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Sunday, 2 May, 2010

Construction of Nay Pyi Taw International Airport gaining momentum

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May — Minister for Transport U Thein Swe inspected progress of entrance road to six-lane motorway that leads to Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, growing of trees and flowery plants for beautifying and greening tasks and availability of water this morning.

The managing director of Asia World reported on concrete works for floors and posts for the first floor, installation of steel beams, piling of bored piles for elevated driveway at the main building construction site of the airport.

After hearing the reports, the minister looked into progress in construction of Bon Cul-

vert under the new runway, placing of 14-inch concrete layer on the 8-inch layer concrete layer, ground work for the remote parking of the apron and construction of concrete drains around the airport.

At the briefing hall, the minister heard reports on work progress, air-conditioning system, security system, escalator and elevator and fire extinguishing system presented by the managing director of Asia World.

The minister called for timely completion of construction works, security measures and worksite safety.

MNA

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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



Minister for Transport U Thein Swe inspects progress in construction of Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

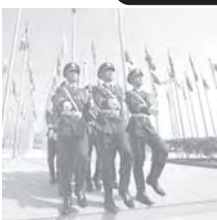
MNA

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Paramilitary policemen march after a flag raising ceremony at the Shanghai World Expo site in Shanghai.

PW working on all cylinders in building 96 miles long Patheingyi-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoo Road

Article: *Kayan Soe Myint*; Photos: *Moe Myint Hlaing*



Workers at the tarmacking sections on Patheingyi-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoo Road. (See page 7)

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 2 May, 2010

Workers urged to join hands with people in realizing State's seven-step Road Map

The present age has witnessed every country exerting efforts for own national economic development and enhancement of power and image. Myanmar also is in the process of striving to stand tall as a modern and developed nation with consolidated force of the entire people among the global nations. The workers on their part have their dutiful and effective national role to reach this end.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe sent a message on the Workers Day that falls on 1 May 2010. The message exhorts the workers: "All along the course of history, you the workers proved your worthiness with your fine traditions. So, I would like to urge you to ward off attempts of saboteurs and aliens to interfere and to sow seeds of mistrust in our country while further fostering your unyielding spirit, anti-colonialist spirit, nationalism and Union Spirit. Moreover, you need to join hands with the entire people for the successful implementation of the State's seven-step Road Map."

Nowadays, the correct national policies and objectives are being implemented successfully, and the rapid national progress has been achieved in parallel with the prevalence of peace and stability. Arrangements have been made to ensure harmony among the private sector of the national races, the State sector and the cooperative sector. All are placing emphasis on improvement of mechanized agricultural farming and shaping the nation into an industrialized one.

The industrial zones and industrial regions have been established across the nation. The factories are manufacturing import-substitute products and modern machines and machinery. The government recognizes the role of workers in the national development drive and gives priority to the promotion and protection of the workers' rights and opportunities.

Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the government is shaping the nation into a modern and developed new nation, while implementing the State's seven-step Road Map.

The Myanmar workers who have significant role in all along the course of the history are to join hands with the entire people in discharging the national duties for achieving success in realizing the State's seven-step Road Map while making utmost efforts in expediting production process for the emergence of an industrialized nation.

MoU signing ceremony on establishment of Software Development Offshore Centre among DIR System Technology Co Ltd (Japan), USE Information System Development Co Ltd (Japan) and ACE Data Systems Co Ltd (Myanmar) in progress.—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

Myanmar attends 16th SAARC Summit as observer

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May—A Myanmar observer delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back from Bhutan yesterday evening after attending the 16th Summit of the Heads of State/Government of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member countries held in Thimphu, Bhutan from 28 and 29 April.

The summit was also attended by the Heads of State/Government, ministers, deputy ministers, ambassadors and senior officials from 8 SAARC member countries, representatives of the observer and guest countries/organizations.

On 28 April afternoon, President of the Socialist Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka Mr Mahinda Rajapaksa handed over the chairmanship of SAARC to Bhutanese Prime Minister Mr Jigme Thinley.

In his address,



Minister
for
Foreign
Affairs U
Nyan Win
at 16th
SAARC
Summit.
MOFA

Minister U Nyan Win said that economic linkages between Myanmar and its neighbouring countries of South Asia have strengthened as the South Asian nations achieved economic, social and cultural advancement. Myanmar has joined SAARC as an observer in view of the country's geographical importance and the strong historical and cultural bondage with members of the association. He also underlined the urgent need for all countries to take long-term cooperative action to

combat climate change. He stated that Myanmar will serve to establish close linkage between ASEAN and SAARC as an observer country. He also pointed out that there are so many other important areas including trade and economic relations, combating terrorism, poverty alleviation, tourism and cultural cooperation, etc where Myanmar and SAARC member countries can expand the cooperation.

In the evening, the Bhutanese Prime Minister and wife hosted a dinner to the delegations.

On 29 April evening, the summit ended successfully and adopted Thimphu Statement on Climate Change of the Summit Declaration.

While in Bhutan, Minister U Nyan Win held separate bilateral meetings with Minister of Health Mr Zangley Ukpa and Minister in-Charge of Foreign Affairs Mr Lyonpo Khandy Tshering and discussed promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation in international fora.

In Bhutan, the minister and party visited historic cultural sites.

MNA

MoU Signing Ceremony for ICT Business Partnership held

YANGON, 30 April—The ceremony to sign MoU between ACE Data Systems Co., Ltd (Myanmar) and DIR System Technology Co.,

Ltd (Japan) and USE Information System Development Co., Ltd (Japan) for the establishment of Software Development Offshore

Center took place at Traders Hotel here this morning.

First, Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts

and Telegraphs U Thein Tun made an opening address.

Next, U Thein Oo, Chairman of ACE Data Systems Co., Ltd (Myanmar), and Mr. Akira Nakamura, Chairman of DIR System Technology Co., Ltd (Japan), explained aims and actions that will be jointly implemented.

The ceremony came to an end after speaking words of thanks by Mrs. Chizuko Funabashi, Chairperson of USE Information System Development Co., Ltd (Japan).

MNA





Chinese President Hu Jintao declares the opening of the Shanghai World Expo during the Expo opening ceremony in Shanghai, east China, on 30 April, 2010.

XINHUA

Chinese President Hu Jintao declares open Shanghai World Expo

SHANGHAI, 1 May—The Shanghai World Expo has got underway Friday evening with a dazzling display of artistic performances, fancy fireworks and high technologies at the opening ceremony.

After years of planning and preparation, the ceremony, featuring indoor performances and outdoor celebrations, began at around 20:00 in the Expo Culture Centre of the Expo park, which spreads across 5.28 square kilometres along both sides of the

Huangpu River.

Chinese President Hu Jintao declared the opening of the World Expo 2010 in the futuristic seashell-shaped venue.

International dignitaries, including French President Nicolas Sarkozy, Republic of Korea President Lee Myung-bak, Mongolian President Tsakhiya Elbegdorj and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso and other 16 heads of state and government were in attendance at the ceremony.

The evening would

be recorded in the 159-year-old World Expo history, with thousands of people watching, while hundreds of thousands more enjoying lights, fountains and fireworks that lit up the waterfront promenade, the Bund.

The indoor performances starred China's piano prodigy Lang Lang, famous for his dramatic countenance and gestures, who played the New Shanghai Concerto, the event's theme music.

Xinhua



Paramilitary policemen march after a flag raising ceremony at the Shanghai World Expo site in Shanghai on 30 April, 2010.

INTERNET

2 killed in market blast in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 May—Two people were killed and nine wounded when a roadside bomb exploded in a market in western Iraq on Friday, a local police source said.

The blast struck a popular market in Fallujah, some 65 km west of Baghdad, the source told Xinhua.

Iraqi security forces have cordoned off the blast site and are hunting for the attackers.

Fallujah was once a stronghold of insurgency after the 2003 US led war toppled former President Saddam Hussein's regime.—Internet

China says Houston police beat, injured diplomat



The Chinese consulate is shown on Friday 20 April, 2010 in Houston. Three Houston police officers have been restricted to desk duty after they followed a Chinese diplomat into the parking garage of the Chinese Consulate, arrested the man and injured him, the Houston mayor said.

INTERNET

DALLS, 1 May—Three Houston police officers have been restricted to desk duty after they followed a Chinese diplomat into the parking garage of the Chinese Consulate, arrested the man and injured him, the Houston mayor said.

Mayor Annise Parker said in a statement that the officers' duties will remain limited pending an investigation into how Chinese diplomat Yu Boren was injured last Saturday.

Officials in China's Foreign Ministry released a statement on Friday saying police harassed and beat a deputy consul-general while he was

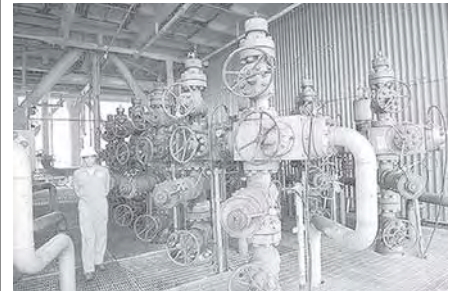
driving to the consulate. The statement said a family member also was involved, but did not say if that person was injured.

The consulate in Houston did not immediately return a message left by The Associated Press. Houston police and the US State Department are investigating the incident.

