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Monday, 7 March, 2011

Prime Minister U Thein Sein attends opening of Lewe Township People's Hospital

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—Lewe Township People's Hospital (100-bed) in Nay Pyi Taw District was inaugurated this morning, attended by Prime Minister U Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, personnel, the medical superintendent, doctors, nurses and hospital staff, members of social organizations, senior citizens, and guests.

Secretary of Special Development Project Supervisory Committee U Kan Chun handed over relevant documents of the hospital to Director-General Dr Win Myint of Health Department under Ministry of Health.

President of Tetlan Construction Company U Shein Win presented hospital equipment worth K 7,180,000 and cash donation of K 5 million to the fund of the hospital through Head of Lewe Township Health Department Dr Soe Soe Naing.

Next, Commander Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Thein Nyunt, and Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint formally opened the hospital.



Prime Minister U Thein Sein comforts patients at Lewe Township People's Hospital (100-bed).
MNA

The Prime Minister unveiled the signboard of the hospital and then sprinkled scented water to the stone plaque of the hospital together with the commander and the ministers.

The Prime Minister and party comforted the

patients. The hospital is built on 41-acre land and formed with two 50-bed patient wards, outpatient ward, operation theatre, labour room, dental clinic, X-ray room, lab, emergency room, and healthcare education section.—MNA



Opening ceremony of Lewe Township People's Hospital (100-bed) in progress.—MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 7 March, 2011

Improve quality and boost production of crops

Agriculture is the major contributor to economic growth of the nation. Now, farmland utilization is on the gradual increase. So, what is needed is to boost production of quality crops.

Irrigation water is the crucial part of agricultural farming. With 200 more dams and sluice gates, over 300 river water pumping stations, tube-wells, artesian wells, and small dams and lakes, mixed- and multiple-cropping patterns have become popular across the nation.

The nation gains paddy output of over 1500 million baskets, putting about 20 acres under monsoon and summer paddy. Now, crops are grown all-year round with mixed- and multiple-cropping patterns.

In a bid to boost export of agricultural produce, Myanmar has to keep abreast of other agricultural countries in terms of quality strains of crops and advanced agricultural methods in order that her crops are highly saleable in the international market.

Advanced methods are indispensable for boosting agricultural production. High-yield quality paddy strains, fertilizers and post-harvest methods are to be used in a proportionate way to achieve the goal of production of surpluses of crops.

Now, farmers and entrepreneurs are reclaiming vacant lands on a wider scale. And modern methods are applied effectively in special agricultural zones. Thanks to assistance rendered by officials, broader use of farm machinery and efforts of farmers, the nation will be able to improve quality and boost production of crops more than ever.

15021.75 acres of poppy plantation destroyed

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—A total of 14260.8 acres of poppy plantation was destroyed from 1 September 2010 to 20 February 2011.

So far, altogether 15021.75 acres of plantation have been destroyed during 2010-2011 poppy cultivation season, including 760.95 acres—349.65 acres in Mongton, Monghsat, Mongphyat, Kengtung, Namhkam, Manton, Kutkai and Momeik townships of Shan State and 411.30 acres in Waingmaw, Tanai, Phakant townships of Kachin State—in Regions and States from 21 to 27 February.—MNA

One injured in KNU mine blast

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—Maung Yan Lin Aung who resides in Waegy village, Shwegyin Township, Bago Region, got his right ankle injured on his way to cut down bamboo while stepping on a mine planted by a KNU insurgent group at about one mile east of his village yesterday morning. The victim was sent to Shwegyin People's Hospital. He is now under treatment there, and provided with necessary assistances.—MNA

Peoples' 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

Commander visits Yenangyoung, Salin, Magway stations

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — On his inspection tour of Yenangyoung Station on 1 March, Chairman of Mandalay Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Ye Aung oversaw agriculture and livestock breeding of the battalion and presented cash assistance to their families in meeting with servicemen.

On his arrival at Ywakhine collective farm

where reclamation of farmlands were being carried out by Magway Station officials concerned reported to the commander on ongoing tasks.

At Salin Station, the commander presented cash assistance to servicemen and their families and inspected agriculture and livestock breeding of the station.

MNA

F & R Minister meets officials in Mandalay Region

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun had a meeting

with officials of the departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue in Mandalay Region at the Internal Revenue Department in Mandalay yesterday.

Officials of the Central Bank of Myanmar, the Myanmar Economic Bank, the Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank,

the Myanmar Small Loans Department, the Budget Department, the Customs Department, the Internal Revenue Department and the Pension Department reported on objectives, ongoing tasks,

accomplishment of plans in the financial year, and follow-up programmes.

The minister assessed the reports, calling for enforcement of the law, rules and regulations and procedures in carrying out tasks, and speedily application of IT to expedite the tasks.

MNA

Mayor attends closing ceremony of MCDC's Office Work Refresher Course

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March —Chairman of Mandalay City Development Com-

mittee Mayor U Phone Zaw Han made opening address at the closing ceremony of Office

Work Refresher Course of the committee and presented prizes to outstanding trainees on 1 March.

After the ceremony, the mayor cordially greeted them.

Next, the mayor

delivered an address at the monthly meeting of board of directors of Yadanabon Bank Ltd at its meeting hall in Aungmyethazan Township.

After the meeting, the mayor inspected functioning of the bank.

MNA

Bagan publishes five Myanmar writers' works



YANGON, 6 March — Bagan Publishing House distributed five works of Myanmar writers.

The books include "San Wa Mi Hmae short stories (2)" by Hsinbyugyun Aung Thein, "Kyaw Swe" by Min Kyaw, "Mitta Thi Tha" by Myat Nyein, "Stubborn Hunter Pae Ta Lu makes all the forest clamorous" by Zin Aung and "Painting Still Shining at Heart" by Maung Khin Min (Danubyu).

Those books may be ordered from the Bagan Publishing House at No (4) A (5), Yankin Centre, Sayasan Street, Yangon (Ph: 095110038 and 01-544321).—MNA

Respect-paying of BEHS No.2 Hline on 3 April

YANGON, 6 March—The 12th respect-paying ceremony of No.2 Basic Education High School of Hline (Daw Tha Htet BEHS) will be held at the school on 3 April.

All retired teachers and old students have been invited to attend the ceremony without fail. Those who want to donate cash and kinds may contact: Saya U Min Zaw (Ph-522250, ext-240), U Maung Maung (Ph-09-5019484), U Kyi Than (Ph-512546), Daw San San Win (Ph-725608), U Ohn Kyu (Ph-09-5101286), U Ye Naing Lin (Ph-09-5100393), U Shwe Thaik (Ph-512925), U Myo Myat Thu (Ph-09-8034710), U Myo Khin (Ph-09-5187546), U Phyto Ko (Ph-521311), U Phyto Pyae Son (Ph-09-9042237), U Maung Maung Gyi (Ph-73093932) and U Aung Thein (Ph-0949274873).

MNA

Child air-strike deaths stir fury in Afghanistan

ASADABAD, 6 March—Two of Nasim's sons went into the hills to collect firewood last week to warm the family's humble home against the biting Afghan winter chill. They never returned, killed along with seven other children in a NATO air strike.

"The Americans are wild," said the boys' father, who uses only one name and whose sons were aged 11 and 12, crying as he spoke. "They don't value humanity and don't care about our children. The men who carried out the air strike and the ones who ordered it should be brought to court."

The nine killings outside Asadabad in Kunar Province have unleashed public fury over civilian casualties at a crucial time for foreign forces in Afghanistan. The accidental deaths led the US troop commander in Afghanistan, General David Petraeus, to issue a rare public apology, while US President Barack Obama also voiced "deep regret" to Afghan

counterpart Hamid Karzai. The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) says those responsible could face disciplinary action.

But that may not be enough to stem growing Afghan anger at a time when the battle for hearts and minds is keener than ever, with foreign forces due to start handing over control of security to their Afghan counterparts in July. The deaths in Kunar, a troubled northeastern province bordering Pakistan, happened on Tuesday as troops fought back after an insurgent rocket attack on their base. Civilian casualties in foreign military operations targeting the Taleban and other fighters have long been an issue in Afghanistan.

Karzai has repeatedly issued angry condemnations of foreign forces over such deaths. Last week he went further still, warning them they would face "huge problems" if the "daily killing of innocent civilians" did not stop.—*Internet*



A boy, injured during a NATO air strike, lies on a hospital bed in Afghanistan's eastern Kunar Province recently. Joint operations by Afghan forces and NATO-led foreign troops killed 64 civilians in Kunar, including many women and children, over the past four days, the governor of Kunar said.—INTERNET

Iraq blast kills six in oil-rich Basra

BASRA, 6 March—Local Iraqi officials say a roadside bomb has killed six people in the southern city of Basra.

A police officer said the bomb targeted a bus Sunday around 9 am. Twelve people were wounded.

A morgue official confirmed the death toll.

Another police officer said the bomb missed a passing US army patrol, but hit the bus. He put the death toll at three and the wounded at 11.

