural sector. As part of the goal, Thebyu Dam intended to benefit 1200 acres of farmlands in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe will help boost per capita income and raise the living standard of local farmers.

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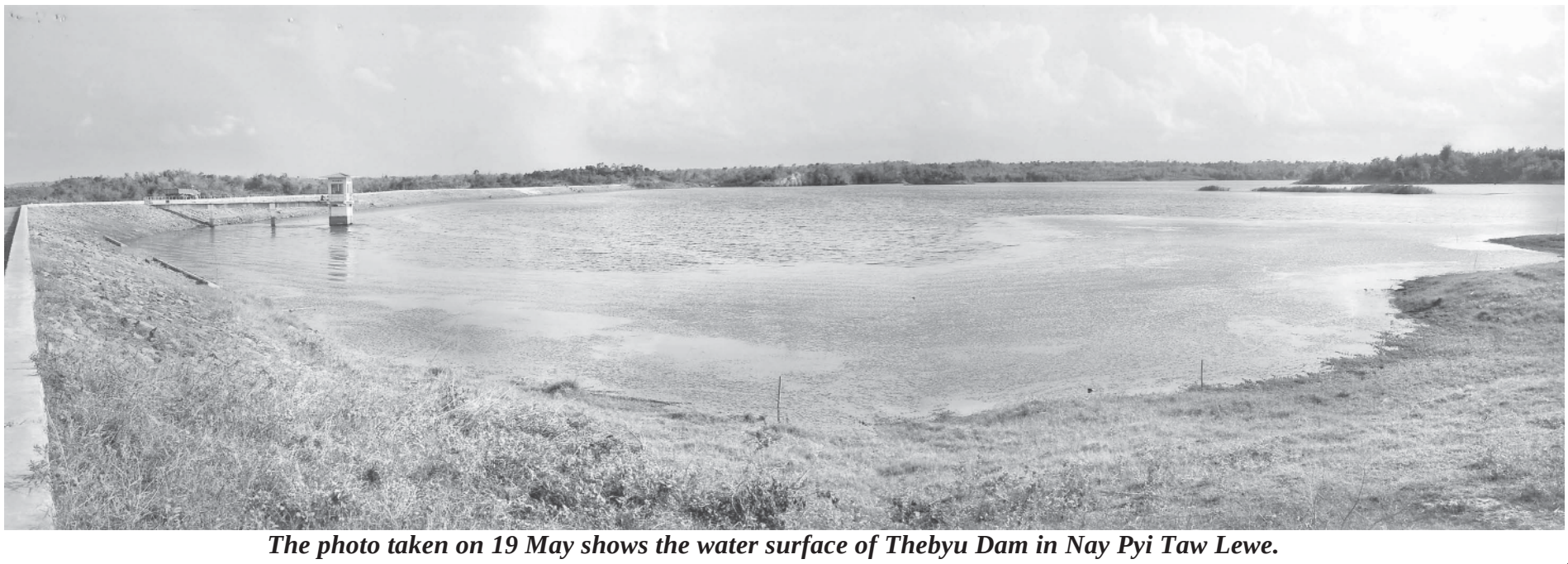
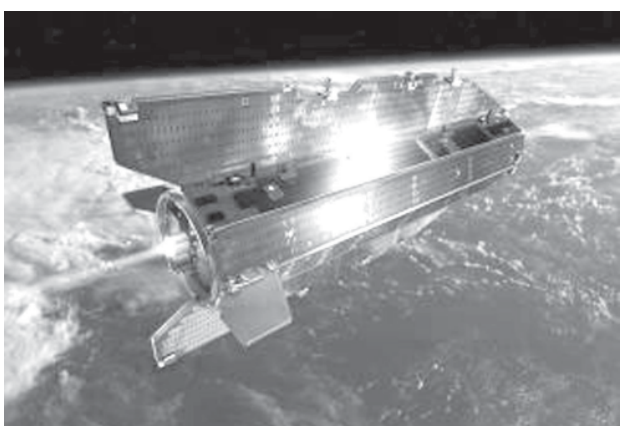
Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
27-5-2009



The photo taken on 19 May shows the water surface of Thebyu Dam in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe.

Europe's gravity mission achieves drag-free perfection

BERLIN, 28 May —Volker Liebig, ESA's Director of Earth Observation Programmes commented, "I am very pleased to see another world premier by GOCE, after having already demonstrated the first gradiometer technology ever flown in space."



GOCE orbit is so low that it experiences drag from the outer edges of Earth's atmosphere.

Launched on 17 March and currently progressing through the commissioning phase, GOCE (Gravity field and steady-state Ocean Circulation Explorer) is set to measure Earth's gravity field with unprecedented accuracy. However, to do this means that the satellite has to orbit Earth as low as possible where the gravitational signal is stronger, but also where the fringes of the atmosphere remain.

To ensure that the gravity measurements taken by GOCE are of true gravity, the satellite has to be kept stable and in 'free-fall'. —*Internet*

Shellfish face uncertain future

EDGEWATER, 28 May — Overfishing and disease have decimated shellfish populations in many of the world's temperate estuarine and coastal ecosystems. Smithsonian scientists, led by Whitman Miller, ecologist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Md., have discovered another serious threat to these valuable filter feeders—rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide that contribute to the acidification of open ocean, coastal and estuarine waters.

