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Monday, 15 March, 2010

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

Earnest effort of Rail Transportation Ministry leads to emergence of railroads from Myitkyina in north to Dawei in south, and between Mongnai in eastern Shan State and Kalay in western part of nation

General Thura Shwe Mann attends inauguration of Thayet-Minhla railroad section

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March—Hailing the 65th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2010, the opening of Thayet-Minhla railroad section of Kyangin-Pakokku railroad construction project implemented by Myanmar Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation took place at Minhla railway station in Minhla of Magway Division this morning with an address by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann.

It was also attended by Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Lt-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung

Myint, Minister for Electric Power No.1 Col. Zaw Min, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, the chairman of Magway Division PDC, departmental heads and officials, staff of Myanmar Railways, members of social organizations and local people.

In his address, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann said that the government has been implementing many projects in all sectors for equitable development of all parts of the Union. A transport network takes centre stage to achieve the goal.

The General quoted Head of State Senior



General Thura Shwe Mann and party saying goodbye to passengers of special train.—MNA

General Than Shwe as saying that, smooth transport not only improved the socio-economic status of the people but also enhanced the relations among national brethren. The government has been making heavy investments in

transport facility projects including road and bridge projects systematically across the Union including far-flung areas, the General pointed out.

Today, Thayet-Minhla Railroad has come into existence as a result

of constant hard work the government has been exerting with public participation and innovations of service personnel to improve the living conditions for the people, ensure security, and boost trade, she said. The General elaborated that the 53-

mile railroad section is part of the 320-mile Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad. So far, Kyangin-Okshitpin-Kanma-Thayet and 27-mile Pakokku-Kyunchaung railroad sections have been put into service.

(See page 8)



A special train seen on route of Thayet-Minhla railroad.—MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 15 March 2010

Restore sight of the visually impaired

In its bid to provide wide-ranging health care for all, the government gives its attention to care of eyes, which are the most important organs of a human being.

On the recent tour of some townships and villages in states and divisions, a team of eye specialists gave treatment to 5370 people with eye complaints in MraukU Township, Rakhine State, from 10 to 12 February.

During the period from 2000 to date, the team has made trips to Thandwe, Ngapali, Kyaukpau, Taungup, Sittway, Minbya, Gwa and MraukU in Rakhine State.

Despite geographical features forming natural barriers between regions, the government is working hard to provide better health care to the entire people. On its trip to MraukU, the team gave health care to the visually impaired from MraukU, Kyauktaw, Minbya, Ponnagyun and Pauktaw townships and surrounding villages.

According to the statistics collected, Rakhine State has a population of about four million, about 60,000 of which are blind, and about 50,000 of which are with cataract. Over a decade between 2000 and 2010, over 10,000 people suffering cataract in Rakhine State received surgical operations. During the recent tour, the team performed operations on 1151 people with cataract and five children with inborn cataract.

As a result of the government's assistance and wellwishers' contributions, a massive number of people with impaired vision from across the nation have regained their eyesight. The number of people with visual impairment in Myanmar will decrease if the global motto "Vision 2020: The Right to Sight" can be translated into reality.

"The World" in town

YANGON, 14 March — The Cruiseline M.V. The World dropped its anchor at Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa, here, today afternoon as many tourists are visiting Myanmar in this open season.

A total of 120 Tourists on board the cruiseliner were welcomed by General Manager U Win Hlaing of Myanma Hotel and Tourism Services of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and departmental officials at the port.

On 11 March, the cruiseliner arrived at Kawthoung of Myanmar from Phuket Port of Thailand and the passengers visited around

Kawthoung till 12 March. The holiday makers will make excursions in Yangon, Bago and Bagan from 15 to 18 March.

They will tour Thandwe Ngapali Beach by the cruiseliner on 18

March and proceed to India on 20 March.

Another Cruiseline M.V. Spirit of Oceanus, boarding 74 tourists who will make a round of visits in Yangon, arrived here today. —MNA



Cruiseline M.V. The World standing at Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa.

MNA

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

Cane-ballers in action in Mandalay

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint makes speech at opening of 6th Sports Minister's Cup Cane-ball Tournament and 36th State/Division Cane-ball Competitions. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March — The opening of the 6th Sports Minister's Cup Cane-ball Tournament was held in conjunction with the 36th State/Division Cane-ball Competitions 2010 at Bahtoo Sports Centre in Mandalay this morning with an address by Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

First, Defending Champion Mandalay

Division Men's Team handed over the championship shield to the minister.

Next, the minister accepted cash donations presented by wellwishers to Myanmar Cane-ball

Federation, and enjoyed the performance of athletes.

A total of 52 teams are taking part in the competitions that will be held up to 19 March.

It was also attended by Chairman of Mandalay

City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, departmental officials, the president and members of Myanmar Cane-ball Federation and fans.

MNA

Hninzigon Home for the Aged holds AGM

YANGON, 14 March — The annual general meeting of the Board of the Hninzigon Home for the Aged took place at the Diamond Jubilee Hall of the Home in Bahan Township here yesterday

morning with an opening address by Chairman U Kyaw Shein of Executive Committee of the Home.

Responsible persons read out the annual report and financial statement, and sought the approval

of those present.

Those present confirmed the appointment of a new external auditor and the meeting's resolutions at the meeting.

MNA

Three-storey building collapses in Yangon

YANGON, 14 March — A three-storey building dead located at

the junction of Merchant Street and 30th Street, Pabedan Township,

here, collapsed at about 4.45 pm today.

The tragic incident left a girl, 15, dead.

MNA

Beware
of
fire

Russia, US look to date for signing new arms treaty

Moscow, 14 March — Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and US President Barack Obama said on Saturday that it was now possible to talk about specific dates for signing a new arms reduction treaty, the Kremlin said.

Medvedev spoke over phone on Saturday with Obama about the preparation for a successor to the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START-1) that expired on 5 Dec, 2009.

"Both sides expressed satisfaction with the high level of agreement in the major provisions of the draft treaty," Russian news agencies quoted the Kremlin as saying in a statement.

"They stressed that it is now possible to talk about specific dates to submit the new treaty for signing by the heads of state," it said.

The Kremlin added that the presidents agreed to give extra instructions to their negotiators and discussed plans for bilateral contacts in the near future.

Russia and the United States have been working on a new arms control deal since Medvedev and Obama met in April last year, but the US plan to deploy elements of a missile defence system in East Europe has been a major sticking point.

Xinhua



A newly painted J-10 jet fighter belonging to the August 1st Aerobatic Team of China's Air Forces lands at a military airport in Tianjin in north China on 12 March, 2010.—INTERNET



A suspected Somali pirate captured by French forces in the Gulf of Aden, talks to journalists at the northern port town of Bosasso on 13 March, 2010.—INTERNET

French Navy hands over suspected pirates to Somalia

BOSSASO, 14 March — French navy officers handed over 22 suspected Somali pirates to semi-autonomous Puntland's authorities and they will be arraigned in local courts, officials said on Saturday.

Foreign navies have been deployed off the Gulf of Aden since the start of 2009, operating convoys, establishing safer corridors through the most dangerous waters and arresting pirates and seizing their vessels.

"The French Navy handed over these pirates, two skiff boats and video evidence showing the kind of weapons they were carrying," Mohamed Sici Jaqanaf, Puntland's deputy police commissioner, told a news conference at the Bossaso port while receiving the suspects.—Internet

Afghan governor wants more troops after 12 explosions

KANDAHAR, 14 March — The governor of Afghanistan's Kandahar Province is demanding more troops to provide security after 12 explosions in the largest southern city killed dozens of people.

Gov Turyakai Wesa says he is talking to the central government in Kabul about getting Afghan military reinforcements following the coordinated attacks that killed at least 33 people, including 10 attending a wedding. He told reporters on Sunday that he also wants to coordinate with NATO forces to improve security.

Wesa said the attacks wounded at least 53. Kandahar is the spiritual birthplace of the Taleban insurgency and the next target of NATO and Afghan forces after a major push to take another militant stronghold in next-door Helmand Province.—Internet

China delivers Venezuela jets for anti-drugs fight

CARACAS, 14 March — Venezuela on Saturday tested six training and light attack jets bought from China for defence and anti-drugs flights in a deal that dodges an embargo banning sales of US weapons parts to oil exporter Venezuela.

President Hugo Chavez ordered a total of 18 K-8 jets built by China after a plan to buy similar jets from Brazil's Embraer fell through, apparently because they include US electrical systems.

"Thank you, China. The empire wanted to leave us unarmed. Socialist China, revolutionary China appeared and here are our K-8 planes," he said during a televised display of the jets' capabilities.

Officials at the ceremony said the versatile jets will be used to train pilots and intercept drug traffickers who use Venezuela as a stop off point to take Colombian cocaine to the United States, Europe and Africa.

Washington accuses the socialist Chavez, a close ally of Cuba and Iran, of starting an arms race in South America, where several nations have beefed-up their military in the last few years.

Tensions with neighbour Colombia over US access to military bases there and accusations that Chavez supports FARC guerrillas have raised concerns of a violent incident between the two countries.