"China urges the US ... to quickly investigate the details of this incident and to look into the persons responsible to ensure that the Chinese diplomatic and consulate personnel and premises are not violated," Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu said in a statement.

Internet

Militant group claims oil pipeline attack



A worker walks on an oil drilling platform at the total oil platform at Amenem, in the Niger Delta.

INTERNET

LAGOS, 1 May—A militant group claimed on Friday to have attacked an oil pipeline in Nigeria that is operated by a subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell PLC, which said no such assault took place.

A statement sent by a group calling itself the Joint Revolutionary Council of the Niger Delta said it carried out the attack on the pipeline at Buguma. A Shell spokesman, though, said oil production in the region showed no signs of a disruption.

The group also threatened to strike again in the coming days. "We shall strike in a way that the international community will be forced to come into this conflict," it said in the statement. Militants in the troubled Niger Delta have attacked pipelines, kidnapped petroleum company employees and fought government troops since January 2006. Even claims of attacks have affected global oil prices in the past. Nigeria exported almost 1 million barrels of crude a day to US in January alone, more than Saudi Arabia.—Internet

Singapore media hail World Expo in Shanghai

SINGAPORE, 1 May—Singapore's media on Saturday hailed the Shanghai World Expo for its grand opening ceremony on Friday night and its far-reaching significance to China and the world as a whole.

Besides speedy reports by Singapore's Radio and TV stations of the excellent opening ceremony of the Shanghai World Expo on Friday night, the key English and Chinese language newspapers in the city state on Saturday also commented positively on the great event with beautiful pictures and stories.

The *Straits Times*, a leading English language newspaper in Singapore, used "Shanghai Shines", "Trio of Grand Events Mark China's Rise" and "Dazzling Start to World Expo" as the titles of its stories about the opening ceremony.

One of its stories said that the Shanghai World Expo, the Beijing Olympics and the 60th anniversary bash signal its coming of China age.—Xinhua

An exhibitor demonstrates a remote-controlled helicopter model at the 9th China Model Exposition in Beijing on 30 April, 2010. Some 300 international enterprises in model industry from more than 20 countries and regions attended the four-day fair showing their different models.—

XINHUA



Blast injures 5 in NW Pakistan's Swat

ISLAMABAD, 1 May—At least five people were injured as a blast occurred in northwest Pakistan's Swat on Saturday, local TV channel reported.

The explosion took place at Sohrab Khan Chowk of Mingora, the main city in Swat Valley, the private TV Express said.

Police cordoned off the area after the blast and the injured have been shifted to nearby hospital, witnesses said.—Xinhua



Customers wait to buy iPad 3G outside of an Apple Store at the 5th Avenue in New York, the United States on 30 April, 2010. The iPad 3G was formally on sale to public in US on Friday with the price of 130 US dollars higher than iPad Wi-Fi.

XINHUA

Burkina Faso offers Niger 5,000 tons of cereals to help fight famine

OUAGADOUGOU, 1 May — Burkina Faso has offered 5,000 tons of cereals to Niger to help fight famine, which is threatening nearly half of its 11 million population, according to the government.

The humanitarian aid is a token of friendly relations and good neighbourhood between the two African

countries and is part of efforts to save the Sahelian children and women being affected by hunger, a cabinet report said on Thursday. Niger also donated food and other kinds of relief worth 50 million FCFA to help victims of floods in Burkina Faso in September 2009.

Xinhua

Senegal to donate 10,000 tons of cereals to Niger

DAKAR, 1 May — Senegal will donate 10,000 tons of cereals to Niger to help it cope with famine that is affecting almost half of its 11 million population.

The announcement was made on Thursday on state television by the minister in charge of humanitarian affairs, Lamine Ba, after a

coordination meeting with humanitarian organizations.

According to Senegal's Agriculture Minister Fatou Gaye Sarr, suppliers have already been asked to deliver 10,000 tons of cereals to Niger through humanitarian organizations.

Xinhua

The officers and soldiers in the first echelon of the 10th batch of Chinese peacekeeping force to join the UN peacekeeping missions in Liberia step off the gangway as their plane landed at the Roberts International Airport in Monrovia, capital city of Liberia, on 29 April, 2010.—XINHUA



Icelandic tourism industry struggling to get on feet after volcanic eruption

REYKJAVIK, 1 May — The tourism industry in Iceland is struggling to get on its feet after falling to victim of a volcanic eruption more than two weeks ago, with both private tourism operators and government tourism agency trying hard to restore confidence among tourists from across the world.

The tourism industry occupies the third place

in the export sector of the Icelandic economy, which is yet to emerge from a roughly two-year old crushing financial crisis.

After the volcano under the Eyjafjallajökull glacier started eruption on 14 April, the tourism industry in this tiny Nordic country took a heavy blunt to the face immediately as lots of trip bookings were canceled.

Xinhua



French warship destroys pirate mother ship off Somali coast

NAIROBI, 1 May — A French warship has destroyed a pirate mother ship, some 480 nautical miles east of the Somali coast, EU Naval Force said on Friday.

Naval Force spokesman John Harbour said the French warship Nivose on Thursday boarded and searched the vessels but the pirates were found to have disposed of pirate paraphernalia. "The EU NAVFOR warship Nivose found stopped and searched a mother ship and two supporting skiffs, some 480 nautical miles east of the Somali

Coast.

The 11 Somali crew of these vessels were taken on board the Nivose, as were the two attack skiffs and the mother skiff was sunk," Harbour said in a statement. He said the EU Naval Force will continue with its aggressive stance against piracy and the intention to interdict and disrupt pirate activity. Harbour said over 40 pirate action groups have been disrupted in the last two months showing that the new strategy is working.

Xinhua

Song Zuying and Jackie Chan sing "Harmonious Gathering" during the opening ceremony of the 2010 Shanghai World Expo at the Expo Cultural Centre in Shanghai, east China on 30 April, 2010.

XINHUA

Petrobras rated as Brazil's most valuable brand

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 May — Petrobras, the state-owned oil and gas giant of Brazil, is the country's most valuable brand, according to the results of a survey released on Friday. The survey conducted by consulting company Brand-Analytics puts Petrobras' brand value at 19.3 billion reais (11.1 billion US dollars), up 735 percent from the estimate by a similar survey last year. Petrobras said the results are a recognition of the trust the company has among various social sectors in Brazil.

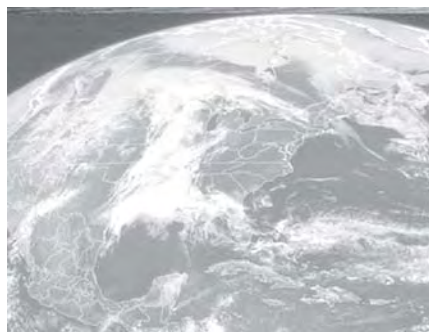
"Petrobras is always looking to

improve its processes, products, and to invest in technology and environmental responsibility to meet the expectations of all Brazilians," said Wilson Santarosa, the company's executive manager for corporate communications, upon receiving the Most Valuable Brazilian Brand award.

Bradesco bank came second in the survey with a brand value of 14.8 billion reais (8.5 billion dollars), followed by the Itau bank, which is worth 13.3 billion reais (7.6 billion dollars).

Xinhua

Tornadoes kill 3, injure 25 in south-central US



This NOAA satellite image taken on Friday, 30 April, 2010 at 1:45 PM EDT shows a line of clouds from the Southern Plains through the Upper Midwest associated with a low pressure system that is producing areas of heavy rain, thunderstorms, and some severe weather. The potential for tornadoes will persist into the evening.—INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 1 May — Tornadoes on Friday hit the south-central US state of Arkansas, killing at least three people and injuring 25 others, local authorities said.

The deaths were reported in Van Buren County, where tornadoes also destroyed several mobile homes, said the state's Department of Emergency Management spokeswoman Renee

Preslar.

Tornadoes also tore down trees and power lines in the county about 120 km north of Little Rock.

Preslar said rescue teams were searching for people who might still be in their damaged homes.

"There are people possibly trapped there," she said. "Search and rescue is going in for a possible missing person." —Xinhua



Tourists take photos in front of lilies in blossom during the 2010 Beijing Tulip Cultural Gala at the Beijing Flower Port in Beijing, capital of China, on 30 April, 2010. A total of 3 million tulips and 200,000 lilies will be show during the Tulip Cultural Gala opening here Friday.—Xinhua

Exercise may slow osteoporosis

AUGUSTA, 1 May— US researchers say exercise helps to forestall osteoporosis in women.

Researchers at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta found study participants who exercised more than 180 minutes a week retained greater bone density.

“Our work provides more evidence that physical activity is important for maintaining bone density. It’s a case of ‘use it or lose it,’” principal investigator Dr Joseph Cannon says in a statement.

Cannon and colleagues measured 36 women between the ages of 20 and 50 for bone mineral density and levels of follicle-

stimulating hormone — an ovary regulator released by the pituitary gland.

They correlated higher levels of the hormone with lower bone mineral density and found the hormone combined with white blood cells stimulated production of interleukin-1, which also correlated with lower bone mineral density.

Exercise, the researchers suggest, may help keep bone breakdown under control by inhibiting factors promoting interleukin-1.