There was no way to immediately reconcile the difference in numbers. Conflicting reports on casualties are common in the immediate aftermath of attacks.

All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release information.

Oil-rich Basra is 340 miles (550 kilometres) southeast of Baghdad.

Internet



A paramedic treats a civilian, injured in an explosion, at a hospital in Herat, west of Kabul, Afghanistan recently.—INTERNET

Bomb kills 12 civilians

KABUL, 6 March—An Afghan official says a roadside bomb has killed 12 civilians in east Afghanistan near the border with Pakistan.

A spokesman for the governor of Paktika, Mokhlis Afghan, said another five people were wounded Sunday when the bomb exploded next to a truck carrying civilians. He said the dead included two children, five men and five women. The truck was travelling between the towns of Turwa and Wazakhwa.

The Interior Ministry confirmed the attack but said only 10 people were killed. There was no way to immediately reconcile the difference in numbers.

Paktika borders Pakistan's lawless tribal areas, used as safe havens by militants fighting US-led coalition troops in Afghanistan.—*Internet*

One killed, 13 wounded in Iraq's violence

BAGHDAD, 6 March—A member of an anti-Qaeda paramilitary group, known as Awakening Council, was killed and 13 people were wounded in gunfire and roadside bomb attacks in Iraq on Saturday, the police said.

In Iraq's eastern Province of Diyala, gunmen in their car shot dead Jasim Zayd, an Awakening Council group member in Abu Kamis area, south of the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a Diyala's police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident,

two people were wounded in a bomb explosion at a rural area south of Baquba, the source said.

In Iraq's Salahudin Province, a roadside bomb struck the convoy of Colonel Ali al-Baiyati, police chief of the town of Tuz-Kumato, some 90 km east of the provincial capital city of Tikrit, wounding six of his bodyguards, a provincial police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Baiyati escaped the attack unhurt, but two of his convoy's vehicles were damaged by the blast, which occurred at one of the main roads in the town,

the source said. Salahudin Province, located in northern central of Iraq, is mainly Sunni Province. Its capital city of Tikrit, some 170 km north of Baghdad, is the hometown of the former president Saddam Hussien.

In Iraq's Anbar Province, five policemen were wounded when a roadside bomb went off near their patrol in the town of Amriyat al-Fallujah, near the city of Fallujah, some 50 km west of Baghdad, a local police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Xinhua



File photo shows an Afghan youth, injured during an airstrike carried out by NATO, is visited by ISAF officials in the northern city of Kunduz. The United Nations' special representative for children and armed conflict, Radhika Coomaraswamy, also called for a "thorough review of procedures" to prevent the deaths of children in the Afghan war following the incident.—INTERNET

Afghan men inspect the damage after a misdirected NATO missile hit a mud-built home in Nangarhar province, in Khogyani district in Nangarhar Province. Hamid Karzai has warned foreign forces in Afghanistan that they would face "huge problems" if the "daily killing of innocent civilians" did not stop.

INTERNET



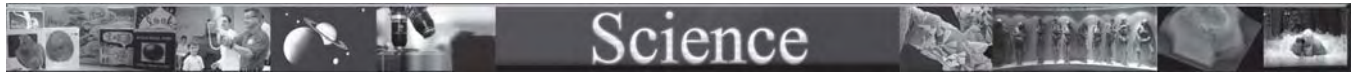
Cuba mulls verdict for US spy suspect

HAVANA, 6 March—A Cuban tribunal is deliberating on a pending verdict for a US contractor accused of spying after a trial, local radio reported on Saturday.

The Board of Crimes has concluded the two-day trial of Alan Gross for his "acts against the Cuban independence or territorial integrity," the report said, without mentioning the date of sentencing. According to Cuban laws, authorities have six days to give the verdict and Gross could face 20 years in prison.

"The trial is finally over, the defender will receive the communication with the sentence, but we do not know when," an official from the US Interests Section in Havana told reporters.

Gross was arrested on 3 Dec, 2009, at an Havana Airport on charges of providing satellite communication equipments to anti-government groups, but Washington said Gross is an employee of the "Development Alternatives company" and was helping Cuban Jews to communicate with Jews abroad.—*Xinhua*



A bed of branching coral shows the effects of bleaching in Indonesia's Wakatobi archipelago, a thriving marine paradise, packing a bewildering abundance of life that supports 100,000 people and contributes millions of dollars to Indonesia's economy.

INTERNET

Wormholes linking stars theorized

BISHKEK, 6 March—European physicists say some stars could contain wormholes, tunnel-like passages connecting distant points in space-time, a concept sparking much debate.

Physicist Vladimir Folomeev in the Kyrgyz Republic and his colleagues suggest pairs of stars could be joined by wormholes full of an exotic material known as "phantom matter," ScienceNews.org reported Friday.

Strictly hypothetical, phantom matter has been put forward as a possible explanation for the accelerating expansion of the universe, and its exotic properties — if it even exists — could also enable a wormhole to be kept propped open, Folomeev and his colleagues say. They have come up with a preliminary mathematical model suggesting the possible existence of such a phenomenon but acknowledge their analysis isn't complete.—*Internet*

Air Force launches space plane 1 day after delay

CAPE CANAVERAL, 6 March—The Air Force has launched a second experimental space plane that resembles a small shuttle.

An *Atlas 5* rocket blasted off with the unmanned space plane Saturday afternoon from Cape Canaveral. Air Force officials aren't saying much about the *X-37B* orbital test vehicle. It's the second of its type to be launched. The first rocketed into orbit last spring. It landed in California in December following a 270-day mission.

The *X-37B* is 29 feet long with a wing span of 15 feet.

The Air Force says the newest craft will serve as a test platform for satellite sensors and systems. Officials say the voyage will build upon what was learned during the first mission, though they won't say what that was.

The ultimate purpose of the *X-37B* and details about the craft largely remain a mystery.—*Internet*

Two space crews mark one week together in orbit

CAPE CANAVERAL, 6 March—The 12 astronauts aboard the orbiting shuttle-station complex shared a few more maintenance chores Saturday, taking out the trash and doing their part for clean air as their weeklong visit wound down.

The hatches between *Discovery* and the International Space Station will close Sunday afternoon, and the shuttle will undock first thing Monday.

Both crews worked to rejuvenate the space station's air system.

The oxygen generator as well as the carbon dioxide removal system have been acting up.

They also made sure a Japanese cargo carrier was loaded properly with garbage.

The supply ship will be let loose at the end of this month and plunge through the atmosphere, burning up.

The vessel is full of packing foam and launch

restraints from all the equipment that was delivered by *Discovery*.

The foam encasing the humanoid robot R2 will be stuffed in as well, once the astronauts unwrap it. R2 is the first humanoid robot in space.

It was part of the new stowage unit delivered last Saturday by shuttle *Discovery*.

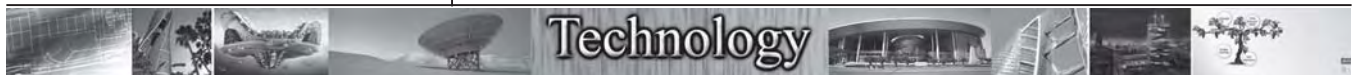
Mission Control gave *Discovery*'s six astronauts two extra days at the 220-mile-high lab — for a total of nine days — to help with all the unloading and repair work.

Flight director Royce Renfrew said Saturday evening that he was "ecstatic" with how the mission has unfolded.

The extra days were well-used; the new storage compartment is now empty of shuttle-ferried cargo and ready to be used as intended, he said.

"I couldn't be happier," Renfrew told reporters.

Internet



A Mercedes-Benz G55 car with 12 volt battery engine for children made by National Products, Ltd. of Hong Kong on display at the Toy Fair 2011 on 15 February, 2011 at the Javits Centre in New York.

INTERNET

NetNewsWire 4.0 Lite debuts in Mac App Store

NEW YORK, 6 March—If you've considered dipping your toe into the world of RSS readers, but didn't know where to start, you might want to investigate the latest offering from NewsGator. NetNewsWire Lite 4.0, a slimmed-down version of the venerable news reader, is now available in the Mac App Store as a free download.

As developer Brent Simmons points out, this version is intended to be fast and light. There's a redesigned user interface and a retooled code base under the hood, all of it aimed at making your feed-reading experience easy and efficient. You'll find many of the basic features, such as the ability to make folders, support for importing and exporting your feeds, and sharing integration with Instapaper, MarsEdit, VoodooPad, Twitter, and more. There are a couple of additional niceties as well, such as support for multitouch gestures.

But if you're an existing NetNewsWire power user, many of the features you're accustomed to may not be present: to wit, syncing. If you're a Google Reader user, you won't be able to keep all your feeds in perfect harmony with this version of the app, but don't worry: Simmons says a full version of NetNewsWire 4.0 is on its way.

NetNewsWire 4.0 is a free download from the Mac App Store, and requires Mac OS X 10.6 or later and a 64-bit processor.