Colombia is the region's biggest military spender as a proportion of GDP because of its civil war with the leftist rebels.—Internet



Map locates Kandahar, Afghanistan, site of multiple suicide bombings—INTERNET

Egypt rejects

US human rights report

CAIRO, 14 March — Egypt rejected on Saturday a report issued by the US Department of State which criticized human rights condition in the country, state-run Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

"The report released by the US State Department on human rights conditions in Egypt is not new, and it is something usual and released every year on the same pattern," Mohamed Faeq, head of the complaints office in the National Council of Human rights (NCHR), said on Saturday.

"We should not pay much attention to such report, as local reports from the NCHR, civil societies and international, Arab and African mechanisms concerned outweigh such report," said Faeq.

The council has submitted some proposals to the government in this respect to further improve human rights conditions in Egypt, he said.

The US State Department report which was issued on Thursday, accused Egyptian government for not respecting human rights saying they remained poor, and serious abuses continued in many areas.—Xinhua

Countries dismiss US human rights report as intervention

BEIJING, 14 March — Egypt and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have joined Russia in dismissing as intervention the U.S. human rights charges against these countries.

The three countries have reiterated their stance on opposing US intervention with their internal affairs and stressed their determination to reject the US charges.

Senior Russian lawmakers dismissed the US criticisms as an attempt to exert pressure on their country.

Oleg Morozov, first deputy speaker of the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian parliament, said his country had taken effective measures to improve human rights and to build a democratic society but the U.S. report did not reflect the real picture in Russia.

Morozov added the U.S. administration was trying to pressure Russia into making concessions on certain issues.

Leonid Slutsky, first deputy chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the State Duma, said the US Human Rights Report 2009 was neither objective nor comprehensive.—Xinhua

China to bid on US high-speed rail projects

BEIJING, 14 March—China plans to bid for contracts to build US high-speed train lines and is stepping up exports of rail technology to Europe and Latin America, a government official said on Saturday.

China has built 4,000 miles (6,500 kilometers) of high-speed rail for its own train system and President Barack Obama issued a pledge in November with his Chinese counterpart, Hu Jintao, to

cooperate in developing the technology.

"We are organizing relevant companies to participate in bidding for US high-speed railways," Wang Zhiguo, a deputy railways minister, told a news conference.

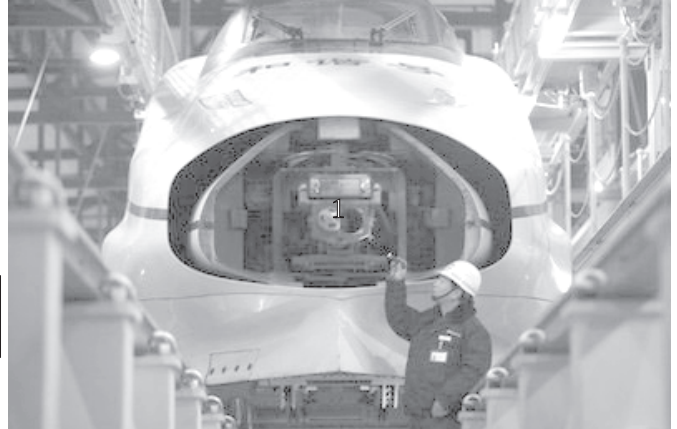
Wang gave no details of where China's railway builders might seek contracts, but systems are planned in California, Florida and Illinois. He said state-owned Chinese companies already are building high-speed lines

in Turkey and Venezuela.

Beijing plans to construct a 16,000-mile (25,000-kilometer) high-speed rail network by 2020 in a 2 trillion yuan (\$300 billion) project it hopes will spur economic and technology development.

Internet

Customers look at the Nano car at a showroom in Mumbai. The vehicle was launched with great fanfare as a 100,000-rupee (2,200-dollar) vehicle but analysts say parent group Tata and its chairman Ratan Tata will struggle to keep the jellybean-shaped vehicle on sale at this level due to the rising costs of raw materials, labour and new higher taxes.—INTERNET



File photo shows a worker checks a CRH high-speed train at a maintenance base in Wuhan, in central China's Hubei Province.

INTERNET

Tata Nano likely to lose much-hyped price tag

MUMBAI, 14 March—India's Tata Nano was launched with great fanfare as a 100,000-rupee (2,200-dollar) vehicle—a round number that

neatly encapsulated its status as the world's cheapest car.

But analysts say parent group Tata and its chairman Ratan Tata will

struggle to keep the jelly-bean-shaped vehicle on sale at this level due to the rising costs of raw materials, labour and new higher taxes.

Described as India's "People's Car," the Nano is pitched at the country's aspiring middle-classes, many of whom currently travel on two wheels but are looking to upgrade.

"The Nano is Ratan Tata's dream project. But as costs rise, the Nano will not remain a 100,000-rupee car," said Vaishali Jajoo, from Mumbai-based Angel Broking.

Internet



Stock market dips linked to heart attack surge

ATLANTA, 14 March—Doctors have found a relation between stock market fluctuations and heart attack frequency, a preliminary study by North Carolina's Duke University Medical Centre said on Saturday.

"In analyzing our local patient population... during the recent period of increased volatility in the stock market, we found that when stock market values decreased, heart attacks seemed to increase, and then decreased when stock trends improved," said the study's lead investigator Mona Fiuzat. The results of the research were presented at the American College of Cardiology's 59th annual scientific conference held this weekend in Atlanta.

"While more and larger studies are needed to examine the reason for these findings, it's important for healthcare providers to be aware of social stressors that may potentially affect their patients," Fiuzat said.

The study focused on patients registered at the Duke Hospital Catheterization Lab between January 2006 and July 2009, using data from the Duke Databank for Cardiovascular Disease.

Internet

An information board posts the latest prices and graphs above the floor of the New York Stock Exchange earlier this month. Doctors have found a relation between stock market fluctuations and heart attack frequency, a preliminary study by North Carolina's Duke University Medical Centre said on Saturday.—INTERNET



Euro finance ministers to agree on Greek aid

BRUSSELS, 14 March—Euro zone finance ministers are likely to agree on Monday on a mechanism for aiding Greece financially, if it is required, but

will leave out any sums until Athens asks for them, an EU source said on Saturday.

Policymakers have been debating possible financial support for the heavily-indebted European Union member state for more than a month, but have provided only words of support. Germany, key to any deal, has resisted appeals to promise aid.

British newspaper *The Guardian* on Saturday quoted sources as saying Monday's meeting of the currency zone's 16 finance ministers would agree to make aid of up to 25 billion euros available.—Internet

Trans-Pacific Partnership trade talks to begin on Monday

WELLINGTON, 14 March—New Zealand will open trade talks in the Australian city of Melbourne for a Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) with the United States, Brunei, Chile and Singapore.

The trade talks could pave the way for a trade deal between New Zealand and the United States, the *New Zealand Press Association* reported on Sunday.

The TPP would build on the previously negotiated P4 trade agreement between New Zealand, Brunei, Chile, and Singapore with the first round of talks to expand the agreement with the inclusion of the US, Australia, Peru and Vietnam.

The first round of negotiations to expand the TPP was to take place a year ago, but the US postponed the first set of talks at the last minute, in the wake of the Obama inauguration.

Now, the United States is ready to start five days of talks in Melbourne next week.

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key has described the TPP as its "most important trade negotiation, working toward a free-trade agreement with the United States".—Xinhua



Local villagers prepare steamed bread for the memorial ceremony for the sea at Huanglongzhuang Village in Tianheng Township of Jimo City, east China's Shandong Province, on 13 March, 2010. The memorial ceremony for the sea, which has a history of 500 years, was held here on Saturday.—XINHUA

Raul Castro meets visiting Salvadoran first lady, FM

HAVANA, 14 March — Cuban leader Raul Castro on Saturday met the first lady and foreign minister of El Salvador who were here to open their country's embassy in Havana.

It was the first official visit to Cuba by a Salvadoran Foreign Minister in more than five decades after the rupture of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Castro talked with

First Lady Venda Pignato and Foreign Minister Hugo Martinez about such issues as Latin American and Caribbean unity, climate change and exchange in the field of public health.

"We are very pleased because it was an opportunity for reiterating our intention to strengthen bonds of friendship, respect and cooperation," Martinez told the Press

after the meeting.

The visiting foreign minister said that the two sides had touched upon the possibility of presidential visits by both countries. Martinez added that a visit by Salvadoran President Mauricio Funes could take place as soon as the scheduling of a meeting with the Cuban leader can be fixed.

Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

One killed, seven injured in India building collapse

MUMBAI, 14 March — One person was killed and 7 others injured in the collapse of an old three-storey building in southern Mumbai, a local official told Xinhua on the scene on Sunday morning.

The accident occurred at 4:30 pm Saturday, when workers were renovating the building at Masjid Bunder in southern Mumbai, said D R Jadhav, Assistant Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai

(MCGM).

Local firefighters rushed to the scene for rescue, and sent the injured to nearby hospitals for medical treatment, Jadhav said. Workers are now clearing the debris of the building, whose collapse also affected an ad-

jacent building as they shared one same wall, with the help of a huge crane. The collapsed building has a history of more than 100 years, and lacks solid internal support or regular maintenance, according to the local police.—Xinhua

A Chinese chef makes fried dumplings during a food fair held in the Indonesian Embassy to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in Abu Dhabi, capital of the UAE, on 13 March, 2010.—XINHUA



China to increase imports, promote balanced trade

BEIJING, 14 March—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said on Sunday China will strive to make balanced international payment and promote free trade, although protectionism worsens as the global financial crisis deepens.