The findings were presented at the Experimental Biology conference in Anaheim, Calif.

Internet

Vitamin E effective for liver disease

NEW YORK, 1 May—Vitamin E appears to be more effective in treating obesity-associated chronic liver disease than a prescription drug, US researchers found.

Dr Joel Lavine, now a faculty member at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and of New York-Presbyterian/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital, in the 1990s began vitamin E research for non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, a liver disease that can lead to cirrhosis, liver cancer and death.

The placebo-controlled randomized trial randomly assigned 247 non-diabetic adults in nine medical centres with biopsy-confirmed non-alcoholic steatohepatitis to take either vitamin E, the drug pioglitazone or a placebo.

“There is an increasing prevalence of nonalcoholic steatohepatitis in this country, something that is directly related to the obesity epidemic,” study co-author Lavine said in a statement.—Internet



In this on 21 April, 2010 photo released by the Wildlife Conservation Society, triplet African lion cubs play in the Bronx Zoo’s African Plains habitat in New York. The cubs, who have yet to be named, were born at the zoo on 27, Jan.

INTERNET

Baby’s breath may help cure cancer

SOUTHAMPTON, 1 May— Extract from the baby’s breath flower may improve the efficiency of anti-leukemia drugs by up to 1 million times, a British doctor says.

“I am usually careful about the words I use with things like this but this discovery could truly revolutionize the way these antibody-based drugs work and it will save lives,” Dr. David Flavell said of the findings by researchers with Leukemia Busters, the charity he and his wife started following the leukemia death of their son.

“And this doesn’t just apply to leukemia. There is a really big possibility this can be used for many cancers too.”

The Sun reported on Thursday clinical trials, which could take three to five years, are being prepared.

The researchers say molecules called saponins from *Gypsophila paniculata*, the small, white-blossomed flower commonly known as baby’s breath, appeared in trials to break down the membrane of cancer cells, making it much easier for drugs to attack the cancer, the British tabloid said.

“This is a potentially very important discovery that could allow us to kill leukemia cells in the patient much more effectively with much lower doses of immunotoxin,” *The Daily Telegraph* quoted Flavell as saying. “The challenge now is to establish how best to apply this laboratory discovery to the treatment of patients.—Internet



Fish swim in the coral reef of Bunaken Island national marine park in northern Sulawesi in 2009. World leaders have fallen short on a pledge to stem biodiversity loss and have instead allowed alarming declines in species populations, habitat conditions and other indicators, a study showed Thursday.

INTERNET



Businessmen take part in a cyclist event in Bucharest on 29 April. More than a hundred suit clad businessmen and women cycled through Bucharest on Thursday to promote biking in a city renowned for its traffic chaos.

INTERNET

Gene test may replace some heart biopsies

NEW YORK, 1 May — US medical researchers say “a blood test can safely reduce the need for invasive heart muscle biopsies in heart transplantation patients.”

The genetic test was co-developed by New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Centre physician-scientist Dr Mario Deng in 2005. Now a multicentre study has determined the gene expression test called AlloMap molecular expression testing is safe and results in significantly fewer biopsies.

Internet

Discovery on how breast cancer may spread

SAN FRANCISCO, 1 May— US researchers say they have discovered how to predict if the most common form of breast cancer may later spread.

Lead author Karla Kerlikowske of the University of California, San Francisco, and the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center, says the most common form of breast cancer — ductal carcinoma in situ — rarely leads to death, but approximately 11 out of 100 women treated by lumpectomy develop invasive cancer within eight years of the initial diagnosis.

In this group of women, 1 percent to 2 percent of women die of breast cancer within 10 years of diagnosis, Kerlikowske says.

“Women will have much more information, so they can better know their risk of developing invasive cancer,” Kerlikowske says in a statement. “It will lead to a more personalized approach to treatment. As many as 44 percent of patients with ductal carcinoma in situ may not require any further treatment, and can rely instead on surveillance.”—Internet

OCD in mice caused by a single gene



Timothy Holy, assistant professor of neurobiology and anatomy at Washington University holds a male lab mouse that sings when they pick up the scent of a female mouse, in St. Louis on 9 November, 2005.

INTERNET

NEW YORK, 1 May—Weill Cornell Medical College researchers say they have

determined a single gene is responsible for obsessive-compulsive disorder behaviors in mice.

The scientists at the college's Ansary Stem Cell Institute and department of psychiatry said they discovered mice with a gene called *Slitrk5* developed repetitive obsessive-compulsive-like behaviors.

"Overall, our data suggest that *Slitrk5* may have a central role in the development of the core symptoms of OCD — self-injurious, repetitive behavior and increased anxiety," said Drs. Shahin Rafii and Francis Lee. "Very few psychiatric disorders have been linked to a single gene, and it will be important to find out if patients with the disorder have an alteration of *Slitrk5*." Rafii is director of the stem cell institute and Lee is an associate professor at the college. "This work is an unexpected offshoot from stem cell science into the realm of psychiatry, and could potentially have major application for treatment of neuropsychiatric diseases," Rafii said.

Internet

Global glaciation snowballed into giant change in carbon cycle



Princeton graduate students Catherine Rose and Nicholas Swanson-Hysell stand at the boundary of the Cryogenian and Ediacaran periods, distinguishable by the different colours of the glacial rocks below and the carbonate rock above.—INTERNET

PRINCETON, 1 May—Princeton graduate students Catherine Rose and Nicholas Swanson-Hysell stand at the boundary of the Cryogenian and Ediacaran periods,

distinguishable by the different colours of the glacial rocks below and the carbonate rock above. New data from a Princeton University-led team of geologists suggest that an episode called

"snowball Earth," which may have covered the continents and oceans in a thick sheet of ice, produced a dramatic change in the carbon cycle. This change in the carbon cycle, in turn, may have triggered future ice ages.

Pinpointing the causes and effects of the extreme shift in the way carbon moved through the oceans, the biosphere and the atmosphere the magnitude of which has not been observed at any other time in Earth history is important for understanding just how much Earth's climate can change and how the planet responds to such disturbances.

Internet



A man is pictured shopping for fruit in a large supermarket in Montauban, France, on July 2009.

Annual inflation rose to 1.5 percent in April across the 16 countries that share the euro currency as the unemployment rate remained at a record high 10 percent in March.—INTERNET

Scientists look beyond diamond for quantum computing

SANTA BARBARA, 1 May—A team of scientists at UC Santa Barbara that helped pioneer research into the quantum properties of a small defect found in diamonds has now used cutting-edge computational techniques to produce a road map for studying defects in alternative materials. Their new research is published in the online edition of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, and will soon be published in the print edition of the journal. The findings may enable new applications for semiconductors — materials that are the foundation of today's information technology. In particular, they may help identify alternative materials to use for building a potential quantum computer.

"Our results are likely to have an impact on experimental and theoretical research in diverse areas of science and technology, including semi-conductor physics, materials science, magnetism, and quantum device engineering," said David D. Awschalom, UCSB physics professor and one of two lead investigators on this project. "Ironically, while much of semiconductor technology is devoted to eliminating the defects that interfere with how today's devices operate, these defects may actually be useful for future quantum technologies."

Internet

iTunes expands online movie service to France, Ireland

SACRAMENTO, 1 May—Apple on Friday expanded its iTunes online film service to France and Ireland. Films from major studios including Sony Pictures Home Entertainment, Walt Disney, Paramount Pictures and 20th Century Fox are now available for purchase or rental at the iPad, iPhone and iPod maker's Internet shop.

European studios with works in the line-up include Pathe, SND and StudioCanal in France and E1 Entertainment, Lionsgate UK and Optimum Releasing in Ireland, according to Cupertino, California-based Apple. Films are available at iTunes on the same day they are released in DVD format and can be watched on iPods, iPhones, Macintosh or personal computers, or using Apple TV devices that link to television sets.

Available films touted by Apple include 3D blockbuster "Avatar," animated hit "Up," and teen-oriented "The Twilight Saga: New Moon."

Internet



A man looks at Fujitsu computers in a Beijing store. Japan's Fujitsu, embroiled in a dispute with its former boss, announced a return to profit Friday after massive losses the previous year as cost-cutting measures offset a decline in sales.

INTERNET

SCIENCE



Someone walks past the Xinhua News Agency headquarters in Hong Kong. China's state-controlled Xinhua news agency said on Friday it would launch a 24-hour global English television service this weekend to be broadcast by satellite and cable systems.—INTERNET

Scientists uncover transfer of genetic material between blood-sucking insect and mammals

AUSTIN, 1 May—Researchers at The University of Texas at Arlington have found the first solid evidence of horizontal DNA transfer, the movement of genetic material among non-mating species, between parasitic invertebrates and some of their vertebrate hosts.

The findings are published in the April 28 issue of the journal *Nature*, one of the world's foremost scientific journals.

Genome biologist Cédric Feschotte and postdoctoral researchers Clément Gilbert and Sarah Schaack found evidence of horizontal transfer of transposon from a South American blood-sucking bug and a pond snail to their hosts. A transposon is a segment of DNA that can replicate itself and move around to different positions within the genome. Transposons can cause mutations, change the amount of DNA in the cell and dramatically influence the structure and function of the genomes where they reside.

Internet



PW working on all cylinders...