Internet

Lastfm app adds personal profile, events features

WASHINGTON, 6 March—Lastfm has released a new 3.0 upgrade for its iOS app that includes all sorts of new features, including the ability to create your own profile page based on your unique musical tastes, a local events section for concerts and shows near you, and improved search capabilities and functions.

The profile page works like that of a social networking site, but with a musical twist. Not only can you show your friends and potential acquaintances your choice in music via a list of the songs you've listened to, but you can also see the tunes that your friends are pumping through their headphones as well. You can also

access a Top Weekly Artist Chart to find out who's hot and who's not, and take advantage of a new Friends Radio function that creates mixes of the music that your friends have been listening to on their Lastfm accounts.

The app has also added a local events section that can recommend shows and concerts in your area, with access to maps of the venues. And the search function also has some new abilities, including the addition of artist biographies with all sorts of interesting and obscure bits of trivia, and the ability to move through and view similar artists during your search.

Internet

In this 19 Feb, 2011 photo, a cartoonist draws on a high tech computer during Comic Com fair in New Delhi, India.

INTERNET





Health Tip: What's behind iron deficiency

Iron is an essential mineral that's present in all cells. As a key component of hemoglobin in the blood, for example, it helps carry oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body.

People who don't have enough iron in the blood may have fewer-than-normal red blood cells, a condition called iron deficiency anemia.

The US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention offers these risk factors for iron deficiency:

- * Being a baby or toddler, or a pregnant woman.
- * Having lost a significant amount of blood.
- * Eating a diet that lacks enough meat, poultry or fish that are rich in iron.
- * Being vegetarian.
- * Taking certain medications to manage ulcers or acid reflux.—Internet



Indian police constables participate in a Yoga laughing therapy to distress on the first of the New Year in Jalandhar, India, Punjab, on 1 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET

Health

Doctors perform rare robotic surgery in India

NEW DELHI, 6 March—Doctors in India have claimed to have successfully performed a rare robotic heart surgery on a 23-year-old person at a hospital in the southern Indian city of Chennai, local media reported on Saturday.

Dr Ravi Kumar, the Director of the Institute of Cardiovascular Disease at the Chettinad Health City, said the robotically assisted procedure involved replacing both the mitral and the aortic valve simultaneously.

The surgery carried out on D Vijayakanth, an auto driver from Vellore, was done by a three armed robot, took four hours and cost 225,000 rupees (4,500 US dollars).

"The best part about using a robot in cardiac surgery is that the patient's heart need not be opened and the surgery can be done using a small 4cm incision. This is not possible with normal surgeries without a robot," Dr Ravi Kumar was quoted by local daily *The Times of India* as saying.

Robotic surgery, which is fairly new in the country, can be used for a gamut of medical procedures, said Dr Ravi Kumar.—Xinhua



An Alzheimer's patient at a psychiatric hospital. Speaking more than one language protects the brain against cognitive decline and makes a person better at multi-tasking, researchers said Friday at a major US science conference.—INTERNET

Potassium may be key to diabetes disparity

BALTIMORE, 6 March—Lower blood potassium levels may be why African-Americans are twice as likely to be diagnosed with type 2 diabetes than whites, US researchers say.

"This research doesn't mean people should run out and start taking potassium supplements," Hsin-Chieh "Jessica" Yeh, an assistant professor of medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, said in a statement.

"But we now know lower serum potassium is an independent risk factor for diabetes and that African-Americans have, on average, lower potassium levels than whites. What remains to be seen is if increasing potassium levels through diet or supplementation can prevent the most common form of diabetes."

Yeh and colleagues analyzed data from more than 12,000 participants in the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study, collected from 1987 to 1996.

The study, published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, found more than 2,000 African-Americans in the study had lower average serum potassium levels — found in food such as bananas, melons, lentils and yogurt — than the more than 9,000 whites in the study. They also were twice as likely to develop type 2 diabetes. In addition, diabetes increased among study participants as potassium levels went down, the study said.—Internet

Business



Liebherr refrigerators recalled

WASHINGTON, 6 March—The US Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced a voluntary recall of Liebherr built-in refrigerators due to risk of injury.

The doors to the Liebherr built-in 30-inch Wide Bottom Freezer Refrigerators can detach, possibly injuring a consumer, the commission said in a statement.

The refrigerators were imported from Austria by Liebherr-Canada of Ontario, Canada, and sold nationwide from February 2004 through January 2011 for between \$4,400 and \$5,000.

About 5,700 units are involved in the recall, which includes model numbers C 1600, CI 1600, CI 1601, C 1650, CI 1650, CI 1651 and CI 1700. Internet

China to expand use of RMB in cross-border trade and investment

BEIJING, 6 March—China will continue to increase the use of its currency renminbi in cross-border trade and investment this year, says a government work report to be delivered by Premier Wen Jiabao at the annual session of the national legislature on Saturday.

The country will "press ahead with making the RMB convertible under capital accounts" this year, says the report.

The actions are expected to bolster the yuan's role on international markets.

The People's Bank of China, the central bank, said Wednesday that it will expand the trial programme allowing the use of yuan settlement

for cross-border transactions to the entire country this year from the current 20 provincial regions as there is growing market demand for the business.

The total value of trade settled in the yuan rocketed to 506.3 billion yuan (77.1 billion US dollars) in 2010, according to the central bank.

In other moves to give the yuan a bigger role, China has inked eight bilateral currency deals worth a total of 803.5 billion yuan since the end of 2008.

Xinhua



An employee works on a production line at the Yoplait and Candia dairy production plant in Vienne, central France in 2008. China's Bright Food Group has said a tie-up with France's Yoplait would bring expansion opportunities in the massive Chinese market, as it promotes a bid for a stake in the French company.—INTERNET

S&P trims Toyota's credit rating

NEW YORK, 6 March—Credit rating agency Standard & Poor's said Japanese automaker Toyota Motor Corp has profits in its future but cut its credit score anyway.

After cutting its credit rating from AA to AA minus, the credit rating agency said, "The stable outlook reflects our expectation that Toyota is likely to maintain the gradual recovery occurring in its profitability, along with its minimal financial risk profile," *The Detroit News* reported on Saturday.

Toyota surpassed General Motors as the world's largest automaker in recent years, as the industry suffered from a prolonged slump that preceded the recession that began in December 2007.

Last year, however, Toyota was plagued by recall issues due to troubles with unintended acceleration and gas pedal problems. US automakers gained market share, while Toyota's fortunes stumbled.—Internet



A Chinese worker takes his lunch on a construction site in Luanda central district. Some 50 Chinese stateowned firms and 400 private companies are currently in Angola, with 60,000 to 70,000 Chinese expatriates are working in Angola. INTERNET

Che Guevara's Motorcycle Diaries companion Granado dies

HAVANG, 6 March—Alberto Granado, the motorcycle companion of Ernesto Che Guevara, has died in Cuba at the age of 88.

The pair's eight-month journey around Latin America was immortalised in the 2004 film *The Motorcycle Diaries*.

The journey, begun in 1951, exposed the two medical students to deep poverty and social injustice and awoke Guevara's revolutionary convictions.

After helping Fidel Castro overthrow Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista in 1959, Guevara invited Granado to Cuba.

Cuban state media said he died of natural causes in Havana.

After arriving in Cuba in 1961, Granado taught biochemistry at



Alberto Granado met Che Guevara when the two were children.

INTERNET

Havana University.

His body is to be cremated and according to his wishes, the ashes are to be spread in Cuba, Argentina and Venezuela, Cuban television said.

Granado was born in Cordoba, Argentina, on 8 August 1922 and met Guevara as a child.

The film of their travels around Latin America on the motorcycle they called *La Poderosa* - *The Powerful* - was based on diaries both men kept.

In the 2004 film, Granado was played by Argentine actor Rodrigo De la Serna. Gael Garcia Bernal played Che.

Internet

New Zealand quake to cost up to \$11 billion

WELLINGTON, 6 March—The earthquake which shattered the New Zealand city of Christchurch on 22 February would cost the country up to NZ\$15 billion (\$11 billion) and will also wipe 1.5 percent off GDP over five years, Finance Minister Bill English said on Sunday.

"Paying for the earthquake will likely involve a balanced combination of a bit more borrowing in the short term and reconsidering our spending priorities," English said in a statement.

The Treasury estimated the total financial cost of damage from the earthquake at between

NZ\$10 billion and NZ\$15 billion - two to three times the estimated NZ\$5 billion cost of an earlier earthquake to strike the city last September.

In addition, the wider economic impact of the earthquake, combined with already slower economic growth than forecast, could leave nominal GDP a cumulative NZ\$15 billion lower over the five years to 2015.

That is equivalent to about 1.5 percent of the total value of GDP over this period, it said.

The Reserve Bank of New Zealand has held its key interest rate at 3.0 percent since September

last year as the economy has struggled to pick up momentum and households and businesses cut spending. Unlike many other developed nations, the economy has shown few signs of gaining traction in recent months.

English said the government was still working through the potential impacts of the earthquake on GDP and the flow-through to tax revenue.

But based on these early assumptions, the total loss of tax revenue from all of these factors could be in a range of NZ\$3 billion to NZ\$5 billion over the five years," he said.

Internet



File photo shows a Pulsar DTS-Fi motorcycle at the Bajaj's Probiking showroom in New Delhi. Car penetration is low, with just 13 out of every 1,000 Indians owning one.—INTERNET

Shopping carts haul fecal bacteria

TUSCON, 6 March—Bacteria found on US store shopping carts may be worse than some supermarket restrooms, a US researcher says.

In a study funded by the Clorox Co, Charles Gerba and colleagues at the University of Arizona in Tuscon swabbed shopping cart handles in four states looking for bacterial and of 85 carts examined, 72 percent were positive for fecal bacteria.

In one group of 36 shopping carts examined more closely, 50 percent had E coli and a host of other types of bacteria, Gerba says.

"That's more than you find in a supermarket's

restroom," lead researcher Charles Gerba, a professor of microbiology at the University of Arizona, told MSNBC.

"That's because they use disinfecting cleaners in the restrooms. Nobody routinely cleans and disinfects shopping carts."

To reduce the amount of bacteria, Gerba recommends shopping carts be wiped down with disinfectant.

Internet

File photo shows a farmer spraying pesticide on a crop of vegetables in Yanqing, northwest of Beijing. Increased production of cheap pesticides in China and India, lax regulation and inadequate farmer education are destroying ecosystems around paddies, allowing pests to thrive and multiply, scientists have warned.

INTERNET



A rescue worker walks through the rubble in central Christchurch 2 March, 2011.

INTERNET

Archaeologists discover ancient rain water harvesting site

AURANGABAD, 6 March—Archaeologists have stumbled upon an ancient rain water harvesting site having 13 rock-cut reservoirs, in central Maharashtra, which they say is the largest one in the country.

The site is unique as the harvesting area, a hill

in this case, has been carved in circular and pyramidal shape, with steep natural ridges retouched to maintain security and isolation.

Located at Lohgarh-Nandra village here, the site is 38 km north-west of the city, on the old trade route between Aurangabad and Ajanta caves, which are famous all over the world for paintings and architecture.

It was discovered in one of the four hillocks on the Lohgarh hills, which have rich archaeological evidence, in the form of rock-cut structures.

Internet

Nine firefighters die battling China wildfire

KUNMING, 6 March—A wildfire in southwestern China was completely subdued by Saturday morning but not before nine firefighters perished, a local fire official said.

It took 1,140 firefighters to put out the deadly blaze on Jianchuan Mountain in Yunnan Province, the state-run news agency *Xinhua* reported.

Wan Yong, deputy commander of the provincial forest fire prevention authority, said some firefighters were still monitoring the situation to guard against flare-ups.

Local authorities said the doomed firefighters became trapped Thursday when winds reignited an area that had been smoldering. Several others were injured, *Xinhua* said. The fire started accidentally started Wednesday by a woman from Jinchang village, who was burning corn stalks on some uncultivated land surrounded by weeds when gusting winds pushed the flames out of control.—Internet



Prime Minister U Thein Sein unveils signboard of Lewe Township People's Hospital (100-bed).—MNA



*Prime Minister
U Thein Sein at
newly-opened Lewe
Township People's
Hospital (100-bed).*

MNA

*Interior design of Lewe Township People's
Hospital (100-bed).*

MNA

Images of opening of Lewe Township People's Hospital (100-bed).

*Photo shows Lewe Township People's
Hospital (100-bed).*

MNA



Teachers not only to teach but also to round the students in skills

Secretary-1 on inspection tour of Kyaukme District, Shan State (North)

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, accompanied by Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs U Phone Swe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Education U Aung Myo Min and departmental officials, left here by helicopter and arrived at Kyaukme in Shan State (North) this morning.

They were welcomed there by Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw Zaw and officials.

On arrival at Kyaukme District General Hospital, the Secretary-1 held a meeting with the medical staff. Medical Superintendent Dr May Thin reported on facts about the medical facility, health care, administrative matters and fund-raising conditions.



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo at Kyaukme District General Hospital.

MNA

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo cordially greets doctors and nurses at Kyaukme District General Hospital.



Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and the deputy health minister gave supplementary reports.

The Secretary-1 stressed the need of better health care and good treatment to win trust and reliance from the public, and talks on health education

for prevention of seasonal diseases.

He donated cash and an incubator to the hospital, and gave green light for opening an eye care centre in the hospital.

The medical superintendent and officials con-

ducted the Secretary-1 round the hospital.

The Secretary-1 inspected No (2) Basic Education High School. The headmistress gave accounts of academic and administrative matters, and pass rates.

He called for increasing pass rates and more attention to teaching the subjects the students are weak in, and made cash donations to the school.

On his visit to No (1) BEHS, the Secretary-1 inspected classrooms and school buildings.

The headmaster reported on academic matters and pass rates; and the school board of trustees, on stipends for outstanding students.

In his speech, the Secretary-1 noted that teachers have to not only teach but also round the students in skills in order that the youth will become reliable intellectuals and intelligentsia. He spoke the need of teachers to find out the root cause of why students are weak in particular subjects, and pay more attention to those subjects. He urged them to preserve and promote fine traditions of the school, improve the teaching methods and enforce school rules and regulations.

The Secretary-1 made cash donations to the trust funds of the school.—MNA

Fifth graduation of University of Traditional Medicine held

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—Fifth graduation ceremony of University of Traditional Medicine took place at the convocation hall of the University in Mandalay this morning. It was attended by Director-General of Traditional Medicine Department under the Ministry of Health Professor Dr Aung Myint, Rector of the University Professor Dr Than Maung, the pro-rector (Admin), members of admin department, members of education board, the registrar, students and faculty members.

At the ceremony, the rector conferred on 130 students, and made a speech.

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Maung Aye, Minister U Thein Nyunt and Minister Dr Kyaw Myint formally open Lewe Township People's Hospital (100 bed).
(News on Page 1)

MNA



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo addresses opening ceremony of Hsipaw Bridge.—MNA

In his speech, the Secretary-1 said that the opening of Hsipaw Bridge brought glory not only to Shan State (North) and Mandalay Region but also to the whole Union. With the concept that smooth transport lies at the core of development of a region, the government has been building roads and bridges in all regions and states to form networks of transport facilities across the Union.

Hsipaw Bridge is the 259th above-180-foot bridge in the nation, and the 13th in Shan State (North). The bridge is the pride of the entire people

the nation and the people.

In this regard, the government aims to fulfill the desire of every citizen: to enjoy higher income and socio-economic status, higher living standard while doing business in a peaceful way in the framework of the law, and to enable their country and region to enjoy greater development.

Now, with cumulative development of the regions in Shan State (North), Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway, which helps improve the economy, social affairs and transport between the People's

Traffic often caused damage to steel girders of the bridge, and many trucks had to wait until it had been repaired, and goods had to be transferred. So, that cost more and caused hindrances to commodity flow.

The situation called for a two-way broad crest type bridge for convenience of trucks. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Construction, Asia World Co has built many above-180-foot bridges with BOT system in Shan State (North) such as Kyinthei, Sint-in, Theinni, Namkhaing and Goktwin.

bridge, the company faced a lot of natural challenges, but it managed to complete the building of the bridge which is 569 feet long and can withstand 60 tons of loads for per vehicle. So far, Hsipaw Bridge has emerged as the sixth above-180-foot bridge on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Road in Shan State (North).

Asia World Co had been building 102 miles and three furlongs long Lashio-Muse (Mongyu) section of Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway with BOT system since 1996.

It also built some sections of the Union highway with BOT system: Nawngkhio-Kyaukme section (44 miles) in 1998, Mongyu-Muse section (10 miles) and Muse-Namhkam section (22 miles) in 2000, Mandalay-PyinOoLwin-Wetwun-Nawngkhio section (71 miles) in 2002, Kyaukme-Lashio section (49 miles) in 2006, totaling 298 miles and three furlongs. Then, it has been maintaining and repairing the facilities in a systematic way with its experts and staff members.

(See page 10)



Emergence of river-crossing...

(from page 16)
for Education U Aung Myo Min, departmental heads, departmental personnel, engineers and

staff who have undertaken bridge construction, members of social organizations, locals, and guests.

as it was built by national experts.

Emergence of river-crossing bridges one after another reflects economic strength, spiritual power, technology and skills of

Republic of China and Myanmar, is coping with a growing traffic. Old Hsipaw Bridge was a one-way bailey facility which could withstand only 30 tons of loads for a vehicle.

In order to keep the commodity flow while the new bridge was being built, Asia World Co built a pontoon bridge for trucks.

In building the new

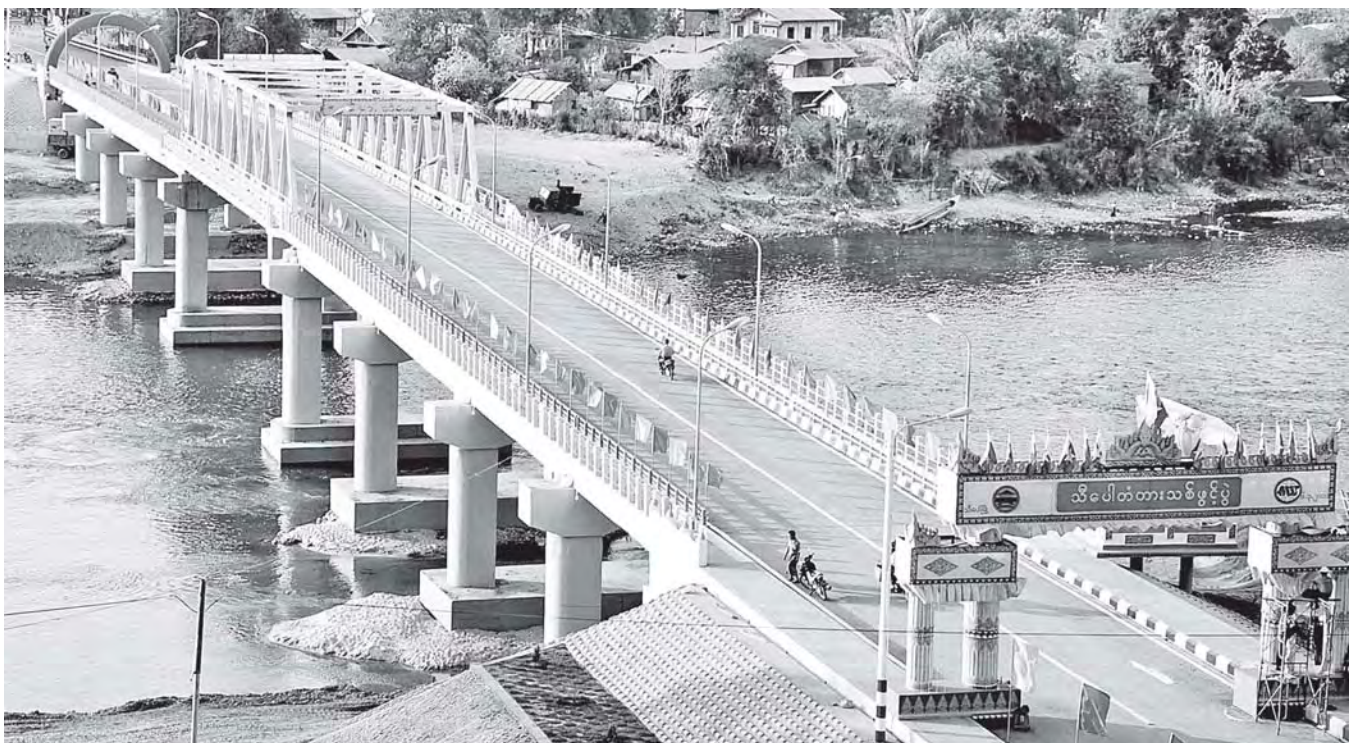


Photo shows newly-opened Hsipaw Bridge built by Asia World Co., Ltd.—MNA



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and party stroll on Hsipaw Bridge.—MNA

Emergence of river-crossing...

(from page 9)

Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway not only contributes toward regional development but also boosting export and import of goods from and to China through border trade.

Due to the bridge, there will be better socio-economic status of local people and swift commodity flow between the two neighbouring countries. The Secretary-1 praised the company for its brilliant role in the project.

Apart from laying sound foundations for national development, the government is implementing the Road Map step by step to build a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation in compliance with the desire of the people.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 urged residents to improve their socio-economic status, using the bridge efficiently, and to maintain the infrastructural buildings including the bridge the government has built in order that the facilities are serviceable for generations.

In his address, Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC North-East Command Commander Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw Zaw said that previously, the vehicles faced difficulties in crossing the old bridge and were often stuck in traffic jam. The new bridge would bring about smooth transportation in the region, thereby contributing to swift commodity flow and improvement of social, economic, education and

health sectors of the local peoples. Shan State had benefited from emergence of large and small bridges, and inter-district roads.

The Commander added that the Government had made strenuous efforts for harmonious infrastructural development throughout the nation, but the government alone could not develop the nation without the cooperation of the peoples. So, the local peoples are to play a part in building peaceful, modern, discipline-flourishing democratic nation, making good use of infrastructure built by the government, he urged.

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint said while explaining the construction of bridge that the ministry supported technical assistance to Asia

World Company Limited which funded and implemented the construction of bridge since 1 May 2008. The company is implementing Mandalay-Lashio-Muse-Namkham road section of Mandalay-Lashio-Bhamo-Myitkyina Union Highway through B.O.T system as well. Before the completion of new bridge, the old one had once been severely destroyed by tree trunks which were brought by Dokhtawady river water on 11 October 1986. The Construction Ministry had rebuilt the facility on 29 October 1986. The 25 years old bridge couldn't afford to serve well because its condition was in critical area with the loaded trucks passing every day. Thanks to the opening of two-lane-motorway bridge, the local people will see more

development in their socio-economic lives.

Under the guidance of the Head of State, the Ministry of Construction is striving to develop transport infrastructures. It has opened 2943 under-180-ft bridges and 259 over-180-ft bridges. The construction of 58 over-180-ft bridges is underway. Four rail-cum-road bridges with two-lane motorway and one bridge with two-lane motorway are under construction.

Road transportation in Regions and State with 13635 miles before 1988 has now increased to 21979 miles and five furlongs with the progress of 8344 miles and five furlongs.

Roads being implemented by the ministry in Shan State (North) are:

- (1) 30 miles and seven furlongs long Hsipaw-Panlong-Namhsan road
 - (2) 28 miles and four furlongs long Lashio-Mansan-Panlong road
 - (3) 37 miles long Mansan-Namtu-Mongton road
 - (4) 76 miles and three furlongs long Kyaukme-Mongnai-Namhsan road
 - (5) 37 miles long Namhsan-Mongton road
 - (6) 18 miles long Kutkai-Tamonye-Tarpar-Nyikwan-(Tashwehtan) road and 78 miles long detour.
- Ministry of

Construction is building roads and bridges across the country in cooperation with construction groups including 67 districts, five special groups, five special sub-groups and 126 groups of companies. A total of 84 roads and 5,252 miles and one furlong of road are under construction by 36 companies with BOT system. It is important to preserve it for long-term use. Roads and bridges are to be used systematically in line with traffic rules. The bridge would generate the interest of the region in relation with nation's interest. So, local residents are to maintain it for its durability he said. On behalf of the local people, U Sai Lun Tha of Hsipaw spoke words of thanks.

After that, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present, and the Secretary-1 and party took position at the front of the archway. Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw Zaw, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint and Managing Director of Asia World Co., Ltd U Tun Myint Naing cut the ribbon to open the bridge.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party and guests posed for documentary photo. The Secretary-1 unveiled the stone plaque of the bridge and sprinkled the scented water on it.

Later on, Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence, the Commander, the Minister and the deputy ministers sprinkled the scented water on it.

Hsipaw Bridge is located between Mile Post No.130/3 and 130/4 on Mandalay-Lashio road in Hsipaw Township, Shan State (North).

It is of RC Type and steel truss bridge. It is 569 feet long and 28 feet wide and has two five-foot-wide walk-ways. And it can withstand 60 tons of load.

MNA



Hsipaw Bridge illuminated with colourful lights.—MNA

More than 40 Burundian peacekeepers killed in recent Somalia fighting

BUJUMBURA, 6 March—More than 40 Burundian peacekeepers were killed and about 100 others wounded in the recent fighting in Somalia, AFP quoted militant sources as reporting.

However, there is no confirmation of the figure from the government of Burundi.

Burundi and Uganda are the only two African countries which have contributed peacekeepers to the African peacekeeping mission AMISOM in Somalia. Since December 2007, Burundi has sent four battalions to Somalia to back the transitional government of Somalia.

AMISOM peacekeepers have

been the target of the attacks from the Somali insurgent group al Shabaab.

Speaking to journalists on Tuesday in the Burundian capital Bujumbura, Burundian Army Chief of Staff Major General Godefroid Niyombare said “Burundian troops were requested by the African Union. They are there (in Somalia) doing well their duties and they will stay there.”

Niyombare said Burundian troops serving in AMISOM will stay there despite human losses that occurred last week in the Somali capital Mogadishu during fierce fighting between AMISOM troops and Somalia’s al Shabaab insurgents.

Xinhua



Chinese President Hu Jintao (R 3rd) joins in a panel discussion with national legislators from eastern Jiangsu Province on 5 March, 2011.

XINHUA

Road accident in Brazil kills at least 25

RIO DE JANEIRO, 6 March—A traffic accident early Saturday in southern Brazil killed at least 25 people and injured 23 others, local media reported.

The accident during Brazil’s annual Carnival celebration occurred when a truck loaded with wooden planks collided with a bus carrying some 40 passengers on a highway near Descanso in southern Brazil’s Santa Catarina State.

The injured were taken to the Regional Hospital in Sao Miguel West for treatment.

Earlier reports said that 22 people, including the truck driver, were killed in the crash. Three others died later at an area hospital.

On 27 Feb, at least 17 people were electrocuted and dozens of others wounded when a power line fell on revelers during a precarnival parade in the town of Bandeira do Sul in Minas Gerais state, north of Rio de Janeiro.

Carnival is a popular event in Brazil and Rio de Janeiro’s parade is the most famous, attracting thousands of tourists from around the world every year.—Xinhua

Ma Dan appears at her exhibition at Dialogue Space Gallery in Beijing, capital of China, on 5 March, 2011.

XINHUA



Residents look at damage from a suspected tornado that injured at least nine people, leveling homes and causing natural gas leaks that prompted evacuations in Rayne, La, on 5 March, 2011.

INTERNET

people killed, 12 injured in Taipei bar fire

TAIPEI, 6 March—A fire broke out at a bar in Taichung City, killing nine people and injuring 12, in the wee hours of Sunday morning.

The accident may have been caused by a dancer when he was throwing AquaKey sticks, a kind of cosmetic for keeping the moisture of skin, during his performance, according to local police. The fire was quickly put under control, but the cause is still being investigated by the police.—Xinhua

3 killed, 19 injured in two mishaps in western India

NEW DELHI, 6 March—At least three persons were killed and 19 others sustained injuries in two separate road mishaps in the western Indian State of Rajasthan early Sunday morning, said police.

While two persons were killed when the van in which they were traveling collided head-on with a truck in Harmada area, a child was killed and 19 others injured when a mini bus in which they were traveling turned turtle after being hit by a speeding truck.

The injured have been admitted to a local hospital, he said, adding a probe has been ordered into both incidents.

Road accident rate in India is among the world’s highest, with at least 100,000 people killed each year on the road.

Xinhua

Tornado slams La town, downed tree kills mother

RAYNE, 6 March—A tornado slammed a southwestern Louisiana town Saturday, killing a young mother who was sheltering her child and injuring 11 other people. More than 100 homes were damaged, many of them destroyed, authorities said, and about 1,500 people were evacuated because of natural gas leaks.

Maxine Trahan, a spokeswoman for the Acadia Parish Sheriff’s Office, said 21-year-old Jalisa Granger was killed when a tree fell on her house.

“She sheltered the child to protect her from the storm and a tree fell on the house and it killed the mother but the child was OK,” Trahan said, adding

that a relative who lived nearby found them.

Debris was littered throughout Rayne, a town of about 8,500 people, after a line of violent thunderstorms moved through the area and left behind a swath of damage about a quarter of a mile wide to three miles long.

Pieces of homes were strewn about the tops of trees, and power lines were down. A US Postal Service truck was flipped to its side.

“It’s a mess back there — a lot of damage,” Trahan said. The community is near Route 10 and about 70 miles west of Baton Rouge.

Internet

Visitors show interest in the displayed orchid during the 9th Orchid Show Media Preview opened at New York Botanical Garden on 4 March, 2011. Thousands of orchids will be presented to the public at the New York Botanical Garden from 5 March to 25 April in a dazzling display.—XINHUA



Six wounded in Los Angeles party shooting

LOS ANGELES, 6 March—Unknown gunmen shot and wounded six people at a house party in South Los Angeles early on Saturday, injuring one critically, police said.

Officer Norma Eisenman of the Los Angeles Police Department said more than one gunman opened fire at the party at around 4 am local time.

“One of the victims was shot in the chest, and

he is in critical condition,” Eisenman told Reuters.

“Five victims received gunshot wounds to their legs, arms and buttocks and were

transferred to local area hospitals,” she added.

Eisenman said the incident was “gang related.”

Reuters



28th November 2010 to 7th March 2011
"A Heartfelt Wish on the Hundredth Day Birthday"
For

Cindy Phyu Hnin Oo @ Twahayra

A sister for Honey Cho Nwet Oo (Grade 7A, BEHS-2, LATHA) & Cherry May Thet Oo (Grade 2B, MLA International)

You've come to us as our third grand daughter.

Our "Home Sweet Home" welcomes You with grandeur.

Such a mild and tender look you possess

And, it proves that you are dearly blessed.

You have brought us warmth and pleasure

You are an addition to our treasure that cannot be measured.

You have now lived for days counted "a Hundred."

May you as well live for hundred years with grace & happiness.

Tons of Love

Grandpa Dr. Than Win (Muslim Free Hospital)

Grandma Rosalind Khin Ma Ma (Taunggyi)

Papa George Win Maung Oo (Win Theingi Engineering Co., Ltd.)

Mamar April Theingi Lwin (Peace Garment)

Playing music to wine really makes it sing

VIENNA, 6 March — If one Austrian's quirky idea catches on, wine tastings could soon sound like this: Is that some Mozart in my glass? A hint of Haydn, maybe? Convinced that music is a key ingredient for a good bottle of red or white, Markus Bachmann has invented a special speaker that exposes fermenting grape juice to classical, jazz or electronic tunes. The sound waves, he claims, influence the maturing process and produce a better-tasting wine.

This is the latest in a slew of weird ways to make wine, some of which also have a melodic touch. Take Portuguese winery Jose Maria da Fonseca, which plays classical music in its century-old Adega da Mata barrel hall, where it ages its well-known Periquita label wines. Or French company Henri Maire, which has sent thousands of bottles of red wine sailing around the world in ships to be jostled by waves. Then there's Austrian Rainer Christ, who swears by full-moon grape harvesting, saying it makes his wine more complex and gives it a longer shelf-life.—*Internet*



Bringing in the harvest at night may also benefit the crop.—INTERNET

11 militants killed in Afghanistan's Helmand Province

LASHKARGAH, 6 March—Eleven Taliban militants including a local commander were killed Saturday when warplanes of NATO-led forces pounded their hideout in Afghanistan's Helmand Province, a local official said Sunday.

"Helicopters of international forces on Saturday struck a militants hideout in Musa Qala District. As a result, 11 militants including a local Taliban commander Mullah Fazil were killed," an official with the provincial administration who declined to be named told *Xinhua*. He said formerly Mullah Fazil was commanding a militants group in Sangin district in the province, some 555 km south of capital city of Kabul. Taliban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comments.—*Internet*



Pedestrians walk in front of the HSBC headquarters in Hong Kong. Britain's biggest bank, which has been headquartered in London for 19 years, has warned key investors that it is looking at moving to Hong Kong due to the levels of tax and red tape, the broadsheet said.—INTERNET

Five policemen killed in Karachi, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 6 March—Five policemen were killed and two others injured when unknown gunmen launched an attack late Saturday night at a police training station in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi, reported

local media Geo News.

According to the report, the incident took place at about 11:30 pm (local time) in the Baldia town area of Karachi. The gunmen fled the scene after the attack, the report quoted police sources as saying, adding that no group has claimed the responsibility for the attack.

In another development, Geo News reported a scholar was gunned down along with his second son in New Karachi area on Saturday night. They were shot dead by unknown gunmen riding on motorbikes.—*Internet*

UK rocket test for 1,000mph car

LONDON, 6 March — The first full test firing of the rocket that will power a British car to over 1,000mph (1,600km/h) will take place in the coming months. Producing 122kN (27,000lb) of thrust, the hybrid Falcon motor will be the largest rocket to be ignited in the UK for 20 years. It will not be the only power unit in the Bloodhound vehicle when it tries to break the land speed record next year.

There will also be a jet from a fighter plane and the engine from an F1 car.



The rocket has been fired once already, in the Mojave Desert in California.—INTERNET

The team behind the project believes this trio of power units could secure the absolute land speed record for Britain for many years to come. "We are creating the ultimate car; we're going where

no-one has gone before," said Richard Noble, the Bloodhound project director. Several locations are being considered for the rocket test.—*Internet*

American Express finds a Web partner

NEW YORK, 6 March—US credit card giant American Express said it had teamed up with Internet start-up Foursquare Labs Inc to offer discounts to consumers.

Foursquare is a social network Website geared toward use on mobile phones, as it includes a service that revolves around global positioning systems.

The partnership, which will be tested in a pilot programme in Austin, Texas, next week, involves offering consumers discounts as prizes if they register their American Express cards with Foursquare, *The Wall Street Journal* reported Saturday.

Participants who check in with Foursquare frequently can win "discounts or recognition," the *Journal* said.

Merchants also need to participate in the programme. Sixty businesses in Austin have signed up for next week's debut, which coincides with the South by Southwest Interactive Festival, a conference geared for start-ups.

"It's not just about attracting customers who are under 35. This is about AmEx changing the way that we engage our customers," said Edward Gilligan, vice chairman for American Express.—*Internet*

Britons are TV addicts!

LONDON, 6 March—Britons buy nearly twice as many television sets as their continental counterparts, says a report.

The set of choice is now the flat screen of which an astonishing 43 million were sold in Britain between 2004 and 2010, reports *express.co.uk*.

The figure far outstrips the 28 million sold in Germany and 27 million in France, the report added.

And British viewers spend many more hours in front of the box than they realize.

The report says viewers of all ages are embracing modern technology to ensure they never miss a minute of their favourite shows.—*Internet*

Italian police find GPS chip in case of missing Swiss twins

ROME, 6 March—Police in southern Italy Saturday found the microchip from the navigational device in the car driven by the father of missing 6-year-old Swiss twins, after weeks of searching the train tracks where the man killed himself, an investigator said.

Teams of police and volunteers had been combing the tracks near Cerignola station in Puglia hoping the chip could be found and yield information about the route Matthias Schepp drove in the days between when he was last seen with daughters Alessia and Livia in late January, and 3 Feb, when his body was found

along the tracks. Scattered pieces of the car's navigational device, minus the chip, had been found shortly after the suicide.

Investigators have said there is no indication the twins ever arrived in Italy with their father, who was apparently distraught over separating from his wife, although French and Swiss police have said the girls could have gone anywhere from Switzerland to France to Italy. Asked if the microchip's discovery could be a big break in the case, Alfredo Fabbrocini, the Foggia police official leading the Italian end of the missing twins' case, was cautious.—*Internet*



A sculpture made up of cans is seen in Vancouver, Canada, on 4 March, 2011. There are 22 creations made up of more than 100,000 donated cans of foods on display in Vancouver, Canada, from 27 Feb to 6 March, 2011.

News Album

White Sox catcher ticketed in uniform

Chicago White Sox catcher AJ Pierzynski said he was issued a speeding ticket in Arizona while driving to a game in his team uniform.

Pierzynski said he was driving to Goodyear Ballpark in the city of Goodyear Wednesday when he was pulled over by an Arizona Department of Public Safety officer and issued a ticket for driving 10 mph over the 65 mph limit, the *Chicago Tribune* reported Thursday.

"I loved it when he said, 'Oh, you play for the White Sox?'" Pierzynski said. "I said, 'How did you guess?' Figure it out." The catcher said he will pay the ticket, which he said was the subject of teasing at the hands of his teammates.

"They said in the dugout they would get a collection up if they let the cop take me," he said.



Chicago White Sox catcher A J Pierzynski (L) talks with pitcher John Danks during the fourth inning against the Chicago Cubs at US Cellular Field in Chicago on 27 June, 2010. The Cubs won 8-6.

Duck crashes into conference room

A Florida man said his work day was interrupted when a large duck crashed through a conference room window and landed in the chair next to him. Todd Griffith said he was working at a computer Tuesday in the conference room at Matern Professional Engineering in south Fort Myers when he was startled by a loud noise, the *Fort Myers News-Press* reported Thursday.

"I heard a loud boom, and I looked to my left and there was a duck sitting next to me," he said. "It looked at me like, 'what are you doing here?'" Griffith said the duck wandered the room for a few minutes before he and other workers were able to coax it back outside through a sliding door.

Brave commuter comes to grips with peak hour

A resident of Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province, recently jumped onto the back of a bus for a free ride.

On Saturday, when resident Cao Bin was driving along the road, he was shocked to see a man hanging onto the back of a bus in front of his car.

The man, standing on the bumper and clutching the vents, stayed on the bus for one stop, passing through a tunnel during



his brief ride. Cao believed the man took the free ride because he was in a hurry and it is hard to find a taxi on that road in peak hour.

Firefighters remove dog from fridge

Firefighters in Arizona said they were called to an apartment by a family who said a small dog had taken up residence in their refrigerator.

Mike Erfert, spokesman for the Yuma Fire Department, said firefighters responded Friday evening to El Encanto Apartments to remove a dog from a refrigerator, *The Yuma Sun* reported on Thursday. The residents told firefighters the dog had entered their apartment and snapped at them whenever they approached it. They said they planned to lure it out of their home with some food, but the animal jumped into the refrigerator as soon as it was opened and refused to emerge.

Firefighters wearing protective gear were able to remove the dog, which was described as a form of terrier, from the refrigerator and place it in a dog crate borrowed from a family member of a firefighter.

British director Charles Jarrott dies in LA at 83

LOS ANGELES, 6 March—British director Charles Jarrott, whose career of nearly 50 years in film and television included the acclaimed British royalty dramas "Anne of the Thousand Days" and "Mary, Queen of Scots," has died, a spokeswoman said Saturday. He was 83. Jarrott, who had been suffering from prostate cancer, died Friday night at the Woodland Hills retirement community operated by the Motion Picture & Television Fund, the organization's spokeswoman Jaime Larkin said.

The London-born Jarrott served in the Royal Navy during World War II and was an actor before taking up directing in 1954. He worked mostly in television, then went on to direct a prominent string of feature films in the 1960s and 1970s.—*Internet*



Actress Victoria Justice arrives at the NAACP Awards in Los Angeles, California on 4 March, 2011.
XINHUA

3D "Star Wars" to hit theatre in early 2012

BEIJING, 6 March—The 3D version of "Episode 1: The Phantom Menace" will be released on 10 Feb, 2012, according to Lucasfilm Ltd and Twentieth Century Fox.

This film is the first 3D version in "Star Wars" saga, since Lucasfilm and Fox claimed to convert the entire series into 3D in September 2010, the two

US film makers said Thursday.

"Industrial Light & Magic", which worked on the effects for *Avatar*, will process the film, according to *StarWars.com*, the official website of *Star Wars* saga.

The visual effects supervisors said the film is "perfectly suited to the 3D theatrical experience" and they are confident to



A still from "Star Wars" Series.
XINHUA

satisfy the star wars' fans.

"This 3D conversion is being done with utmost respect for the source material, and with a keen eye for both technological considerations and artistic intentions," said John Knoll, a visual effects supervisor.—*Xinhua*

Drugs jail term was karma, says George Michael

LONDON, 6 March—Pop star George Michael said he deserved to be jailed for a month for crashing his car while high on cannabis, describing his time inside as karma, in a BBC radio interview.

The former Wham! singer said he was now receiving therapy over his drug abuse issues and was "ashamed" to have broken the law repeatedly.

The 47-year-old was jailed in September last year after admitting driving under the influence of drugs.

"I was assured I wasn't going to prison but I thought I was, and it was much easier to take because I felt it was deserved," he said, in an interview to be broadcast Monday.

"This was a hugely shameful thing to have done repeatedly so karmically I felt like I had a bill to pay. I went to prison, I paid my bill.—*Internet*



George Michael (C).—INTERNET



Natalia Gantimurova (1st L), winner of Miss Russia 2011, is crowned during the final of Miss Russia pageant in Moscow, Russia, on 5 March, 2011. Natalia Gantimurova from Moscow was titled the Miss Russia 2011 on Saturday.—XINHUA

Keita strike puts Barcelona ten clear of Real

MADRID, 6 March — Mali international midfielder Seydou Keita scored only his second goal of the season as champions Barcelona moved ten points clear of Real Madrid in the Spanish first division with a hard-fought 1-0 home win over Real Zaragoza on Saturday.

The 31-year-old Keita, a fringe player this season, scored the decisive goal on 43 minutes as Barce-



Barcelona's midfielder Seydou Keita celebrates after scoring a goal during their Spanish League football.—INTERNET

lona made it three league wins in the space of eight days and piled the pressure on Real who travel to Racing Santander on Sunday.

It was a far from vintage performance, but three points and another clean sheet are the perfect preparation for Barcelona's Champions League second leg showdown with Arsenal on Tuesday as Barca bid to overturn a 2-1 deficit.

"It was a difficult game and we had to be careful of the counter attack as Zaragoza have some quick players," said Barcelona defender Gaby Milito. "We couldn't find as much space as we have done in the past, but we have won and now we can think about the Champions League."—INTERNET

Five from five as Rennes go top

PARIS, 6 March — Rennes leapfrogged Lille to go top of the French first division on Saturday on a day when topflight referees and goals were either absent or a rare commodity.

Officials from the third division were called in to take charge of the week-end fixtures after first division referees were suspended in response to their plans to stage a protest to try and gain more respect.

Rennes had Razak Boukari's 27th minute

goal to thank for their 1-0 win at Montpellier, which lifted them up to 49 points, as title-rivals Paris Saint Germain slipped up 1-0 at Auxerre.—INTERNET



Montpellier's Marco Estrada (L) clashes with Rennes's Abdoulrazak Boukari (R) during their French football match.—INTERNET

Van Gaal on brink as Bayern hit new low

BERLIN, 6 March — Louis van Gaal's tenure as Bayern Munich coach was on a knife-edge Saturday after the German giants lost 3-1 to Hanover and his chairman lambasted the team's performance as a "low point".

This third consecutive defeat left Bayern in fourth place in the league, seven points shy of second place and automatic Champions League qualification and a full 19 points behind runaway leaders Borussia Dortmund.

Van Gaal had already indicated that defeat to Hanover could cost him his job but prevaricating



Bayern Munich's Daniel van Buyten (R) is beaten to a header by Hanover's Karim Haggui.—INTERNET

when asked afterwards about his future, saying only: "I am not in a position to answer this question." "I have always had the support of my board. They decide whether to withdraw this support, not me."—INTERNET

SPORTS

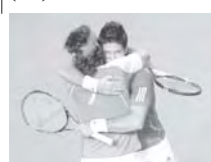
Spain, Argentina and Sweden advance in Davis Cup

PARIS, 6 March — Spain, Argentina and Sweden booked their spots in the Davis Cup quarter-finals on Saturday after sealing victories in their doubles ties to give them unassailable 3-0 leads in the World Group first round.

Defending champions Serbia pulled 2-1 ahead of India after a thrilling battle in Belgrade as France lead Austria by the same scoreline in Vienna and the United States also hold a 2-1 advantage over Chile.

The Rafael Nadal-inspired Spaniards came

away 3-0 winners against hosts Belgium at Charleroi after Fernando Verdasco and Feliciano Lopez beat Steve Darcis and Olivier Rochus 7-6 (7/0), 6-4, 6-3.—INTERNET



Spain's Fernando Verdasco (R) and Feliciano Lopez (L) celebrate after winning against Belgian's Olivier Rochus and Belgian's Steve Darcis during the Davis Cup first round match in Charleroi.—INTERNET

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

Sunday, 6th March.

Kuyt's hat-trick hands Kops a deserved victory over arch-rivals ManU

LIVERPOOL, 6 March — Liverpool's fully deserved 3-1 victory over Manchester United at Anfield may not ultimately prevent their arch-rivals surpassing the Reds' 18 league titles at the end of the season.

Dirk Kuyt grabbed the headlines with a hat-trick before Javier Hernandez headed an injury-time consolation - but there were many more who deserved the plaudits. Tireless livewire Luis Suarez had a hand in all three goals while Lucas Leiva and Raul Meireles produced impressive midfield performances. For United their second-choice central defensive partnership of Wes Brown and

Chris Smalling, deputising for the suspended Nemanja Vidic and injured Rio Ferdinand, never looked comfortable on an afternoon when very few of visiting team reached anywhere near the exacting standards Ferguson demands.—INTERNET

Kuyt (right) heads in Liverpool's second from Nani's poor backwards header.



Wolverhampton 3 - 3 Tottenham

LONDON, 6 March — Substitute Steven Fletcher



scored a late goal to earn struggling Wolves a valuable point against Tottenham.

Kevin Doyle gave the home side the lead with a flicked header from Nenad Milijas's cross before Jermain Defoe fired in the equaliser from 20 yards. Defoe scored again from a similar range but Doyle levelled matters from the spot after Alan Hutton fouled Milijas.

Roman Pavlyuchenko's thunderbolt gave Spurs the lead again only for Fletcher deny the visitors with a header.

Internet

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

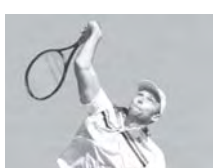


Big-hitting Ivo Karlovic serves up new world record

ZAGREB, 6 March — Big-hitting Croat Ivo Karlovic set a new world record with a 251km per hour serve in his country's Davis Cup World Group first round tie against Germany, competition organisers said. The previous record of 249.4km per hour was set by American Andy Roddick in a Davis Cup semi-final in 2004.

The 2.08m Karlovic, making his return from achilles surgery, on Saturday hit the monster serve in the fourth set of his dou-

bles tie which he and teammate Ivan Dodig lost 6-3, 3-6, 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 to Germany's Christopher Kas and Philipp Petzschner. Germany lead Croatia 2-1 going into Sunday's reverse singles rubbers.—INTERNET



Big-hitting Croat Ivo Karlovic

FIFA bans players from wearing neck warmers

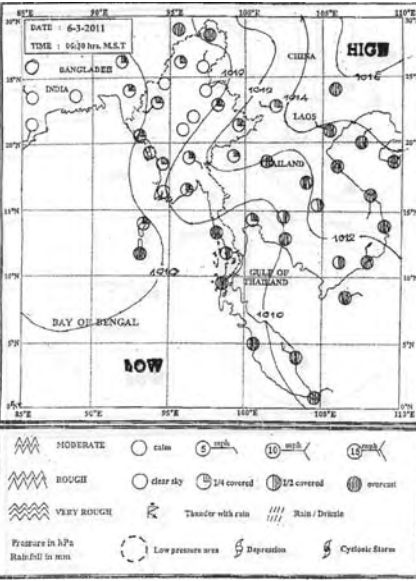
NEWPORT, 6 March — Carlos Tevez, Sami Nasri and others will be feeling the chill after soccer's rule-makers banned players from wearing neck warmers. FIFA President Sepp Blatter said on Saturday that the so-called "snoods" are "dangerous — it can be like to hang somebody."

They became popular in the Premier League this season, with Tevez at Manchester City and Nasri at Arsenal among the wearers. After the In-

ternational Football Association Board meeting at Celtic Manor in Wales, Blatter stressed that "there was not even a discussion because this is not part of the uniform." The ban takes effect immediately.—INTERNET



Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 6th March, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.
 During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Taninthayi Region and Kachin State, weather has been partly cloudy over upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kayin and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) above March average temperatures in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kachin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperatures in Sagaing Region, Shan and Kayah States and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (42°C), Mandalay, Myingyan, Nyaungoo, Magway and Theinzayat (40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myeik and Kawthoung (0.12) inch each.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 5-3-2011 was 101°F. Minimum temperature on 6-3-2011 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 6-3-2011 was (62%). Rainfall on 6-3-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 5-3-2011 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 6-3-2011 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 6-3-2011 was (64%). Total sunshine hours on

5-3-2011 was (10.0) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 6-3-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (1.97) inches at Mingaladon, (1.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (3.82) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 5-3-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 7th March 2011: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region and Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy over Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Mon and Kayin States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated light rain in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 7-3-2011: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-3-2011: Generally fair weather.

Gattuso downs Juve to send Milan clear

ROME, 6 March—A rare Gennaro Gattuso goal sent leaders AC Milan eight points clear in Serie A after they dominated a poor Juventus 1-0 at the Stadio Olimpico in Turin on Saturday ahead of Italy's main programme.

The combative midfielder, who is suspended for Wednesday's Champions League clash against Tottenham, struck in the 68th minute, firing under Gianluigi Buffon to cap a splendid week for the Rossoneri who had beaten title-challengers Napoli 3-0 on Monday.

It was Juventus' third defeat on the trot and leaves them languishing in seventh position, seven points off the Champions League places with ten matches to go.

Internet



All together now: From left, Thiago Silva, of Brazil, Gennaro Gattuso of Italy and Mark Van Bommel, of the Netherlands join hands and skip to celebrate their victory over Juventus.

INTERNET

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
Programme Schedule
(7-3-2011) (Monday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	- (7-3-11 09:30 am ~ 8-3-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Sport Show (Hokey)
- * News
- * VCD Centre
- * Current Affairs "Yangon Expo 2010"
- * News
- * The contest of Myanmar Traditional Htamane Feast Festival
- * News
- * Shwedagon Exhibition (2011)
- * Educational Living & Health Care Exhibition

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Sport Show (Hokey)
- * News
- * VCD Centre
- * Current Affairs "Yangon Expo 2010"
- * News
- * The contest of Myanmar Traditional Htamane Feast Festival
- * News
- * Shwedagon Exhibition (2011)
- * News
- * Myanmar Movie Impact "Cho Lain"
- * News
- * Sightseeing around Mandalay (Mandalay)
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Educational Living & Health Care Exhibition
- * Youth & Music (Part-4)
- * News
- * Offering 9900 Light at Prominent Pagodas
- * Myanmar Movie "Dancer and Drummer"



**Monday,
7 March
View on today**

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning News

7:40 am

4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:00 am

6. Health Programme

8:05 am

7. Dance Of National Races

8:15 am

8. Cute Little Dancers

8:25 am

9. Songs in honour of (66)th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

8:40 am

10. International News

8:45 am

11. Musical Programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:05 pm

2. Musical Programme

4:15 pm

3. Dance Variety

4:20 pm

4. Songs in honour of (66)th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

4:30 pm

5. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Physics)

4:45 pm

6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

4:50 pm

7. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

5:00 pm

8. Myanmar Language

5:15 pm

9. Songs in honour of (66)th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

5:30 pm

10. Myanmar Idol

6:00 pm

11. Evening News

6:15 pm

12. Weather Report

6:20 pm

13. Sing & Enjoy

7:00 pm

14. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International News

17. Weather Report

18. World's Stars

19. TV Drama Series

- ★ 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

Emergence of river-crossing bridges one after another reflects economic strength, spiritual power, technology and skills of the people

SPDC Secretary-1 Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo attends opening ceremony of Hsipaw Bridge



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo unveils stone inscription of Hsipaw Bridge.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March—Hsipaw Bridge in Hsipaw Township, Shan State (North) constructed by Asia World Co Ltd under the supervision of Public Works under Ministry of Construction was commissioned this morning.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and

Development Council Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo addressed the opening of the bridge and unveiled the stone plaque of the bridge.

Also present on the occasion were Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and

Development Council Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw Zaw, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs U Phone Swe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister
(See page 9)