"I am a staunch supporter of free trade, since it will not only promote world economic growth, but also improve people's livelihoods," Wen made the remarks at a Press conference after the

close of the annual parliament session.

"We will launch new measures to increase imports. We sent purchasing groups to the European Union and the United States when the world was stranded in the most difficult period of time (in the global financial crisis)," he said.

He said the worsening protectionism amid the world economic slump deserves alerts of all countries.

"Some countries'

moves to shore up exports are understandable. But what I can not understand is they devalue their own currencies while on the contrary pushing for the appreciation of others' currencies. I think it is protectionism," he said.

Wen also said he hopes the United States and European Union recognize China's market economy status, and lift ban on hi-tech exports to China.

Xinhua



The sailing boats compete upwind during the first day of racing at the 2010 Round Hainan Island International Sailing Regatta in Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province, on 13 March, 2010.—XINHUA

Gaza militants fire homemade rocket at southern Israel

GAZA, 14 March—Palestinian militants on Saturday fired a homemade rocket from the Gaza Strip at southern Israel, Israeli Radio Arabic service reported.

The radio quoted an Israeli army spokesman as saying that the

homemade rocket landed at a cultivated farm in the Negev area in southern Israel, no damages or injuries were reported.

No one in Gaza has so far claimed responsibility for the rocket attack.

The Israeli army on Thursday announced that

a homemade rocket was fired from Gaza at southern Israel.

On Friday predawn, Israeli war jets retaliated by striking two separate targets east of the southern Gaza Strip town of Khan Younis and Rafah town.—Xinhua

Plane emergency landing puts Auckland Airport on alert

WELLINGTON, 14 March—Emergency services went on standby on Saturday night as an Air New Zealand plane from Sydney to Wellington was diverted to Auckland because of possible defects.

The Fire Service said on Sunday it received a message that the Air New Zealand Airbus A320 had a hydraulic defect and a steering nose wheel problem.

It said seven trucks, including a specialist airport appliance, were ready by the runway as the plane landed.

The plane landed without incident and the 99 passengers will complete their trip to Wellington on Sunday afternoon.—Xinhua

Algeria to host regional terror conference on Tuesday

ALGIERS, 14 March — Algeria is to host foreign ministers from the Sahara and Sahel on Tuesday for talks on fighting “a resurgence” in acts of terror, the Algerian Foreign Ministry said on Saturday.

Ministers from Burkina Faso, Chad, Libya, Mali, Mauritania and Niger are due to take part in the conference, the ministry said in a statement quoted by Algerian news agency APS.

In addition to sharing notes on “the prevailing situation in the region, in particular the resurgence of terrorist acts”, the ministers are to look into “links to cross-border crime and smuggling of all kinds”.

The foreign ministers will also consider broader peace, stability and security in the region with the aim of coming up with “bilateral and regional measures to route out the scourge” while helping to revive economic activity.

In recent years, militants groups claiming to be Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb have become increasingly active in the region, putting pressure on security forces who have sometimes found themselves the target of attacks.

Foreign nationals have in recent months also been kidnapped or detained in Mali and Niger in incidents claimed by Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb.

Xinhua



A general view of Algiers and the “Maqam El-Shahid” (martyrs memorial) on the heights of Algiers. Algeria is to host foreign ministers from the Sahara and Sahel on Tuesday for talks on fighting “a resurgence” in acts of terror, the Algerian Foreign Ministry said on Saturday.—INTERNET

Chinese fishing boat, seven crew hijacked off Cameroon

YAOUNDE, 14 March —A Chinese fishing vessel with seven fishermen aboard was hijacked off the coast of Cameroon in the latest attack in the waters of West Africa’s Gulf of Guinea, the Chinese embassy in Cameroon said on Saturday.

“We are working together with the Cameroon authorities on ways and means of seeking their release,” an embassy official said on Friday’s hijack in international waters off the Bakassi peninsula.

Internet

Nigeria plane crashes during mock rescue exercise

PORT HARCOURT, 14 March — A Nigerian plane carrying more than 30 disaster response officials crashed on Friday in the oil hub of Port Harcourt in what was supposed to be a mock rescue exercise, but there were only a few minor injuries.

The air force plane, carrying staff from the National Emergency Management Agency and other members of the emergency services, skidded off the runway and into bushes after landing at the city’s international airport.

Internet

New border violence erupts with Mexico cartel rift

REYNOSA, 14 March — This border city and others near the eastern end of the US border escaped the worst of Mexico’s bloody drug war for years, but now the bodies are piling up, several journalists are reportedly missing or dead and once-busy streets are empty after dark.

The crumbling of an alliance between two Mexican drug gangs has plunged the 200-mile stretch of border into violence, raising fears of a new front in the drug war, a US anti-drug official told *The Associated Press*.—Internet

Mummy of Egypt’s monotheist pharaoh to return home

The DNA tests that revealed how the famed boy-king Tutankhamun most likely died solved another of ancient Egypt’s enduring mysteries — the fate of controversial Pharaoh Akhenaten’s mummy. The discovery could help fill out the picture of a fascinating era more



A stela at the Egyptian museum in Cairo is seen, Egypt, showing Pharaoh Akhenaten, his Queen Nefertiti and their children worshipping the sun in the more natural artistic style of the time. The identification of Akhenaten’s mummy through DNA tests could be a step toward filling out the picture of a time 3,300 years ago when Akhenaten embarked on history’s first experiment with monotheism.

than 3,300 years ago when Akhenaten embarked on history’s first attempt at monotheism.

During his 17-year rule, Akhenaten sought to overturn more than a millennium of Egyptian religion and art to establish the worship of a single sun god. In the end, his bold experiment failed and he was eventually succeeded by his son, the young Tutankhamun, who rolled back his reforms and restored the old religion. No one ever knew what became of the heretic pharaoh, whose tomb in the capital he built at Amarna was unfinished and whose name was stricken from the official list of kings.

Two years of DNA testing and CAT scans on 16 royal mummies conducted by Egypt’s Supreme Council of Antiquities, however, gave the firmest evidence to date that an unidentified mummy — known as KV55, after the number of the tomb where it was found in 1907 in Egypt’s Valley of the Kings — is Akhenaten’s.

The testing, whose results were announced last month, established that KV55 was the father of King Tut and the son of the Pharaoh Amenhotep III, a lineage that matches Akhenaten’s, according to inscriptions. KV55 had long been assumed to be too young to be Akhenaten, who was estimated to be in his 40s at the time of his death — but the testing also established the mummy’s correct age, matching the estimates for Akhenaten.

Mother birds communicate with eggs

Maternal information transmitted to an egg lets prenatal chicks know how much food they’re likely to get once they’re born, scientists in Britain said.

If a prenatal chick gets a message that it has generous parents, it will beg more vigorously for food after hatching. Chicks destined to be raised by stingier parents are less demanding, said Rebecca Kilner, a zoologist at the University of Cambridge.

Chicks gain weight more rapidly because they match their demands to the parents’ supply of food, and can avoid begging too little or wasting effort on unrewarded begging, Kilner said in a release.

Kilner and her team made the discovery by exchanging eggs between canaries’ nests so that the chicks grew up in an environment that they were not expecting.



Mizo tribal youths take part in a mass “Cheraw”, a traditional bamboo dance in Aizawl, the capital of India’s north-eastern Mizoram state. The troupe of 10,780 tribal villagers set a record for the largest dance ensemble in the world with a carefully choreographed routine to welcome in the summer.

Deep breathing, soft music reduces stress

Deep breathing while listening to soft music relieves stress as much as an expensive massage, health researchers in Seattle said.

Scientists at the Group Health Research Institute divided 68 stressed-out patients into three groups for 10 treatments of deep breathing, massage or aromatherapy — wrapping the body in warm towels, *The New York Daily News* reported.

All of the treatments occurred in a dimly lit room with soft music playing, researcher Karen Sherman wrote in a recent issue of the journal *Depression and Anxiety*. At the end of the treatment period, the anxiety of participants in all three groups had dropped by about 40 percent, Sherman told *The Daily Telegraph*.

NEWS ALBUM

Shanghai's new-look airport ahead of World Expo

SHANGHAI, 14 March— Shanghai this week will unveil a brand-new airport terminal — the latest mega-infrastructure project to be completed as the Chinese city prepares to welcome tens of millions of visitors to Expo 2010. The city has spent 2.2 billion dollars on the makeover of Hongqiao Airport, located just 35 minutes from the city centre, and made it part of a ultramodern travel hub linking metro, high-speed rail and a proposed maglev train line.

The new terminal, which opens on Tuesday, is four times as big as the old one, which was designed for 9.6 million passengers a year but handled more than 25 million in 2009. It will handle 90 percent of the flights out of Hongqiao. "The old airport was bursting at the seams," said Shanghai Airport Authority (SAA) vice-president Li Derun. "The new terminal can effectively reduce delays and alleviate pressure on Pudong Airport during the Expo." Pudong Airport is Shanghai's main airport for international flights while Hongqiao is used mainly by domestic airlines, and officials expect the vast majority of the 70-100 million visitors expected at Expo to come from China.—Internet



An information board is seen at the under-construction terminal 2 of Hongqiao Airport in Shanghai. The Chinese city is set to unveil the brand-new airport terminal - the latest mega-infrastructure project in the country - ahead of millions of visitors expected for Expo 2010.—INTERNET

Kuwait's Investment Dar files for legal protection

KUWAIT CITY, 14 March—Investment Dar, the troubled Kuwaiti firm that owns half of luxury British carmaker Aston Martin, said on Saturday it has filed for legal protection under Kuwait's financial stability law.