(from page 1)

On his inspection tour of Ayeyawady Division from 3 to 5 November 2009, the Head of State gave guidance on building Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road as the all season-serviceable road to be used as a rescue and supply road in a short time if cyclone would occur in the region in the future.

Beginning, 1986-1990, Public Works constructed Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road as one way road from the Pathein-Chaungtha Road (Jakka Junction). In the past, it could be used in the summer only. At present, Public Works of the Ministry of Construction is constructing the road

supervising construction of the Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road.

Nowadays, the State Peace and Development Council is striving for all-round development of the Union. The Ministry of Construction is carrying out construction of new roads and maintenance of existing ones with added momentum. In addition, Public Works is implementing the 10 roads included in the road network development project in Ayeyawady Delta Region in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. These roads are as follows:-

- (1) Maubin-Yelegale-Shwetaungmaw-Kyaukpia

Road 38 miles 5 furlongs

- (7) Pyapon-Kyonkadun-Daw Nyein-Ahmar Road 51 miles 5 furlongs

- (8) Kyonkadun-Sethsan Road 19 miles 1 furlong

- (9) Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road 96 miles

- (10) Bogale-Mawlamyinegyun-Kyonmange-Wakema-Myaungmya Road 68 miles 7 furlongs

The 9th facility Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road will pass Pathein, Ngapudaw and Hainggyikyun Townships. Its alignment links Thittopin, Jakka, Seintaung, Ngayokkaungtaung, Polaung, Ngabyema and Mawtinsoo.



Workers at Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road.



Photo shows Pathein Bridge in Ayeyawady Division.

as an all weather tarred road and plans to complete the construction tasks before the rainy season. It can withstand 40-ton loads. The day after Myanmar New Year Day, we made a trip to Pathein of Ayeyawady Division from Yangon to write bylines honouring the endeavours of Public Works.

After booking the rooms at Pathein Hotel, we left for Seintaung Camp to have an interview with Deputy Managing Director (Works) U Win Tint of Public Works who was

- (2) Mawlamyinegyun Road 43 miles 5 furlongs

- (3) Mawlamyinegyun-Hlinebone-Thitpok-Kwinkauk-Pyinsalu Road 69 miles 3 furlongs

- (4) Labutta-Thingangyi-Pyinsalu Road 35 miles 2 furlongs

- (5) Labutta-Thongwa-Ottwin-Hteiksun Road 39 miles 8 furlongs

- (6) Labutta-Kyeinchaung-Kadonkani Road 41 miles 2 furlongs

- (7) Bogale-Sethsan-Htawpaing-Ahmar

The road starts on Pathein-Chaungtha Road and its mile posts 11/0 is on Pathein-Ngwehsaung Road. The road section from miles post 11/0 to

12/0 is 12 feet wide tarred road. The road section from mile posts 12/0 to 18/4 is 12 feet wide gravel road. The road section from mile posts 18/4 to

50/0 is 12 feet wide pebble facility. Some parts of alignment from mile posts 79/0 to 96/0 passes through the paddy field and plains. The road section from mile posts 57/0 to 79/0 is on the hilly region and from the posts 79/0 to 96/0 on the plains. The section from mile posts from 50/0 to 96/0 is now earth road. At present, the 96 miles long road is under construction as a 12 feet wide motor road on 34 feet wide embankment for the use of 40-ton vehicles. The road will have nine feet wide pedestrian way on either side inclusive of earthen road shoulder.

Deputy Managing Director (Works) U Win Tint of Public Works, two Chief

Engineers and three Deputy Chief Engineers are supervising the project.

Together with the Deputy Managing Director, Deputy Superintending Engineer (Road) Daw Hla Hla Thwe of Road Research and Senior Engineer (Road) U Soe Tun Naing, we travelled along Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road. We saw Yesoegy Bridge, Kaing Creek Bridge, Tatanku Bridge, Thabyu Creek Bridge, Kwin Creek Bridge, Leikkyi Bridge, Ti Creek Bridge and Myitthaya Bridge on the road.

(See page 8)



A bridge on Pathein-Thalakkhwa-Mawtinsoo Road.

Honouring Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Sayadaws discussed

YANGON, 1 May—A coordination meeting to honour the monks who passed the 62nd Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination was held at the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Branch) in Mayangon Township yesterday morning, with an

address by Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung.

Chairman of the Working Committee for Honouring Ceremony Deputy Minister Thura U Aung Ko made a speech.

Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Kyaw

Myanmar, Italy to cooperate in agriculture sector

YANGON, 1 May — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo met Italian Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Dr. Giuseppe Cinti at the hall of Irrigation Department here this morning.

They discussed matters related to mutual cooperation in agriculture sector.—MNA



Minister U Htay Oo receives Italian Ambassador Dr. Giuseppe Cinti. A&I



Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung speaking at coordination meeting to honour Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Sayadaws.—MNA

Invitational Basketball Competition 2010 concludes

YANGON, 1 May — The final matches of Summer Invitational Basketball Competition 2010, organized by Myanmar

Basketball Federation, was held at Aung San Gymnasium here yesterday.

Kyaw Tun and officials of subcommittees took part in the discussions.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA

After the matches, the responsible persons presented medals and cash prizes to teams who stood first, second and third in U-16 and U-20 men's and women's events.

MNA

PW working on all...

(from page 7)

It can be said that Public Works shows off its brilliant and concerted efforts in construction tasks. All-out efforts of 27 construction groups namely Maubin District and Pyapon District Public Works, Hlinebone Group, Special Road Group 2, Hinthada District Public Works, Special Airport Group 2, Special Road Group 15, Thayawady and Patheingyi District Public Works, Special Bridge Group 1 and Special Bridge Group 13, Bago, Yangon East, Yangon West, Myaungmya District Public Works, Special Road Group 4, Special Road Group 16, Mandalay District Public Works, Special Bridge Group 2, Special Bridge Group 5, Meiktila District Public Works, Special Road Group 7, Special Building Group 3, Special Building Group 5, Special Road Group 13, Special Bridge

Group 3 and Special Bridge Group 11. Likewise, Asia World, Myanmar Ewatani, Packlink, Zeya Engineer, AA Global, Aungmyathar, Yangon Crown, Crown Calcium, Naing Group, Golden Hub, Yadana Shwesi, Shwedaung, Yangon Transformer, Sein Sky, IGE, Moe Yadana Tun and Soe Moe Yadana are participating in the construction works.

In an interview, Deputy Managing Director U Win Tint said, "Patheingyi-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoo Road will be opened soon. Up to now, Public Works has provided 30 rollers and 15 concrete mixers to the construction site. Arrangements are made to complete box culverts on 23 April. If necessary, stone crushers will be purchased. A total of 17 companies and 27 groups of Public Works are joining hands in the works. Workers of companies are constructing the 48

miles long section with the use of heavy machinery. Over 300 bridges including culverts were constructed along the road. The Accounts Section of Public Works issues payments to the companies not to delay the construction tasks."

In another interview, Senior Engineer (QC) U Soe Tun Naing said, "Normally, the durability of the tarred road will be 10 years. We tested standards of construction materials, soils, stones, sand and

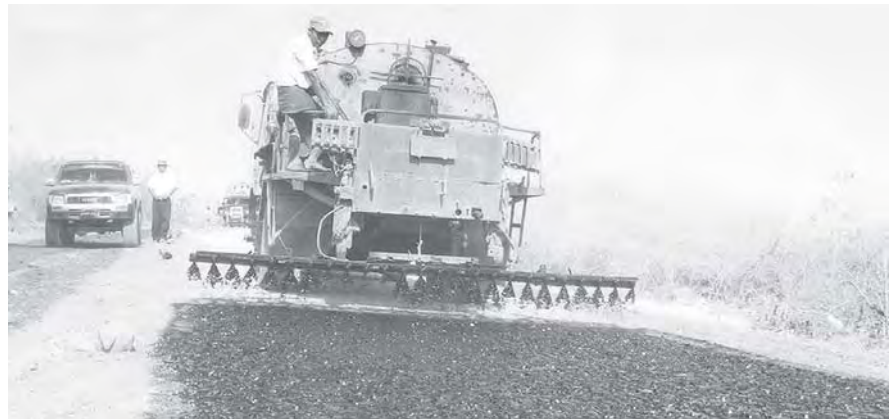
tar used in the road. For ensuring durability of the road, the quality road construction materials should be used as well as the vehicles should carry the commodities in accordance with prescribed limit. Before 1988, the total weight of commodity and vehicle was 13 tons. However, the vehicles carry over load commodities from 60 to 70-80 tons of loads after 1988. Patheingyi-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoo Road can withstand 40-ton load of vehicle plus commodity. So, I would

like to request the road users to abide by the law."

In the past, the roads linking upper and lower parts of the nation along the east bank of Ayeyawady River. At present, the roads are linking all parts of the nation in the east, west, north and south. As necessary roads and bridges have been built in Ayeyawady Division, the waterways and motor roads are reliable transport facilities in the region. Patheingyi-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoo Road is one

of the roads implemented in the Ayeyawady Delta Region Road Network Project after the storm Nargis had hit there. The road will be used as a rescuing route to provide assistance for Ayeyawady Division in a short time if cyclone would hit there. Moreover, the road will serve the interest of the Buddhist people from Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions to visit and pay homage to Hsindawshin Mawtinsoo Pagoda.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin: 1-5-2000



Construction of Patheingyi-Thalakhwa-Mawtinsoo Road with the use of heavy machinery.