For shellfish and other organisms that have calcium carbonate shells and structures, the problem begins when atmospheric CO_2 dissolves in seawater and creates carbonic acid that is then rapidly transformed into carbonate and bicarbonate ions in the water. Increased acidity tips the balance toward bicarbonate formation and away from carbonate. Less carbonate in the water means that shellfish have fewer building blocks to generate their shells.

Internet

Scientists have discovered a serious threat to shellfish.

At least 131 people dead, 1,123 missing in Bangladesh after cyclone

DHAKA, 28 May—At least 131 people died and 1,123 people are still missing after the cyclone Aila hit Bangladesh's southwestern coast on Monday, officials said on Thursday.

Ashrafuzzaman, official of the control room under the Food and Disaster Management Ministry, told *Xinhua* on Thursday that they have been confirmed by local officials of the affected districts that 1,123 people are still missing after Monday's cyclone which also claims 131 people's lives.

Spokesman of the ministry Golam Kibira also confirmed the figure with *Xinhua* over phone.

Ashrafuzzaman said according to their count 6,500 people were injured and more than 3.47 million people affected in the country's 14 coastal districts.

Besides, nearly 1 million people are still staying in shelters.

Food and Disaster Management Minister Abdur Razzak admitted on Wednesday at a press briefing that limited shelter centers virtually increased the death toll and related damages.—*Internet*

***A bus has ploughed into a crowd of pedestrians in south-eastern Bulgaria, killing at least 16 people and injuring more than 20 others, officials say.—*INTERNET**

***This composite photograph, released by Nature Magazine on 27 May, 2009, shows newborn transgenic marmoset monkeys Kei (L) and Kou. Japanese researchers on Thursday reported they have genetically engineered monkeys whose hair roots, skin and blood glow green under a special light, and who have passed on their traits to their offspring, the first time this has been achieved in a primate.—*INTERNET**

Study: Sensitivity to alcohol may predict alcoholism

LOS ANGELES, 28 May—The more people need to drink to feel the effects of alcohol, the greater the chance of becoming an alcoholic, a new study shows.

The conclusion was based on a long-term study of nearly 300 men by researchers at the Alcohol Research Center for the Veterans Affairs in San Diego, Southern California.

The study gauged the participants' reaction to alcohol between ages 18 and 25, then again 10 years later and in five-year intervals afterward.

Having a low level of response to alcohol at the start accurately predicted drinking disorders in the men's future, regardless of other factors, according to the study published by Health Day News on Tuesday.

This apparent lack of sensitivity to imbibing intoxicants, called a low level of response (LR) to alcohol, can lead a person to drink more heavily to get that buzz or other desired effect, said the study.

Internet

Bulgaria bus crash leaves 16 dead

SOFIA, 28 May—A bus has ploughed into a crowd of pedestrians in south-eastern Bulgaria, killing at least 16 people and injuring more than 20 others, officials say.

Police say the driver appeared to lose control of the vehicle after its brakes failed while travelling down a mountain pass near the town of Yambol.

The victims had been walking up the peak to attend a traditional Ascension Day feast and fair held on the summit. At least four of the injured are in a very serious condition in hospital.

The bus was carrying elderly passengers, some of whom were reportedly among the dead. In total, 11 women, four men and a 16-year-old boy were killed.

Parliament observed a minute of silence after news of the accident broke, while the government said Friday would be a day of mourning.—*Internet*

Ocean monster shows hidden depths

TOKYO, 28 May—Scientists wanted to drill down into the Earth's crust - and even through the crust - to get samples from the key zones 6 or 7km down where earthquakes and lots of other interesting geological processes begin; but that was impossible with existing ships.

The first thing that strikes you when the Chikyu comes into view is the drill derrick, which stands 100m above the deck - the tallest ship-borne rig in the world.

Festooned from it are cables a handspan thick, and huge pieces of yellow machinery, all connected with the core business of sending a drill bit deeper into the Earth than has ever been done at sea.

"There is far more to drilling a hole in the ground than just drilling a hole in the ground," Steve Krukowski says."In days gone by, rigs were manual, whereby you had a guy stuck up on the derrick running the drill pipe on a rope. All the rigs coming out nowadays are automatic, reducing the interface between man and machine."

Internet

***The Chikyu carries the tallest ship-borne rig in the world.—*INTERNET**

Forum on building liveable cities convenes in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 28 May—Building and sustaining healthy and liveable cities goes beyond improving the physical infrastructure, it also has much to do with creating a quality living environment, said communication and environment experts here on Thursday.

Gathering for the forum called "Social Change and Community Engagement for Healthy and Liveable Cities," communication and environment experts recognize the need to take an inter-sectoral approach to achieving effective community engagement, and to building strategic alliances with the various key stakeholders.

The Forum discussed wide-ranging issues covering environmental ownership, social graciousness, anti-social behavior like littering, public hygiene standards, as well as efforts to promote greater personal and community responsibility through more effective public outreach and education.—*Internet*

People may be able to taste words

WASHINGTON, 28 May—We are all capable of "hearing" shapes and sizes and perhaps even "tasting" sounds, according to researchers.

This blending of sensory experiences, or synaesthesia, they say, influences our perception and helps us make sense of a jumble of simultaneous sensations.

It may be that everyone can taste language to a certain degree.

Oxford University scientists found that people associate lower-pitched sounds with larger and more rounded shapes. One of the team is now working with chef Heston Blumenthal to incorporate words into a new dining experience.

Synaesthesia itself is a rare and unusual condition thought to affect less than 1% of the population.

It can takes many different forms - some people may "see sounds", in that certain sounds trigger them to see particular colours. Others might experience colours while reading those words in simple black text. But according to Charles Spence, a professor of experimental psychology at Oxford University, we are all "synaesthetes" up to a point.

He and his colleagues tested 12 volunteers in trials during which an image flashed up on a screen at a slightly different time to one of two tones - one low-pitched and one high-pitched - being played.—*Internet*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV VASCO DAGAMA VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DAGAMA VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.5.2009 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 up 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KMA II VOY NO (903)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KMA II VOY NO (903) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.5.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of BSW-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up 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 KMA SHIPPING LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Invitation to Tender

Sr. No	Description	Qty	Issuing date	closing date
1.	Girth Gear With Casing, Drive Pinion Assembly For Raw Mill No.3	1 Set	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
2.	Chain And Chain Sproket	1 Lot	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
3.	Steel Lining Plate And Accessories	1 Lot	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
4.	Kiln Hanging Chain	1 Lot	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
5.	Steel Products	1 Lot	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
6.	Heavy Equipment Spare	1 Lot	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
7.	Spare Parts For Air Compressor	1 Lot	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
8.	Electrical Accessories For Glass Factory And Refactory Brick Factory	1 Lot	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
9.	Spare Parts For Production Machinery And Electrical Equipment For Refactory Brick Factory (Kyaukse)	1 Lot	2.5.2009	13.7.2009
10.	X-Ray Spectrometer	1 Unit	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
11.	High Speed Agitator For Clay Washing (700) rpms	2 Sets	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
12.	Agitator For Wash Clay	1 Unit	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
13.	High Speed Agitator For Underground Tank (285) rpm	4 Sets	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
14.	Conveyor Line For Carrying of Extruding Body	1 Set	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
15.	Steel Tank With Agitator For Glaze	2 Sets	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
16.	Flat Belt Conveyor Line For Finished Product	1 Set	27.5.2009	13.7.2009
17.	Agitator For Overhead Slip Tank	1 Set	27.5.2009	15.7.2009
18.	Lubricant	9 Items	27.5.2009	15.6.2009

Tender forms and documents are available at the Procurement Department, Myanma Ceramic Industries, Ministry of Industry (1), Office No. 41, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who purchased Tender Documents officially.

(For further details, contact telephone number. 067.408298)

Myanma Ceramic Industries

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Ponaflex Corporation, a Company incorporated in Republic of Korea, at (Nam dong complex 10B-1L) 623 Nam chon-dong, Nam dong-Ku, Inchon-city, Republic of Korea is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following Trademark:-

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In respect of : Hose pipes, Fire hose, plastic Hose, Hoses of textile Material, Watering Hose.

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U Myint Lwin, Advocate,
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Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
MYINT.Advocate@mptmail.net.mm
Ph :371 990 29.May.2009

DON'T SMOKE

Chinese-Filipino vendor shot by gunman in S Philippines

COTABATO (Philippines), 28 May — A gunman shot and critically injured a Chinese-Filipino man Wednesday night in the southern Philippines, the police said on Thursday.

The victim, Cesar Kadungog Lu, who works as a fish vendor in the township of Pikit, North Cotabato Province, was shot by an unknown man around 8:00 p.m. local time (1200 GMT), said Superintendent Jose Kalimutan, the police's provincial chief of intelligence and investigation.

Kalimutan said the victim sustained three gunshot wounds in the body and is being treated at a nearby hospital. "There's an investigation ongoing. We are looking into angles if it's foiled abduction case," Kalimutan said.Earlier on Wednesday, armed men, believed to be members of a kidnap-for-ransom gang called "Pentagon," seized a 24-year-old Korean, Maxine Wo, in the township of Kabacan.

No group has claimed responsibility for the incident but the military blamed members of the "Pentagon" kidnappers.The "Pentagon," allegedly responsible for at least 50 kidnapping cases in Mindanao, first gained notoriety on Oct 17, 2001, when it abducted Italian priest Guissepe Pierrantoni on his mission in Zamboanga del Sur Province.

Pierrantoni was released on April 8, 2002, after six months in captivity.The group also kidnapped five Chinese engineers and a Filipino guide in May 2001. Four of the Chinese engineers were killed in the crossfire during a military rescue operation in June 2001.— *Internet*

China might have A/H1N1 influenza vaccine by July

BEIJING,28 May —China is likely to receive samples of a flu strain by early June that will enable it to manufacture A/H1N1 influenza vaccine for human use by July, an official said here.

"The country has set up a green channel between the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Chinese drug makers. As soon as the WHO releases the vaccine strain, drug companies will be informed and will start manufacturing as soon as they can," Yin Hongzhang, head of the biology production department under the State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA), told *Xinhua* in an exclusive interview.

"If we can get the strain before early June, our drug companies will have produced the vaccine by July, under current conditions," Yin said. He said the green channel would save drug companies up to one month, compared with normal procedures for developing vaccines.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Australians "dead lucky" in government stimulus splash

CANBERRA, 28 May — Thousands of dead Australians landed windfall cash payments to help stimulate the recession-hit economy, while thousands of others living overseas also received money, the government said on Thursday.

The money was paid out as part of a stimulus package worth 52 billion Australian dollars since September as the country slid into recession and the government forecast unemployment would double to one million by late next year. Much of the money was tax refunds to poor and middle-income earners, pensioners and families with young children, but 14 million Australian dollars (11 million US dollars) was paid to 16,000 dead citizens and 25 million Australian dollars to 25,000 Australians living abroad.

"Grateful dead get a raise from Kev," said one headline, refering to Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, whose Labor government's economic management credentials have long been its achille's heel. Finance Minister Lindsay Tanner insisted the money was well spent and would still find its way into the economy. — *MNA/Reuters*

Ban says climate change pace "alarming"

HELSINKI, 28 May — The impact of climate change is accelerating at an "alarming" pace and urgent action must be taken, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Wednesday.

"What is frightening is that the scientists are now reviewing their predictions, recognizing that climate change impact is accelerating at a much faster pace," Ban said, referring to the ongoing fifth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

"This is very serious and alarming. That is why I have been urging that if we take any action, we must take action now regardless of where you are coming from. Rich and poor countries, we must address this issue together," Ban told a seminar.

The call for urgency echoed similar comments by the UN Chief at a business conference on climate policy last weekend in Denmark. Business leaders met in Copenhagen to discuss long-term climate policies, ahead of a UN conference in December meant to forge a new climate treaty to replace the Kyoto Protocol. — *MNA/Reuters*

Mine kills six soldiers in southeast Turkey

DIYARBAKIR (Turkey), 28 May — Six Turkish soldiers were killed and six were wounded when a remotely controlled mine exploded in the mainly Kurdish Hakkari Province near the Iraqi border, security sources said on Thursday.

A vehicle carrying the soldiers on a military operation was hit at 2030 GMT on Wednesday. Turkish troops, backed by helicopters, launched an offensive near the Iraqi border against separatist Kurdish PKK guerillas after the blast. It was the heaviest toll suffered by Turkish soldiers since a bomb explosion killed nine soldiers at the end of April.

The Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) guerilla took up arms against the Turkish state in 1984 with the aim of establishing a Kurdish homeland in mainly Kurdish southeastern Turkey. More than 40,000 people have been killed in the conflict. — *MNA/Reuters*

New Optimism on US Healthcare, but obstacles remain

WASHINGTON, 28 May — The US Congress has started work on a broad overhaul of the healthcare system in a rare spirit of optimism, but brewing battles over its cost, scope and structure could still scuttle hopes for a solution.

From President Barack Obama's declaration that "the stars are aligned" on healthcare to a recent cost-cutting pledge by a half-dozen industry groups, momentum has built steadily on an issue that has eluded consensus for decades.

The first test comes in a few weeks when Congress unveils legislation, launching months of expected wrangling over the specifics of tax hikes, spending cuts and the government's role in a revamp that could cost as much as 1.5 trillion US dollars.

"It's true that the planets are aligned for healthcare as never before, but there are still big obstacles," said Drew Altman, president of the Kaiser Family Foundation, a nonpartisan health policy group.

"We are about to enter a very different stage of the debate once everyone sees the specifics and how it will be paid for," he said. "Getting a comprehensive agreement is a high hill to climb. We have failed many times."

MNA/Reuters

Egrets are seen in the woods at Hongsha Village of Guangpo County in Fangchenggang, a port city in southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 26 May , 2009. Some 300,000 migrant birds of 187 varieties stop at the city to take a breath annually during their migration between Australia and Asia due to the good environment in the area and the increased awareness of protecting birds among local people. — INTERNET

Declaration on protection of modern architecture signed in Nanjing

BEIJING, 28 May —A modern and contemporary Chinese architectural heritage preservation conference opens on Wednesday in Nanjing. The meeting saw a declaration signed in a bit to enhance Chinese modern architectural heritage protection and research.

Shan Jixiang, director of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage, attended the meeting and gave a speech.Participants all agree as time goes on, China's modern architecture will gradually radiate its art diversity, technical advancement and unique features, all which render it worth wide attention.

"Perhaps now we see a clear picture of architectures before Qing Dynasty, yet with little knowledge of modern and contemporary architecture which are suffering worsen damages.— *Internet*

Five ancient tombs of Song, Ming Dynasties discovered

BEIJING, 28 May —Five ancient tombs were discovered recently in Huai'an, east China's Jiangsu Province, by the archaeological team of Huai'an Municipal Museum.

The burial sites were originally accidentally discovered by workers of local electricity supply department when they made the ground work to set up a power-supply tower, a member of the archaeological team told *Xinhua* on Tuesday.

The history of the tombs dated back to Song Dynasty (960-1279) and Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), confirmed by the experts who studied the discoveries from inside the tombs.

"We find at last 5 tombs in No.57 (Electricity-Supply) Tower Footing Area, from two different ages namely Song and Ming," said Yin Zenghuai, member of the archeological team in Huai'an Municipal Museum, Jiangsu.

Internet

Shanghai donates 50,000 face masks to Osaka

TOKYO, 28 May — China's Shanghai has donated 50,000 face masks to Osaka of Japan where a large number of new-flu infections is reported. The masks arrived at Osaka, Shanghai's "sister city" on Wednesday and will be distributed to local medial facilities in both Osaka City and Osaka Prefecture. They are expected to ease the region's shortage of face masks due to the abrupt outbreak of A/H1N1 flu.

Shanghai is the third Chinese city to donate masks to Japan. Earlier, northern city of Tianjin and the southern Guangdong Province also donated masks to their "sister" cities or prefectures in Japan, Kobe city and Hyogo Prefecture respectively.

MNA/Xinhua

Centuries on, ancient capital still immersed in poetic odyssey

XI'AN, 28 May — American poet Jane Hirshfield gulped down a cup of liquor that floated toward her on a lotus-shaped wooden plate, and improvised a lyric in line with a centuries-old Chinese tradition.

"A lake's water does not carry last year's poems; a boat's hull does not travel last year's waves," she read out the lines Tuesday at a national poetry festival in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

The eager crowd of 130 poetry lovers cheered and clapped as an interpreter put the lines into Chinese.

The award-winning poet, whose works are rarely read in China, instantly became the star of the tri-annual gathering, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Chinese Writers' Association and the Shaanxi Provincial Government.

Amateur Chinese poet Guan Zhongbin timidly invited her for a photo together.

"I really admire her," said the 31-year-old from the neighboring Gansu Province. He waited until the end of the game but that lotus plate never came near him, so he never had a chance to improvise a poem.

"In ancient times, only scholars who stood out in imperial exams had such honor," said Guan.

Xi'an served as China's capital in 13 dynasties, from Western Zhou (1134 to 771 BC) to Tang Dynasty (618 to 907).

Internet

Dengue fever deaths reach 53 in Brazilian state

RIO DEJANEIRO, 28 May — The death toll from dengue fever has reached 53 in Brazil's northeastern Bahia state this year, the state's Health Secretariat said on Wednesday.

According to the secretariat, it is the highest death toll since it became mandatory to report dengue cases in 1995. Over half of the dead were under 15 years old.The number of confirmed dengue fever cases in the state surpassed 73,600 as of May 16, up 173 percent from the same period last year, the secretariat said.

Most of the dengue fever cases are reported in six municipalities in Bahia's southern region, it added.

Despite the rise in Bahia, the number of dengue fever cases in Brazil has fallen 49 percent from January to mid-May, according to a recent report released by the country's health ministry.Common in tropical climates, dengue fever is transmitted by the bite of the Aedes aegypti mosquito. — *Internet*

South Korea confirms three more new flu cases

SEOUL, 28 May — South Korea's Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs reported Thursday that three more cases of Influenza A/H1N1 have been confirmed, bringing the number of reported infections to 32 in the country.

According to the ministry, a 41-year-old American English teacher, a 38-year-old educator and a 19-year-old Korean were confirmed to have been infected with the new flu virus.The English teacher and the educator worked at the same language institute, where by Wednesday 20 employees, mostly foreign instructors, had been found to be infected with the contagious disease.

The 19-year-old Korean is being treated at a state-designated hospital since returning from overseas on Tuesday after she showed flu-like symptoms, the ministry said.

Internet

90% of flu in Chile caused by A/H1N1 virus

SANTIAGO, 28 May — Chile's health authorities said on Wednesday that 90 percent of flu cases in the country were caused by the A/H1N1 virus.

The number of infected people was expected to continue rising in the coming three or four weeks, said Chilean Vice Health Minister Jeanette Vega.

Chile on Tuesday confirmed 119 cases of A/H1N1 flu, which made it the South American country with the most confirmed cases of the new flu.

Most of the cases were found in the metropolitan region of Santiago.Chilean health authorities said that they will continue to implement preventive measures recommended by the World Health Organization to avert further infections.

Internet

SPORTS

Roberto Carlos likely to stay with Fenerbahce

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 May — Brazilian Roberto Carlos has admitted that he is offered to return to the Brazilian football, but says he is likely to finish the contract with Fenerbahce that lasts one more season in Turkey.

The defender told ESPN Brasil on Wednesday that he is in talks with Fluminense club directors in his home country, but expects to remain with Fenerbahce.

Carlos, who helped Brazil win the 2002 World Cup, said other Brazilian clubs also have shown interest in his services. —*Internet*

***Maria Sharapova of Russia follows through on a shot during her match against compatriot Nadia Petrova at the French Open at Roland Garros in Paris on 27 May , 2009.—*INTERNET**

Barcelona crowned European champions

ROME, 28 May— Barcelona beat Manchester United 2-0 to win the Champions League title on Wednesday with goals through Samuel Eto'o and Lionel Messi.

Eto'o put the Spanish champions ahead in the 10th minute and Messi's 70th-minute header sealed the victory as Barcelona won Europe's most prestigious club championship for the third time.

The victory over the defending champions completed a sweep of titles for Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola in his first season after wins in the Spanish league and cup. United had been chasing its fourth European Cup title, and fourth trophy this season after winning the Premier League, FIFA Club World Cup and League Cup.—*Internet*

***Barcelona players celebrate with the trophy following their Champions League final soccer match against Manchester United at the Olympic stadium in Rome on 27 May, 2009. Barcelona completed an historic treble with a 2-0 win over holders Manchester United in the Champions League final in Rome on Wednesday night. —*INTERNET**

FA Cup winners and runners-up since 1946

LONDON, 28 May—Following are the results of English FA Cup finals since the competition restarted in the 1945-46 season after World War Two:

Season	Winners	Runners-up	Score
1945-46	Derby County	Charlton Athletic	4-1
1946-47	Charlton Athletic	Burnley	1-0
1947-48	Manchester United	Blackpool	4-2
1948-49	Wolverhampton Wan	Leicester City	3-1
1949-50	Arsenal	Liverpool	2-0
1950-51	Newcastle United	Blackpool	2-0
1951-52	Newcastle United	Arsenal	1-0
1952-53	Blackpool	Bolton Wanderers	4-3
1953-54	West Bromwich Albion	Preston North End	3-2
1954-55	Newcastle United	Manchester City	3-1
1955-56	Manchester City	Birmingham City	3-1
1956-57	Aston Villa	Manchester United	2-1
1957-58	Bolton Wanderers	Manchester United	2-0
1958-59	Nottingham Forest	Luton Town	2-1
1959-60	Wolverhampton Wan	Blackburn Rovers	3-0
1960-61	Tottenham Hotspur	Leicester City	2-0
1961-62	Tottenham Hotspur	Burnley	3-1
1962-63	Manchester United	Leicester City	3-1
1963-64	West Ham United	Preston North End	3-2
1964-65	Liverpool	Leeds United	2-1
1965-66	Everton	Sheffield Wednesday	3-2
1966-67	Tottenham Hotspur	Chelsea	2-1
1967-68	West Bromwich Albion	Everton	1-0
1968-69	Manchester City	Leicester City	1-0
1969-70	Chelsea	Leeds United	2-1 (replay at Old Trafford after 2-2 draw)
1970-71	Arsenal	Liverpool	2-1
1971-72	Leeds United	Arsenal	1-0
1972-73	Sunderland	Leeds United	1-0
1973-74	Liverpool	Newcastle United	3-0
1974-75	West Ham United	Fulham	2-0
1975-76	Southampton	Manchester United	1-0
1976-77	Manchester United	Liverpool	2-1
1977-78	Ipswich Town	Arsenal	1-0
1978-79	Arsenal	Manchester United	3-2
1979-80	West Ham United	Arsenal	1-0
1980-81	Tottenham Hotspur	Manchester City	3-2 (replay at Wembley Stadium after 1-1 draw)
1981-82	Tottenham Hotspur	Queens Park Rangers	1-0 (replay at Wembley Stadium after 1-1 draw)
1982-83	Manchester United	Brighton & Hove Albion	4-0 (replay at Wembley Stadium after 2-2 draw)
1983-84	Everton	Watford	2-0
1984-85	Manchester United	Everton	1-0
1985-86	Liverpool	Everton	3-1
1986-87	Coventry City	Tottenham Hotspur	3-2
1987-88	Wimbledon	Liverpool	1-0
1988-89	Liverpool	Everton	3-2
1989-90	Manchester United	Crystal Palace	1-0 (replay at Wembley Stadium after 3-3 draw)
1990-91	Tottenham Hotspur	Nottingham Forest	2-1
1991-92	Liverpool	Sunderland	2-0
1992-93	Arsenal	Sheffield Wednesday	2-1 (replay at Wembley Stadium after 1-1 draw)
1993-94	Manchester United	Chelsea	4-0
1994-95	Everton	Manchester United	1-0
1995-96	Manchester United	Liverpool	1-0
1996-97	Chelsea	Middlesbrough	2-0
1997-98	Arsenal	Newcastle United	2-0
1998-99	Manchester United	Newcastle United	2-0
1999-2000	Chelsea	Aston Villa	1-0
2000-01	Liverpool	Arsenal	2-1
2001-02	Arsenal	Chelsea	2-0
2002-03	Arsenal	Southampton	1-0
2003-04	Manchester United	Millwall	3-0
2004-05	Arsenal	Manchester United	0-0 (Arsenal won 5-4 on penalties)
2005-06	Liverpool	West Ham United	3-3 (Liverpool won 3-1 on penalties)
2006-07	Chelsea	Manchester United	1-0
2007-08	Portsmouth	Cardiff City	1-0.—*Internet*

Nadal, Sharapova triumph as French Open tennis

***Spanish player Rafael Nadal returns a ball to Russian player Teimuraz Gabashvili during the French Open tennis second round match at Roland Garros in Paris.—*INTERNET**

PARIS, 28 May— Rafael Nadal and Maria Sharapova battled into the French Open last 32 on Wednesday as Roland Garros saw the future of women's tennis in the shape of high-volume 16-year-old Michelle Larcher de Brito.

Four-time champion Nadal enjoyed a comfortable 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 win over Teimuraz Gabashvili of Russia to register a record 30th straight win here to better the mark set by Chris Evert.

In the first round Nadal surpassed Bjorn Borg for the longest unbeaten run for a man and a tournament win here on 7 June would make him the first to win five titles in a row in Paris.

"I came here to get a result without thinking about these records," said Nadal who will face former world number one Lleyton Hewitt for a place in the last 16.

Internet

Argentine soccer forward Messi deserves 2009 Golden Ball, says Pele

MONTEVIDEO, 28 May —Argentine forward Lionel Messi deserves 2009 Player of the Year award, Brazilian soccer legend Pele told media on Wednesday.

"This year, without any doubt, Messi deserves the Golden Ball," Pele said just minutes after Messi scored the goal that gave Spanish soccer giant Barcelona the European Champions League trophy.

"I have delivered the prize to Ronaldinho Gaucho, then to Kaka, then last year to Cristiano Ronaldo, and Messi was in second place every time," he recalled, "so I think it is definitely his this time," he said.

Pele, considered by many to be the best soccer player of all time, is visiting Uruguay as ambassador for the Copa Libertadores.—*Internet*

Van Nistelrooy expects to come back for Real next season

MADRID, 28 May — Real Madrid striker Ruud van Nistelrooy looks to play for the club next season after making progress on his comeback from knee surgery, the Dutchman said on Wednesday.

"I will start some gentle jogging next week. The pre-season starts more or less in mid-July and if all goes well I think I'll be able to join up with the group again in the first weeks of August," Van Nistelrooy told Real Madrid television.

Van Nistelrooy, 32, has been sidelined since November when he had surgery to repair damaged cartilage in his right knee.

Internet

People from Fujian and Taiwan splash water to each other to mark the Duanwu Festival, also known as the Dragon Boat Festival, in Shishi, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 28 May, 2009.—INTERNET

Dragon Boat Festival submitted as intangible cultural heritage

WUHAN, 28 May—China has submitted an application to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to nomiate the Dragon Boat Festival as an intangible cultural heritage.

The appliction was submitted to the UNESCO by central China's Hubei Province on behalf of nation, upon approval by the Ministry of Culture and the national intangible cultural heritage protection centre, said Hubei officials here on Wedneday.

The application work began in last September and the application was handed to the UNESCO in December, said Jiang Qing, director of Hubei provincial centre for protection of intangible cultural heritage.

UNESCO's evaluation process had started, Jiang said. The Dragon Boat Festival, or Duanwu, falls on 5 May of Chinese lunar calendar. This year's Duanwu festival falls on Thursday.

People eat zongzi or rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves and race dragon boats on the Duanwu festival.

MNA/Xinhua

MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(29.5.2009) (Friday)

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

Local Transmission

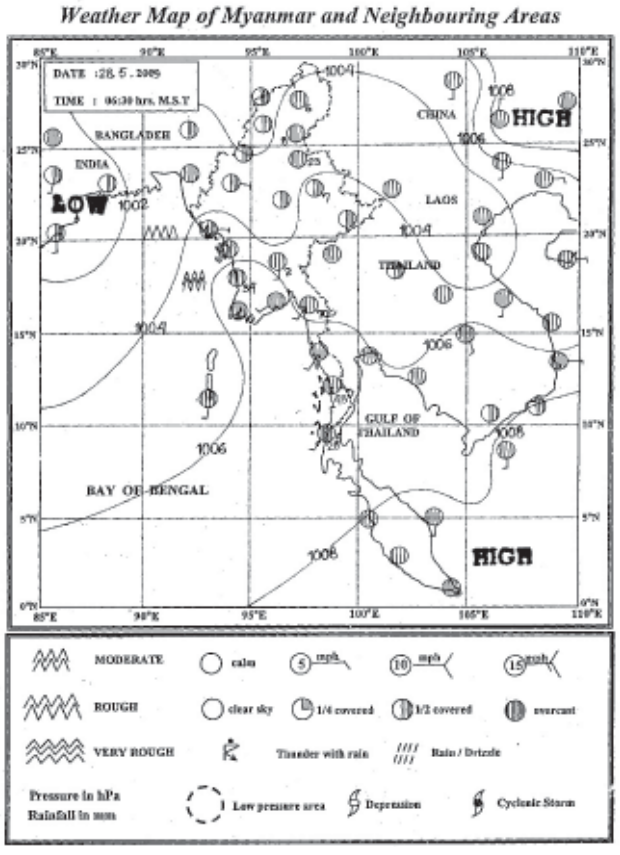
* Signature Tune
* Paper Toys
* Ayeyawady Second Defile
* Myanmar Earthen Pots
* Do you want a chair that'll be comfortable?
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Turtle Our Heritge
* Arrogant Mosaic
* Ayeyawady First Defile
* The Enchanting Akha Village
* New Transport Facilities designed for Regional Development
* Beauty of Gall Wood displayed
* Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region (III) (Awadam Village- Ziadam Village)
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Paper Toys
* Ayeyawady Second Defile
* Myanmar Earthen Pots
* Do you want a chair that'll be comfortable?
* Thriving Prawn Farms of Myanma Coastal Region (Rakhine State)
* Beautiful Embossed Bark Painting
* Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region(IV) (Ziadam Village-Wang Mung Camps 1&2)
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 28 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin and Mon States, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Ayeyawady Division, scattered in Rakhine and Kayin States, Mandalay Division, isolated in Shan and Chin States, Upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mon State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Theinzayat (5.27) inches, Nyaunglaybin (2.80) inches, Mawlamyine and Paung (2.75) inches each, Kyaikkame (2.64) inches, Thaton (1.97) inches, Myeik (1.69) inches, Phyu (1.65) inches, Shwegyin (1.42) inches, Bhamo and Thandwe (1.37) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 27-5-2009 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 28-5-2009 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-5-2009 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 27-5-2009 was (1.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 28-5-2009 was Nil at Mingaladon, Nil at Kaba-Aye and Nil at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (11.46) inches at Mingaladon, (15.71) inches at Kaba-Aye and (19.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 27-5-2009.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 29th May 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be swidespread in Mon and Kayin States, Taninthayi Division and fairly widespread in Kachin and Shan States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Divisions and isolated to scattered in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon in the Andaman Sea.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 29-5-2009: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 29-5-2009: One or two rain of thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 29-5-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

TV Myanmar

Friday, 29 May
View on today

7:00 am
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. နိုးရာကျေးလက်ကစားနည်း

7:50 am
5. ပြည်ထောင်စုတိုင်းရင်းသားနိုးရာအက

8:05 am
6. "အရေးကြီးလို့ပါ" (ခင်လှိုင်၊ ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မူ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်နွဲ့နွဲ့မူ)

8:10 am
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am
8. ကြေးမုံရိပ်သွင်တေးနှယ်

8:30 am
9. International News

8:40 am
10. "ရွှေလင်ပန်းတံတား"

8:45 am
11. တေးဂီတအစီအစဉ်

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:10 pm
2. တေးသရုပ်ဖော်အစီအစဉ်

4:20 pm
3. မြန်မာစာ၊မြန်မာစကား

4:35 pm
4. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:45 pm
5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

5:00 pm
6. Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:10 pm
7. "လှေခါးသုံးထစ်ဆင်းတဲ့အခါ" (အရိုင်း၊ မင်းသူ၊ အေးသီတာ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်(ဖီးနစ်))

5:20 pm
8. ရုပ်မြင်ရသတေးစုကဏ္ဍ

5:40 pm
9. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:45 pm
10. Song of Yester Year

6:00 pm
11. Evening news

6:30 pm
12. Weather report

6:35 pm
13. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညာဏ်ရှင်

7:10 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နားခိုရာရင်ခွင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၄)

8:00 pm
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာလမ်းဆုံ" (အပိုင်း-၂၇)
19. သီချင်းချစ်သူ

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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

Leading Committee for Beautifying and Upgrading of Yangon meets

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence delivers an address at Leading Committee for Beautifying and Upgrading of Yangon 9/2009 meeting.—MNA

YANGON, 28 May—Leading Committee for Beautifying and Upgrading of Yangon held the meeting (9/2009) at the meeting hall of Yangon City Development Committee at the City Hall yesterday afternoon.

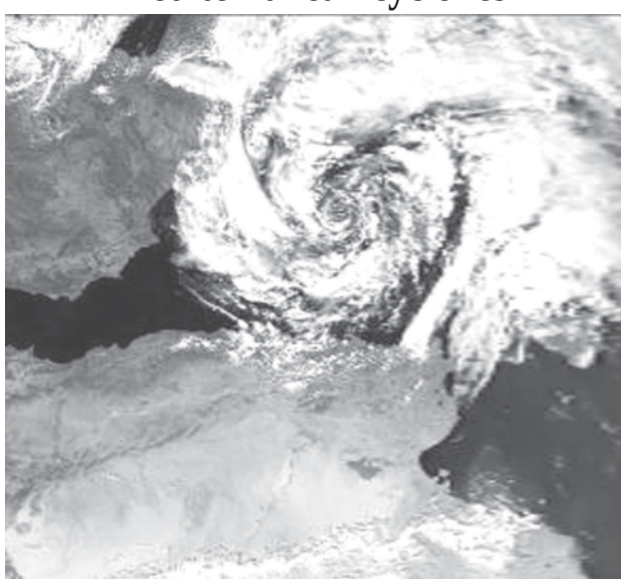
First, Patron of the leading committee Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence gave instructions on maintenance and upgrading works to be undertaken in the rainy season and preventive measures against DHF and diarrhea.

Next, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin made supplementary reports.

After hearing reports on progress of works presented by the chairmen and officials of the leading committee and work committees, Lt-Gen Myint Swe attended to the needs and made concluding remarks.

MNA

Fast, cheap forecasting system for Mediterranean cyclones



Mediterranean cyclone, October 1996.

PALMA, 28 May — Scientists from the University of the Balearic Islands have developed a new methodology to improve forecasting success between 48 and 24 hours before cyclones occur in the Mediterranean Sea. The researchers have used a low-cost means of statistically calculating the sensitivity of the real atmosphere in order to make climatologically-precise cyclone predictions.

The Mediterranean region is a very active cyclone area, and is often affected by these atmospheric phenomena, which bring strong winds and heavy rain. Despite the efforts of the scientific community to improve numerical cyclone prediction, the systems developed are costly.—*Internet*

In-depth look at northwestern Hawaiian islands

SCIENCE DAILY, 28 May — A new NOAA report on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), protected by the Papahnaumokukea Marine National Monument, provides the sharpest picture yet of the region's marine life and ecosystems.

Prepared by NOAA's National Center for Coastal Ocean Science, the report, A Marine Biogeographic Assessment of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, examines the geographic distribution of the island chain's marine life and habitats, and the conditions that determine where they are found.

"This report provides an important summary of the monument's marine ecosystems," said Randy Kosaki, NOAA's monument deputy superintendent and research coordinator. "The report reveals patterns and details about species in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, helping us better understand this special place."

Internet

Giant trevally along a shallow reef in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Vetch important source of antioxidant activity

Vetch. This leguminous plant of the Fabeae family was very popular during the Spanish post-war as a basic foodstuff.

SEVILLE, 28 May — Researchers of Instituto de la Grasa (part of the Spanish National Research Council -CSIC) and the Vegetal Biology and Ecology Department of the University of Seville have found out that vetch is an important source of phenolic compounds with a high antioxidant activity. It is a leguminous plant of the Fabeae family, very popular during the Spanish post-war as a basic foodstuff. Currently, vetch is frequently grown in the Indian subcontinent, in Ethiopia and surrounding countries, in the Mediterranean area and in South America.

This finding is paradoxical because its excessive consumption causes lathyrism, a disease of the spinal cord. It has been published in the Food Science and Technology of the Swiss Society of Food Science and Technology journal. For researchers, these results could open a door to future alternative growings.

Internet