"Investment Dar announces today that it has started a process of legal protection under the terms of Kuwait's Financial Stability Law," a company statement said.

The company, which has debts of over three billion dollars, said the move aims at pushing through a debt restructuring plan that is backed by more than 80 percent of creditors but is opposed by a minority.

If the request is accepted by authorities, it will halt all legal actions against Kuwait's top Islamic investment firm.—Internet



An Aston Martin Rapide is presented at the 63rd International Motor Show in the central German city of Frankfurt, September 2009. Investment Dar, the troubled Kuwaiti firm that owns half of luxury British carmaker Aston Martin, said on Saturday it has filed for legal protection under Kuwait's financial stability law.—INTERNET

Storm leaves hundreds of thousands of families in northeast US in dark

NEW YORK, 14 March —Powerful winds are ripping through northeast US on Saturday with winds gusting over 80 km per hour, and as much as 12 cm of rain falling across parts of the region.

According to local media reports, strong winds and heavy rain

neighbours New York, flood warnings were issued for several rivers in northern Jersey City, where minor to moderate flooding was expected Saturday night and Sunday. Winds have knocked down many trees and power lines, causing power outages across the state.



A man of Philadelphia, Pa, leans into the blowing wind as he runs on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City, NJ, on 13 March, 2010.—INTERNET

have knocked out power to more than 450,000 customers, diverting international flights, killing and injuring people.

A flood watch is in effect for most of the area through on Sunday evening, according to media reports. Rainfall will be heavy at times through Saturday night before eventually tapering off early Sunday morning. A high wind warning is in effect until 1 am Sunday morning.

The New York Police Department is cited as saying they have added extra 911 operators to handle the massive number of calls they are receiving about weather-related damage.

In New Jersey, which

According to US radio station, 1010wins, the storm is blamed for the deaths of two people in Teaneck, New Jersey, where a state of emergency has been declared. Two people were crushed by a falling tree limb as they were walking.

The hardest-hit area was southern Jersey, where Public Service Electric & Gas reported 136,000 customers without power.

Rail service was suspended on a number of lines as well. In Connecticut state, the heavy rains and high winds expected throughout the weekend in southern New England are hitting the area hard.

Internet

Tropical cyclones in South Pacific gather strength

WELLINGTON, 14 March—Two tropical cyclones moving across the South Pacific gathered strength on Sunday afternoon, according to Fiji's metervice.

Cyclone Ului was heading for the southern Solomon Islands, while cyclone Tomas was bearing down on northern Fiji.

Tropical cyclone Ului moved from a category four to category five system on Sunday afternoon, with winds of 115 knots at its centre, said Fiji's

metervice.

Cyclone Ului was expected to affect southern parts of Solomons within the next 24 hours, bringing with it destructive winds and flooding.

Cyclone Tomas has increased to a category three and was sitting 310 km northeast of northern Fiji.

Winds are expected to reach damaging gale force on Sunday night in northern Fiji and increase to hurricane force on Monday.

Xinhua

Royal Canadian Mounted Police direct traffic at the staging area for avalanche search & rescue operations near Revelstoke, BC on Saturday on 13 March, 2010. Rescuers were scouring Boulder Mountain in the Rocky Mountains near Revelstoke, BC into the darkness on Saturday night after an avalanche struck a large gathering of snowmobilers, killing at least one person and leaving an unknown number missing.—INTERNET



Explosive-laden truck seized in E Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 14 March — A truck loaded with explosives was seized on Sunday morning in Attack of Pakistan's eastern Punjab Province.

Local TV channels quoted police sources as saying that the vehicle might be used for another attack in the province following a suicide attack on the Special Security Agency office in Lahore, the provincial capital.

The truck was coming from the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) of Pakistan that shares its border with Afghanistan. The truck was trying to enter the Punjab Province but police officials checked it and found it loaded with explosives.

Meanwhile, earlier in the morning two bombs were also found which were planted adjacent to the home of Misree Khan, an anti-Taleban local journalist in Hundo district of the NWFP.

Bomb disposal squad was called in time and they made the bombs ineffective, police officials said.

Xinhua

Earnest effort of Rail Transportation Ministry...

(from page 1)

It means that it is to build the railroad section between Minhla and Kyunchaung with a total length of about 138 miles. The sections are commissioned as soon as they are completed for the convenience of the people.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on railroad networks to improve the socio-economic life of the people.

When those projects are completed, there will emerge National Railway Network that covers all states and divisions.

The earnest effort of the Ministry of Rail Transportation has led to emergence of railroads stretching from Myitkyina in the northern part to Dawei in the southern part, and between Mongnai in Shan State in the eastern part and Kalay in the western part of the nation. In addition, Loikaw in the southeast part of the nation is easily accessible by train. Pyawbwe-Natmauk-Magway Railroad Project is planned to be launched soon. When this railroad is linked with Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad on the western bank of the Ayeyawady River, Nay Pyi Taw will be accessible by train from the regions on the eastern and western banks of the river. Due to the new railroads



General Thura Shwe Mann cordially converses with local people.—MNA



General
Thura
Shwe
Mann
presents
gift to
passengers
of special
train.
MNA

that go as far as Shan State, Kayah State, Taninthayi Division, upper Magway Division, and Sagaing Division, where there were no railroads in the past, transport has become smooth and benefited to local people of the towns and villages that line the transport facilities.

In order to improve the rail transportation, old railroads were upgraded, new ones were built, the railroads in strategic areas were upgraded into dual ones, many more railway stations were built, and the stations in cities were upgraded to international level ones. As a result, in the period from 1988 to date, the total length of railroads has increased from 1976 to 3410 miles and the number of railway stations, from 487 to 868. New locomotives, passenger coaches and cargo coaches are built and old ones are upgraded.

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, the nation has seen many inter-village, inter-township, inter-district and inter-region roads, roads linking one state and division and another, along with Union highways and border area roads. So, the total length of all roads in the nation has jumped from only over

20,000 in 1988 to over 70,000 miles.

To complete the road projects, many bridges including river-spanning ones, large and small, had to be built.

As to the aviation sector, the number of airport has risen to 70 including two international airports. Therefore, people can travel from one region to another in a short time.

Regarding to the water transport sector, the figure of international level jetties has doubled: from 13 to 26, and three international level container yards have been established.

In that regard, the government carried out the tasks with the aim of improving the transport, education, health care and social sectors. Local people are well convinced of the fact that the transport facilities, heavy investments, labours, machinery and technologies indicate extra goodwill and hard work of the government.

Inspired by the aspiration to serve the public interest, and with a view to helping the Union of Myanmar catch up with other global partners in development the government is trying on a self-reliant basis and overcoming disruptions stirred up by internal and external saboteurs.

Such impressive achievements owing to the government's self-reliant efforts to boost national development and improve the socio-economic life of the people are tangible supported by facts and figures.

(See page 9)



A train starts its service on Thayet-Minhla railroad section.—MNA

Earnest effort of Rail Transportation Ministry...

(from page 8)

Local people are urged to maintain the transport facilities for their durability and to better their socio-economic life using the basic foundations for development, with the concept that the railroads including Thayet-Minhla Railroad reflect the government's goodwill and correct stand to improve the living status of the people and ensure equitable development of all parts of the Union.

In conclusion, he urged staff members of



General Thura Shwe Mann inspects construction of concrete sleeper factory (Pakokku) of Myanmar Railways.—MNA



to travel from Pathein to Kyangin, Pakokku, Kalay, Mandalay and Myitkyina by extending the already-built Pathein-Kyangin railroad to Pakokku to link the already-built railroad sections.

ued that construction of 320-mile Kyangin-Pakokku railroad was divided into three sections—110-mile Kyangin-Thayet railroad section, 100-mile Thayet-Pwintbyu and 110-mile Pwintbyu-

railroad section was inaugurated on 15 November, 2009 on Pakokku side. As people can travel from Pathein to Minhla through Hinhada and Kyangin as the 52.70-mile Thayet-Minhla railroad section

Kyangin-Pakokku railroad construction project, it will link Pathein-Kyangin and Pakokku-Kalay railroad sections and people will be able to travel from Pathein to Kalay as well as to Monywa, Shwebo and Myitkyina via Pakokku by train.

Tha Aye and Lt-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe putting into service Thayet-Minhla railroad section.

General Thura Shwe Mann and party cordially greeted the passengers and viewed the start running of Thayet-Minhla special train.

The construction of Thayet-Minhla railroad started in 1 April 2007. It is 52.70 miles long and has 148 bridges and ten stations along the railroad. Starting from 15 March, Thayet-Minhla train schedule will run for three days free of charge in commemoration of opening the railroad.