Maintenance of machinery, ensuring better communications stressed



Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Zaw views machines at Internet Gateway of Hanthawady Auto-Exchange.

CPT

NAY PYI TAW, 1 May —Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Zaw, together with Deputy Minister U Thein Tun, visited Thingangyun Township auto exchange in Yangon today. After hearing a report of the chief engineer, the minister stressed the need for maintenance of the machinery and ensuring better communications and fulfilled the require-

ments for staff welfare.

Next, the minister viewed WCDMA mobile room and the worksite for Myanmar font system computer at the wireless auto phone office in Ahlon Township. He then inspected Ahlon auto exchange.

Later, the minister visited Hanthawady auto exchange and installation of IP transit exchange and Internet Gateway and left

necessary instructions.

MNA

KMD Special Sales Road Show held

YANGON, 1 May — KMD Sales & Service Centre has moved from Merchant Street to No.170-184, Pansodan Street (Middle Block), Kyauktada Township, as of today.

As a gesture of halting the new address to-

day, Special Sales Road Show was held at the new centre and Myaynigon Centre. At the show, DVD-double layer, Sony mouse, Canon 6320 printer, microlab head phone, Prolink gamer keyboard, LT 22xDVD writer, Prolink Webcam,

Verbarim earphone, HP Deskjet 2410 printer and Prolink serial modern were sold at 50 % discount.

For more information contact the new address (Ph: 381035, 381776, 503522, 502244).—MNA



Computers and accessories seen at KMD Sales & Service Centre.—MNA

Applications for CPA Part-I

YANGON, 30 April—The Certified Public Accountant Course (Part-I) No. 36 will be opened at the training school of Auditor-General's Office on Thakhin Mya Park Road in Ahlon Township on 16 August.

The B.Com and B.Act citizen graduates who passed the examinations from Yangon, Monywa and Meiktila Institutes of Economic in September 2008 (except the graduates from supplementary exams) may submit applications with certificates (original and copy), grade recommendation (original and copy), Citizenship Scrutiny Card (original and copy) and endorsement of

the office heads for the staff of the Auditor-General's Office to the Myanmar Accountancy Council between 5 to 31 May. The qualified persons to attend the course will be announced at the MAC Office on 9 July. They have to pay fees for the course from 12 to 30 July.

The course will last one year for the part one and another one year for the part two. The trainees are to attend the course from Monday to Friday from 7 am to 8.50 am and Saturday at 7 am to 11.50 am. Those who fail to meet the 60 per cent of attendance will not be allowed to sit for the exam.—MNA

Kandaunt Dam contributes to regional...

(from page 16)

It can store 600 acre feet and supply irrigation water to 200 acres of farmlands. Its catchment area is four square miles and inflow

of water is 1600 acre-feet. Still water area is 180 acre-feet and water storage area is 56 acres.

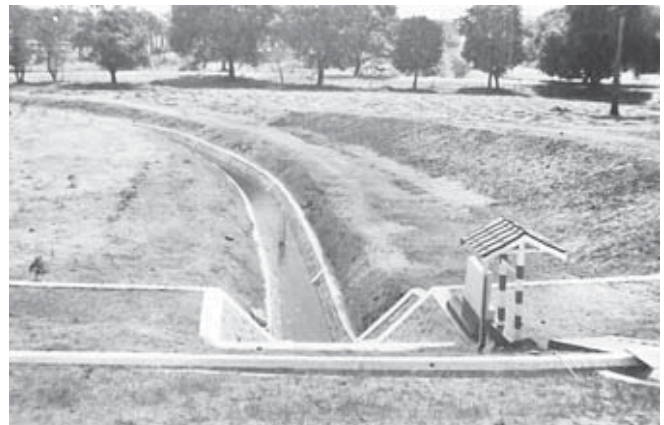
Conduit is of two feet diameter RC type. The spillway is 80 feet in

width and 590 feet in length.

The main canal is 1.5 miles in length. The water is supplied to cotton plantations and farmlands. Hlaingchaung dam in Pale Township was opened in 30 December 2006. Arrangement had



Spillway of Kandaunt Dam.



Main canal of Kandaunt Dam.

been made to irrigate 1000 acres of farmlands. Hlaingchaung dam is next to Kandaunt Dam. In order to supply water to the main canal of Hlaingchaung dam, tributary is being built near Mayodan village of Pale

Township. Continued efforts are being made to ensure adequate water supply for irrigation and drinking in upper and central Myanmar. Based on water sources, the government is building small- and medium-size dams. Among

them, Kandaunt dam contributes much to ensuring adequate water supply for irrigation as well as for drinking, greening of the region and boosting agricultural production.

Translation : MT Kyemon (29-4-2010)

Brazilian Amazon sees record low deforestation rate since 1988

BRAZILIA, 1 May—The Brazilian Amazon saw a record low annual deforestation rate since the country started monitoring the region with satellite in 1988, the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) said on Thursday. Between August 2008 and July 2009, the Amazon region lost 7,464 square km of forest, with a fall of 42 percent compared with the previous 12-month period, an INPE report said.

The results coincide

with the institute's forecast in December 2009, estimating that devastation between August 2008 and July 2009 had reached a little over 7,000 square kilometres.

The INPE report was based on 400 images taken by three satellites under the PRODES (Project for Monitoring Deforestation in the Amazon) detection system.

According to the institute, devastation began to slow down five years ago, when the government launched

plans for prevention and control measures.

"A substantial and consistent decline in deforestation has been observed since 2004," said INPE. The biggest drop in deforestation was registered in the central-west state of Mato Grosso, with a reduction of 68 percent.

At the Copenhagen climate change conference last December, Brazil presented a target of reducing deforestation rate by 80 percent by 2020.

Internet



Students perform during the preliminary contest Moscow division of the "Chinese Bridge" Chinese proficiency competition for middle school and primary school students in Moscow, capital of Russia, on 30 April, 2010.

INTERNET



A shrimp boat leaves the marina near the town of Venice, in the path of the oil spill that is creeping towards the coast of Louisiana. Oil from a giant slick washed ashore in Louisiana, threatening a catastrophe for the US Gulf Coast as the government called a national disaster and mulled sending in the military.—INTERNET

Severe drought could affect China's coffee industry

KUNMING, 1 May—The once-in-a-century drought that has parched southwest China would affect the output of 60 percent of the coffee farms in Yunnan Province, says a report by the Coffee Association of Yunnan (CAYN).

And industry analysts say the persistent drought would also threaten coffee bean output in the next three years as well. Yunnan, with 32,000 hectares of coffee plantations, accounts for 98 percent of China's total 490,000 mu, or 32,700 hectares, of coffee plantations, according to the CAYN.

The report was compiled after a CAYN special team investigated the effect of the severe drought in the province in April.

"Coffee seedlings planted in the past three years were affected the most," said CAYN Vice President Liu Biao. "According to our conservative estimate, two fifths of the newly planted coffee seedlings in Yunnan last year have withered during the persistent drought."—Internet



Authorities rescue 2 stranded Mexican journalists

OAXACA, 1 May—Mexican authorities rescued two journalists Friday who had been stranded for nearly three days among feuding militants after a caravan of rights activists was caught in a deadly ambush.

Photographer David Cilia, who was shot in the attack, and reporter Erika Ramirez were escorted by police out of a remote Triqui Indian community, the scene of a violent

dispute between rival political factions.

Cilia described how the two reporters and two other caravan members took refuge in the brush, and spent days listening to constant gunfire, not knowing whether the gunmen would hunt them down.

"There in the brush, because they kept firing, we had to go deeper into the woods," Cilia said in an interview posted on the

website of his magazine, Contralinea. "We heard the gunshots getting closer."

After fleeing the initial assault, they knew fellow members of the convoy were still in the bullet-ridden vehicles, but gunfire prevented them from going to their aid. They did not know that a Finnish rights observer and a Mexican activist shot in the initial attack Tuesday were probably already dead.

Internet



Contralinea magazine's photographer David Cilia is treated for gunshot wounds in his leg after being rescued along with reporter Erika Ramirez, unseen, in Juxtlahuaca, southern Mexico, early Friday, on 30 April, 2010.

INTERNET

An aerial view shows the Sudanese town of Malakal, the capital of Upper Nile state, in 2009. At least seven people were killed in Doleib Hill, southwest of Malakal, on Friday after men said to be affiliated with a defeated candidate in regional elections attacked an army base, a military official told AFP.

INTERNET

At least seven died in attack on south Sudan base

KHARTOUM, 1 May—At least seven people were killed in south Sudan on Friday after men said to be affiliated with a defeated candidate in regional elections attacked an army base, a military official told AFP.

The attack occurred in Doleib Hill, just southwest of Malakal, capital of the sensitive Upper Nile state, at around 1:00 am (2200 GMT

Thursday), southern army spokesman Malaak Ayuen Ajok told AFP.

"We managed to push back the attackers, but there are seven dead and nine injured among the troops," Ajok said.

"Several attackers also lost their lives," said Ajok, a senior member of the former rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

The army said it had

Kurdish rebels kill four Turkish soldiers, wound seven

ANKARA, 1 May—Authorities say Kurdish rebels have raided a Turkish military outpost in eastern Turkey, killing at least four Turkish soldiers and wounding seven others in the largest attack on troops in several months.

Authorities say the commander of the outpost near the town of Nazimiye in Tunceli province was killed in the overnight attack. Saturday's attack follows a surge in attacks by autonomy-seeking rebels.

Internet

captured some of the attackers who said they had acted on the orders of George Athor Deng, an SPLA member who ran as an independent for the post of governor in the southern Jonglei state but was defeated by Kuol Manyang. "He's very angry to have lost. We have no other explanation for this attack right now," said Ajok.

Internet

Robertson closes in on final

SHEFFIELD, 1 May—Australia's Neil Robertson opened up a 15-9 lead over Ali Carter on Friday to move closer to the world snooker championship final.

Last year the 28-year-old also reached the semi-finals, but this time he is ideally placed to go one step further and needs just more frames on Saturday to clinch a shot at either Graeme Dott or Mark Selby in the title match. The last man from outside the British Isles to reach a World Championship final was Canadian Cliff Thorburn, who lost to Steve Davis in 1983.

Thorburn won the world title in 1980, becoming the only player from outside the UK and Ireland to ever triumph at Sheffield's famous Crucible theatre.



Neil Robertson of Australia plays against Ali Carter during the semi-final of the World Championship Snooker tournament at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, England. Robertson opened up a 15-9 lead over Carter on Friday to move closer to the world snooker championship final.—INTERNET

Dott fired the second 146 break of the World Championship as he extended his lead over Selby in their semi-final clash to 10-6.

Internet

Transitional housing slowly getting built in Haiti

PAPETTE, 1 May—Unlike the vast majority of earthquake victims still crowded into squalid camps, the simple farmers of this hard-hit village have reason to hope as hurricane season looms.

Transitional housing now rises on the foundations of cinderblock homes pulverized by the 12 Jan quake, framed in pressure-treated yellow pine, roofed in rustproof paint-coated galvanized steel and anchored in newly poured concrete.

The Dutch relief group, Cordaid, expects to finish 150 of the dwellings with sturdy tarpaulin walls by next week in this village overlooking a mango-lined lagoon. They are among the first of more than 130,000 semi-permanent shelters that international relief groups hope to put up in the



People are seen next to a transitional shelter in Haut Papette, Haiti, Thursday, on 29 April, 2010.—INTERNET

earthquake zone in coming months.

But construction of the shelters—more than a tent but less than a house—has been excruciatingly slow, with barely 400 or so completed.

Two major factors impede the rollout: the crawling pace of rubble removal in Port-au-Prince,

where a third of the city is still buried in quake debris, and Haiti's vexing land issues.

Relief agencies can't build shelters in the jammed tent camps that sprung up after the quake on every available inch of public land in Port-au-Prince, as well as on the private property of schools and businesses.

Internet

Germany launches push into offshore wind

BORKUM, 1 May—The blades began turning on Germany's first offshore wind farm this week—the starting signal for the construction of hundreds of additional sea-based turbines.

Erected 28 miles off the North Sea coast, the Alpha Ventus farm consists of 12 wind turbines—each nearly as high as the Washington Monument—that are to generate enough power for nearly 50,000 households. German utilities Eon and EWE as well as Sweden's Vattenfall invested \$333 million in the project, which is to pave the way for similar farms to be built near Germany's coastlines in the coming years.

Internet

Bystander halts bank robbery

Police in Florida praised the courage of a 62-year-old man who used his handgun to foil a bank robbery.

Ruben Torres, 62, an off-duty security guard, said he was at the Space Coast Credit Union in Palm Bay on Thursday when a man entered and began behaving suspiciously, the Palm Beach (Fla.) Post reported on Friday.

"He wasn't disguised or anything.

But he put a Wal-Mart bag on his head, walked to the counter and gave the teller a note ... He even took the bag off his head and gave it to the teller to put the cash in," Torres said.

Torres, who has a concealed weapons permit, said he quietly left the bank to get his gun from his car.

Torres showed the man his gun and ordered him to lie on the ground until police arrived.

"The whole thing lasted 3 to 4 minutes," Torres said.

Floyd Francis, 23, of Palm Bay, was arrested and charged with robbery.

"Torres' actions, while not encouraged, are appreciated and were very courageous," police Lt. Mark Renkens said. "He took action to stop a crime in progress and fortunately made a positive difference in the outcome."

Designer axes sell for up to \$500

A Canadian company is creating designer wood-chopping axes starting at \$200 and selling for up to \$500 at a New York outlet.

Graeme Cameron, 38, and Peter Buchanan-Smith, 38, the New York-based designer who paints, varnishes and stains the axes, said the tools are specially designed to cut through even the most difficult pieces of wood, the *Toronto Star* reported on Friday.

"Anyone who thinks it is just art is very wrong," Cameron said. "These are very powerful axes."

The pair, who founded the company in May 2009, said their products, available only at Partners and Spade in New York, have been featured in design magazines, *The New York Times* and an upcoming design show in London.

Cameron said they have sold about 500 of the axes thus far.



Cecilia Cassini, a 10-year-old girl, is making waves in the fashion world.

Widow keeping cutout of dead husband

A British widow said she has kept a life-size cardboard cutout of her husband since he died last year. Maria Challis, 36, of Ness, England, said the cutout of her late husband, Paul, 38, was made for his funeral in July 2009 and she could not bring herself to throw it away after the service, the *Daily Record* reported on Friday.

Challis said she keeps the cutout in the family home she shares with children Jack, 7, and Molly, 9. "When you lose someone you love, you worry you'll forget them and this is our way of remembering Paul and keeping our precious memories of him alive," she said. "He was due to go to a friend's wedding some weeks after he died. He didn't make it but his cutout did. Some people might raise eyebrows but who is anyone to say what is the right and wrong way to deal with grief?"

Drug kingpin buried in gold coffin

A former Australian drug kingpin, killed in prison last week, was buried on Friday in an oversized gold casket valued at \$30,000.

Carl Williams, who was beaten to death last week in Barwon Prison where he was serving the third year of a life sentence, was buried Friday in the gold casket at Keilor Cemetery in Essendon, the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported on Friday.



Dogs sit inside a bag during the Pet Fashion Week in Sao Paulo, on 24 April, 2010.

Photo shows two seagulls vying for a fish.



News Album

WEDDING RECEPTION**Nan Ekari Lin****Dip. in Nursing**Nanyang Polytechnic, Singapore
daughter of U Khin Maung Linn &
Daw Tin Tin Win

To

Naing Win**B.A (History)****Dallas, TX-U.S.A**

son of U Maung Maung & Daw Khin Aye Than, signed marriage document at ROM of Singapore on 9-4-2010 with the permission of both parents mentioned above and a "Soon" offering ceremony was also held at Maha Santisukha Monastery in Yangon, Myanmar on 1-5-2010.

Both Parents and Naing Win & Nan Ekari Lin

A Palm Pixi smartphone is displayed at a Best Buy store in San Francisco, California. Palm shares soared on Thursday after US computer giant Hewlett-Packard announced it had reached agreement to buy the troubled US mobile phone maker.— INTERNET

Mum had son 'tied to a coffee table every night'

CLEVELAND, 1 May — An eight-year-old boy has been found hog-tied with duct tape to a coffee table in a US home as his mother slept, police say. They've removed nine children from the home. Officers received a call before dawn overnight from a 15-year-old boy, who said his mother makes his sister tie his brother up every night or she gets beaten.

They say they found the younger boy on the floor with his hands and feet bound behind his back with tape and a shoelace around his neck. They say his feet were tied to the table. Police say the boy's discoloured hands indicate he may have been tied up for some time. The mother and a man were asleep.

Internet



Members of the Wild Bird Club of the Philippines watch thousands of migratory waterbirds — egrets and terns — descend on a fishpond in Bataan Province, west of Manila. The number of birds stopping off in the crucial wildlife zone in winter has dropped to 12,000 last year, from 16,000 in 2008, say members of the society who cite human interference as the main culprit.—INTERNET

British blind boy 'sees' like a dolphin

LONDON, 1 May — A blind British boy, 4, uses echo-location to "see" the same way dolphins navigate murky waters. *The Sun* said Jamie Aspland, from Kent, makes clicking noises with his tongue to find his way around objects, after he was taught the revolutionary technique by a US expert. "It's amazing," his mother Deborah Aspland said. "Since learning the skill we can walk to the park and Jamie no longer has to hold my hand."

The technique works by rebounding the clicking sound off objects - creating a flash of light "mind map" of the obstacle. Jamie is among only a handful of children worldwide to be taught how to copy dolphins by Californian Daniel Kish, who is himself blind. Kish calls his echo-location skill "flash-sonar".

He said: "It provides one with information of a fair amount of detail at distances of dozens of metres."

Deborah Aspland said her heart was in her mouth on their first trip to the local park when Jamie walked towards a wall. "He just went round it. I didn't think it would be possible."

Internet

Sunshine link to baby's risk of MS 1in later life

LONDON, 1 May — Babies born in sunnier months are at higher risk of developing multiple sclerosis (MS) in later life, researchers said on Thursday. Pregnant women who fail to get enough sunshine — thereby cutting off their main source of vitamin D — could increase the chances of their offspring developing MS, a study found.

Researchers believe variations in exposure to sunlight in pregnancy could affect how a baby's central nervous and immune system develops. MS is caused by damage to myelin, a protective sheath surrounding the nerve fibres of the central nervous system.—Internet

Conjoined twins successfully separated

RIYADH, 1 May — A team of Saudi doctors led by the country's health minister has successfully separated two baby boys from Jordan conjoined at the stomach in a seven-hour operation. Ten-week-old Amjed and Mohammed Taim, born sharing a liver and other tissues, were separated in an operation at King Abdulaziz Medical Centre in Riyadh that was televised live back to Jordan.

"Five, four, three, two, one," Dr Abdullah Rabeeah, the Saudi health minister, counted down after using a laser knife to divide the boys' liver and then finally separate the remaining tissue between them. "The operation is complete, both twins are now in separate beds, both are stable," he announced. Two paediatric surgery teams then sewed the boys up and transferred them to the intensive care ward to recover.

The boys' parents were on hand for the operation, which was paid for by Saudi King Abdullah, who has sponsored most of the 27 successful operations to separate conjoined twins carried out at the Riyadh hospital.

Internet



A member of a Saudi paediatric surgery team listens to the chief surgeon during a seven-hour operation to separate two baby boys from Jordan, conjoined at the stomach, at King Abdulaziz Medical Centre in Riyadh, on 29 April.—INTERNET

Driver backs through car park wall

OKLAHOMA, 1 May — An elderly driver in the US who backed his car through the seventh-floor wall of a car park has had a lucky escape. Sixty-seven-year-old Ralph Hudson burst through the car park's exterior wall after getting his foot stuck between the brake and accelerator pedal of his Mercedes.

Mr Hudson, who was manoeuvring in the garage in Tulsa, Oklahoma when the accident happened, had a narrow escape when the car stopped just in time. Its boot and part of its back wheels were left hanging precariously out of the building but staff were able to safely drive it back inside. Mr Hudson was not given a summons over the incident, police said.—Internet



A car went through the seventh-floor wall of a parking garage in Oklahoma.—INTERNET

Doctors will be able to predict women's risk

LONDON, 1 May — Thousands of women could be spared unnecessary treatment for breast cancer after a breakthrough in screening techniques, scientists have claimed. They have identified a way to predict whether some cancerous cells will go on to become dangerous.

The discovery could help women who have been diagnosed with a common form of the disease called ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS). Women with DCIS have cancerous cells in the channels in the breast that carry milk to the nipple, but these cells have not spread to other parts of the breast, meaning that the condition is occasionally referred to as "pre-cancerous".—Internet

Baby swimmers get lasting benefits

TRONDHEIM, 1 May — Children who are given swimming lessons in Iceland as infants have better balance and better grasp at age 5 than non-swimmers, researchers said.

Hermundur Sigmundsson, a professor of psychology at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, said the study was conducted in his native Iceland because swimming is very popular there with many swimming once or twice a week — even babies. Sigmundsson and Brian Hopkins, a professor of psychology from Lancaster University in England, said the study involved 19 baby swimmers against a control group of 19 children who did not swimming.

The 2- to 3-month-old babies got swimming lessons until they were about 7 months old. The infants were guided to dive under water, jump from the edge of the pool or pick up floating objects.

Internet

Exxon Mobil posts 38% profit rise in first quarter

HOUSTON, 1 May—US oil giant Exxon Mobil said Thursday its first quarter profits jumped 38 percent over the year-ago period, thanks to rising oil prices in the first three months of the year.

During the first three months of this year, Irving, Texas-based Exxon posted a profit of 6.3 billion US dollars, compared with 4.55 billion in the same period last year.

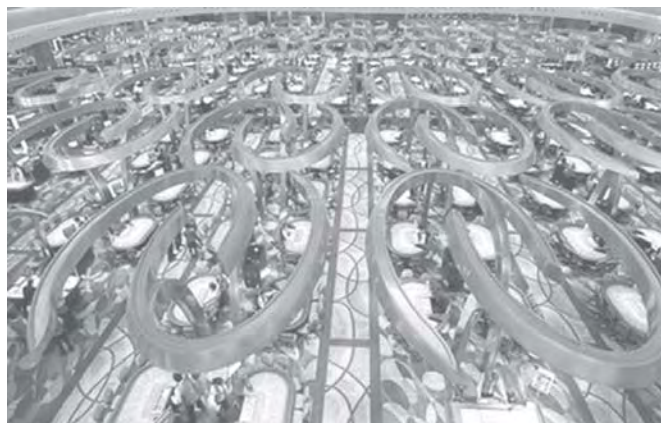
“Exxon Mobil achieved solid results from its worldwide operations,” said Exxon chairman Rex Tillerson.

However, the results are still short of meeting analysts’ expectations. Amid high oil prices of around 85 dollars a barrel, analysts have expected the company to post slightly stronger profits.

Internet

Swans stretch and swim after being released from their winter quarters on Hamburg’s city lake Alster on 21 April, 2010. Every year the swans are collected from waterways around Hamburg and taken to winter quarters where they are fed and cared for until the spring.

INTERNET



This picture shows a general view of the Marina Bay Sands casino gaming hall in Singapore.—INTERNET

World Economic Forum on Africa to witness record participation

DAR ES SALAAM, 1 May—The World Economic Forum announced on Thursday that nearly 1,000 participants from 85 countries will participate in the 20th World Economic Forum on Africa to be held in Daressalaam, 5-7 on May 2010. Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete will host the meeting, which this year explores the theme “Rethinking

Africa’s Growth Strategy”, said the Forum Press release after the Press conference held here.

“Africa is a continent full of potential. Africa has been growing despite the economic instability that is facing the world today. We will have the opportunity to examine the strategy of Africa for today to ensure that there is a better tomorrow.” Kikwete was quoted as saying.

“2010 is a special year for both the World Economic Forum, which is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its Africa meeting, and Africa, which is marking 50 years since the start of the independence movement that transformed the continent’s geopolitical landscape,” said Katherine Tweedie, Director, Head of Africa, World Economic Forum.

Internet



Russia begins oil project in Caspian Sea

Moscow, 1 May—Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on Wednesday inspected a drilling platform at the Yury Korchagin offshore oil field in the Caspian Sea.

Putin inspected the platform to start a project that will be operated by LUKoil, Russia’s largest independent oil producer. LUKoil has said annual production in the oil field could reach 2.5 million metric tons of oil, and 1 billion cubic metres of natural gas.

The company said that

it plans to produce 343,000 tons of oil at the field this year.

LUKoil has invested 34.4 billion rubles (1.2 billion US dollars) in the field that holds an estimated 270 million barrels of oil and 63.3 billion cubic metres of gas.

Between 1999 and 2005, LUKoil discovered six oil and gas fields in the northern part of the Caspian Sea, with estimated aggregate reserves of 4.7 billion barrels of oil.

Internet



Photo shows the beryl displayed at Colombia’s beryl museum in Bogota, capital of Colombia, on 28 April, 2010. Colombia will display its most fancy beryl at the 2010 Shanghai Expo which starts from 1 May.

XINHUA

China unveils regulations to boost foreign investment in central regions

NANCHANG, 1 May—Chinese Ministry of Commerce released regulations concerning foreign investment in China’s central region here on Thursday.

The region - which includes the provinces of

Shanxi, Anhui, Jiangxi, Henan, Hubei and Hunan - should attract high-end green industry with policy incentives and guidance, the regulations say.

It should give priority to manufacturing while eyeing investment in other sectors like agriculture, sophisticated processing industries, trade, finance, education, culture, tourism and leasing. The region should nurture business-friendly policies and slash transaction costs to attract businesses considering moving inland from the coastal regions.

The rules call for rectifying any practices that disrupt business operation, including authorities’ arbitrary law enforcement. The rules also urged a market oriented administration system consistent with international rules.

Internet

Samsung eyes record Q2, to up spending in tech rebound

SEOUL, 1 May—Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS), the world’s top maker of memory chips and flat screen TVs, forecast record results as it aims to sharply boost spending, betting on still strong demand in the second half.

Samsung is firing on all cylinders as consumers snap up gadgets and appliances, marking a steep recovery in the once-battered global technology sector, but rising industry

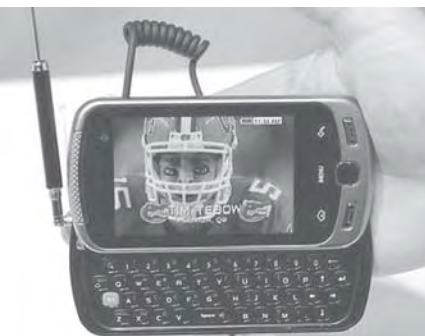
investments threaten to restart the chronic oversupply cycle.

Samsung, also the world’s No.2 handset maker behind Finland’s Nokia (NOK1V.HE), has little traction in the lucrative smartphone markets, which could also be an earnings drag for Asia’s most valuable technology firm. “I expect earnings to peak at Q3 as seasonal demand for memory chips reaches its highest...there is a gloomy air in its

telecommunication segment since it has lost ground on smartphones,” said Kim Young-june, an analyst at LIG Investment & Securities.

By 0320 GMT, shares in Samsung, valued at around \$107 billion, rose 2.1 percent in a strong broader market (.KS11). The shares have slipped 4 percent after hitting a record high in early April on growing worries of oversupply in LCD and chips.—Internet

A television image is seen on a Samsung phone at an electronics fair in Las Vegas, Nevada. Samsung, which is the world’s second largest mobile phone maker after Finland’s Nokia, has said it expects earnings in the second quarter to be even better based on strong demand for chips and liquid crystal displays.—INTERNET



SPORTS

Manchester City 3-1 Aston Villa

Manchester City, 1 May—Manchester City came from behind to beat Aston Villa and boost their hopes of finishing fourth.

John Carew had given



Aston Villa the lead after 16 minutes and then struck the crossbar. But Carlos Tevez levelled from the spot on 41 minutes.

Emmanuel Adebayor gave the home side the lead two minutes later with Adam Johnson playing a key role in both goals.

Villa, needing to win to keep alive their own hopes of a Champions League place, threw everything forward but City sealed the points a minute from time through Craig Bellamy

Internet

Champions Rangers need talent injection, says Miller

GLASGOW, 1 May—Rangers striker Kenny Miller has urged the cash-strapped Ibrox board they must bring in new players next season when the Glasgow giants will defend their Scottish Premier League title.

"There are six lads who are out of contract so they are going to have to be replaced first and foremost," said Miller. "New players always bring a lift to a place and we've not had that for a while. We want to give a better account of ourselves in the Champions League, we want to get off to a strong start in trying to retain the



Rangers' Scottish goalkeeper Neil Alexander celebrates a win after a Scottish Premier League match.

INTERNET

title and new players will help that."—Internet

Villarreal a stern test for downhearted Barca

BARCELONA, 1 May—Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola has his work cut out to lift his players for a crucial La Liga trip to Villarreal after their Champions League semi-final elimination.

Barca go into the final four games of the season with a one-point advantage over bitter rivals Real Madrid but their morale is at low ebb after the team went out on aggregate to Inter Milan on Wednesday.

"We now have to pick ourselves up, get ourselves right psychologically and plan for Saturday's game," said Guardiola.

Internet

Buoyant Bayern close in on treble dream

BERLIN, 1 May — Bayern Munich hope to take another step closer to a historic treble on Saturday when they face relegation-threatened Bochum in the Bundesliga.

After the highs of reaching the



Bayern Munich's players are seen during a training session on 20 April, in Munich, southern Germany.—INTERNET

Champions League final with a 3-0 win at Lyon on Tuesday, Bayern return to German league action against strugglers Bochum who sacked coach Heiko Herrlich on Thursday. Former Germany playmaker Dariusz Wozniak has taken over as caretaker, becoming Bochum's fourth coach this season.

His side must beat Bayern to keep alive their hopes of staying in the Bundesliga with only two games remaining. Bayern are level on 64 points at the top with Schalke, but have a superior goal difference of 13 and, at least mathematically, can win the title on Saturday providing they beat Bochum and Schalke lose at Werder Bremen.

Internet

Lazio face Inter dilemma

ROME, 1 May—Lazio fans are faced with a dilemma this weekend as the Roman club hosts champions Inter Milan at the Stadio Olimpico.

Inter are embroiled in a tense title battle with Lazio's bitter local rivals AS Roma and their fans know that if their

club beats the nerazzurri on Sunday, they could help Roma win the scudetto. With three games left, Inter lead Roma by two points and Lazio's fans would hate nothing more than to do their Rome rivals a favour.

But Lazio are not clear of relegation and coach Eddy Reja insists that he won't be following the lead of some fans, who have claimed they will be supporting Inter. "We know that it's like this but we're not safe yet. If we play like we did (last time out against Genoa) I don't think we'll lose to Inter," he said.—Internet



Lazio's Tommaso Rocchi celebrates after scoring against AS Roma during their Serie A football match.—INTERNET

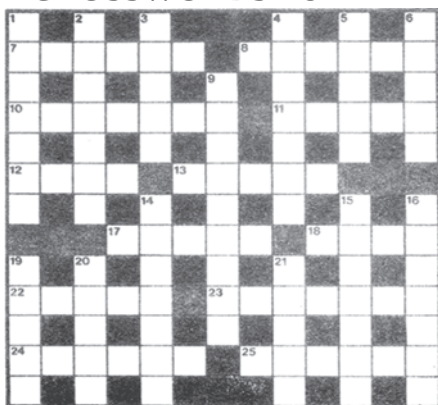
Nadal powers on as Spanish dominate Rome tennis Masters

ROME, 1 May—Rafael Nadal led a three-pronged Spanish assault on the Rome Masters on Friday at the Foro Italico and will tackle Ernests Gulbis, the conqueror of Roger Federer, in the semi-finals.

Nadal dominated Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka 6-4, 6-1 as three Spaniards qualified for the last four. Sixth seed Fernando Verdasco stunned world number two Novak Djokovic 7-6 (7/4), 3-6, 6-4 in a marathon 3hr 18min quarter-final while 13th seed David Ferrer, who put out fourth seed Andy Murray in the previous round, downed seventh seeded Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-4, 6-1.

Internet

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 7 Stature
- 8 Cause
- 10 Winter apple
- 11 Prussian lancer
- 12 Snares
- 13 Short
- 17 Nickname for Irishman
- 18 Rebuff
- 22 Apportion
- 23 Clover
- 24 Bauble
- 25 Unassuming

DOWN

- 1 Masticating
- 2 Brown coal
- 3 Abyss
- 4 Fastened
- 5 Sacred song
- 6 Silly
- 9 Goddess of love
- 14 Biased
- 15 Disclose
- 16 Skill
- 19 Measure
- 20 Buffoon
- 21 Broom

Wally with the Brolly' McClaren on verge of triumph



FC Twente's coach Steve McClaren

THE HAGUE, 1 May — Former England coach Steve McClaren, once the object of scathing ridicule in his native country, is set to pull off one of the most remarkable transformations with Dutch club FC Twente.

On Sunday, McClaren will be bidding to beat league rivals NAC Breda and, depending on sec-

ond-placed Ajax's result, become the first English manager since Bobby Robson at Porto in 1996 to win a major European league title. With one game left, FC Twente are one point clear of Martin Jol's Ajax and poised to win a first Championship since 1926 after being runners-up last season.

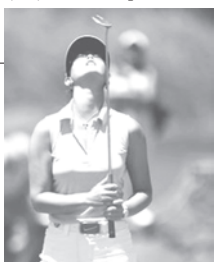
Internet

US' Michelle Wie reacts after missing a birdie putt on the eighth hole during the second round of the LPGA Corona Morelia golf championship in Morelia, Mexico, on 30 April, 2010.—INTERNET

Wie takes second-round lead in Mexico

MORELIA, 1 May—Michelle Wie held her game together with the wind hollowing through the mountainside ravines at the Tres Marias Championship, shooting a 5-under 68 on Friday to take a one-stroke lead.

Brittany Lincicome (67) and Japan's Ai



Miyazato (72) were tied for second. But the gusts and the emotional ups-and-downs got to Lorena Ochoa, who fell five strokes off the pace with a 73 in her farewell tournament.

This is the last event for the top-ranked Ochoa, under some pressure to deliver a victory for her adoring fans in Mexico — she has won the event three times — before stepping away. "I'll take it I guess with these conditions," Ochoa said. "With all the emotions I am going through and the adrenaline it's been a little bit tough."—Internet



- ★ 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

Kandaunt Dam contributes to regional greening and boosting agricultural production

Pale Township of Sagaing Division is located in arid zone and has no adequate water for irrigation and for drinking. Its average annual rainfall is about 30 inches. With a view to ensuring sufficient water supply for irrigation and drinking, the government built Kandaunt dam on the Kyaukbyoke creek near Kandaunt village, Pale Township on 4 February 2007. It was put into service on 15 November 2009.

We, news crew, left Monywa for Pale Township along Yinmabin-Pale road. About 15 miles from Pale-Gangaw road is Kandaunt dam. Staff officers U Aung Min Naing and U Myint Swe and deputy staff

Byline and Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

officer U Min Aung explained facts about the dam.

The purpose of building the dam is to irrigate 200 acres of farmlands and to green the region.

The dam has been built by damming Kyaukbyoke creek in Pale Township. Its embankment is 1800 feet long and 79 feet high. (See page 9)



Kandaunt Dam located in Pale of Sagaing Division.

Book borrowing system for libraries in Shwepyitha Township

YANGON, 1 May— In meeting with local people, Head of Shwepyitha Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Ohn Nyunt and staff discussed development of libraries, increasing the number of books, setting of funds and practising of book borrowing card system at Lin Yaung Chi Library in Ward 19 of the township on 26 April morning.

At the meeting, Chairman of Ward Peace and Development Council U Saw Tun made a speech.

Head of Township IPRD explained efforts to be made for meeting five-point standards of the libraries and their development.—Township IPRD

The significant day temperatures

(1-5-2010)

Chauk	43.3° C
Magway	43.0° C
Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin)	42.0° C
Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana)	42.0° C
Minbu	42.0° C
Aunglan	42.0° C
Thayawady	42.0° C