

Matapitu upatthanam, to serve thy parents; this is the way to auspiciousness

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Established 1914

Volume XVIII, Number 358

11th Waxing of Tagu 1372 ME

Thursday, 14 April, 2011

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * Strengthening of national solidarity
- * Building and strengthening of discipline-flourishing democracy system
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Building of modern industrialized nation through the agricultural development, and all-round development of other sectors of the economy
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investment 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
- * Flourishing of Union Spirit, the true patriotism
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal opened

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Thein Nyunt, Ministers and Deputy Ministers at opening ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal.—MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 13 April—The opening of Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal for 1372 Myanmar Era took place at the pandal in front of Nay Pyi Taw City Hall at 5.30 pm today.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Nay Pyi Taw

Mayor U Thein Nyunt in his speech at the opening ceremony said that Maha Thingyan Festival is a Myanmar traditional festival in which the people douse water onto each other with the aim of easing the high temperature of the month Tagu, making others cool with water and

purifying oneself from sins of previous year.

In the Thingyan period, the people pay respects to senior citizens, parents and teachers, washing their hair, giving them manicuring and bath with (See page 8)

2011 Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 13 April—An opening ceremony of the 2011 Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament took place at City Golf Course here at 5.30 am today.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Nay Pyi Taw

Mayor U Thein Nyunt teed off a traser ball to open the tournament, followed by Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan and Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Than Htay.

(See page 7)



Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Thein Nyunt tees off a traser ball to open 2011 Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament.

MNA



Officials of Air KBZ Airline present 5400 bags of cements and 5400 CI sheets for 54 households in quake-hit Tahlay.

PAGE 8



A US Predator unmanned drone armed with a missile. A drone missile strike killed a US Marine and a Navy corpsman last week by mistake due to apparent confusion on the battlefield, US defence officials said Monday.

PAGE 3

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 14 April, 2011

Maha Thingyan Festival ushering in New Year

Thanks to recent rains, flowers of gum-kino plants are in full bloom in many towns and villages across the nation. Fresh air in the month of Tagu conveys sweet smell of Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*), gum-kino and other flowers.

Transition from the old year to the New Year is a symbol of all nationals. Myanmar enjoys Maha Thingyan Festival as the traditional cultural New Year celebration. Thingyan is defined as transition period from the old year to the New Year by observing the water throwing festival.

Since the early Bagan period, the Thingyan Festival has been observed in Myanmar. Throwing of the water to each other in the festival declines the heat temperature. Throwing of the clean and cold water to one another creates happiness and pleasure. Water cleans all dirt. Likewise, those enjoying the Thingyan Festival wish all the people free from dangers of the old year and well-being physically and mentally.

Myanmar Traditional Thingyan Festival is joyful and pleasant with Myanmar fine traditions and customs. In the past, people enjoyed the Thingyan Festival by throwing scented water with the silver bowl to others. Water throwing creates loving-kindness among the people.

Abusive language of some revelers, decadent wears of some women and shameless behaviors tarnish the image of Myanmar cultural Thingyan Festival. Therefore, all the people are to avoid the alien culture and the behaviors against Myanmar traditions.

The entire people are eager to enjoy the Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival in accord with the fine traditions. Good and clever men and women are to politely participate in the water throwing festival for depicting nature of Thingyan with happiness and pleasure.

Dy Minister tours Ayeyawady Region

NAY PYI TAW, 13 April—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint on 11 April inspected maintenance of Myinkaseik, Myaungmya and Labutta suspension bridges along Myaungmya-Labutta Road.

He then held a meeting with heads of District General Administration Departments and members of Myaungmya, Labutta District Road Groups, after viewing construction site of a new route of Labutta (Kyaukphyalay)-Thongwa-Ottwin-Hteikson Road.

On 12 April, the deputy minister together with Construction Minister of Ayeyawady Region coordinated a meeting with companies undertaking tasks to upgrade Hinthada-Sonekon-Myanaung Road.

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

Myanmar delegation arrives back after attending ASEAN Foreign Affairs Ministers' Meeting on EAS



Foreign Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin calls on Thai Prime Minister Mr Abhisit Vejjajiva. —MNA

YANGON, 13 April — Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin attended Special Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting on East Asian Summit and discussed East Asian Summit issues at Shangri-La Hotel in Bangkok of Thailand on 11 April.

The minister held meetings with Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Philippines Foreign Affairs Secretary Mr. Albert F. Del Rosario, Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr. R.M. Marty M.Natalegawa, Singaporean Foreign Minister Mr. George Yeo and Cambodian Secretary of State Dr. Kao Kim. They

exchanged views on further cementing of bilateral ties and mutual interest.

He attended working dinner hosted by Thai Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Kasit Piromya to ASEAN counterparts and ASEAN Secretary-General and delegate members on 10 April. He explained Myanmar's successful convening of the first Hluttaw sessions, formation of Government and Myanmar Foreign Policies.

On his official visit to Thailand at the invitation of Thai Foreign Minister, Myanmar foreign minister held meeting with his Thai counterpart at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand on

11 April. They discussed strengthening of bilateral relations and cooperation.

After the meeting,

Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and Myanmar delegation members attended the dinner hosted by Thai Foreign Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand.

In the afternoon on 12 April, the minister paid a courtesy call on Thai Prime Minister Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva at the Government House.

Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin visited Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok yesterday and met Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Aung Thein and staff members of the Embassy. —MNA



Foreign Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin cordially greets Thai Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Kasit Piromya. —MNA



Deputy Construction Minister U Soe Tint walks along Myingka-seik suspension bridge.

MNA



An ambulance carrying a body after a shootout is seen in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 13 April, 2011. At least four people were killed and two others were injured in a shootout in Karachi on Wednesday.—XINHUA

Gun battle leaves four Afghan militants dead

GHANZI, 13 April—Gun battle between police and Taliban militants left four fighters dead in Ghazni province, 65 km south of capital city Kabul, spokesman for provincial administration Marouf Ayubi said Wednesday. “The Taliban rebels attacked police checkpoint in Andar district Tuesday night and police returned fire killing four rebels, all are Afghans,” Ayubi told Xinhua. Two more rebels sustained injuries in the firefight lasted for two hours, he asserted.

There were no casualties on the troops, he contended. Taleban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comment.—Xinhua



A US Predator unmanned drone armed with a missile. A drone missile strike killed a US Marine and a Navy corpsman last week by mistake due to apparent confusion on the battlefield, US defence officials said Monday.

INTERNET

Iraqi soldier killed, nine people injured in Baghdad violence

BAGHDAD, 13 April—An Iraqi soldier was killed and nine people wounded in gunfire and bomb attacks in and near Baghdad on Wednesday, the police said.

Early in the day, gunmen attacked a checkpoint manned by Iraqi soldiers in Tarmiyah area, some 25 km north of Baghdad, killing a soldier and wounding seven others, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The attackers seized some weapons from the checkpoint before they fled the scene by their vehicle, the source said.

In a separate incident, a roadside bomb went off near a police patrol in Baghdad northern district of al-Waziriyah, wounding two passersby, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks continue in Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease of violence over the last three years.—Xinhua



An Afghan policeman keeps watch after a suicide attack in Kabul recently. Five Afghan army training officers were killed and nine wounded in an attack by two Taleban suicide bombers in Kabul, the Defence Ministry said.

INTERNET

Three killed in bomb attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 April—Three people were killed and four wounded in three attacks carried out by sticky bombs in central Iraq on Tuesday, the police said.

In Baghdad, a sticky bomb attached to a civilian

car detonated in 14th Ramadan Street in Mansour district in western the capital, killing the driver and wounding two passersby, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The blast set the car on fire and a column of black smoke rose at the site, a Xinhua correspondent at the scene said. In a separate incident, the driver of a civilian car was killed when a sticky bomb attached to his car while driving in Baghdad's southern district of Doura, the source said.—Xinhua

Roadside bomb kills Afghan civilian, wounds Two

KABUL, 13 April—One Afghan civilian was killed and two others were injured as a roadside bomb struck a tractor in Logar Province 60 km south of capital Kabul on Wednesday, a press of Interior Ministry said. “The gruesome incident happened in Khoshi district at 06:30 am local time today,” the press release said. In the press release the Interior Ministry described it as an act of terrorism and strongly condemned it.—Xinhua

Double suicide attacks kill 10 Afghan civilians, wounds 11

KABUL, 13 April—Double suicide attacks rocked two separate areas in Afghanistan Wednesday leaving 10 civilians dead and injured 11 others, officials confirmed.

In the first incident which occurred in the eastern Kunar province left 10 people dead, all civilians, and injured seven others, provincial police chief Khalilullah Ziae told Xinhua.

The incident, according to Ziae took place in Asmar district when a meeting of local elders was going on.

“A tribal Jirga or meeting was going on when a suicide bomber entered it and blew himself up leaving 10 people dead and injured seven others,” Ziae added. The bomber was killed in the explosion, he said.

An influential tribal leader Malik Zarin is also among those killed in the blast, the official added.

The incident took place at 11:15 am local time, the police chief further added.

In the second suicide incident which took place in Kapisa province, some 65 km north of capital city Kabul, four people, all civilians, were injured.



Map locating Afghanistan's Kunar province where ten people have been killed after a suicide bomber blew himself up at a gathering of tribal elders.—INTERNET

“A suicide bomber riding a motor bike had the intention of attacking an unknown target in Nijrab District this morning, but his explosive vest went off prematurely injuring four civilians,” a member of Provincial Council, Najibullah Rahimi told Xinhua.

He said the blast took place in a bazaar named Chokan Baz and the four injured men had been evacuated to a NATO-led forces military hospital in the district.

However, he noted that the attacker was killed in the blast.

Internet

Iran stops refuelling ‘Western planes’

TEHERAN, 13 April – Iran has stopped refuelling “western passenger planes” since Europe-bound Iranian commercial planes were refused fuelling there, the first vice-president was quoted as saying in the governmental Iran newspaper on Wednesday.

“Recently fuel supply for Iranian passenger planes flying to Europe was stopped,” Mohammed Reza Rahimi said.

“Iran decided immediately to strike back and banned supply of fuel to Western passenger planes landing in Iran,” Rahimi added without specifying when the decision by the Islamic republic was implemented and which companies were targeted.

The decision by European oil companies was apparently taken in support of Western sanctions against Iran over its nuclear programme, even though sanctions adopted by the European Union do not include such measures.

Unilateral sanctions imposed by the United States, however, target gasoline and jet fuel supplies to Iran.

A number of European oil companies like BP and Shell stopped refuelling Iranian planes six months ago and in March France's Total and Austria's OMV followed suit.

European diplomats and western oil experts in Teheran, speaking under the condition of anonymity, said US pressure was behind the action taken by the major oil companies.

Iranian commercial planes on flights to Europe continue to operate by making a stopover in some European airports, notably Prague and Budapest, where Russian companies still refuel them.

“Now the question is if they (the West) have problems with the Iranian government why do they deprive the people of their rights?” Rahimi said. “The Iranian nation does not fear sanctions and can easily overcome it.”

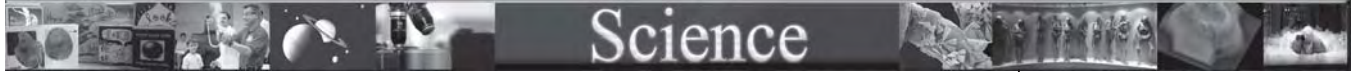
Late October Iran said that it is taking legal action in The Hague against global oil majors who are refusing to refuel its Europe-bound flights under US pressure.

Internet



An Iran Air plane takes off in 2010.

INTERNET



Climate can drive seismic shifts

SYDNEY, 13 April—Scientists have for the first time shown a link between intensifying climate events and tectonic plate movement in findings that could provide a valuable insight into why huge tremors occur.

Understanding why plates change direction and speed is key to unlocking huge seismic events such as last month's Japan earthquake, which shifted the Earth's axis by several inches, or February's New Zealand quake.

An Australian-led team of researchers from France and Germany found that the strengthening Indian monsoon had accelerated movement of the Indian plate over the past 10 million years by a factor of about 20 percent.

Lead researcher Giampiero Iaffaldano said Wednesday that although scientists have long known that tectonic movements influence climate by creating new mountains and sea trenches, his study was the first to show the reverse.

"The closure or opening of new ocean basins or the build of large mountain bands like the Andes or Tibet itself, those are geological processes that affect the pattern of climate," said

Iaffaldano, an earth scientist with the Australian National University.

"We are showing for the first time that the opposite also is true, that the pattern of climate is then able to affect back in a feedback mechanism the motion of tectonic plates."

Iaffaldano stressed that his study did not mean that global warming would translate to stronger earthquakes happening more often, with the relevant patterns developing over "the order of millions of years."

Internet



Scientists have for the first time shown a link between intensifying climate events and tectonic plate movement in findings that could provide a valuable insight into why huge tremors occur.—INTERNET

Telescopes spot youngest galaxy

WASHINGTON, 13 April— US astronomers say they've captured an image of one of the youngest galaxies in the universe with stars formed a mere 200 million years after the big bang.

Data from the Hubble Space Telescope and the WM Keck Observatory on Mauna Kea in Hawaii show the observed light dates to when the universe was only 950 million years old, a NASA release said Tuesday.

The universe formed about 13.7 billion years ago.

Measurements by both telescopes reveal the galaxy's stars are quite mature, having formed when the universe was just a toddler at 200 million years old.

"This challenges theories of how soon galaxies formed in the first years of the universe," said Johan Richard of the Centre de Recherche Astronomique de Lyon in France.

The newly discovered galaxy is not the most distant ever observed but it is one of the youngest to be observed with such clarity, NASA said.—Internet

Isolated species only threatened by humans

LEEDS, 13 April— Animal and bird species found only on a single island should remain common there unless threatened by human activity, UK researchers say.

Researchers from the University of Leeds and Imperial College London have developed a population model that can apply both to actual islands and isolated areas of continental habitat that are home to unique species, such as the table top mountains of South America.

Many islands have unusual species found only there, such as the Hawaiian goose or Galapagos tortoise, which were once common but have become rare, most likely due to human contact, the researchers say. The new modeling approach shows that, in general, most unique isolated species should be common in their habitat. "Models of island ecology have tended to focus on the total number of different species that you might expect to find on an island, rather than on how common or rare those species are and whether or not they are unique to the island," Leeds researcher James Rosindell said.—Internet



IBM driver tool predicts traffic jams



Heavy traffic is seen on a New Delhi highway. IBM is testing smartphone software designed to predict traffic jams and warn motorists before they even take to the roads.—INTERNET

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 April—IBM is testing smartphone software designed to predict traffic jams and warn motorists before they even take to the roads.

IBM said late Tuesday that its employees in the San Francisco and Silicon Valley areas of Northern California have been testing technology that "will ultimately help drivers around the world" avoid fouled traffic.

Those involved in the pilot project agree to have location-sensing capabilities in their smartphones automatically track where they drive and when, according to IBM Smarter Traveller programme manager John Day.

The information is fed through the Internet to computers that identify patterns such as commutes to and from work.—Internet

iPads take a place next to crayons in kindergarten

PORTLAND, 13 April— Kindergarten classes are supple-menting crayons, finger paints and flashcards with iPads, a develo-pment that excites supporters but that detractors worry is wasted on pupils too young to appreciate the expense.

Next fall, nearly 300 kindergartners in the central Maine city of Auburn will become the latest batch of youngsters around the country

to get iPad2 touchpad tablets to learn the basics about ABCs, 1-2-3s, drawing and even music.

"It's definitely an adventure, and it'll be a journey of learning for teachers and students," said Auburn kindergarten teacher Amy Heimerl, who received an iPad on Tuesday ahead of the full deployment in the fall. "I'm looking forward to seeing where this can take us and our

students." But the \$200,000 that Superintendent Tom Morrill is proposing to spend on iPads which retail for around \$500 might be better spent on some other school program, said Sue Millard of Auburn, who has children in the fourth grade and high school. She also questions whether kindergartners are old enough to appreciate the effort.

Internet



Kindergartener Lucius Rice, 6, centre, demonstrates to Kindergarten teachers Sue larue, left to right, Kelly McCarthy and Amy Himerl, how to uses an iPad as literacy teacher Maurie Dufour, right, looks on 12 April, 2011 in Auburn, Maine.

INTERNET

TV airwaves needed to counter wireless crunch

LAS VEGAS, 13 April—Some US airwaves used for free, over-the-air TV signals must be repurposed for mobile broadband use to tackle a looming spectrum crisis, the top US communications regulator said on Tuesday. The Federal Communications Commission wants Congress to grant it authority to hold incentive auctions that would compensate television broadcasters for giving up some of their spectrum to wireless companies.

"I believe the single most important step that will drive our mobile economy and address consumer

frustration is authorizing voluntary incentive auctions," FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski told broadcasters at their annual convention in Las Vegas.

But broadcasters have been resistant to the agency's proposal, worried about the unintended consequences that parting with airwaves could have on their TV signals and the viewers they serve. "We're talking about putting the whole system at risk," Alan Frank, chief executive of Post-Newsweek Stations Inc, said earlier in the week at the conference.

Reuters



Health



Drinking 100-percent fruit juice may help fight diseases

LOS ANGELES, 13 April— Drinking 100-percent fruit juice may offer disease-fighting benefits, a new study suggests.

Fruit juice is linked with reduced risk of cancer, improved markers of heart health and cognitive decline, and increased antioxidant activity, according to the study published on Monday by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

These protective health benefits are similar to those of whole fruits, said the study, conducted by researchers at the University of California, Davis.

The researchers came to the conclusion after summarizing recent research data on the potential benefits of fruit juice. The review included a range of study types, from in vitro to clinical trials (60 papers total), all published in 2005 or later.

Among the fruit juices included in the review, consumption of apple, citrus, cranberry, grape, and pomegranate juices all showed beneficial effects. Markers of improved health ranged from reductions in urinary tract infections (cranberry) to improvements in age-related cognitive decline (grape and apple) to reduced risk of prostate (pomegranate) and respiratory and digestive (orange, grapefruit) cancers. Additionally, intake of all juices was linked to heightened antioxidant activity.—*Internet*



Surgeons perform an organ transplant in Osaka in 1999. Japan prepared on Tuesday to undertake its first organ transplant from the body of a child aged under 15, made possible by a legal amendment aiming to save the lives of many children.—Internet

Japan paves way for first child organ transplant

Discrimination can hurt health

WEST LAFAYETTE, 13 April — Discrimination can have a health impact people who feel discriminated against are more likely to have expanding waistlines US researchers say.

Haslyn ER Hunte, an assistant professor of health and kinesiology at Purdue University, says researchers compared health and aging data on 1,400 study subjects, predominantly white, from the 1995 and 2004 National Survey of Midlife Development in the United States.

The study, published in the American Journal of Epidemiology, found men who reported being discriminated against at high levels for any reason have an average waistline increase of 2.39 centimeters, about 1 inch, compared to those who reported low levels of discrimination over a nine-year period. Women who reported high levels of discrimination had an average waistline increase of 1.88 cm, more than a half inch, compared to those reporting low levels of discrimination for the same study period.

Hunte says researchers focused on waist circumference instead of body mass index because abdominal fat is a better indicator of poor cardiovascular health.—*Internet*

TOKYO, 13 April — Japan prepared on Tuesday to undertake its first organ transplant from the body of a child aged under 15, made possible by a legal amendment aiming to save the lives of many children.

The health ministry said that the child, identified only as a boy aged between 10 and 15, was declared brain-dead early on Tuesday after suffering serious head injuries in a traffic accident. Japan's parliament in mid-2009 scrapped a ban on child organ donations, which activists said had claimed thousands of lives and forced many families to send children in need of transplants on costly overseas trips. The new law legalising organ donations from under 15-year-olds with their family's consent took effect in July last year.

The Japan Organ Transport Network, the country's only authorised agent for organ transplants, said that the boy's relatives had agreed to the use of his heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine for transplants.—*Internet*



Business



Toyota to halt Europe production for 8 days

TOKYO, 13 April — Toyota Motor Corp said Wednesday it will suspend production in Europe for eight days due to parts shortages following last month's massive earthquake and tsunami in Japan. The move underscored how the supply crunch in the wake of the 11 March twin disasters is affecting Toyota's operations beyond Japan. The world's No 1 automaker announced last week it would suspend car production in North America in April.

Toyota said it will halt European output at five plants on eight days between 21 April and 2 May auto assembly factories in Britain, France and Turkey, and engine plants in Britain and Poland. After the stoppages, the plants will run at limited capacity in May.

The magnitude-9.0 earthquake and ensuing



Toyota cars lined up outside a car dealership in north west England.—Internet

tsunami on 11 March destroyed auto parts factories in northeastern Japan, causing severe shortages for Toyota and other automakers.

Mamoru Kato, an auto analyst from Tokai Tokyo Securities Co Ltd, said if the supply crunch drags on, Toyota could incur "big losses" in the April-June quarter. "The company simply cannot manufacture cars due to parts shortages. In North America and Europe, Toyota procures almost all engine parts from Japan.—*Internet*

SIA suspends number of weekly Los Angeles flights

SINGAPORE, 13 April — Singapore Airlines (SIA) will cut two of its seven weekly direct flights to Los Angeles next month due to weakening demand, the airline's spokesman told AFP Wednesday.

"We are temporarily reducing from seven to five," SIA spokesman Nicholas Ionides said, insisting the cuts were "about matching capacity to demand." Ionides said that SIA was cancelling its Singapore-Los Angeles flights on Tuesday and Wednesday from 3 May, adding that the two "tend to have less demand" compared with those for the rest of the week.

SIA uses the four-engine Airbus A345 aircraft for its non-stop flights to Los Angeles, which are wholly business-class. When asked if rising oil prices were a factor in the flight reductions, Ionides said the specific decision to implement the cuts was taken solely in response to the "supply and demand situation." However, he admitted that the airline was feeling the impact of fuel costs.

Internet



Singapore Airlines (SIA) will cut two of its seven weekly direct flights to Los Angeles next month due to weakening demand, the airline's spokesman said.—Internet

Dust storm halts Kuwait oil exports

KUWAIT CITY, 13 April — OPEC member Kuwait on Wednesday halted oil exports as a "precautionary measure" after a blinding dust storm hit the desert Gulf state, a Kuwait Petroleum Corp spokesman said.

Oil exports from terminals, facilities to receive vessels and some maintenance works at oil refineries were "halted as a precautionary measure", Sheikh Talal Al-Sabah said in a KPC statement.

He added, however, the stoppage would not affect Kuwait's commitments to clients as exports would resume once the dust cleared. The education ministry also suspended study at all schools and universities due to the dust storm caused by winds

blowing at high speed and reducing visibility to less than 200 metres (yards). Air traffic was partially affected with incoming flights diverted to neighbouring airports while departures operated normal services, the civil aviation department said, quoted by the KUNA state news agency. Operations at the oil-rich emirate's three commercial ports were also suspended due to low visibility, the ports authority said.

Kuwait, OPEC's fifth-largest producer, pumps around 2.3 million barrels of crude oil daily through export facilities in the south of the country.

Last week, a similar dust storm also caused a suspension of oil exports and air traffic.—*Internet*

Poland not to give up nuclear programme

WARSAW, 13 April—Poland will not give up its nuclear programme, Polish Government Commissioner for Nuclear Power Industry Hanna Trojanowska told a conference here on Tuesday.

The conference was attended by cooperators of the Westinghouse concern in Warsaw. The main topic of discussions was the impact of the crisis at the Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant on nuclear business.

Westinghouse, along with GE-Hitachi and France's Arvey, are potential suppliers of technology to Poland's first nuclear power plant.

The Fukushima accident in Japan threatened a halt of nuclear power industry development. "I want to declare that we will not give up our nuclear

program," Trojanowska said, cited by the PAP news agency.

Fifty years of successful operation of nuclear power plants in the world show that nuclear energy is a rational choice. "Nuclear programme implementation in Poland is an important element of diversification of our energy sources," the minister added.

The government's task is to identify dangers and find ways to avoid them at every stage of the nuclear project, said Trojanowska.

Under government proposals, the first block of Poland's first nuclear power plant should go into operation in 2020. By 2030 two nuclear power stations are planned to be built, each with the capacity of some 3,000 MW.—Xinhua



The semi-submersible residential platform Jupiter from Mexico's state-owned oil company Pemex is seen almost submerged in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Ciudad del Carmen on 12 April, 2011.—INTERNET

Honda's compress natural gas powered Civic GX undergo final testing at the Japanese automaker's Greensburg, Indiana plant in March 2011.
INTERNET



Los Angeles mayor fined for ethics violation

LOS ANGELES, 13 April—Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and four city councilmen were ordered Tuesday to pay a fine totalling 34,000 dollars for accepting gifts in violation of city law.

The mayor, along with City Council members Eric Garcetti, Herb Wesson,

Tony Cardenas and Jose Huizar, were found guilty of accepting gifts worth more than 100 dollars each from lobbyists or businesses or groups seeking to do business with the city, the City Ethics Commission (CEC) said.

The gifts were mostly tickets to sporting and entertainment events, according to the commission. The commission accused the mayor of 33 ethics violations for accepting tickets to Laker and Dodger games, the Academy Awards, Grammy Awards and an "American Idol" event.

The commission noted that Villaraigosa had attended more than 3,000 events since becoming mayor in 2005.

In addition to city ethics, Villaraigosa was also found guilty of violating similar state laws, according to the state Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), which conducted a joint investigation with the CEC.

Villaraigosa was fined 20,849 dollars by the CEC and 22,000 by the FPPC.

The four councilmen will share the rest of the 34,000-dollar fine imposed by the CEC.—Xinhua

Philippine troops arrest terrorist suspect

MANILA, 13 April—Philippine security forces on Tuesday arrested a member of the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) with links to the Southeast Asian regional terrorist network Jemaah Islamiyah, a top military official said.

Army chief Lt Gen Arturo Ortiz said the suspect, a member of the MILF's 105th Command identified as Abi Pamanay, alias Abi Silongan and Abe, was nabbed by joint forces of the Army's 104th Brigade and 46th Infantry Battalion around 2:45 pm Tuesday.

Pamanay is a "senior associate" of Abdulbasit Usman, an MILF bomber who has linkages with the Abu Sayyaf and the JI Ortiz said, adding that Pamanay is a member of the Special Operations Group of the MILF's 105th Base Command.

"The subject (Pamanay) is a local contact of the Jemaah Islamiyah that operates in southern Mindanao," said Ortiz, citing initial reports from the field.

Xinhua

Ford worries Japan disaster may affect its financial results

CHICAGO, 13 April—Ford Motor Co warned that the supply chain disruption caused by the Japan disaster will hurt the company's financial outlook, according to a Tuesday report of Detnews.

The company said in a filing late Monday with Securities and Exchange Commission that it could have to reduce or temporarily cease production of vehicles, which could adversely affect the company's financial condition, if the supply of key material or component from Japan be disrupted and alternate supply not be available.

Ford said that although the

company has no production facilities in Japan, it obtains materials and components from suppliers located in Japan, and it has been working closely with those suppliers to assess their production and shipping capability in order to minimize any disruption.

The company is also pursuing other alternative sources of supply, Ford said.

Ford warned that it may have to slow or halt production later this month in the Asia-Pacific region due to the shortages, but the company does not expect this production disruption would have a material impact on its overall results.—Xinhua

A Palestinian man performs a somersault as others watch on the beach of Gaza City, on 12 April, 2011. The United Nations says the Palestinian government in the West Bank has successfully built some institutions and public services that are required for a future state.—INTERNET



A lifeguard patrols Seal Beach, which was closed by authorities as a precaution against a possible tsunami following a massive earthquake in Japan March 2011 in California.
INTERNET



Brazilian women's volleyball team suffers accident on way to semifinals

RIODE JANEIRO, 13 April—The Brazilian women's club volleyball team Volei Futuro suffered a severe accident on Tuesday on its way to face Osasco in the semifinals of the Superliga. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured.

The chartered bus carrying Volei Futuro flipped onto its side just 500 meters away from Osasco's gymnasium. Most of Futuro's athletes suffered minor injuries. North American middle blocker Stacy fainted shortly after the accident and was sedated by medics. The athlete is currently undergoing a series of neurological tests at the Sirio Libanes Hospital in the city of Sao Paulo.

Due to the accident, the first match of the semifinals battle was postponed.

Volei Futuro's head coach William said that he does not know whether the driver lost control, hit another vehicle or fell off the road, but specified that heavy amounts of rain made for low visibility. He was thankful that no one was seriously injured.

The Brazilian Confederation of Volleyball (CBV) will meet this week in order to set a new date for the first match of the semifinals series, taking into account the physical and mental condition of the Volei Futuro athletes.

Internet

2011 Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan...

(from page 1)

A total of eighty-seven participants including seventeen professionals as well as seventy amateurs partake in the golf tournament, being held at Myotaw Golf Course and Royal Myanmar Golf & Country Club Golf Course till 16 April (Thingyan Atat Day).

In the first round, at Royal Myanmar Golf & Country Club Golf Course, Thein Zaw Myint with 69

strokes stood first, Soe Kyaw Naing with 71 strokes, second, Naing Naing Lin with 72 strokes, third, Hla Myo with 73 strokes and Khin Zaw Win with 73 strokes, fourth and fifth at professional level, and at amateur level, Thein Naing Soe with 71 strokes headed to the match and Thura Kyaw with 72 strokes, Kyaw Swa Lin with 73 strokes, Yan Myo Aye with 73 strokes and Min Thura Aung with 73 strokes followed respectively.

The presentation of the tournament will be held at Myotaw Golf Course on 16 April evening (Thingyan Atat Day).—MNA



Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan tees off Traser Ball to open Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament.—MNA

EP-2 Minister inspects construction of Nay Pyi Taw sub power station (2)

NAY PYI TAW, 13 April — Minister for Electric Power No (2) U Khin Maung Soe inspected 230 KV Nay Pyi Taw sub power station (2) which is under construction in Ottarathiri of Nay Pyi Taw District yesterday.

The minister heard reports presented by Chief Engineer U Maung Maung of department for electric power supply projects, Deputy Minister U Aung Than Oo and Managing Director U Myint Aung of Electric Power Supply Enterprise.— MNA

Rehabilitation efforts for quake victims in Tahlay gear up

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe discusses resettlement of quake victims. MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 13 April — Accompanied by members Shan State Ministers: Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Aung Thu, Minister for Transport and Communications U Tu Maung, Minister for Electric Power U Sai Tun Yin and Minister for Lahu National Race Affairs U Sha Mwe Lashan, Chairman of Relief and Rehabilitation Committee

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe toured Monglin (East), West village-tract and Kyakuni village from 6 to 9 April and they held discussions to coordinate the matters related to resettlement of quake victims that will be assisted by the government.

In accord with the desire of local people of

Kyakuni village which was seriously damaged by the quake, the township Development Affairs Department made a plan to establish a new village with village characteristics. Land preparation and road works are being carried out by the Public Works.

The chairman and members have planned to build a hospital at the cost of K7 million to be

used during the period when Tahlay sub-township Hospital is under reconstruction.

The committee formed by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is assisting in rehabilitation and reconstruction works of quake victims.—MNA

Maha Thingyan Festival kicks off in Ayeyawady Region

YANGON, 13 April — Myanmar traditional Maha Thingyan Festival began in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region, today, with an opening of a central pandal.

The ceremony to open the central pandal was attended by Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung, Ministers of Ayeyawady Region, the Commander of South-West Command and senior military officers, departmental officials, dance troupes and guests.

Dance troupes perform traditional dance during the ceremony.—MNA

Owner of Myo Thein Electronic U Myo Thein and Daw Tin Tin Swe and families pose with sale representatives at Yangon International Airport before departure to China and Thailand. In commemoration of 20th Anniversary of Myo Thein Electronic, the family picked its sale partner along their tour.—MNA



Myo Thein Electronic on vacation to China, Thailand

YANGON, 13 April—It has reached 20 years that Myo Thein Electronic opened electronic centre of TV, DVD, refrigerator, washing machine and fan and electronics at No. 177, between 29th and 83rd roads in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay.

As part of repaying gratitude to

sale agents from Mandalay and other regions and states to mark its 20th anniversary, owner of Myo Thein Electronic, U Myo Thein and Daw Tin Tin Swe and family together with 87 sale agents were on vacation to China and Thailand.

MNA



Officials formally opened Yangon East District Maha Thingyan Pandal on 13 April. As the country started to celebrate the traditional Thingyan Festival, pandals were launched around the country on Maha Thingyan Akyo Day.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha...

(See page 1)
scented water, set animals free, observing precepts and making donations and carrying out sanitation at pagodas and monasteries. On Myanmar New Year Day, members of the Sangha are invited to recite parittas in wards and streets to get rid of possible dangers and merits are shared.

He pointed out that the people should

preserve the fine traditions and avoid wearing decadent costumes that harms national culture, making tease and throwing water harshly to others, and drinking heavily in participating in Thangyan Festival.

People can enjoy themselves in the central pandal of Nay Pyi Taw City Hall and the pandals of the seven hotels in the Hotel Zone along with Nay Pyi Taw

Water Fountain Garden, National Herb Garden, Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden, Safari Park and National Landmark Park.

In conclusion, he called on the people to keep off the activities and speeches that are against national culture and to preserve fine traditions in the Water Festival to promote cultural heritage and national spirit.

Thingyan troupes



Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Thein Nyunt dousing water on Yein Troupes members.

MNA



Opening of Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal for 1372 Myanmar Era in progress.—MNA

entertained the attendees with Thingyan dances and songs.

Also in the evening, film stars and vocalists presented entertainment programmes to the accompaniment of Pianist Kun Zaw music band and Shwe Myanmar drama troupe, to the accompaniment of Ywasar Sein Hla Ngwe traditional orchestra in Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Thingyan Pandal.

Also present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, troupes from ministries, Nay Pyi Taw Command, companies and hotels in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zones.—MNA

Central Pandal of Maha Thingyan Festival opened in Sittway



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin dousing water to Yein troupes members.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 April—The 1372 Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan fragrance

contest was held at U Ottama Hall in Sittway on Thingyan Akyo Day today. A total of 41 teams

participated in the contest, attended by Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin, wife

Daw Nu Nu Zan and officials.

Next, the water offering ceremony was held at the ordination hall of Atula Marazein Pylonchantha Pagoda.

The Chief Minister and wife and State Ministers and wives offered alms to members of the Sangha. They then sprayed the Buddha Images with scented water.

The Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival 1372 ME was opened at the central pandal in front of U Ottama Park in Sittway.

MNA



CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS PROVIDED: Officials of Air KBZ Airline presented 5400 bags of cements and 5400 CI sheets for 54 households in quake-hit Tahlay at Tahlay relief camp on 6 April. The contribution is made by Airline Chairperson Daw Nan Lai Kham and staff.—MNA

Yangon Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal opens



**Opening of
Yangon Mayor's
Maha Thingyan
Pandal in
progress.**

MNA

YANGON, 13 April—All Yangon dwellers are to politely enjoy Myanmar traditional Maha Thingyan festival for uplifting prestige and integrity of the new democratic nation and Myanmar people, Minister for Development Affairs Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint said at the opening ceremony of Yangon Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and

ministers.

Yein troupes sang songs in chorus with variety dances to the audiences.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Minister for Rakhine National Race of Yangon Region U Zaw Aye Maung and party attended the 8th Rakhine Traditional Thingyan Festival (Yangon) at Theinbyu Ground in Mingala Taungnyunt Township today.

The chairman and general secretary of the

organizing committee offered scented water to the Buddha Image.

The Chief Minister and party viewed water throwing festival at 10 pandals.

Over 200 water throwing pandals were packed with Thingyan revellers and people along Kandawgyi circular road, Pyay Road, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bogyoke Aung San Street, Waizayanta Road, Ahlon Road, Strand Road and Bayintnaung Road.—MNA

Mandalay Mayor's Pandal for Maha Thingyan Festival opened



Opening of Mandalay Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 April — Mandalay Mayor's Central Pandal for Myanmar traditional Maha Thingyan Festival was opened in Mandalay this evening.

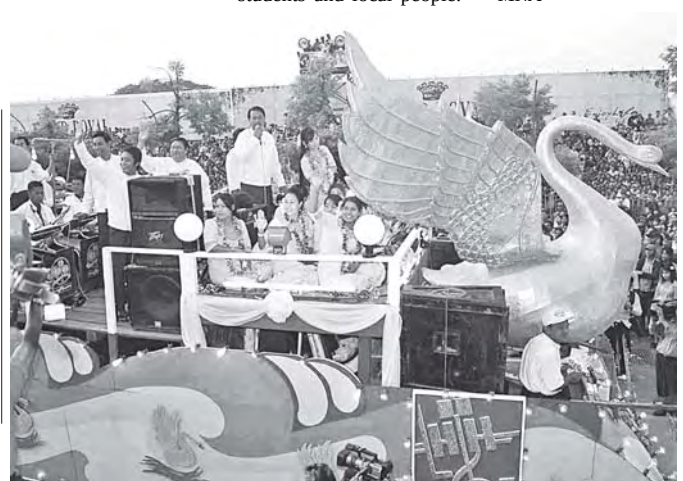
At the opening ceremony of the central pandal built in front of the Mandalay City Development Committee, Minister for Development Affairs Mandalay Mayor U Phone Zaw Han called for preserving and promoting traditional value of Mandalay during the New Year traditional festivals.

Also present on the occasion were Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint, the Commander of the Central Command, ministers of Mandalay Region, departmental officials, the Indian consul-general, the Chinese consul-general and consular officials in Mandalay, dance troupes, students and local people. — MNA



Revellers in Mandalay celebrates Maha Thingyan Festival.

MNA



Pandals teeming with decorated floats in Mandalay on Maha Thingyan Akyo Day.

MNA

IWT Delta Branch handling over 9700 vessels yearly



Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung inspects vessels at Delta Branch of Inland Water Transport.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 April — In meeting with service personnel of Inland Water Transport at Ahlon Dockyard on 11 April, Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung called on the staff to respect attitude and response of the people, to be friendly with the people as the service provider has every day contact with all walks of life and to minimize loss and wastage in order not to make a loss in implementing the tasks.

On his arrival at Delta Branch of the Inland Water Transport, the minister inspected running of vessels.

The Delta Branch is coping with arrival of 4853 vessels carrying 175195 tons of goods and 5711893 passengers and departure of 4851 vessels carrying 178850 tons of goods and 7076263 passengers yearly along Yangon Coast.

In 2010-11 fiscal year, 18.2618 million of passengers used Yangon-Dala ferry route and 0.658 million tons of goods were transported on Wadan-Dala ferry route.—MNA



Opening ceremony of pandal of Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone in progress. (News on page 16)—MNA

Opening ceremony of pandal of Shwe Myanmar Hotel of Ngwe Hsin Group of Companies in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone in progress. (News on page 16)—MNA



Opening ceremony of pandal of Hotel Shwe Pyi Taw in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone in progress. (News on page 16)—MNA

New Year Thingyan Festival kicks off in Yangon Region

YANGON, 13 April—Myanmar New Year Thingyan Festival kicked off here today and over 200 pandals were opened for the New Year celebrations in Yangon Region.

Revellers enjoyed splash of water at the pandals as the four-day traditional New Year celebration began today.

During the New Year celebration period, pagodas and temples have been packed with devotees, praying and taking Sabbath while meditation centres are also full up in Yangon. Meanwhile, wellwishers has offered free food and snacks to the people.

MNA

Opening ceremony of pandal of Sky Net and Shwe FM Radio of Shwe Than Lwin Company in progress.—MNA



Opening ceremony of central pandal of Yangon South District in progress.—MNA

Furniture fair celebrates 50th birthday in Italy's Milan

MILAN, 13 April—The “Salone del Mobile,” or the Milan Furniture Fair, kicked off here on Tuesday, celebrating its 50th birthday with unprecedented public attention.

Now one of the biggest design shows in the world, the Fair was just a local exhibition when it debuted in 1961. Milan became the host city as the Italian furniture industry is mainly based in northern Italy. In 1967, the fair went international.

This year the six-day

expo, held in the northwest part of Milan, is expected to attract over 2,700 exhibitors and journalists from 100 countries, with an estimated 300,000 visitors, the organizers said. Julia Drago, a 27-year-old Argentine designer participating in the event, told *Xinhua* on Tuesday that this show was the best opportunity to promote her own design brand “Bit Bit.”

“The style I created combines computer language with fashion,

thus communicates in a modern way through a new image. Argentina is in need of innovative design and I have come to Milan in order to open my head,” she said.—*Xinhua*



The “Salone del Mobile,” or the Milan Furniture Fair, kicked off here on Tuesday, celebrating its 50th birthday with unprecedented public attention.

XINHUA

DPRK confirms inter-Korean deal on joint research for Mt Paektu volcano

PYONGYANG, 13 April—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea confirmed on Wednesday that it had reached an agreement with South Korea for a joint research into the volcano on Mt Paektu (Mount Changbai).

The DPRK, at the second inter-Korean working contact in Kaesong on Tuesday, stressed the meeting was aimed at discussing technical issues and proposed an agreement on the timing and venue of an academic symposium on the joint research and a field study, according to the official KCNA news agency. After walking out of the meeting for about four hours, the South Korean delegation signed the draft agreement put forth by the DPRK, said the KCNA. The two sides agreed to open the symposium in Pyongyang or in a place convenient for both sides early in May, make a joint field study of the volcano on Mt Paektu in mid-June and discuss specific technical matters, said the report. The 2,750-meter mountain, which sits on the DPRK border with China, last erupted in 1903, but experts warned it might have an active core and a potential eruption would create a greater chaos than the Icelandic volcanic eruption last year.—*Xinhua*



Tourists view the Hukou Waterfall of Yellow River, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on 12 April, 2011. The floodtime from March to April, when peach flowers blossom, is one of the best times to view the Hukou Waterfall.

XINHUA



Yu Zhengsheng, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Secretary of CPC Shanghai Municipal Committee, presses the button to start the MG6 UK off-line ceremony at MG Motor UK in Longbridge, Birmingham, Britain, on 12 April, 2011. MG UK, owned by Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation (SAIC), launched here on Tuesday its new product MG6, which will be on sale in the UK from the middle of May on. —XINHUA

Panama starts 16 new hydroelectric projects

PANAMA CITY, 13 April—Panama has begun developing 16 hydroelectric projects with a total of investment of over 1 billion US dollars to satisfy the surging domestic power demand, a senior official said Tuesday.

These private sector projects are expected to be completed by 2015 and add a 700-megawatt capacity to the power grid of the Central American country, said Zelmar Rodriguez, manager of the National Authority of Public Services (Asep).

“In the coming years an important contribution from the water resources will be added to the system,” Rodriguez said.

Panama is facing a steadily increasing power demand due to its economic development. Asep has predicted that Panama's electricity demand is likely to grow about 7 percent in 2011.

“We are close to not being able to fulfil the demand,” Rodriguez said.

Xinhua

Malaysia offers tax incentive to attract talents

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 April—Returning Malaysian professionals will be eligible for a flat rate of 15 percent income tax for five years, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak announced in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday.

Najib said the new transitional income tax incentive would encourage more Malaysians working abroad, with their varied experience and expertise, to return and play an active part in Malaysia's economic transformation.

The Malaysian

government has set up Talent Corporation Malaysia Berhad (Talent Corp), a body tasked to attract Malaysian professionals abroad to return home.

Najib also said the existing fiscal incentive under the Returning Experts Programme led by Talent Corp of two cars tax free would now be limited to locally assembled cars.

The Malaysian government has been attracting both domestic and overseas talents, to take part in the development of Malaysia.

In Dec, 2010, Najib announced the introduction of the Residence Pass to help attract and retain tope foreign talents, and applications have been open since April, 2011.

Xinhua

A woman walks near an exhibited armed vehicle during the LAAD-Defence & Security 2011 held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 12 April, 2011. As the most important exhibition about the defence and security in Latin America, the LAAD (Latin America Aerospace and Defence)-Defence & Security 2011 kicked off on Tuesday.

XINHUA



Indian Maharajah's Rolls-Royce up for sale at 850,000 pounds

LONDON, 13 April—A Rolls-Royce with gull-wing doors owned by an Indian Maharajah has gone on sale for a whopping 850,000 pounds, a media report said Tuesday.

The super car, with the number plate ‘Cexi’, was customised from a 2005 Rolls-Royce. The four-seater Phantom DC Concept was designed by its wealthy owner, the *Daily Mail* reported on its website. The car can reach speeds of 130 mph - over 200 km per hour.

The Maharajah was not named.

It is decked out in chrome, flashy red leather, walnut dashboard, DVD screens and 22-inch alloy wheels. After four years of ownership, it seems the Maharajah is ready to part ways with his extraordinary creation, the *Mail* said.

According to sellers SparksCars.com, based in west London, the motor has caused quite a sensation among car enthusiasts. They received 16,800 hits on their website in just one weekend after posting a picture of it.—*Internet*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV CTP EAGLE VOY NO (106)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CTP EAGLE VOY NO (106) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.4.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Japanese carmakers have been among the businesses worst affected by the earthquake.
INTERNET

Laser gun fired from US Navy ship

NEW YORK, 13 April—The US Navy has fired a laser gun from one of its ships for the first time. Researchers used the high-energy laser (HEL) to disable a boat by setting fire to its engines off the coast of California. Similar systems had previously been tested on land, however moist sea air presented an extra challenge as it reduces a beam's power.

The navy said that ship-borne lasers could eventually be used to protect vessels from small attack boats. The US military has been experimenting with laser weapons since the 1970s.

Early systems used large, chemical-based lasers which tended to produce dangerous waste gases. More recently, scientists have developed solid state lasers that com-

bine large numbers of compact beam generators, similar to LEDs.

Until now, much of the development of HELs has focused on shooting down missiles or hitting land-based targets. The latest round of tests showed its wider possibilities, according to Peter Morrison from the Office of Naval Research. "This test provides an important data point as we move toward putting directed energy on warships."

"There is still much work to do to make sure it's done safely and efficiently," he said. While a weaponised system would likely be restricted to military vessels, merchant shipping has also expressed an interest in laser technology.

INTERNET

A high-energy laser (HEL) fired from a US warship off the California coast has ignited a nearby boat. Video courtesy of the US Office of Naval Research.—INTERNET



Teen accepts adult trial in torture death

GREENSBURG, 13 April —A Pennsylvania woman who was 17 when a mentally disabled victim was tortured and killed will be tried as an adult, her attorney said on Monday. Attorney Michael DeMatt withdrew his motion for a juvenile trial for Angela Marinucci because "it was in her best interest," he told the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Marinucci herself told Westmoreland County Judge Rita Hathaway she accepted the withdrawal, the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* reported.

Marinucci is charged with homicide, kidnapping, aggravated assault and conspiracy in the

February 2010 death of Jennifer Daugherty, 30, whose body was found in a garbage can in a Greensburg school parking lot. Also charged are Melvin Knight, 21, Robert Masters, 37, Amber Meidinger, 21, Peggy Miller, 28, and Ricky Smyrnes, 24. Marinucci's separate trial will go first, with jury selection beginning 2 May.

In a statement played earlier, Smyrnes told police Marinucci was jealous of his relationship with Daugherty. Over several days of captivity, Daugherty was punched, doused in perfume and force-fed pills and urine, he said. Joy Burkholder, the victim's sister, said Marinucci "will not be put to death. ... If she doesn't want to spend her life in jail, she shouldn't kill people." District Attorney John Peck is seeking the death penalty for Knight, Smyrnes and Meidinger.—INTERNET



Colombian pop star Shakira is surrounded by students of Loma del Peyé, a new school under construction, in Barranquilla on 11 April, 2011. The school building is funded by the Barefoot Foundation, a charity organization that Shakira founded.—XINHUA

16-year-old boy skis to North Pole

LONDON, 13 April —A 16-year-old boy is celebrating after he skied to the North Pole in an expedition which took just four days. Arctic explorer Parker Liautaud, who is one of the youngest people to ever complete the challenge, arrived at the top of the world one week ahead of schedule.

The environmental campaigner and his teammate Doug Stoup

were the first adventurers to return from a successful trip to the geographical North Pole since the Arctic airstrip was completed last week. Their trip had been delayed by three days because of adverse weather conditions at the site of the Borneo Ice Airfield. The same setback caused Prince Harry's polar expedition with four wounded servicemen to be put on hold. Harry, 26, returned to the UK on Saturday after spending four days in the Arctic wilderness with his Walking With The Wounded team.

Mr Liautaud finished the 69-mile trek, which was expected to last up to two weeks, in 4 days, 2 hours and 47 minutes. The quick time marks his intrepid achievement as one of the fastest Last Degree expeditions to the North Pole in history.

INTERNET

Parker Liautaud skied to the North Pole in just four days (Seven Hills).
INTERNET



Teen dies trying to protect brother

LONDON, 13 April—A teenager killed trying to protect his younger brother was praised for his polite maturity last night as detectives said they were hunting up to nine gang members. Negus McClean, who was due to celebrate his 16th birthday in two weeks, was knifed in the chest and thigh on Sunday evening after stepping in to stop his 14-year-old brother's BlackBerry phone being stolen.

He collapsed and died later at the Royal London

Hospital. Speaking at the murder scene yesterday, Detective Chief Inspector Stephen Clayman said Negus died after being chased by "seven, eight or nine" youths on bicycles. He urged witnesses to come forward.

"He was dying protecting his brother. It was a selfless act. He paid with his life," his cousin Noel (25), said as he left flowers where the teenager fell in Edmonton, north London.

"It was just a disgusting act of violence. I pray

that a change happens. I pray for the guy that did this to my cousin," Noel added. Negus was a talented musician who had been hoping to embark on a career as a rapper when he left school.

"He was such a mature individual, so grown up. He was intelligent, he loved his family," Noel added. "His mum was very proud of him. His mum and dad are keeping it together. His brother and sister are keeping strong and needing their faith."

INTERNET

Porcupines poised to be a public enemy in Pa

Pennsylvania hunting regulators say it's time to stick it to porcupines.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is poised to declare open season on the slow-moving, razor-sharp rodents on Tuesday, citing complaints of property damage from residents.

Other states allow porcupine hunting. In Pennsylvania, porcupines are listed as a protected species but can be killed by residents if they're causing property damage.

Commission member Dave Putnam tells *The Philadelphia Inquirer* the proposal would offer residents the clear assurance they can kill troublesome porcupines. He



says the animals damage log cabins and have been known to nibble on vehicle brake lines.

Some animal welfare groups question the plan.

One hunter tells *The Philadelphia Inquirer* he wouldn't consider it sporting. Tom Leete says "you wouldn't so much track a porcupine as bump into it."

Sotheby's sells pre-Gagarin spacecraft for USD 2.8 million

The *Vostok 3KA-2* space capsule that carried a mannequin and a dog into space as a rehearsal for Yuri Gagarin's manned space mission has been sold at a Sotheby's auction for USD 2,882,500.

The one-lot "space auction" in New York Tuesday was dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the first human space flight.

The *Vostok 3KA-2* spacecraft with the dog, named Zvezdochka (a "small star" in Russian), made a successful orbit of the Earth in about two hours 25 March, 1961,

before re-entering the atmosphere. The dog survived the mission.

The aluminum capsule is a twin of the *Vostok 3KA-3*, which 18 days later took Gagarin on a historic space trip. Gagarin's spacecraft, later renamed *Vostok-1*, is kept as an exhibit at a space history museum in Korolyov, near Moscow.

The space capsule sold in New York was the only surviving *Vostok* spaceship outside of Russia and "the only one in private hands", said Sotheby's.

Police sniff out \$10 mln buried in garlic field

South Korean police have sniffed out a total of 11 billion won (\$10.1 million) in cash buried in remote garlic fields and have confiscated the haul, officers said Tuesday.

TV footage showed plastic containers brimming with jaw-dropping wads of cash being excavated one after another in the southwestern city of

Gimje.

Two brothers who had made the money from an illegal Internet gambling operation asked their brother-in-law surnamed Lee to hide the cash as police began closing in on them, media reports said.

One brother is still in jail while the other is still at large.

Lee, 53, bought the garlic field and buried

the cash at dusk or dawn, pretending to be working on the land. But he later dug up about 400 million won and spent it, without telling the brothers he had helped himself.

Because one brother was about to be released from jail, Lee allegedly tried to blame the lost cash on an excavator operator working on the land. But the operator reported the case to

police who unearthed the buried bonanza.

Police said Tuesday they are seeking an arrest warrant for Lee.

News media said the case underscored the need to crack down on widespread illegal online gambling sites which are based offshore.

News Album

Photo taken on 11 April, 2011 shows painted eggs exhibited at the Peasant Museum in Bucharest, capital of Romania. Easter is celebrated on 24 April this year, marking the annual holiday of the resurrection of Christ. Easter eggs are the ancient global symbols of presents in many countries during Easter celebration.



Daniel Radcliffe will remain Harry Potter for fans

LONDON, 13 April—British actor Daniel Radcliffe admits he will never be able to give up his Harry Potter image, but says it wouldn't bother him much as long as directors don't see him like that.

"There will be some people who will always see me as this character, I know that and understand that. That's fine. As long as they are not casting directors and film makers, hopefully it won't hold me back. That's my attitude," Radcliffe told *Daily Mirror* newspaper.

The 21-year old actor, who played

the schoolboy wizard for 10 years, admitted that he took the role for granted as he got to do so many exciting stunts and scenes while shooting the series of films, reports contactmusic.com. "One thing I took for granted over the 10 years was that I was playing an action hero.

You don't get to do that in any other line of performance. I got to slide 40ft down a roof, I got burst out of a ring of fire. I got to do some really cool stuff. I probably won't get to do that so much anymore," he said.

Internet



Daniel Radcliffe.
INTERNET

Kathy Griffin to guest star on 'Drop Dead Diva'

LOS ANGELES, 13 April—Kathy Griffin is looking forward to causing trouble when she guest stars on the Lifetime series "Drop Dead Diva."

In an episode of the upcoming third season, Griffin plays the sister of series regular Kate Levering's Kim and clashes with Margaret Cho's character, Teri.

Griffin said acting as a total witch to her good friend Cho is "the role I was born to play."

Other "Drop Dead Diva" guest stars for the coming season include Wanda Sykes, LeAnn Rimes and Paula Abdul.

"Drop Dead Diva" stars Brooke Elliott as a shallow model who dies in an accident and finds her soul has entered the body of a brilliant, plus-size attorney.—Internet



Britney Spears.
INTERNET

Rapper Nicki Minaj to join Britney Spears on tour

LOS ANGELES, 13 April—Female rapper Nicki Minaj will join Britney Spears on her North American tour this summer, promoters said on Tuesday, ending weeks of speculation about the line-up.

Minaj, 26, one of the hottest young American artists since her 2010 "Pink Friday" album debut, will join Spears on her "Femme Fatale" tour starting in June, Live Nation said.

California electro pop band Jessie and the Toy Boys, and rising Australian twin sisters Nervo, will also support Spears on the tour to promote her No1 album released in March.

"This is the Femme Fatale tour and I am

thrilled to have Nicki Minaj, Jessie and the Toy Boys, and Nervo join me and get everyone on the dance floor," Spears said in a statement.

Spears, 29, had said last month that Spanish heartthrob Enrique Iglesias would tour with her, but media reports suggested that Iglesias had not agreed.

Spears has managed to recover her career after a highly public personal and professional meltdown in 2007. Her 2008 comeback album "Circus" was followed by a sell-out world tour and the new single from her album "Hold It Against me" debuted at No1 on the Billboard singles charts in January.—Reuters



Actress and comedian
Kathy Griffin.
INTERNET

Under-achieving PSG up for sale—media



PARIS, 13 April—The American owner of French top flight outfit Paris SG, Colony Capital, is set to put the club on the market with a price tag of around 60 million euros, *Le Parisien* newspaper reported on Tuesday.

"PSG is for sale," said the paper after reporting that Colony Capital's European director of opera-

tions Sebastien Bazin had sought out specialist advisors to broker the deal, although Bazin would not confirm as much. Colony holds a 95.8 percent stake in the club, who have been in the doldrums in recent seasons, failing to reach the lucrative Champions League in the past seven seasons while their last domestic league title came in 1994.

This season the club currently stand fifth — a position which would see them once again miss out on Champions League riches. —*Internet*

Messi eases Barca through in Champions League

DONETSK, 13 April—Barcelona eased into the semi-finals of the Champions League on Tuesday, Lionel Messi scoring the only goal against Shakhtar Donetsk in their quarter-final second leg match to complete a 6-1 aggregate success with a club record 48th goal of the season.

Barca, champions in 1992, 2006 and 2009, will now meet either bitter rivals Real Madrid or Tottenham in the last four after Messi made the difference just two minutes before the break to reach the semi-finals for the fourth successive season.

"This fourth consecutive qualification for the semi-finals is a huge achievement," said Barca coach Pep Guardiola. "Barcelona have never done this before. This is a huge pleasure." His Shakhtar Donetsk counterpart Mircea Lucescu complimented Barcelona on their win and said he hoped they would go on and win the trophy.

Internet



Seydou Keita (R) and Lionel Messi (C) of FC Barcelona celebrate after Messi scored against FC Shakhtar during their UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals, second leg football match in Donetsk. — *INTERNET*

Nagoya thump Al Ain in Champions League

TOKYO, 13 April—Nagoya Grampus notched their first AFC Champions League win of the season with a thumping 4-0 home victory over 10-man Al Ain on Tuesday. Midfielder Mu Kanazawa scored twice to give the J-League champions a much-needed three points at the Mizuho Athletic Stadium, in a game rearranged from 15 March following Japan's devastating earthquake and tsunami.

The home side started brightly, with midfielder Yoshizumi Ogawa hitting the bar in the third minute before Kanazaki opened the scoring in the 27th minute — only Nagoya's second goal in this year's

competition. Next up for Nagoya is a testing trip to group leaders Seoul, unbeaten in three Champions League fixtures so far this season, while Al Ain play Hangzhou at home. Both matches are scheduled for 19 April. — *Internet*



Japan's Nagoya Campus midfielder Mu Kanazaki (R) scores a goal while UAE's Al Ain goalie Ismail Rabee attempts a save during the Asian Champions League group F match in Nagoya, Aichi prefecture in central Japan. — *INTERNET*

United through as 10-man Chelsea exit Champions League

MANCHESTER, 13 April—Manchester United powered into the semi-finals of the Champions League here on Tuesday, downing Chelsea 2-1 at Old Trafford to clinch a 3-1 aggregate victory. Goals from Mexican striker Javier Hernandez and South Korean international Park Ji-Sung either side of a lone Chelsea effort from Didier Drogba clinched a deserved victory for United in front of 74,672 fans.

The win put Sir Alex Ferguson's side into a semi-final against either Schalke 04 or holders Inter Milan, who play each other on Wednesday. "Overall we were the better side, though, it was I thought as well a competitive game and played in a good spirit but also a great advert for the Premier League," said Ferguson. "I think we've hit our form and the players are relishing the challenge on three fronts." — *Internet*

Beckham keeping his playing options open

LOS ANGELES, 13 April—David Beckham says he is keeping his options open about returning to the MLS for another season after his five-year contract expires with the Los Angeles Galaxy at the end of the season. The former England captain Beckham said in Toronto Tuesday that he wants to play somewhere next year but hasn't made up his mind if it will be in North



David Beckham

America. He is also not ruling out a return to Europe.

Asked about coming back to the MLS, Beckham told the Toronto Star "there's a chance," though he cautioned that he has not yet decided what he would do after this year. "I think it is important that I just concentrate on my play this year," he added. Last month in another interview, Beckham hinted at a return to the English Premier League. "This is my last contract year in the USA, but who knows what will happen?" he told *The People*.

Internet



Manchester United's English forward Wayne Rooney (R) and Mexican forward Javier Hernandez (L) congratulate goal scorer South Korean forward Park Ji-sung during the UEFA Champions League quarter final second leg football match between Manchester United and Chelsea at Old Trafford in Manchester. — *INTERNET*

Hoffenheim lose patience with Pezzaiuoli

HOFFENHEIM, 13 April—Marco Pezzaiuoli will leave his post as coach of mid-table Bundesliga side Hoffenheim at the end of the season, the board announced on Tuesday despite him only signing a three year contract in February.

The 42-year-old former coach of the German national youth teams has seen his side garner just 12 points from the 12 matches he has been in charge for since stepping up from being assistant to Ralf Rangnick when he was sacked on 1 January.

A 3-2 away defeat at Freiburg on Saturday had proved to be the

final straw, and even though Pezzaiuoli had asked for more time club owner Dietmar Hopp had expressed his disappointment at the lack of progress which sees them lying in 10th place with just five matches remaining.

"We have decided after watching the developments over the last few weeks to begin next season with a new coach," said club manager Ernst Tanner.

According to German media the likeliest successor to Pezzaiuoli is present St Pauli coach Holger Stanislawski, whose side are second from bottom of the league. — *Internet*

SPORTS

In-form Contador eyes third straight victory

MADRID, 13 April—Controversial three-time Tour de France champion Alberto Contador, unbeaten in Spain since the start of the season, continues his warm-up for the Giro d'Italia on Wednesday in the Tour of Castilla y Leon.

The Tour of Castilla y Leon, which he won last year, may be just a formality for the 28-year-old Saxobank rider.

The Spaniard is in sparkling form ahead of the Tour of Italy on 7-29 May, his main objective in the early part of the season, having already won the Tour of Murcia

and the Tour of Catalonia this year, after a fourth place in the Tour of Portugal.

That followed the end of his suspension for alleged doping offences. Contador tested positive for a tiny amount of the banned muscle-building substance clenbuterol during last July's Tour de France, which he went on to win. — *Internet*



Spanish cyclist Alberto Contador

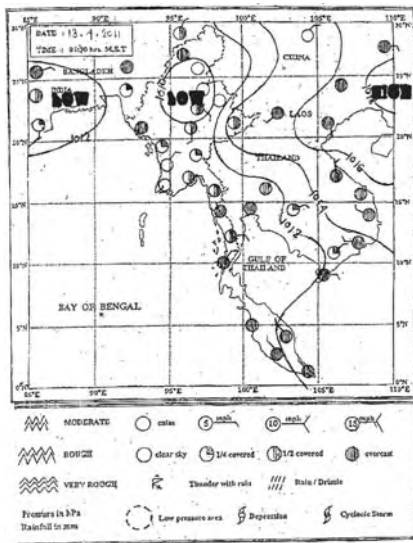
Serena tweets she's back on court



Serena Williams

LOS ANGELES, 13 April—Serena Williams tweeted Tuesday she's back on court training after a series of health problems that included dangerous blood clots in her lung. "Look who I spotted on the court. Her first day back..." the 13-time Grand Slam champion said in a posting on her @serenawilliams Twitter account. She also posted a picture of herself in mid-serve, wearing a bright pink body suit that gleamed in the sunshine. — *Internet*

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 13th April, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Shan State, isolated in Bago Region and Chin State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfall in Mandalay Region. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Eastern Shan and Chin States, (8°C) above April average temperatures in Kachin State, (3°C) and below April average temperatures in Kayah State and about April average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (44°C) and Aungmye (41°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (0.39) inch, Phyu (2.28) inches, Monghsat (1.30) inches, Dawei (1.26) inches, Myeik (0.67) inch, Taunggyi, Pinlaung and Heho (0.55) inch each.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 12-4-2011 was 103°F. Minimum temperature on 13-4-2011 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 13-4-2011 was (70%). Rainfall on 13-4-2011 was (0.39) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 12-4-2011 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 13-4-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at

(09:30) hours MST on 13-4-2011 was (65%). Rainfall on 13-4-2011 was Tr.

Rainfall on 13-4-2011 was (0.39) inch at Nay Pyi Taw, (Nil) at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and Mandalay. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (6.10) inches at Nay Pyi Taw, (7.09) inches at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (1.38) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (20) mph from Southeast at (23:55) hours MST on 13-4-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 14th April 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Shan and Mon States, isolated in Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Regions, Chin and Kayah States and weather will be partly cloudy 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 rain or thundershowers in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-4-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-4-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-4-2011: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

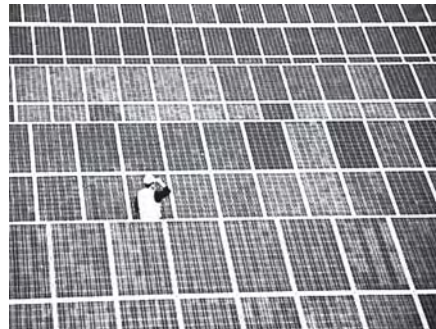
France's Areva to install solar plant in Australia

PARIS, 13 April — France's leading nuclear group, Areva, on Wednesday announced a new solar project in Australia worth 104.7 million Australian dollars (109.9 million US dollars).

"AREVA was awarded a major contract to install a solar thermal addition to CS Energy's coal-fired Kogan Creek power station in Queensland," the group said in a statement.

The project would help the station "increase its output by up to 44 megawatts in peak solar conditions to the current 750 megawatts and will avoid the production of 35,600 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually," the statement said.

Areva planned to start construction of the solar unit in the second quarter this year and the plant



A worker stands in between solar panels at a solar plant.—XINHUA

would start working in 2013, the French nuclear giant said.

Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
Programme Schedule
(14-4-2011) (Thursday)

Transmissions

Times

Local - (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission - (14-4-11 09:30 am ~ 15-4-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Rakhine Traditional Water Festival (Nantha Grinding Celebration)
- * Thingyan Songs & Dances
- * News
- * Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (SIBA) (Part-II)
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs & Dances
- * News
- * Typical Traditional Dress for Ladies

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * Live Transmission (Thingyan Festival)
- * News
- * Rakhine Traditional Water Festival (Nantha Grinding Celebration)
- * Thingyan Songs & Dances
- * News
- * Typical Traditional Dress for Ladies
- * News
- * Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (SIBA) (Part-II)
- * Me N My Travel (PynOoLwin) (Part-II)
- * Live Transmission (Thingyan Festival)
- * News
- * Youth of the Future (Harry Ko-Violinist)
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs & Dances
- * News
- * Wonderful Pagodas on the Mount "Akauk"
- * Myanmar Movies "That's why We're"



Thursday,
14 April

View on today

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary 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. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

8:10 am

6. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

8:25 am

7. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

8:35 am

8. International News

8:40 am

9. Dance decades ago...(Win Oo)

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:05 pm

2. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

4:20 pm

3. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

4:55 pm

4. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Botany)

5:15 pm

5. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:20 pm

6. Singing In Different Versions

5:30 pm

7. Science and Environment (Wildlife Photographer)

5:40 pm

8. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

6:00 pm

9. Evening News

6:15 pm

10. Weather Report

6:20 pm

11. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

6:35 pm

12. Approaching Science Discovery World

7:00 pm

13. Song Programme

7:15 pm

14. Dance Of Thingyan Festival

8:00 pm

15. News
16. International News
17. Weather Report
18. Documentary
19. Myanmar Video Feature

- ★ 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

Maha Thingyan water festival's Akyo Day starts with a bang in Nay Pyi Taw



Nay Pyi Taw lively with Thingyan activities.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 April—Today was Maha Thingyan Akyo Day of late 1372 ME. Thingyan water stands for peacefulness ensuring prosperity and solidarity for the people. Believing this year's Thingyan can bring development to the Republic

of the Union of Myanmar and its citizens, the people merrily take part in Maha Thingyan water festival across the country.

The ministers and deputy ministers of the Union Government, Nay Pyi Taw Council

members and officials this morning opened Thingyan pandals of the hotels—Myat Tawwin Hotel, Hotel Shwe Pyi Taw, Oasis Hotel, Tawwin Kumudra Hotel of Max Myanmar Companies group, Shwe Myanmar Hotel of Ngwe Hsin Companies group, Golden Guest Hotel of Shwe Thanlwin Family Company, and Amara Hotel—in Nay Pyi Taw hotel zone in Nay Pyi Taw, the capital of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. There, movie and music stars gave entertainment to Thingyan lovers.

Thingyan pandals in townships and wards of Nay Pyi Taw District were also crammed with merry makers.

Throughout the Thingyan festival, celebrities will daily entertain revellers at Thingyan water pandals in Nay Pyi Taw hotel zone in the morning and evening.

MNA

Significant day temperatures (13-4-2011)

Chauk	(44°C)
Aunglan	(41°C)