Myanmar Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation has constructed railways, stations and bridges across the country. Total length of railway was 1976.35 miles before 1988 and nowadays it has reached 3410.08

(See page 10)



Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe delivers address at opening ceremony.—MNA



Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min delivers address at opening ceremony.—MNA

the ministry, passengers and local people along the route to maintain Thayet-Minhla Railroad for its durability and safety.

Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe said that most of roads and railroads were built on the eastern bank of the Ayeyawady River according to the geographical conditions of the country; that, in compliance with the guidance given by the Head of State on ensuring equitable development in all regions harmoniously, transport facilities—bridges across Ayeyawady River and Pathein-Monywa motorway that link the eastern part and western part of the Ayeyawady River emerged in the time of Tatmadaw government; and that the government made efforts on extended construction of railroad for enabling the local people

Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min quoted the guidance of the Head of State as saying that **the regions on the west bank of the Ayeyawady River lagged behind in development compared with the region on the east bank due to poor transport although there is not much different in their land and water resources**. It is essential to build Kyangin-Pakokku railroad for ensuring equitable development in economic and social sectors of the two regions. Upon completion of railroad construction, it will be linked to already-built railroad sections and people will be able to travel from Pathein to Kalay through Kyangin and Pakokku.

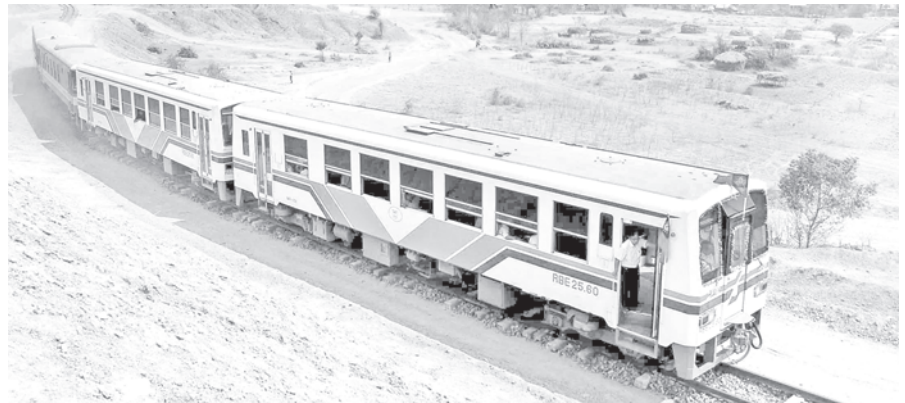
The minister contin-

Pakokku. In building of Kyangin-Thayet railroad section, 38-mile Kyangin-Okshitpin railroad section was opened on 1 March, 2008, 35-mile Okshitpin-Kanma railroad section on 22 March, 2009 and 35-mile Kanma-Thayet railroad section on 17 October, 2009. The 27-mile Pakokku-Kyunchaung

was put into service today.

The construction of Thayet-Minhla railroad section started on 1 April, 2007. Large and small 148 bridges and 10 railway stations were built on the railroad section with the bend of 6° in maximum and the gradient of 1:100.

Upon completion of



A train starts its service on Thayet-Minhla railroad section.—MNA

Earnest effort of Rail Transportation Ministry...

(from page 9)

miles including Thayet-Minhla railroad. There were 487 stations before 1988 and it has increased to 868 stations including ten stations along Thayet-Minhla railroad. There were 5,650 small and big bridges before 1988 and it has now increased by 5258 bridges.

Ministry of Rail Transportation is now building railways, based on strategy for having equitable development. Railroads—Moetargyi-Bhamo railroad (81.32 miles), Mongnai-Kengtung railroad (226 miles), Dawei-Myeik railroad (132.50 miles), Minbu-An-Yaychanpyin railroad (245.54 miles), Patheingyi (Begayat)-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) railroad (89 miles), Pyay (Shwedaga)-Toungoo (Kyeedaw)-Nay Pyi Taw railroad (120 miles), Hinthada-Nyaungdon railroad (48 miles), Minhla-Kyunchaung railroad (138.16 miles) and Ywadow-Kanpya railroad (65.20 miles) are under construction.

At concrete sleeper factory (Pakokku) of Myanma Railways near Pakokku station in Pakokku yesterday morning, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min explained functions of concrete sleeper factory (Pakokku) and future tasks.

General Thura Shwe Mann discussed production and use of concrete sleepers and inspected test production. Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min, project engineers and factory manager conducted the General round the factory.

Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail



General Thura Shwe Mann looks into production of clips to be installed at concrete sleepers at Concrete Sleeper Factory (Pakokku).—MNA

Transportation started concrete sleeper factory (Pakokku) construction project in Pakokku in December 2008. Now, the factory has begun its test production and will be soon opened. Concrete sleepers can control the move of rail tracks and be used more life span than wooden sleepers. In addition, it is more economical than wooden sleepers due to cost efficiency.

The production capacity of sleeper factories in

Myitnge, Pyuntaza and Mottama is 600,000 blocks a year. Concrete sleeper factories are under construction in Okshitpin, KhinU, Minbu and Shwe Nyaung and Pakokku sleeper factory will produce 1,000,000 blocks of sleepers a year.

On completion, these factories can produce 1.6 million blocks of concrete sleepers a year. It will meet the country's sleepers demands during five years.

MNA

Secure and smooth transport for Yangonites

YANGON, 14 March—A coordination meeting of Yangon Division Secure and Smooth Transportation

Supervisory Committee was held at the Hall of Yangon Command Headquarters on 11 March. Chairman of Yangon

Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint delivered an

address at the meeting.

At the meeting, responsible persons of universities, colleges and schools, departmental officials, chairmen of all bus lines discussed enforcement of disciplines and safety drive.

Then, the Commander fulfilled the needs and concluded.

MNA

Mayor meets local people in Kawhmu Township

YANGON, 14 March—Chairman of Yangon City

Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected situation of bridge linking to Basic Education High School (Branch) in Htanmanaing village in Kawhmu Township in Yangon South District on

12 March. The mayor urged officials to renovate the bridge.

The mayor met with local people from five village at Shwe Kyaung monastery in Htanmanaing village and inspected maintenance of Daw Tha creek crossing bridge in Thakhtpin village.—MNA

Memorial to famous composer



Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han presents K 1 million to funds of Myoma Musical Troupe through Chairman Dr Hla Khaing.—NLM

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March—As a gesture of honouring the renowned song composer of Myanmar, arrangements are being made to keep the statue of Myoma Nyein at the house of Myoma Musical Troupe at the corner of 21st and 86th streets in Pale Ngweyaung Ward of Aungmyethazan Township.

On 22 February, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee

Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han donated K 1 million for making the statue of the renowned song composer to the funds of the troupe through Chairman of the troupe Dr Hla Khaing and party.

Those wishing to make cash donation for the statue may contact the chairman, the treasurer, secretaries, manager and executives of the Myoma Musical Troupe.—NLM

Focus on socioeconomic conditions in arid zone, storm-hit regions

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March—Mr. Thomas J. Valley of Asia Programmes of Harvard Kennedy School and party, accompanied by Country Directors Mr. James Taylor and Dabbie Aung Din Taylor of International

Development Enterprise (IDE), called on Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo at the hall of Irrigation Department in Yankin Township here yesterday.

They held discussions on rural

development and improvement of socioeconomic conditions in arid zone and storm-hit regions.

Also present at the call were heads of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

Will Myanmar get in Asian Archery Grand Prix glory?

YANGON, 14 March—Myanmar Archery team left for Bangkok of Thailand today, to partake in 2nd Asian

Archery Grand Prix to be held from 14 to 20 March.

International level teams from Korea, China and India will take part in

this year's grand prix. Myanmar has a great record in the tournament as it competed in the game annually.—MNA

New Guinness record set with gigantic dish of pasta

LOS ANGELES, 14 March—A new Guinness record was set with an above-ground pool stuffed with more than 13,700 pounds (6,214 kg) of pasta in the US state of Califor-

nia, it was reported on Saturday. The food was prepared by an Italian restaurant in Garden Grove, Orange County.

After a week of full-time working by at least 20 people, buckets of the cooked spaghetti were dumped into an above-ground swimming pool disguised as a pasta dish in the Buca di Beppo Italian Restaurant's parking lot on Friday. It was topped with 120 gallons of ruby red marinara sauce. The "dish"

weighed in at 13,780 pounds, local media reported. The gigantic creation outsize the standing record set by the Watniya Restaurants-Sbarro on 28 March, 2009 in Doha, Qatar, for 9,767 pounds (4,430 kg). The weight of the pasta was certified by a notary officer.

"We hit this one out of the park so the record will stand for a while," said Kevin Sheehan, general manager of the Italian eatery.—Xinhua

At least 18 Afghan suspects arrested in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 14 March—At least 18 suspected Afghan nationals were arrested on Sunday by Pakistani police during a search operation in southern Pakistan, according to local TV reports. The private ARY TV quoted police sources as saying that all the suspects were arrested from local hotels in Sukkar, a city in the southern Sindh province and have been taken to a unknown place for further interrogation.

Hundreds of suspected people have been arrested during a country-wide search operation started after three suicide attacks in the eastern Pakistan city of Lahore last week, causing over 70 casualties, the TV said.—Xinhua



Dancers perform in the annual "Alegria por la Vida 2010" (Joy for Life 2010) carnival in Managua city on 13 March, 2010.—INTERNET



Wholesalers assess frozen tuna laid out in rows at Tsukiji fish market, Japan's largest auction house. The country has said it will ignore any restrictions on the trading and fishing of bluefin.—INTERNET

Ban on bluefin tuna would 'threaten Japanese culture'

DOHA, 14 March—The fate of the Atlantic bluefin tuna – beloved by sushi gourmets and on the brink of extinction – could be decided within days. The 175-nation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) opened yesterday in Qatar to debate proposals banning the international trade in the fish. Delegates will also discuss moves to restrict the sale of sharks' fins.

Cites has been successful in restricting trade in big cats; great apes and elephants but this is the first time a marine species has taken centre stage. Willem Wijnstekers, the secretary general of Cites, said there was much more support than two years ago for restricting or banning trade in many marine species, including the bluefin. "I don't think anyone has an argument against the listing of Atlantic bluefin tuna. There is no scientific argument against that."

He added that countries were turning to his organisation because tools to manage stocks were not working and that many of the oceans' commercially fished species were under threat. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization says more than half of all marine fish stocks are under threat.

Internet



Malaysian aviation tycoon Tony Fernandes launched budget carrier AirAsia with just two planes in 2001, and now the aviation entrepreneur is planning a high-stakes foray into Formula One.—INTERNET

Bridesmaid's dress stolen hours before wedding

PIKE CREEK, 14 March—Delaware state police said someone broke into a car and stole a bridesmaid's dress just hours before a wedding on Friday at a shopping centre in Pike Creek. Police said the bride and one of her bridesmaids were in a salon getting ready for the wedding.

When they got back to their car, they found that someone had stolen the pink dress the bridesmaid had planned to wear at the ceremony. A bag of accessories was also stolen.

The vehicle was not damaged. Police believe the thieves overrode the car's self-locking mechanism. Police hoped to recover the dress in time for the ceremony.—Internet

'Berlin's fastest cat' escapes with burnt paw

BERLIN, 14 March—A cat in Germany escaped with just a burnt paw after travelling at speeds of up to 160 kilometres (100 miles) per hour on the motorway under the bonnet of a car, *Bild* newspaper reported on Friday.

Loud miaowing alerted driver Axel Sydow, 24, to his unwilling passenger only at the end of his 54-kilometre journey from Berlin to the town of Koenigs Wusterhausen.

"I couldn't see her from above. Underneath I then spotted her head and a leg. She obviously crawled up there to sleep

earlier because the engine was warm," Sydow told the paper.

Emergency services were called and were forced to remove the front

wheel of the Volkswagen Golf and the engine covering before what the paper called "Berlin's fastest cat" could be freed.

Internet



A cat in Germany escaped with just a burnt paw after travelling at speeds of up to 160 kilometres (100 miles) per hour on the motorway under the bonnet of a car.—INTERNET

Police: Woman in bust hid nearly \$26,000 in bra

SPOKANE, 14 March—A fraud bust, indeed: Spokane County sheriff's deputies said a woman was hiding nearly \$26,000 in her bra when she was booked into jail for investigation of theft. Lukeisha A Harris was one of three Seattle-area residents arrested on Friday as part of an alleged fraud ring. Deputies said they used phony Oregon driver's licenses and counterfeit credit cards to obtain cash advances from Spokane banks.

Sheriff's spokesman Dave Reagan said the three were arrested after a worker at one bank reported that they tried to obtain money using a stolen credit card. The investigators followed the ring to two other banks before making the bust.

Internet

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P.O.Box109,Ph:723043
(For. Domnern Songiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
Dated.15 March,2010.

People weigh the fish at Tanmengang dock in Qionghai, south China's Hainan Province, on 13 March, 2010. The inshore fishing of the Island Province flourishes as the fishing boats set off after the Spring Festival now return for offloading.
XINHUA



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U Than Maung, Advocate
For **MYKIE CO., LTD.**,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.
Unit 701-702, Traders Hotel,
Yangon, Union of Myanmar
utm.kcy@mptmail.com.mm
Dated **15 March 2010**



People 'wired' to feel bad or not

BOSTON, 14 March — US researchers say brain activity may help predict emotional resiliency.

Study lead author Christine Hooker of Harvard University says activity in the lateral prefrontal cortex may be key to everyday emotional "bounce back" and suggests improved function within this region may improve day-to-day mood. The study, published in *Biological Psychiatry*, demonstrates individuals with more neural activity in the lateral prefrontal cortex are less likely to be upset the day after fighting with a partner.

"What we found, as you might expect, was that everybody felt badly on the day of the conflict with their partners," Hooker says in statement. "But the day after, people who had high-lateral prefrontal cortex activity felt better and the people who had low-lateral pre-frontal cortex activity continued to feel badly."

Hooker and colleagues asked healthy couples in a relationship lasting three months or longer to look at pictures of their partners with positive, negative or neutral expressions while their brain activity was recorded. Participants were also tested in the laboratory for their broader cognitive control skills, such as impulse control. The couples recorded whether they had a fight and daily emotional state in online diaries.—*Internet*

Nepalese visual effects artists at work at the Incessant Rain office in Kathmandu. The company is the brain-child of Kiran Joshi, who returned to his native Nepal to set up his own business in 2008 after a 17-year career in animation with US movie giant Disney.—INTERNET

Death toll rises, civilians flee from Mogadishu's renewed violence

MOGADISHU, 14 March — The fighting of the past days in the Somali capital Mogadishu has claimed the lives of more than 100 and wounded 150 others with thousands of civilians uprooted from their homes, analysts say.

The Mogadishu fighting erupted on Wednesday after weeks of speculation of a major Somali government offensive on rebel forces who control substantial parts of the capital.

Most of the clashes centre around the north Mogadishu districts, the rebel strongholds, where most of the civilians casualties were reported. Families in the area are vacating their homes.

"We now know that

as many as 100 people or more were killed since Wednesday and more than 150 others were wounded while thousands of people fled their homes, but de-

spite the claims by both sides the frontlines remain the same," Yusuf Iman, a political analysts in Mogadishu, told *Xinhua*.—*Xinhua*



Visitors view a Volkswagen Golf GTI at the Shenzhen 2010 Spring Auto Exhibition in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on 13 March, 2010. More than 80 exhibitors attended the exhibition which kicked off on Saturday.—XINHUA

Growing doubts over standard prostate cancer test

WASHINGTON, 14 March —The most commonly used prostate cancer screening procedure, PSA, is at the centre of a growing debate after its discoverer said it had become a "hugely expensive public health disaster."

In a commentary in *The New York Times*, Richard Ablin of the University of Arizona said the screening tool he discovered four decades ago now costs too much and is ineffective.

The American Cancer Society, which does not recommend the prostate specific antigen (PSA) test — a standard screening for men since the 1990s — has urged doctors to speak to their patients about its risks and its limits.

Prostate cancer, the second most common cancer in men worldwide after lung cancer, kills an estimated 254,000 men each year.—*Internet*

Freezing weather, sand storms to hit central and east China

BEIJING, 14 March — China Meteorological Administration (CMA) issued an alert on Sunday morning, warning a temperature drop and sand storms brought by a cold wave would sweep central and east China over the next two days.

Temperatures in the central and east parts of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, northeastern parts of the nation's northwest areas, and the Shandong Peninsula, would plummet by 10 to 14 degrees Celsius, said the CMA.

Floating dust weather was forecasted in some parts in south Xinjiang basin region, the central and west parts in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, and the northwest areas, with sand storms in some of these regions, according to the CMA.

The lowest temperatures in the central and east parts of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, and the central and north parts of northeast China would slump to 15 to 20 degrees Celsius below zero on Tuesday morning, the CMA said.—*Xinhua*



A woman shops at a supermarket in Beijing on March 10. China faces a difficult year as it works to maintain economic growth and spur development, but it will not be bullied into changing its exchange rate policy, Premier Wen Jiabao has said.—INTERNET

Group announces Nevada wind turbine plant

WASHINGTON, 14 March—US Renewable Energy Group, China-based A-Power Energy Generation Systems and American Nevada Group announced plans to build a wind turbine manufacturing facility in Nevada.

The 320,000-square-foot plant, with annual production capacity of 1,100 megawatts of wind energy turbines annually — enough to power 330,000 homes — is expected to be ready for operation by the end of 2011. It is expected to employ approximately 1,000 Nevada workers.

In making the announcement on Thursday, the partners credited US

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., for their decision to locate the plant in his home state.

Ed Cunningham, managing partner of US Renewable Energy Group, recounted in a statement how Reid said that “Nevada was poised to be at the epicentre of America’s commitment to renewable energy technology.”

Cunningham said the multimillion-dollar investment in Nevada will “further advance Reid’s clean energy initiatives while allowing out-of-work Nevadans to re-enter the workforce in high-paying, stable, green jobs.”

“The clean energy industry is the future of Ne-

vada,” Reid said, the *Las Vegas Sun* reports. “I urged A-Power to choose our state as the site for the plant because I believe Nevada can be a world leader in clean energy.”

Internet

Zebra plays dentist to zoo hippo

ZURICH, 14 March—A zebra at the Zurich zoo seemed willing to risk possible death by putting its head into a hippo’s mouth to clean the animal’s teeth, zoo authorities said.

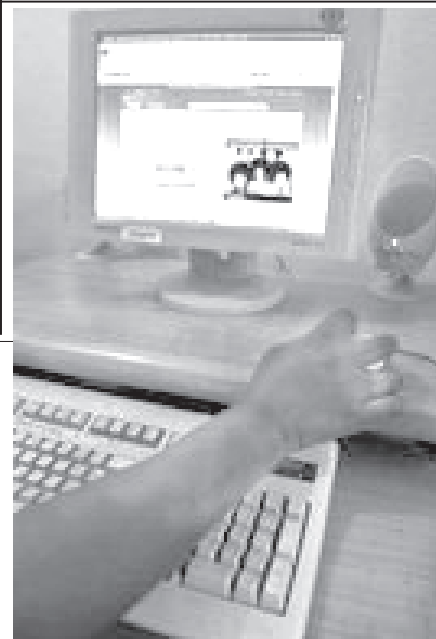
Zoo visitors were intrigued to see the zebra stretching its neck into the hippo’s mouth, *The Daily Telegraph* reported Friday.

Hippos are aggressive animals that can inflict fatal injuries with their powerful jaws, the newspaper said.

The zebra was in an enclosure with the hippo and its baby, and continued to clean the hippo’s teeth for almost 15 minutes, the newspaper said.

Hippos can be aggressive when protecting their young. They seldom kill each other but have been blamed for the deaths of hundreds of people in Africa.

The bite of a hippo can deliver almost a ton of pressure, sufficient to snap a small boat in half, the *Telegraph* said.—*Internet*



A customer browses the Internet in a cybercafe. Non-delivery of items bought on the Internet was the biggest source of fraud, accounting for 19 percent of losses, and credit card and auction fraud each accounted for 10 percent.—INTERNET

Climate change threatens most bird species

WASHINGTON, 14 March—Climate change poses a threat to 93 percent of Hawaii’s bird species, said a report from ornithologists and environmental groups.

Birds on Pacific and Caribbean islands are more susceptible to climate change because of their inability to move to new locations, said the report titled “The State of the Birds: 2010 Report on Climate Change.”

Most mainland US bird species also are threatened by climate change, including many that depend on Louisiana’s fragile coastline, said the report, warning the threat to birds could foreshadow similar threats to people.

“Because birds are good indicators of environmental conditions, their predicted changes illustrate how ecosystems are likely to change and they are telling us an important story,” the report said. “Some bird species will adapt and succeed, others will struggle and decline, and some will disappear.”—*Internet*

Thanks for the memories — the computer you’ll never forget

LONDON, 14 March — Researchers have taken a leap into the world of science fiction by creating a computer programme that uncovers memories. Scientists used the “mind-reading” software to tell which of three film scenes their volunteers were thinking about simply by analysing their brain activity. The research illuminates mechanisms of memory, which are still not clearly understood.

It could also lead to better ways of helping people who suffer memory loss as a result of injury or old age. The study was carried out at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging at

University College London, where the same team last year showed how “spatial” memories relating to a person’s location could be “read”. The new work goes a big step further by tapping into “episodic” memories — the complex recollections of everyday events that include actions and feelings. Ten participants were first asked to watch three seven-second movie clips and memorize what they saw.

The film extracts were simple and depicted ordinary scenes in a typical urban street, including a woman drinking coffee from a paper cup and another posting a letter. Volunteers then recalled each clip in turn while having their brains scanned by a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) machine. The scanner uses a magnetic field and radio waves to identify regions of heightened brain activity.—*Internet*



A contestant prepares to answer cultural knowledge questions during the British leg of the ninth “Chinese Bridge” world university students’ Chinese language competition at the London School of Economics in London, capital of Britain, on 13 March, 2010. A total of 20 competitors from 12 universities and the Confucius Institute took part in the competition here on Saturday.—XINHUA

Humans, sea creatures share vision gene

SANTA BARBARA, 14 March—Humans and an ancient group of sea creatures known as hydras share a gene that aids in vision, scientists in California said.

Hydras, along with jellyfish, belong to a group of simple animals known as cnidarians, which first emerged 600 million years ago, said Todd Oakley, who teaches ecology, evolution and marine biology at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Oakley and his team determined the gene called opsin is shared by humans and hydras in controlling the entrance and exit of ions involved in light sensitivity.

The findings, which provide clues to the origins of human vision, were published in a recent issue of the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, a British journal of biology.

The findings illustrate how all organisms, including humans, are a complex mix of ancient and new characteristics, Oakley said.—*Internet*

SPORTS

Vidic expects great things from Ferdinand partnership

MANCHESTER, 14 March—Manchester United defender Nemanja Vidic believes there is still more to come from his partnership with Rio Ferdinand as the pair gear up for the

closing stage of the Premier League title race. Ferdinand's season has been interrupted by back problems and Vidic's appearances have also been restricted by an ankle injury.

But the central defenders are set to together for just the third time this year when Fulham visit Old Trafford.

They have returned in front of goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar, who has also struggled with his fitness this season, with successive clean sheets in the 1-0 victory over Wolves and the 4-0 thumping of AC Milan.

Internet



Manchester United defender Nemanja Vidic (right) believes there is still more to come from his partnership with Rio Ferdinand as the pair gear up for the closing stage of the Premier League title race.

INTERNET

Lyon crash back to earth as stalemate reigns in France



Lyon's midfielder Campos Ederson (L) fights for the ball with Saint-Etienne's defender Cedric Varraut (R) during their French L1 football match at the Gerland stadium in Lyon.—INTERNET

PARIS, 14 March—Lyon crashed back to earth on Saturday as they missed their chance to join the leading group in the French top flight, being held to a 1-1 draw at home to local rivals St Etienne.

The former seven-

time champions were a long way from their mid-week heroics at the Santiago Bernabeu when they sealed a 2-1 aggregate win over Spanish giants Real Madrid in the Champions League.

A first half goal from striker Emmanuel Riviere put 17th-placed St Etienne ahead with the hosts having to wait until 80 minutes for the equaliser from Argentinian striker Lisandro Lopez. Earlier leaders Bordeaux missed a chance to pull ahead with a goalless draw at Monaco, as fellow challengers Montpellier and Auxerre played out a 1-1 draw.

Internet

Nadal returns to tennis with win over Schuettler

INDIAN WELLS, 14 March—Rafael Nadal, playing his first match since retiring injured from the Australian Open, launched his Indian Wells title defence Saturday with a straight-set win over Rainer Schuettler.

Nadal, seeded third, downed the German qualifier 6-4, 6-4. It was the 23-year-old Spaniard's first match since a right knee injury forced him to retire from his Australian Open quarter-final while trailing Andy Murray by two sets.

He needed one hour and 34 minutes to dispatch Schuettler, a former world number five who is now ranked 90th in the world. In the

third round, Nadal will face Croatian Mario Ancic, a 4-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 winner over France's Julien Benneteau.

Ancic, who was a Wimbledon semifinalist in 2004, missed most of last year after being diagnosed with mononucleosis that had first been diagnosed as a bad flu in 2008.

Internet



Rafael Nadal

Robben powers Bayern to top of Bundesliga

LONDON, 14 March—Arjen Robben proved the difference for the second time in four days as Bayern Munich came from behind to beat Freiburg 2-1 to leapfrog Schalke at the top of the Bundesliga.

The brilliant Dutchman put the Bavarian giants into the quarterfinals of the Champions League with his stunning strike against Fiorentina on Tuesday and worked his magic again at the Allianz Arena. Cedric Makiadi had put struggling Freiburg ahead in the 31st minute, but Robben



Robben leaps with delight as Bayern Munich go to the top of the Bundesliga standings.—INTERNET

equalized in the 76th and then converted a 83rd-minute penalty to give Bayern an invaluable three points.

Internet

Sevilla frustrated by resilient Deportivo

MADRID, 14 March—Sevilla warmed up for Tuesday's Champions League clash against CSKA Moscow with a disappointing 1-1 home draw against Deportivo La Coruna on Saturday, failing to make up ground on third-placed Valencia. Sevilla trail Valencia, who face Barcelona on Sunday, by three points after being pegged back by Depor, two points behind in sixth, after Adrian (24 min) cancelled out Fazio's opener for Sevilla three minutes earlier.

CSKA Moscow are up next for Sevilla in the second leg of the last 16 Champions League tie on Tuesday with Manolo Jimenez's side holding a slight advantage after a 1-1 draw in Russia. Sevilla had been beaten 3-2 by Real Madrid last time out - throwing away a two-goal lead - so were looking for a boost and took the lead on 21 minutes when defender Fazio flicked in a driven cross from Argentine compatriot Diego Perotti.

Internet

Rooney keeps United defence on course

MANCHESTER, 14 March—Wayne Rooney has 25 top-flight goals this season after adding two to his tally in a 3-0 win against Fulham FC that took titleholders Manchester United FC back to the Premier League summit.

Manchester United FC jumped from third to first in the Premier League with a 3-0 defeat of UEFA Europa League contenders Fulham.



Manchester United 3-0 Fulham Sunderland 1-1 Manchester City

Having seen Arsenal FC and Chelsea FC go level at the top on 64 points after wins on Saturday, United knew that victory was required to pull clear in their title defence. They had to wait until the second half, however, to break down a Fulham team who defeated United 3-0 at Craven Cottage in December. Just 30 seconds after the interval, Wayne Rooney exchanged passes with Nani and finished calmly from inside the penalty area for his 24th league goal of the campaign.

Internet

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle



Pacquiao beats Clottey to keep WBO welterweight crown

DALLAS, 14 March — Filipi no superstar Manny Pacquiao easily defeated Joshua Clottey by unanimous 12-round decision to retain his World Boxing Organization welterweight title at Cowboys Stadium. Pacquiao, recently named Fighter of the Decade, ran his win streak to 12 straight fights with a dominating performance in front of a crowd of more than 50,000 at the 1.2 billion-dollar home of American football's Dallas Cowboys.

Pacquiao's punishing assault was reflected on all three judges scorecards as he won by totals of 120-108, 119-109 and 119-109. This fight is dedicated to all of you, especially to the people in the Philippines," Pacquiao told the

crowd from the center of the ring. He marked the second consecutive true welterweight fight for Pacquiao, who was the heavy favourite despite giving away a 10-pound advantage to Clottey.

Internet



Manny Pacquiao (R) the Philippines throws a right to the head of Joshua Clottey of Ghana during the WBO welterweight title fight.—INTERNET



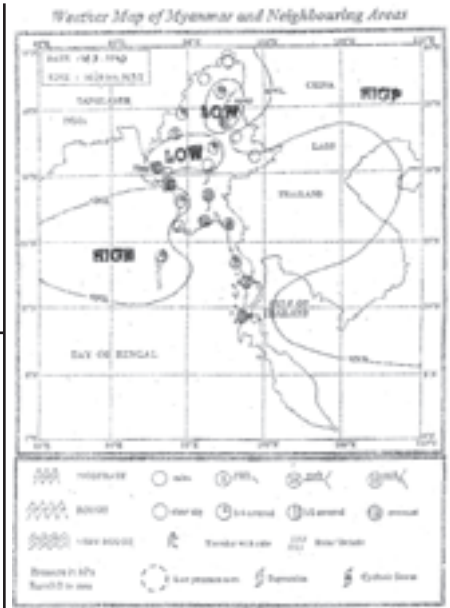
A pedestrian walks past the golden domed Alexander Nevski cathedral as he is reflected in a puddle in a sunny morning in the Bulgarian capital Sofia, on 14 March, 2010.—INTERNET

Venezuela's Chavez: Internet should be regulated

CARACAS, 14 March — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez called for regulation of the Internet on Saturday while demanding authorities crack down on a critical news Web site that he accused of spreading false information.

In a televised speech, Chavez said: "The Internet can't be something free where anything can be done and said. No, every country has to impose its rules and regulations," Chavez said.

Internet



WEATHER

Sunday, 14th March, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (6°C) above March average temperatures in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in Shan, Chin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Yangon Divisions and about March average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Chauk and Magway (40°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 13-3-2010 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 14-3-2010 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 14-3-2010 was 92%. Total sun shine hours on 13-3-2010 was (7.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 14-3-2010 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 13-3-2010.

Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in the North and Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15th March 2010: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Kachin, Chin, Shan and North Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and North Bago Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Rakhine coast, Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershower in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 15-3-2010: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-3-2010: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-3-2010: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (15-3-2010)(Monday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am~10:00am)MST
Europe	- (15:30pm~23:30pm)MST
North America	- (23:30pm~07:30am)MST
Oversea Transmission	- (15-3-10 11:30 am ~ 16-3-10 11:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Peaceful and Beautiful Lashio
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
- * News
- * Exquisite Silver Jewellery
- * Mobile Education Activities for Wildlife Conservation
- * News
- * Traditional Dance of National Races "Hand in Hand in Unity"
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Towards the Direction of Dreams"
- * News
- * Upgraded Roads in Mandalay

Oversea Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Peaceful and Beautiful Lashio
- * News

- * Music Gallery
- * Pride of Place in Bagan (The Ananda Temple)
- * News
- * Exquisite Silver Jewellery
- * Mobile Education Activities for wildlife Conservation
- * News
- * Traditional Dance of National Races "Hand in Hand in Unity"
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Towards the Direction of Dreams"
- * News
- * Upgraded Roads in Mandalay
- * Myanmar Traditional Marionette Theatre (Part-5)
- * News
- * Let's Go and Enjoy Nature's Beauty
- * Romantic Dance of Phoe Chit
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Let's enjoy Mann Shwe Sattaw Pagoda Festival
- * Beautiful Magway
- * The Power where Nature and Science Come Together! (Part-1)
- * News
- * Walk in Aviary a Recreation Centre
- * News
- * Elegant Myanmar Dance (Part-1)
- * The Persons who love birds

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Myanmar

TV

Monday, 15
March

View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရား
- ကြီးမာပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

- Morning News

7:40 am

- အောင်တော်မူ (စောမင်းနောင်စိုင်းညိုမင်း)

တေးရေး-ဗိုလ်ကလေး
တင့်အောင်

7:50 am

- Cute Little Dancers

8:05 am

- နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ

8:15 am

- Song Of National Races

8:20 am

- (၆၅)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:40 am

- International News

8:45 am

- "ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာ သန့်စင်သောအစာ"

4:00 pm

- Martial Song

4:05 pm

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:10 pm

- မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

4:25 pm

- Dance Variety

4:35 pm

- Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

4:45 pm

- တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ

4:55 pm

- အထေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဒသနိကပေဒအထူးပြု) (ဒသနိကပေဒ)

5:10 pm

- Songs For Uphold National Spirit

5:15 pm

- ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားစုကဏ္ဍ

5:30 pm

- (၆၅)နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

5:45 pm

- မာန်အောင်ကျွန်းပတ်လမ်း အောင်ပွဲ

6:00 pm

- Evening News

6:15 pm

- Weather Report

6:20 pm

- Sing & Enjoy

7:00 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "တို့အတူရှိစဉ်တုန်းက" (အပိုင်း-၅)

8:00 pm

- News

- International News

- Weather Report

- မြန်မာ့ဒီမိုကရေစီအတွက် အချစ်တိုက်ထိမှားမှု

- လက်ဆယ်ချောင်းတောင် (အပိုင်း-၁)

- (ခန့်စည်သူနန္ဒာလှိုင်)

- (ခါရိုက်တာ-အောင်ကြွတာ)

- "သုခုမရင်မြင်"

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- ★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- ★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- ★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Scavenging energy waste to turn water into hydrogen fuel



A newly developed met hod harvests small amounts of waste energy and harnesses them to turn water into usable hydrogen fuel.

SCIENCE DAILY, 14 March—Materials scientists at the University of Wisconsin-Madison have designed a way to harvest small amounts of waste energy and harness them to turn water into usable hydrogen fuel.

The process is simple, efficient and recycles otherwise-wasted energy into a useable form.

"This study provides a simple and cost-effective technology for direct water splitting that may generate hydrogen

fuels by scavenging energy wastes such as noise or stray vibrations from the environment," the authors write in a new paper, published 2 March in the *Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters*. "This new discovery may have potential implications in solving the challenging energy and environmental issues that we are facing today and in the future."

The researchers, led by UW-Madison geologist and crystal specialist Huifang Xu, grew

nanocrystals of two common crystals, zinc oxide and barium titanate, and placed them in water. When pulsed with ultrasonic vibrations, the nanofibers flexed and catalyzed a chemical reaction to split the water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen.

When the fibers bend, asymmetries in their crystal structures generate positive and negative charges and create an electrical potential. This phenomenon, called the piezoelectric effect, has been well known in certain crystals for more than a century and is the driving force behind quartz clocks and other applications.

Xu and his colleagues applied the same idea to the nanocrystal fibers. "The bulk materials are brittle, but at the nanoscale they are flexible," he says, like the difference between fiberglass and a pane of glass.—*Internet*

Prize-awarding of Ngwehsaung beach photo contest on 17 March

YANGON, 14 March—Myanmar Hoteliers Association (Ngwehsaung zone) and Myanmar Photographic Society organized photo contest to mark 10th anniversary of Ngwehsaung beach. In the photo contest, Ko Aung Htay Lin won first prize, U Kyaw

Win Hlaing (University of Culture), second prize and U Zaw Zaw Way, third prize.

Canon will award first prize winner Canon SLR Camera EOS 1000 D with EF 18-55 IS Lens, second prize Canon Digital Camera IXUS-95 IS and third prize Canon Dig-

ital Camera Powershot A480. A total of 15 consolation prize winners will be awarded K 50,000 each. The prize-awarding ceremony will be held at Central Hotel on Bogyoke Aung San street here on 17 March. The photos will be displayed on show at the ceremony.—*MNA*

Basic junior officer course concludes

YANGON, 14 March—The concluding ceremony of Basic Junior Officer Course No. 45 was held at the parade ground of the Central In-

stitute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township at 7.30 am on 12 March.

Rector of the CICS U Win Maung

presented prizes to the outstanding trainees and completion certificates to the trainees at Ohndaw Hall of the institute.—*MNA*

Earthquake Report

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March—A strong earthquake of magnitude 6.5 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside

Myanmar (Kepulauan Obi, Indonesia) about 2600 miles south-east of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at

07 hrs 34 min 50 sec MST today, according to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures