

Patirupadesavaso ça, to dwell in suitable locality; this is the way to auspiciousness

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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

Merry-makers enjoy Maha Thingyan Festival on Akyat Day

Pandals in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone packed with revellers as film stars and songsters present entertainment.—MNA



EP 2 Minister U Khin Maung Soe inspects Toungoo Main Power Station (230 KV).

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World's oldest man Walter Bruening dies at 114

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Dinosaur 'dining' habits described

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NAY PYI TAW, 15 April—Yein troupes of ministries and hotels participated in the dance contest at the Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal, here, on Akyat Day today.

Water throwing pandals were extraordinarily lively with revellers to the accompaniment of sweet songs of movie stars and vocalists.

Merry-makers and revellers were served with traditional foods at hotels in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel

Zone.

Families took relaxation at the National Landmarks Garden (Nay Pyi Taw) and enjoyed entertainment of Yein troupes at the pandals of companies.

In the evening, Yein troupes and movie and video stars and vocalists performed songs and dances at the Mayor's Pandal and water throwing pandals.—MNA

Union Ministers take pleasure at Thingyan pandals in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April—On Akyat Day of the water festival, pandals here were found to be more crowded than the previous days (Akyo and Aky Days) and were incredibly teeming with

long traffic and merry-makers.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Mayor U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan, Minister

for Rail Transportation U Aung Min, Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye and Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint and Minister at President Office U Soe Maung

enjoyed Nay Pyi Taw Mayor's Maha Thingyan pandal, Amara Hotel pandal, Royal Kumu-dra Hotel pandal and Shwe Myanmar Hotel pandal.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 16 April, 2011

Myanmar New Year ushers in peace and prosperity

Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival is being resoundingly observed in the entire nation. Myanmar people douse each other with cool water happily on the auspicious New Year occasion. Water in the Thingyan Festival makes all the people fresh and clean, washing dirt of old year.

New Year will fall in the near future as a sign of ushering in the New Year and saying goodbye to the old year. All the people should perform meritorious deeds in the New Year. Buddhist devotees should practise meditation and take Sabbath.

Young men and women are to pay respects to elder persons and teachers in accord with the Myanmar traditional culture. They all are to offer water at pagodas and monasteries, serving the aged bathing and shampooing as part of efforts to preserve Myanmar traditional culture in the transition period from the old to the New Year.

At a time when the Myanmar New Year comes into existence, Myanmar is on the track of transition to the new era with the new system. In accord with people's sentiment, Myanmar is being shaped as a democratic new nation. Utmost efforts are to be made for successfully realizing the democracy system that controls responsibility and freedom of the people in the equal term. It is necessary to strive for ensuring better lifestyle and socioeconomic life of the people.

The administrative bodies are to join hands with the people in undertaking the vast construction tasks of the State. The government with noble spirit and goodwill is to shape a prosperous future of the nation and the people.

At the auspicious occasion of Myanmar New Year, the entire people are to double their integrated strength for building the nation with peace and prosperity.

Take Fire Preventive Measures

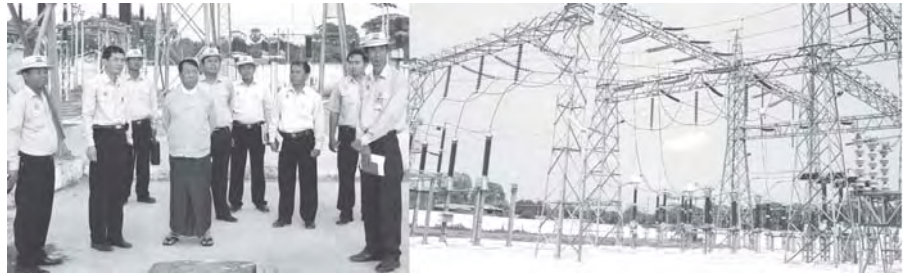


Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament continues at Royal Myanmar Golf & Country Club Golf.—MNA

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

Site chosen to build main power station (500KV)



EP 2 Minister U Khin Maung Soe inspects Toungoo Main Power Station (230 KV).

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April— Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe yesterday inspected the chosen sites for new place of Switch Bay, and for a main power station (500KV) at Toungoo Main Power Station (230KV) whose Control Building is being extended.

There, after hearing reports relating to Toungoo Main Power Station, progress of extended installation of 230 KV Bus Bar and arrangement for change place of switch bay, presented by Senior Engineer U Soe Thein and Chief Engineer Dr Tun Naing, the minister attended to the needs.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister inspects roads, bridges in Ayeyawady Region

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April — Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint on 13 April inspected Hinthada - Zalun - Danubyu-Sakkawt Road, Takwe-Kazan Road, Maubin-Kyaiklat-Pyapon Road and progress of Maubin Bridge.

On arrival at office of Pyapon District Public Works, the deputy minister called on in-charge engineers for the progress of Road Nos. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8) of Ayeyawady Road Network Development Project.

Yesterday, the

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint inspects maintenance of Pyapon Bridge.

MNA



deputy minister visited Bogale River Bridge project on Pyapon-Bogale Road and heard reports on progress of works submitted in-charge engineers of the

project and Road No (5) Bogale-Kyeinchaung-Kadonkani Road.

The deputy minister also inspected progress in construction of Auknet Creek Bridge

on Bogale-Sethsan-Htawpaing-Ahmar Road, Kungyangon-Twantay-Dala Road and Pyapon Bridge, Dedaye Bridge and Twantay Bridge.—MNA

2011 Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April— The 2011 Nay Pyi Taw Mayor Maha Thingyan Tour Gold Cup Golf Tournament continued at Royal Myanmar Golf & Country Club Golf Course here this morning.

In the third round in Professional level, Hla Myo with 69 strokes stood first, Zaw Zaw Lat with

70 second, Myint Thein with 70 third, Soe Kyaw Naing and Naing Naing Lin, fourth and fifth, and in Amateur level, Maung Maung Oo with 71 strokes led to the match, Thein Naing Soe with 72, Kyaw Swa Lin with 73, Thiha Aung with 74 and Thura Kyaw with 74 followed respectively.

MNA

Ex-Marine, advocate kills self after war tours

WASHINGTON, 15 April—Handsome and friendly, Clay Hunt so epitomized a vibrant Iraq veteran that he was chosen for a public service announcement reminding veterans that they aren't alone.

The 28-year-old former Marine corporal earned a Purple Heart after taking a sniper's bullet in his left wrist. He returned to combat in Afghanistan. Upon his return home, he lobbied for veterans on Capitol Hill, road-biked with wounded veterans and performed humanitarian work in Haiti and Chile.

Then, on 31 March, Hunt bolted himself in his Houston apartment and shot himself. Friends and family say he was wracked with survivor's guilt, depression and other emotional struggles after combat. Hunt's death has shaken many veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Those who knew him wonder why someone who seemed to be doing all the right things to deal with combat-related issues is now dead. "We know we have a problem with vets' suicide, but this was really a slap in the face," said Matthew Pelak, 32, an Iraq



This handout photo, taken in October 2010, provided by Ride 2 Recovery, shows Clay Hunt, right, with Nate Hunt in the 2010 California Ride.
INTERNET

veteran who worked with Hunt in Haiti as part of the nonprofit group Team Rubicon.

After news of Hunt's death spread, workers from the Tragedy Assistance Programme for Survivors met with veterans visiting Washington for the annual lobbying effort by the nonprofit Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans, or IAVA. A year earlier, Hunt had been with other veterans in dark suits calling on Congress to improve the disability claims process.—*Internet*

Two people killed, 18 wounded in bomb attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 15 April—Two people were killed and 18 wounded in separate bomb attacks in and near Baghdad on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source said.

Two people were killed and 13 wounded when twin roadside bomb explosions ripped through the town of Yousifiyah, some 30 km south of the capital Baghdad, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Yousifiyah is part of the once restive area dubbed Triangle of Death, which is a cluster of towns scattered north of Hilla City, the capital of Babil Province, some 100 km south of Baghdad.

In Baghdad, a roadside bomb struck an

Iraqi army patrol near the al-Liqaa square in western the capital, damaging a military vehicle and wounding three soldiers aboard, the source said.

In a separate incident, a roadside bomb went off in al-Taji area, some 20 km north of Baghdad, wounding two civilians, the source added.

Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks continue in Iraqi cities as the US troops are expected to completely pull out from Iraq by the end of 2011 according to the security pact named Status of Forces Agreement, or SOFA, signed in late 2008 between Baghdad and Washington.

Internet



An Afghan police man walks past a damaged police vehicle at the scene of a suicide car bomb explosion on the outskirts of Kabul, Afghanistan on 14 April, 2011.—INTERNET

Belarus bombing death toll rises to 13

MINSK, 15 April—The toll of the Minsk metro bombing rose to 13 on Friday after a victim died from wounds in hospital, a spokeswoman for the health ministry said.

"One of the wounded died during the night in Minsk's Hospital Number 6," the spokeswoman said.

The toll previously stood at 12 dead and 200 injured after a bomb exploded on the platform of a crowded metro station on Monday evening.



Belarusian emergency workers attempt to move a burnt out car in Minsk on 13 April, 2011.
INTERNET

So far Belarus has detained five people in its investigation and formally arrested two people who are suspected to be the perpetrators and an accomplice, the deputy prosecutor general said on Thursday.

President Alexander Lukashenko called for a "cleansing" of the country after the attack, the most deadly in the country's post-Soviet history, but admitted the motives for the crime remained unclear.

Internet



An Afghan investigator inspects at the place of suicide car bomber in front of the district administrative building in Musayi district, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 14 April, 2011.
XINHUA

Blast rocks Afghan Kandahar town, kills police chief

KANDAHAR, 15 April—Bomb blast rocked Afghan Kandahar town on Friday killing provincial police chief, an official said.

"A terrorist dressed in police uniform strapped explosive device in his boy blew himself up inside police department, leaving the police chief Khan Mohammad Mujahid dead," the official told *Xinhua*, but declined to give his name, saying authorized official would brief media after investigation.

Spokesman for Kandahar provincial administration Zalmay Ayubi also confirmed the incident, saying the provincial police chief was killed and two others sustained injuries.

"A suicide bomber exploded himself at the entry gate of provincial police department this afternoon as a result police chief Khan Mohammad Mujahid was martyred and two policemen sustained injuries," Ayubi told *Xinhua*.—*Xinhua*

14 killed, 22 injured in bus accident in Chile

SANTIAGO, 15 April—Fourteen people were killed and 22 others injured in Chile on Thursday when a passenger bus turned over on a highway connecting Chillan and Concepcion in the Bio bio region, some 550 kilometers south of the national capital Santiago, authorities said.

Earlier reports said that at least 11 died and 17 were injured.

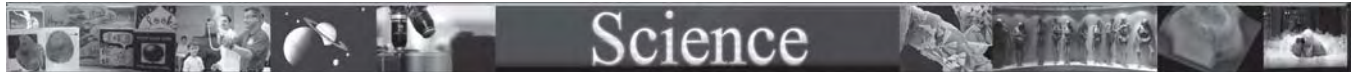
Chile's National Office of Emergencies (Onemi) said the deceased included 10 women, two men and two children, while six of the injured were in serious condition.

The accident occurred at about 2:30 pm local time (1730 GMT) at an intersection of the highway, when the bus suddenly skidded off the road.

The exact cause of the accident remains unclear, but some survivors said the driver had entered a curve without reducing the speed.

The bus carried 40 passenger and a crew of three, authorities said.

Xinhua



Dinosaur 'dining' habits described



The life-sized model of a 60-foot-long Mamenchisaurus is part of "The World's Largest Dinosaurs" exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History on 13 April, 2011 in New York City.

DAVIS, (Calif), 15 April — The movie "Jurassic Park" got one concept right, US researchers say: Velociraptors hunted by night while big plant-eating dinosaurs browsed around the clock.

Conventional

wisdom has held that dinosaurs were only active by day while the night was the domain of small, early mammals, but a study of fossil dinosaur skulls and their eye sockets proved effective at predicting whether the animals were

active by day or night, a release by the National Science Foundation, which funded the study, said Thursday.

Ryosuke Motani and Lars Schmitz at the University of California, Davis applied the technique to fossils of plant-eating and carnivorous dinosaurs, flying reptiles called pterosaurs and ancestral birds.

The big plant-eating

dinosaurs were active day and night, probably because they had to eat almost all of the time, whereas velociraptors and other small carnivores were night hunters, the study found.

Schmitz and Motani were not able to study the largest carnivores such as Tyrannosaurus rex because there are no fossils with sufficiently well-preserved eyes, they said.—Internet

E coli shows useful side in pollution

BEIJING, 15 April — E coli bacteria, feared for its ability to cause food poisoning, could be used to extract pesticide vapors from polluted air, Chinese researchers say.

Researchers at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing have discovered that a genetically modified form of the bacteria can be used in a biofilter to extract the

toxic pesticides parathion and methyl parathion from the air, and article published in the *International Journal of Environment and Pollution* reported.

Junxin Liu and colleagues have demonstrated average removal efficiencies of 95.2 percent for parathion and 98.6 percent for methyl parathion, using a biofilter based on the engineered bacteria E coli BL21, and say optimization could allow for 100 percent removal. Parathion and methyl parathion are highly effective agrochemicals used in more than one-third of agricultural crop protection worldwide. However, they can accumulate in the environment and pose a risk to human health under some conditions, researchers said.

Internet

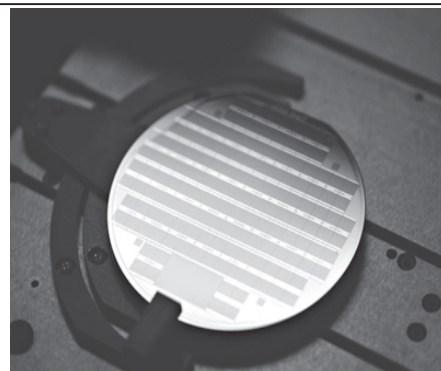


Photo shows a Solar Junction wafer of high-efficiency solar cells. Each individual chip can produce about 20 watts. Solar Junction, a Silicon Valley solar start-up, said today that its solar cell has been measured at a peak efficiency of 43.5 percent, topping previous records.

INTERNET



Huawei to double UK headcount

BEIJING, 15 April— Vendor will create 500 new permanent roles in the UK bringing its total headcount to 1,000

Chinese vendor Huawei says it plans to create 500 new jobs in the UK over the next three years, doubling its overall headcount in the country to 1,000.

The move will, according to Huawei extend its enterprise and device business bases and generate revenue growth as well as help it "explore broader ICT ad consumer business" across the UK. As well as increasing its employee base, Huawei says it will generate another 1,000 to 1,500 subcontracting roles over the next three years.

It says it currently has around one hundred permanent and fixed term contracts available across its UK business.

As part of the plans to



A worker at Huawei phone factory looks at a chip.—INTERNET

increase its head count, Huawei is also in the process of developing a graduate programme to attract a "new generation" of British talent.

Huawei UK chief executive Victor Zhang said: "We are committed to bringing more job opportunities to the UK which is a key market for us.

"An increase in employees in our UK office will help us to provide more customised

and innovative products and solutions for British telecom carriers, enterprise customers and consumers."—Internet

Google accused of unfair trade in S Korea

SEOUL, 15 April — South Korea's top two Internet companies filed complaints with the antitrust watchdog Friday over Google's alleged practice of stifling competition in the local mobile phone search market.

Daum and NHN Corp told the Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC) that Google exploited its position as developer of the Android mobile operating system to have its search function preloaded on local smartphones.



They said this limited access by local search engines to smartphones using the Android operating system.

NHN's Naver has a market share of around 56 percent of the domestic mobile search market

while Daum had around 16 percent as of last month, NHN said, citing market research data.

"Google's market share in the local internet search market only accounts for around 2 percent but due to such an unfair act, its share in the mobile market is fast rising in Korea, and it stands at around 15 percent," a NHN spokesman said.

Google denied the accusations, asserting that it has never pressed device manufacturers or mobile operators to use its mobile platform.

Internet

Internet

Paul Allen says new book isn't revenge on Gates

CALIFORNIA, 15 April —The controversy over Paul Allen's new book, which hits stores next week, has taken a different turn, with Allen playing defence against critics over the memoir's sometimes negative portrayal of Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates.

In an interview with "60 Minutes," which airs recently, Allen rebuffs criticisms from last month, saying the book is not an act of revenge against Gates, and is instead meant to serve as a record of what happened.

Excerpts from the book have Allen going into detail about how Gates had split up ownership in the company giving Gates nearly two thirds of ownership.

Internet



Health



Patient's own cells used to probe schizophrenia

PARIS, 15 April—Skin cells have become lab-dish tools for probing one of the most enigmatic and distressing disorders of the mind, scientists reported on Wednesday.

Researchers in the United States took samples of skin cells from schizophrenic patients and turned them back to a primitive, versatile state called induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs).

From this blank slate, the cells were then cultured to become brain cells, enabling them to be used for lab-dish investigations into schizophrenia that can be tailored to the individual.

"Using this method, we can figure out how a particular drug will affect that particular patient's brain cells without needing the patient to try the drug and potentially suffer the side effects," said Gong Chen of Penn State University in Pennsylvania.

"The patient can be his or her own guinea pig for the design of his or her own treatment, without having to be experimented on directly."

Schizophrenia is a complex condition that is believed to have environmental as well as hereditary factors.

It is characterised by paranoid delusions and hallucinatory voices. Around one percent of the population worldwide are believed to be afflicted by the disorder.

Tests found that lab-dish neurons from schizophrenic patients had fewer connections with each other compared to cells taken from healthy individuals.—*Internet*



Patients are seen in a hallway of a hospital in 2006. Skin cells have become lab-dish tools for probing one of the most enigmatic and distressing disorders of the mind, scientists reported on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Fish oil may reduce postpartum depression

WASHINGTON, 15 April—Omega-3 fatty acids consumed during pregnancy may reduce the risk of postpartum depression, but a larger study is needed, US researchers say.

In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled dietary intervention trial, 52 pregnant women took either a placebo, corn oil,

or a fish oil capsule containing 300 milligrams of DHA five days each week from 24-40 weeks of pregnancy — the same amount a woman would consume if she ate about one-half serving of salmon.

Dr Michelle Price Judge of the University of Connecticut School of Nursing says dietary DHA intake during pregnancy has been estimated to be 50 to 70 milligrams of DHA daily — a fraction of the 200 milligrams daily that is considered optimal during pregnancy by most experts.

Judge and colleagues concluded DHA consumed during pregnancy — at levels that are reasonably attained from food — has the potential to decrease symptoms of postpartum depression.—*Internet*

Vegetarians have less metabolic syndrome

LOMA LINDA, 15 April—Vegetarians have lower prevalence of metabolic syndrome — a precursor to heart disease and diabetes — than non-vegetarians, US researchers say.

Metabolic syndrome involves having three or more of the following — blood pressure equal to or higher than 130/85 millimetres of mercury; fasting blood sugar equal to or higher than 100 milligrams per deciliter; large waist circumference [for men, 40 inches or more, for women 35 inches or more]; low high-density lipoprotein cholesterol [for men, under 40 mg/dL, for women, under 50 mg/dL; and triglycerides equal to or higher than 150 mg/dL.

The study examined more than 700 adults — 35 percent were vegetarians — randomly selected from Loma Linda University's long-term study of the lifestyle and health of almost 100,000 Seventh-day Adventists across the United States and Canada.—*Internet*



Business



A Toyota vehicle production line worker is seen assembling part of an engine.

INTERNET

Toyota to halve Japan domestic production in May

TOKYO, 15 April—Japan's Toyota Motor Co said Friday it would operate all its domestic plants at half normal volume from 10 May to 3 June, citing problems with parts supply following the quake and tsunami disaster.

"As (Toyota) continues to address its production situation in Japan following the disaster, it has decided that vehicle production from 10 May to 3 June will proceed at approximately 50 percent of normal," the company said.

Toyota said in a statement it would

"decide on production after this period after assessing the situation of its suppliers and other related companies."

The Japanese giant last week said it would restart work at all its

Japanese vehicle-production facilities from 18 April to 27 April at approximately 50 percent of normal pace, before an annual Japanese holiday through 9 May.

INTERNET

China growth eases, inflation hits 32-month high

BEDJING, 15 April—China said Friday its robust economy slowed slightly in the first quarter of 2011 but inflation hit a 32-month high, suggesting Beijing's efforts to rein in soaring costs are still falling short.

Gross domestic product in the world's second-largest economy expanded 9.7 percent on



Chinese labours work at a beer factory in Hami, northwest China's Xinjiang region.

INTERNET

Nestle sales fall on strong franc

ZURICH, 15 April—Swiss food giant Nestle said Friday its first quarter sales fell 9.3 percent to 20.3 billion francs (15.7 billion euros, \$22.7 billion), hit by the strong Swiss franc and costs arising from its sale of eyecare group Alcon.

"Sales were impacted by -9.8 percent from foreign exchange and by -5.9 percent from divestitures net of acquisitions," the group said in a statement.

The world's biggest

food company also noted that the first three months of the year was marked by "high-impact events ranging from civil unrest and natural disasters to extreme volatility in raw material prices."

Nevertheless, Nestle said it would be able to meet its full year target of

organic growth of between 5 and 6 percent.

The group reported in February that its 2010 net profits more than trebled to 34.2 billion francs on the sale of eyecare group Alcon to Swiss pharmaceutical group Novartis.

INTERNET



Swiss food giant Nestle said Friday its first quarter sales fell 9.3 percent to 20.3 billion francs (15.7 billion euros, \$22.7 billion), hit by the strong Swiss franc and costs arising from its sale of eyecare group Alcon.

INTERNET



A RAF Typhoon takes off ahead of an air display at the Farnborough International Airshow in Hampshire, 2010.—INTERNET

Shortage of spare parts ground RAF jets

LONDON, 15 April—Pilots of the RAF's most advanced fighter aircrafts are being forced to cut down on flying hours owing to an acute shortage of spare parts, MPs warned on Friday.

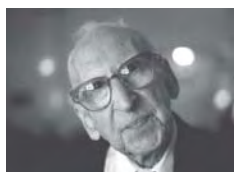
The Commons Public Accounts Committee said five Typhoon pilots were temporarily grounded, unable to fly training sorties, last year because of a lack of available aircraft.

The report pointed out that shortages took a toll on training programmes with only eight of 48 Typhoon pilots capable of carrying out ground attack operations last year.

The committee claimed that the RAF had no option but to cannibalise jets for parts in order to keep the maximum number of Typhoons in flying condition in any given day.

MPs added that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) had warned that the supply of spare parts would reach a "steady state" only after 2015.—INTERNET

World's oldest man Walter Bruening dies at 114



Walter Bruening (pictured in 2009), a retired railworker who was the world's oldest man, has died in the US state of Montana at the age of 114.—INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 15 April—Walter Bruening, a retired railworker who was the world's oldest man, has died in the US state of Montana at the age of 114.

Breuning died Thursday of natural causes at a Great Falls hospital, Stacia Kirby, spokeswoman for the Rainbow Senior Living retirement home where he has lived since 1980, told local media.

Breuning attributed his long life to eating only two meals a day for the past 35 years.

"I think you should push back from the table when you're still hungry," he told the *Great Falls Tribune* newspaper in 2009.

"You get in the habit of not eating at night, and you realize how good you feel. If you could just tell people not to eat so darn much," he said.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of my dear friend and a great Montanan," state Governor Brian Schweitzer said in a statement, reported the *Tribune*.

"Walter taught me that all things in moderation will help lead to a long life; that hard work and a modest living are enough for a happy life and most importantly that giving back to others is good for the soul."

INTERNET

Kidnapped Italian activist found dead in Gaza

GAZA CITY, 15 April—An Italian activist kidnapped in Gaza by Palestinian extremists inspired by al-Qaeda was killed by his captors and found hanged several hours after his abduction, Gaza's Hamas rulers said early Friday.

Hamas officials said police stormed an apartment in Gaza City where Vittorio Arrigoni, 36, was being held by members of a small Islamic group that had kidnapped him on Thursday. Arrigoni was dead and the apartment was otherwise empty, the officials said.

In Rome, the Italian

Foreign Ministry condemned what it called a "barbaric murder" and a "vile and irrational gesture of violence on the part of extremists indifferent to the value of a human life."

The group, calling itself Monotheism and Holy War, had released a video Thursday showing the kidnapped activist blindfolded and with cuts on his face, held in front of the camera by a fist gripping his hair. The group demanded that Hamas free its leader and two other members jailed by Hamas.

The abduction highlights challenges that

Hamas — an Iran-backed group with a militant Islamist ideology that is considered a terror organization in the US, the European Union and elsewhere — has faced from smaller factions in Gaza.

INTERNET

In this 29 Oct, 2008 file photo, international activist Vittorio Utmipio Arrigoni, from Italy, carries an aid box from the 'Free Gaza' boat after its arrival at the Gaza port, in Gaza city. INTERNET



Australian water polo star jailed for killing baby

SYDNEY, 15 April—A talented Australian water polo player accused of killing her baby daughter to focus on competing at the Sydney Olympics was Friday jailed for 18 years for murdering the infant.

Keli Lane, 35, was found guilty in December of killing newborn Tegan — the result of a pregnancy she had kept secret from her partner, family and teammates — in September 1996.



A talented Australian water polo player was Friday jailed for 18 years for murdering her baby daughter allegedly so that she could focus on competing at the Sydney Olympics.—INTERNET

Lane had maintained her innocence, saying she had handed the child to its father shortly after the birth and never seen it again, but New South Wales Supreme Court Justice Anthony Whealy accepted she killed the girl.

Whealy said "golden girl" Lane, who represented Australia as a junior water polo player, had been desperate when she murdered the baby, whose remains have never been found.

"The present case may properly be seen, in every sense, as a tragedy involving mother and daughter," he said, Australian news agency AAP reported.

The fact that Lane had destroyed the natural relationship between mother and daughter would haunt her for the rest of her life, Whealy said as he set a maximum term of 18 years, with a non-parole period of 13 years and five months.—INTERNET

Two people killed as storms tear through Oklahoma

TUSHKA, (Okla) 15 April —A large tornado that cut through a tiny southeastern Oklahoma town in America killed at least two people and injured dozens more as it tore up roofs, shattered windows and tossed power lines and trees.

The storm that ripped through Tushka, some 120 miles southeast of Oklahoma City, on Thursday night left the town of about 350 people, without a public school and forced many people to seek shelter with relatives, friends or churches serving as shelters. Semi-trailers and trees were scattered on the main highway, and authorities closed off some roads because of downed power lines and trees.

"It felt like a bomb," said Jennifer Buffington, who fled to a storm's cellar with her husband, Tony Stiles, and their seven children when the tornado sirens sounded.

When the family emerged, they found the windows blown out of their house. The family sought shelter at First Baptist Church in nearby Atoka.

INTERNET



Godfrey Mutuku Jones, a caretaker at Kenya's Wildlife Service orphanage, feeds one of three 41 day old striped Hyena cubs being cared for, in Nairobi, Kenya, Friday, 15 April, 2011. The three striped hyena cubs were abandoned by their mother, and were brought to the orphanage where they are being cared for by the Kenya Wildlife Service in Nairobi National Park.—INTERNET



Merry makers at water throwing pandals in Pyinmana Township in Nay Pyi Taw District on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day. (News on page 1)—MNA



Revellers enjoying themselves at pandals in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day. (News on page 1)

MNA

Mon traditional songs spread in Mon State Thingyan Festival

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April— Chief Minister of Mon State U Ohn Myint and Speaker of State Hluttaw U Kyin Pe, State Minister for Social and Culture Dr Min Nwe Soe on 13 April evening launched an opening ceremony of Thingyan Festival of Mon State in Myanmar Era, 1372.

While Yein troupes were entertaining attendees with songs namely Shwe Myine Thingyan, Ma Ma's Mawshwemyine and Mya Nanda, Mon national beauties doused water on those present.

Revellers were participating in Thingyan Festival at pandals along Strand Road and in each and every Ward in Mon State.—MNA

Opening ceremony of Maha Thingyan Festival in Mon State in progress.—MNA



Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Khin Zaw presents prize to members of Kayin Yein troupes.—MNA



SSA (Ywet Sit) attack kills one, injures five innocent people

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April—SSA (Ywet Sit) terrorist group with arms is bullying innocent people, taking extortion money, recruiting and killing the people.

On 4 and 12 April, SSA (Ywet Sit) terrorists opened fire, killing one person and injuring five including one novice in Karli Sub-Township, Kunhing Township, Loilem District, Shan State.

At 11.45 pm on 4 April, explosion of 40mm grenade launcher shell fired by SSA (Ywet Sit) killed U Ohn Ngwe, 42, and injured Ko Tin Maung Myint, Ko Po Htoo, Ko Phyo and Ko Soe Min Thein. At 9 pm on 12 April, the group opened fire of small arms and 40mm grenade shells. In the incident, novice Kavira, aged 18, was injured.

The local people are joining hands with the Tatmadaw columns and giving information about the terrorist for combating SSA (Ywet Sit) group.—MNA

Thingyan Festival celebrated in Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April — Chief Minister of Kachin State U La Chun Ngan Sai and ministers of Kachin State splashed scented water to each other to mark the beginning of Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival in Myitkyina on 13 April.

At the ceremony to kick off the festival, traditional dance troupes entertained the revellers and guests with dances and songs.

At the opening ceremony, private companies contributed cash to the funds of the celebrations.

MNA

District News in Brief

Gangaw Township enjoys better telecommunication facility

GANGAW, 15 April—Since early 2011, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications has permitted use of CDMA MHz mobile phones in Gangaw Township.

Plans are under way to install 500 mobile phones in Gangaw, 500 mobile phones in Kan Village and 300 mobile phones in Kyaw Village.

Thanks to installation of over 700 auto-telephones in Gangaw, local people are enjoying smoother and better telecommunication.—Kyemon

Shwebo District hits 74.37% of summer paddy cultivation

SHWEBO, 15 April— Shwebo District has so far put 274,265 acres of farmlands under summer paddy against the target of 368,800 acres for 2011, accounting for 74.37 per cent.

Strenuous efforts are being made for cultivation of summer paddy to be able to exceed the target.—Kyemon

Sanctuary given to old cows

MANDALAY, 15 April— A ceremony to give sanctuary to cows was held in Dagundaing Ward in Pyigyidagun Township on 26 April.

Bus run a route for the public convenience from the corner of 27th and 83rd streets in Chanayethazan Township to the ceremony from 8 am to 3 pm.

Over 100 old cows are being kept as a sanctuary.—Kyemon

Betel leaves fetch good prices

BAGO, 15 April— Betel leaves produced from the farms in Oktha, Thaya-aye and Indagaw areas of Bago District fetched K 2500 per viss but betel leaves from Bago got K 600-K1000 per viss recently.

Betel leaves from Zalun and Pantanaw get good prices in Bago.—Kyemon

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased



Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Mayor U Thein Nyunt and Ministers U Tint Hsan, U Aye Myint and U Soe Maung at Shwe Myanmar Pandal
(News on page 1).—MNA



Pandals in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone teeming with Thingyan lovers on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day.

(News on page 1)

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Fountain Garden crammed with massive revellers on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day.

(News on page 1)

MNA

Rakhine State hosts Thingyan Trophy Golf Tourney

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April — Rakhine State Thingyan Trophy Golf Tournament took place at Danyawady Golf Course in Sittway today.

Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin teed off to open the tournament.

A total of 40 golfers took part in the golf tournament. After the tournament, the Chief Minister of Rakhine State and ministers of the state presented gifts and awarded the golfers and hosted a dinner in honour of the golfers.— MNA



Revellers cool themselves during their recreation in Nay Pyi Taw Fountain Garden on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day. (News on page 1)—MNA

Thingyan songs float in air of Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April— Water throwing pandals along the moat of Mandalay Nanmyo were teeming with revellers and merry makers on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day today.

Devotees practised meditation at religious edifices and the people performed meritorious deeds.

Chief Minister U Ye Myint of Mandalay Region and wife Daw Myat Ngwe enjoyed entertainment of film stars and vocalists at the Mandalay Mayor's Pandal and other water throwing pandals.

On Akyat Day, downtown Mandalay was packed with Thingyan revellers including tourists. In the evening, dance troupes entertained revellers with traditional dance and songs at the Mayor's pandal. Mandalay Mayor Minister for Development Affairs of Mandalay Region U Phone Zaw Han and wife, region ministers and guests also enjoyed the performance.—MNA

Yangonites enjoy Maha Thingyan Water Festival on Akyat Day



YANGON, 15 April — On Maha Thingyan Akyat Day, Thingyan lovers in townships of Yangon enjoyed the water festival peacefully and joyfully. Kaba Aye Pagoda road near Inya Lake was temporarily changed into one-way from two-way starting from the junction of Kaba Aye Pagoda road and Thitsar road for the convenience of Thingyan

cars and travellers. Likewise, measures are being taken to avoid traffic jam on Pyay road near Inya Lake by officials.

Pandals in North Okkalapa, Thakayta, Botahtaung, Bahan, Dagon and Mayangon Townships were packed with merry makers.

Yangon Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal, where *Yein* troupes performed entertainment and singer entertained those present with songs accompanied by Lazy Club music band in the

evening, was crammed with revellers.

Similarly, Spy water-throwing pandal on Pyay road near Inya Lake and Air Bagan pandal were lively with Thingyan activities.

To escape the daytime heat of the month of Tagu, revellers took a rest at Yangon Zoological Garden, environs of Inya Lake and Kandawgyi, Kandawmin and People's Park.

Devotees were served with refreshment at the monasteries. — MNA

Yangon Mayor's Maha Thingyan Pandal teeming with revellers on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day.—MNA

Bogyoke Aung San Road in Yangon crowded with revellers on Maha Thingyan Akyat Day.—MNA

Monywa of Sagaing Region celebrates Myanmar New Year Festival

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April—As Myanmar people celebrate Myanmar New Year Festival or Thingyan Festival in mid-April or in Tagu in Myanmar Calendar, when the trees are laden with Padauk blossoms and the air filled with sweet songs of cuckoos, Monywa of Sagaing Region celebrated the 1372 ME Myanmar Maha Thingyan Festival on 13 April evening at the pandal in front of Monywa Town Hall.



Opening ceremony Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival in Sagaing Region (Monywa) in progress.
MNA

Ayeyawady Region celebrates Thingyan Akyat Day

NAY PYI TAW, 15 April — Revellers in Ayeyawady Region today participated Maha Thigyan Akyat Day at the Region's Central Pandal, Home Affairs Ministry's Mitta Yesin Pandal, Patheingyi University's Kanthaya Pandal and Forestry Ministry's Pandal.

Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, Region ministers and region level departmental heads enjoyed the festival at Central Pandal where movie star Thu Htoo San, damsels and *Yein* troupes performed songs and dances. The chief minister and party awarded the performers.

MNA

Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye formally opened the festival. Next, *Yein* troupes from the central pandal and entertainment pandals performed dances to the accompaniment of song entitled "Relaxing at Mandalay Hill".

The chief minister and his wife, personnel and guests sprinkled water to each other. Next, six decorated floats entertained alternatively and so did *Yein* troupes.—MNA

Chief Minister U Thein Aung of Ayeyawady Region enjoys Yein dances at the region's central pandal.

MNA



Plum growers enjoying big...

(from page 16)

with good harvest of plum to collect plum. Twenty to twenty-five ticals of plum grains can be extracted from a basket of dried plums. Plum grains are delivered to Lashio, Muse, the People's Republic of China, and about five-truck load of plums, to Mandalay and Yangon a day.

Plum powder flows to cold drink shops. U Htay Maung from

Wayondaw Village, who sold 35 baskets of plums to the brokerage house on 1 April, said, "This year, plum yield is so good. The good harvest of plum is due to the high rainfall. I am very pleased to get higher plum price than last year. I have never made that high profit before".

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 11-4-2011



Dried plum is packed up into sacks to deliver to Yangon and Mandalay.

Air France jet makes emergency landing in Caracas

CARACAS, 15 April—An Air France jet has made an emergency landing in Venezuela and a government official says no one was hurt.

The flight carrying 207 passengers took off from Caracas' inter-national airport Wednesday night bound for Paris.

Justice Minister Tareck El Aissami said there was a problem with the Airbus A330's landing gear.

The plane returned and landed at Simon Bolivar International Airport nearly three hours after it took off. El Aissami said on Twitter afterward: "All the passengers fine. Thanks to God!" The Venezuelan rescue organization Rescate Humboldt said in a statement that the problem was detected 29 minutes after takeoff and that the jet circled the airport to burn fuel as a precaution before making the emergency landing.—Internet



An Australian red kangaroo is seen at an animal sanctuary in Sydney. Australian police on Tuesday said tests had revealed that a kangaroo originally thought to have been castrated while alive had merely been the victim of a road accident.
INTERNET

Sri Lanka to do more radiation tests

COLOMBO, 15 April—Sri Lanka is to do more tests in connection with possible radiation following the Japanese nuclear station accident, officials said Thursday.

The next week's tests are to be done after all previous such tests had proved negative and sea water samples from eastern seas would be subject to the tests, said the Marine Pollution Prevention Authority.

Sri Lanka subjected rain water samples from different parts of the island for radiation tests following the Fukushima nuclear power plant accident caused by last month's earthquake and tsunami in northeast Japan.

Over 200 Sri Lankans who returned from Japan after the disaster were made to go through tests for radiation attacks while

the goods coming in from the East Asian country were also tested at the Colombo port.—Xinhua

Ding Yi (R) introduces functions of Nuo Opera masks to pupils in Xiangyang City, central China's Hubei Province, on 12 April, 2011.
XINHUA



Police divers search for NY serial killer victims

HEMLOCK COVE, 15 April—New York police divers scoured the gray waters near a popular beach as the search widened in a suspected serial killer case feared to have claimed up to 10 victims.

Suffolk County police on Long Island closed off a stretch of scrub-covered bank leading down to the inlet at Hemlock Cove in their latest check on the grisly body count piling up in the nature reserve about an hour from New York City.

Three divers in hooded black and orange dry suits waded into the fog-shrouded water carrying digging implements and metal detectors.

County Police Commissioner Richard Dormer told a news conference that aircraft would be brought in to help the search.

"They are looking for evidence, any evidence connecting to the found remains," he said.

Investigators are officially still focusing on the search for Shannan Gilbert, a prostitute who vanished nearby in May. However, that probe has morphed into a far more chilling hunt after the discovery of at least



A Suffolk County Police diver searches for human remains in the waters of Hemlock Cove, near Point Lookout, New York.

INTERNET

four other slain prostitutes and possibly six more sets of human remains.

The latest finds — bones and a skull — came Monday and police confirmed they are human, although not necessarily from different people. There have also been unconfirmed reports of the skeleton of an infant or fetus being found.

All the remains have turned up in the same stretch of thick, almost impassable scrubland and dunes lining the lonely Ocean Parkway as it runs through Gilgo State Park.

Internet

Another corpse found in western Mexican pits

CULIACAN, 15 April—Authorities in the northwestern Mexican state of Sinaloa say another body has been recovered from a series of pits, bringing to 13 the number of corpses found there.

Attorney General Marco Antonio Higuera Gomez says the bodies had apparently been in the pits for at least six months. The bodies are undergoing DNA tests and police are searching for the owners of the property where they were found by a farmer earlier this week. Higuera Gomez said Thursday that most of the bodies had a bullet hole to the head.

The discovery comes as authorities continue extracting bodies from mass graves in the northeastern state of Tamaulipas, where 122 corpses have surfaced so far.—Internet

Road accidents kill 116 in first 3 days of Songkran festival

BANGKOK, 15 April—Road accidents killed 116 people and injured 1,760 others in the past three days in Thailand as the country is celebrating the annual Songkran festival, the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department reported on Thursday.

The department said that from 11 to 13 April, a total of 1,626 road accidents happened nationwide and on Wednesday alone, 57 people lost their lives and 784 got injured in traffic accidents.

The department said most of the accidents were caused by drunk driving and overspeeding.

Songkran Festival, the traditional Thai new-year festival which is famous for water-splashing celebrations, falls on 13-17 April this year. Many Thais started to leave or enter cities since early this week.

Hundreds of people die each year on the roads during Songkran festival. Motorcycles are usually involved in most of these road accidents, followed by pick-up trucks.—Xinhua



People carry out water fight during Songkran water festival at Silom Road, in Bangkok, capital of Thailand, on 13 April, 2011, to celebrate traditional Thai New Year. Thai New Year celebrations "Songkran Water Festival" is held from 13 April to 17 April. —XINHUA



A girl of Dai ethnic group performs with a Hulusi or cucurbit flute in the street in Jinghong, capital of Dai Autonomous Prefecture of Xishuangbanna, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 14 April, 2011. Tens of thousands of people celebrate the great ethnical culture performance of Dai on Thursday, the second day of the Dai New Year festival according to the Dai calendar.

XINHUA

Radiation level of groundwater up 10-fold at troubled nuke plant

TOKYO, 15 April—The radiation level of the groundwater had increased 10 fold in one week at the troubled Fukushima No 1 nuclear power plant, *Kyodo News* reported on Thursday, citing operator sources.

Earlier on Thursday, the country's nuclear safety agency said that the level of contaminated water in its underground trench turned out to be rising again.

The operator of the plant, Tokyo Electric Power Co, removed some 660 tons of highly contaminated water in the past two days from one of the trenches to a "condenser" inside the No 2 reactor turbine building. The condenser has a

capacity to store 3,000 tons of liquid.

Radioactive water was found in the basements of the Nos. 1 to 3 reactor turbine buildings, and the nearby trenches connected to them. The water totaled about 60,000 tons.

Removing the water to nearby tanks and other storage places is considered vital to the attempt of restoring the key cooling functions at the reactors.

Japan's nuclear safety agency on Tuesday had raised the severity level of the accident at the crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant to 7, the worst on an international scale, from the 5 current. —Xinhua

Fiat recalls 130,000 Puntos on brake problem

MILAN, 15 April—Italian auto giant Fiat has recalled over 130,000 Fiat Puntos because of a possible problem with the anti-lock braking system that could cause a short circuit, a company spokesman said on Thursday.

"The recall concerns over 130,000 vehicles including the Grande Punto, Punto Evo, Grande Punto Van and Punto Evo Van models." Fiat began sending out letters to affected owners at the beginning of February, the spokesman said.

The autos were recalled after a problem with the anti-lock braking system was found in a vehicle, he said.

The Fiat spokesman said it was possible cables in the system may have been "pinched" during assembly and could "be damaged, provoking a short circuit."

Over half the vehicles are in Italy and the rest are in Europe, he added.—Internet



An employee of the Fiat Mirafiori plant works on a Punto assembly line in Turin in 2006.—INTERNET

Death toll reaches 13,498 from great quake-tsunami in Japan

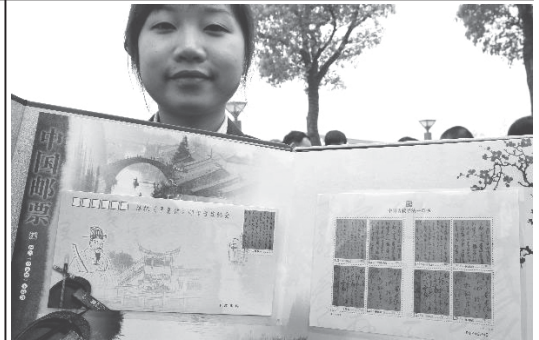
TOKYO, 15 April—The National Police Agency said on Thursday that the March 11 earthquake and tsunami have left 13,498 people dead and 14,734 others unaccounted for in Japan by 19:00 pm local time (10:00 GMT).

About 139,000 survivors are staying in 2,300 shelters across the country as one month has passed since the quake and tsunami.

A 9.0-magnitude earthquake hit the Pacific coastal areas of northeastern and eastern Japan on 11 March, triggering enormous tsunami.

Heavy casualties and extensive damage have been caused by the twin disasters.

Xinhua



A postal worker shows the newly issued special stamps in Shanghai, east China, 15 April, 2011. A set (four pieces a set) of "Chinese ancient calligraphy cursive writing" special stamps was issued by China Post on Friday, with a face value of 1.2 yuan for each piece. —XINHUA

Saudi Airlines plane makes emergency landing in Athens airport due to false alarm for fire, no injuries

ATHENS, 15 April—A Saudi airlines plane made an emergency landing in Athens International Airport on Thursday due to a false alarm for fire in the luggage area, according to Greek media reports.

According to early information, the pilot of the Boeing 777 which had taken off from Washington US for Riad with 239 passengers on board, requested Greek authorities permission to land due to an electronic indication that there was a small fire in the luggage area.

All passengers evacuated safely, no injuries occurred and after a swift check by the "Eleftherios Venizelos" airport experts it was proved that the alarm was false.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV DELIGHT VOY NO (147)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELIGHT VOY NO (147) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.4.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV DIBENA HAPPY VOY NO (128)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA HAPPY VOY NO (128) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.4.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV XIANG DA VOY NO (1114)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOY NO (1114) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.4.2011 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 CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (011)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (011) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.4.2011 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (011)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (011) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.4.2011 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



A destroyed shopping mall in New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, a period during which the police department has been found to have engaged in patterns of misconduct.— INTERNET

New Orleans police convicted over killing in wake of Katrina

WASHINGTON, 15 April — The New Orleans police department's reputation was further tarnished on Wednesday when two officers were convicted in relation to the killing of a handyman in 2005 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The case is one of a string that department

is facing, many of them relating to the period immediately after the hurricane.

In Wednesday's case, a patrolman, Melvin Williams, was found guilty of kicking and beating with a baton Raymond Robair and submitting a false report about the incident. A fellow officer, Matthew Dean Moore, was also found guilty of submitting a false report and lying to the FBI. Williams could be jailed for life, and Moore for up to 25 years. They are to be sentenced on 14 July.

New Orleans PD has been under investigation by the US justice department, and there are at least a dozen cases pending against either serving or former officers in the city. The prosecution said Williams beat Robair, put him in a police car and took him to hospital, telling staff he was a known drug user.— *Internet*



The reef is a World Heritage-listed site.— INTERNET

Australia mate on China Barrier Reef ship 'tired'

LONDON, 15 April—The Australian Transport Safety Bureau has found that a Chinese cargo ship ran aground on the Great Barrier Reef because the chief mate was tired.

The coal-carrying Shen Neng 1 foundered on the reef on 3 April 2010, leaking tonnes of oil into the protected area. The accident left a hole in the reef 3km (1.8 mile) long; the ship was stuck for nine days before refloating.

Environmental officials say it could take 20 years for the reef, and its turtle breeding grounds, to recover.

The ship's chief mate had managed just 2.5 hours of sleep in the previous 38.5 hours. "The chief mate was affected by fatigue and this resulted in a decreased level of performance while he was monitoring Shen Neng 1's

position," the bureau's final report on the incident concluded.

"The ship did not have an effective fatigue management system in place to ensure that the bridge watchkeeper was fit to stand a navigational watch," the report said. The bureau found that the ship lacked proper procedures for planning routes and for handling fatigue.—*Internet*



Yellowstone's geysers are driven by a hot plume beneath the surface.— INTERNET

Yellowstone supervolcano fed by bigger plume

SALT LAKE CITY, 15 April — The underground volcanic plume at Yellowstone in the US may be bigger than previously thought, according to a new study by geologists. The volcanic hotspot below Yellowstone feeds the hot springs, mud pots and geysers that bring millions of visitors to the US national park each year. But the Yellowstone "supervolcano" has erupted violently in the distant past and could do so again at some point.

The new study is set to be published in *Geophysical Research Letters* journal. In 2009, researchers used seismic waves from earthquakes to build up

an image of the hotspot beneath Yellowstone, which straddles the US states of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho. The authors of the latest work used variations in the electrical conductivity of rocks to produce a new picture of the plume.

This conductivity is a property of the molten silicate rocks and the hot briny water that is naturally present in them. "It's like comparing ultrasound and MRI in the human body; they are different imaging technologies," says co-author Michael Zhdanov, a professor of geophysics at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.— *Internet*

Japan gets 1,160-calorie 'Meat Monster' burger

LONDON, 15 April — In a nation known as one of the world's healthiest, it remains to be seen what Japanese consumers will make of the Meat Monster. The gut-busting sandwich, unveiled only in Japan by Burger King, is a mountain of mixed meat weighing in at 1,160 calories.

The creation houses two hamburgers, a chicken breast fillet, two slices of processed cheese, three rashers of bacon and all the trimmings. It has more salt than four bags of crisps and would take two hours to jog off — if you can move after devouring it.— *Internet*

California cat shot in head with arrow, survives



Santa Cruz County Animal Services photograph shows Max, a three-year-old cat shot through the head with an arrow in this photograph released to Reuters on 12 April, 2011.

A northern California cat that survived being shot through the head

with an arrow was recuperating from surgery on Tuesday, apparently little worse for the wear, authorities said.

Max, a three-year-old black and white cat owned by a Santa Cruz area couple, was apparently shot with the arrow sometime over the weekend, a fact his owners discovered on Sunday evening. "According to the owners, the cat had been missing for two days and when they opened their front

door the cat came in," Santa Cruz County Animal Services Manager Todd Stosuy told Reuters.

"That's when the owners, much to their shock, saw an arrow sticking out of the cat's head," he said. "The cat was acting normally, eating normally. It almost looked like one of those fake arrows."

Stosuy said Max was taken to a veterinary hospital that night to have the arrow removed, under anesthesia.



NYU photography professor Wafaa Bilal displays the digital camera mount, which he has had implanted in the back of his head as part of a year-long art project, at his apartment in New York 7 Dec, 2010. The concept of the project, titled "The 3rd I," is based on the idea of capturing things subjectively, without the interference of a viewfinder. For the next year, images from the camera will be streamed over the internet and at a museum in Qatar which commissioned this project.

Jewelry stand throws attempted robbery off-track

Police say two men tried to kick, smash and shoot their way into a display of jewelry at a Hawaii store, but came up empty.

Surveillance video shows the would-be robbers using a hammer, a shotgun and their feet to try to get into the case Saturday night as bystanders scattered about the Zales store at the Waikale Premium Outlets on Oahu.

But the case was seemingly unbreakable, and the men eventually left without getting to the jewels.

Honolulu police are seeking the public's help in capturing the men.

News Album

Police say duo stole tools, tried to sell to victim

Police say two people swiped tools from a central Pennsylvania home then unwittingly tried to sell them back to their owner at his place of employment.

West York Police say the victim was approached by two people at a service centre 24 March trying to sell him some tools. The victim thought the toolbox looked familiar and went home to find he'd been robbed. Police tell The York Dispatch they soon arrested 34-year-old Cody Lee Littrell, of Hanover, and 32-year-old Rebecca Erinn Dice, of Dillsburg. Both face charges including theft and receiving stolen property.

Man, 81, fights robber with pan, pitchfork

An 81-year-old Florida man said he used a pan full of fried potatoes and a pitchfork to fight off an armed robber he found in his home.

Bobby Smith of Jacksonville said he was working in his garden about 11 am Saturday when his caretaker, Luvina Sones, 65, came out and said there was someone inside the house, *The (Jacksonville) Florida Times-Union* reported Thursday.

Smith said he went into his kitchen and discovered a man

standing next to his oven with a gun in one hand and stolen items, including ID cards and a plastic bag of money, in the other.

The octogenarian said the robber shoved him to the ground and took his wallet.

"I grabbed the frying pan and hit him upside the head. I knocked his teeth out ... and he went to the floor," Smith said. "There was a pitchfork about 6 feet away ... [and] I stuck him."



A model presents a creation from Spanish designer Adolfo Dominguez's Autumn/Winter 2011 collection during Bogota Fashion Week, 13 April, 2011.
XINHUA

Pique says he's 'very happy' with Shakira

MADRID, 15 April—Barcelona defender Gerard Pique says being constantly followed by gossip media since he started dating Colombian pop star Shakira has been trying but despite this, he and the singer are "very happy".

The 24-year-old former Manchester United player met the singer last year while shooting the video to her song "Waka Waka (This



Colombian pop star Shakira performs during her concert at National stadium in San Jose 10 April, 2011.—INTERNET

Time for Africa") — the official track of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, which was won by Spain.

"They travel in a pack and it is a question of getting used to this new situation where you are being followed in the street. I try to take it in my stride," he said in an interview published in Spanish sports daily Mundo Deportivo on Thursday.—Internet



John Lennon's handwritten lyrics for "Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds" from "Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" is shown in this publicity photo released to Reuters 13 April, 2011.
INTERNET

Sheen says he may return to 'Two and a Half Men'



Actor Charlie Sheen

LOS ANGELES, 15 April—Charlie Sheen says he may be reunited with "Two and a Half Men."

In an interview with a Boston radio station Tuesday, Sheen said there have been discussions about bringing him back to the hit CBS sitcom he

was fired from last month.

Sheen put the chances of him returning at "85 percent." He didn't offer details in the Sports Hub 98.5 WBZ-FM interview, saying he'd been asked not to divulge anything.

CBS declined to comment, and series producer Warner Bros Television didn't immediately return a call for comment.

The actor also said his profits from the show's rich syndication deals are being withheld and that's part of his \$100 million lawsuit against Warner and the show's executive producer.—Internet

Sally Field to play Abraham Lincoln's wife



Actress Sally Field arrives on the red carpet at the 61st annual Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles, California September 20, 2009.
INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 15 April—Sally Field will star as Mary Todd Lincoln, the wife of the 16th president of the United States, in Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln."

Daniel Day-Lewis has already been cast to play the president.

"I'm excited to be working with Sally for the first time," Spielberg said in a statement.

"I've admired her films, and she has always been my first choice to portray all the fragility and complexity that

was Mary Todd Lincoln."

The film, which centers on the political clashes between Lincoln and the officers of his cabinet, is based on the book "Team of Rivals," by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Filming is expected to begin in the fall for release in fourth-quarter 2012 through Disney.

Field currently stars in the ABC's "Brothers & Sisters," for which she won an Emmy.

Internet

Barcelona vs Real Madrid rivalry comes to the fore

MADRID, 15 April—Barcelona and Real Madrid have had a bitter rivalry dating way back to 1902 and they are braced to face each other four times in an 18-day period that will define their respective seasons.

Football fans around the globe will be treated to four instalments of 'El Clasico', arguably the biggest game in football, with the two wealthiest and most successful clubs in Spain doing battle for the league, Kings Cup and Champions League

crowns.

Each club and city stands for something different, with Madrid keen to represent the heart of Spain and its values, while Barcelona wants to have its own identity and sees itself as a separate country with Catalan, rather than Spanish, its language. Historically, Real have been the more successful of the two, boasting nine European Cups to Barcelona's three and 31 league titles to Barcelona's 20.

Internet

S P O R T S

Bayern star Schweinsteiger doubtful for Leverkusen

BERLIN, 15 April—Bayern Munich's Germany star Bastian Schweinsteiger is doubtful for Sunday's key Bundesliga clash against second-placed Bayer Leverkusen after spraining ankle ligaments. The 26-year-old twisted his ankle in training on Thursday and faces a race against time to be fit for Sunday's clash at Mu-



Bayern Munich's Germany star Bastian Schweinsteiger.

INTERNET

nich's Allianz Arena.

The hosts are fourth in the table and under pressure to secure a Champions League berth for next season. Bayern sacked Louis van Gaal as coach last Sunday and his assistant Andries Jonker will take over for the last five matches of the season.

Internet



Schalke's fans celebrate their team prior to the UEFA Champions League quarter final, second leg football match Schalke 04 vs Inter Milan in Gelsenkirchen, western Germany on 13 April.—INTERNET

Schalke fans snap up all available Man Utd tickets

GELSENKIRCHEN, 15 April—All available tickets for the home leg of Schalke's Champions League semi-final against Manchester United on 26 April sold out in just two

and a half hours on Thursday. Schalke beat holders Inter Milan 2-1 at the Veltins Arena in Gelsenkirchen on Wednesday night to complete a 7-3 aggregate win

and confirm their passage into the last four for the first time in their history.

A sell-out crowd of 54,000 is expected, with some 2,500 tickets already allocated to United for their fans. The return leg takes place at Old Trafford on 4 May. Schalke have 30,000 season-ticket holders, who also have to apply for European matches, and when tickets went on sale at 11:00am on Thursday the fans took just 150 minutes to snap them up.

An estimated 8.79 million viewers in Germany tuned into watch Schalke beat Inter at home, which represented 29.6 percent of the viewing market.

Internet

Internet

42 cars, 4 past winners line up for Indy 500

INDIANAPOLIS, 15 April—Four Indianapolis 500 winners will try to qualify for this year's race. There are 35 driver-car combinations listed among the entrants for the race's centennial celebration. The 83-car list is the highest total since 2002.

Past winners trying to make this year's traditional 33-car field are three-time winner Helio Castroneves, two-time winner and defending champ Dario Franchitti

and former series points champs Scott Dixon and Dan Wheldon.

The first woman to ever lead the race, Danica Patrick, is one of three women hoping to qualify. Five rookies also will attempt to make the field, and 18 of the 35 drivers have one at least one victory in open-wheel racing. The race is scheduled for 29 May.

Internet

Study says airports likely not ready for WCup

SAO PAULO, 15 April—It will be difficult to get most Brazilian airports ready in time for the 2014 World Cup, according to a government study released on Thursday.

Renovation work in 10 of the 13 airports which will be used dur-

ing the monthlong tournament will not be completed in time unless there are changes in the investment plans made by Brazil's airport authority, Brazil's Economic Research Institute said in its study.

"If the usual timelines for infrastructure projects in Brazil are maintained, 10 of the 13 passenger terminals will not be completed by 2014," the report said, adding that "the low efficiency in the execution of investment programmes is worrisome."

Internet

Porto lead Iberian charge into Europa last four



FC Porto's Ruben Micael (L) and Alvaro Pereira (R) celebrate their fifth goal against Spartak Moscow during their UEFA Europa league quarter final second leg football match in Moscow. Porto won 5-2 and 10-3 on aggregate.—INTERNET

PARIS, 15 April—FC Porto led an Iberian lock-out of the Europa League semi-finals on Thursday, Jose Mourinho's former charges brushing aside Spartak Moscow.

Under Mourinho, Porto captured the 2003 UEFA Cup and the Champions League the following year, and they edged closer to claiming Europe's second tier club competition again with a 5-2 drubbing of Spartak Moscow for a 10-3 aggregate win.

Porto, now in the care of Andre Villas-Boas, strolled into the last four with first half goals from Brazilian forward Hulk and Cristian Rodriguez.—Internet

Nadal, Federer move closer to Monaco showdown

MONTE CARLO, 15 April—Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer moved closer to a fourth final meeting at the Monte Carlo Masters on Thursday as both posted straight-set third round wins to coast into the quarter-finals.

Third seed Andy Murray, meanwhile, drew jeers for drop shots against an injured opponent, with the Scot shunning the popularity contest in his 6-3, 6-3 defeat of French 16th seed Gilles Simon. The win was the second in as many days for Murray, who had lost a career-worst four straight matches over the last two months without winning even a set.

Top seed Nadal, a consecutive six-time cham-

pion who is now unbeaten in 34 straight matches in the principality, maintained his traditional momentum to see off Frenchman Richard Gasquet 6-2, 6-4. Three-time losing finalist Federer, the number two seed, was equally ruthless as he dispatched Croatian Marin Cilic 6-4, 6-3 in 71 minutes with a break of serve per set enough to see him through. Federer won his 24th match of the season for four defeats—his last to Nadal in Miami, the other three to Novak Djokovic.—Internet



Rafael Nadal.

Top Aussie cyclist Lloyd sacked over behaviour

SYDNEY, 15 April—Top Australian cyclist Matthew Lloyd has been sacked by his professional team due to his "behaviour." Omega Pharma Lotto did not go into details beyond ruling out "forbidden products", only saying on its website that "our team's image cannot be connected to Matthew's behaviour any more".

Lloyd, who won a stage of the Giro d'Italia last year and also won the king of the mountain category in the race, has struggled to find form so far during the current European season. "Recent incidents during the first races disputed in 2011 by Matthew for our team made this collaboration impossible," the team said.—Internet



Australian Matthew Lloyd of team Omega Pharma Lotto.

Cink, Henry lead Texas Open after Na's meltdown

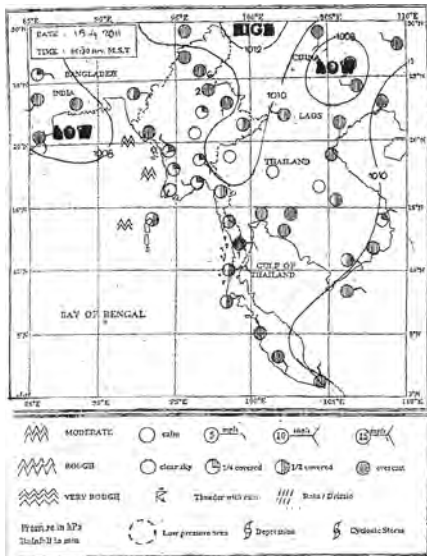
SAN ANTONIO, 15 April—Kevin Na watched his first shot on No. 9 veer badly off course. His next stroke wasn't any better. Or the next one. Or the 11 after that. Or maybe it was 12. Thirteen? Na himself couldn't keep track. "I got done with the hole and I said (to my caddie), 'I think I made somewhere between a 10 and a 15,'" Na said. "But I think it's close to a 15." Try 16.

J.J. Henry and former British Open champion Stewart Cink shot 5-under 67s to begin the Texas Open atop the leaderboard, but the spotlight belonged to Na, whose meltdown on the par-4 ninth ranked among the most dreadful in PGA Tour history and sunk his chances after an otherwise impressive first round on Thursday.—Internet



Kevin Na.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 15th 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 Kachin State, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing, isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions, Mon and Shan States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above April average temperatures in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kachin and Chin States, (3°C) below April average temperatures in Taninthayi Region and about April average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (43°C), Minbu and Magway (42°C), Myingyan and Nyaung Oo (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Bilin (1.18) inches, Hsipaw (0.67) inch, Kalaywa (0.43) inch and Myitkyina (0.24) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 14-4-2011 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 15-4-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 15-4-2011 was (65%). Rainfall on 15-4-2011 was Nil.

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 14-4-2011 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 15-4-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 15-4-2011 was (65%). Rainfall on 15-4-2011 was Nil.

Rainfall on 15-4-2011 was (Nil) at Nay Pyi Taw, 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 (5) mph from Southeast at (09:30) hours MST on 15-4-2011.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the south Bay and west central Bay, partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 16th April 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin and Mon States, isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Regions, Rakhine and Kayin 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 upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 16-4-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-4-2011: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-4-2011: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Weather Outlook for the 3rd Weekend of April: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Yangon and Mandalay Regions.

Air Pacific cancels order for 8 Boeing 787s

NEW YORK, 15 April — Fiji's Air Pacific has canceled its order for eight *Boeing 787* aircraft, the US aerospace giant said Wednesday, the latest blow for its delay-plagued Dreamliner programme.

"Boeing confirms that Air Pacific no longer is a *Boeing 787* customer," the Chicago-based firm said in an email to AFP Wednesday.

Aviation Week earlier reported that Air Pacific, the official international airline of Fiji, had canceled orders for five Dreamliners placed in 2006 and three in 2008.

The 787 programme has been beset by technical problems that have delayed the timetable for delivery of the inaugural aircraft to All Nippon Airways by three years.

"We recognize that Air Pacific's evolving



A 787 Dreamliner passenger jet. Fiji's Air Pacific has canceled its order for eight Boeing 787 aircraft, the US aerospace giant said Wednesday, the latest blow for its delay-plagued Dreamliner programme.—INTERNET

business model has affected its fleet requirements," Boeing said in the brief statement.

Shares in Boeing closed 1.3 percent lower at \$72.13 in New York trade.—Internet

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
Programme Schedule
(16-4-2011) (Saturday)

Transmissions

Local - (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission - (16-4-11 09:30 am ~ 17-4-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Auspicious and Traditional Thingyan
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs and Dances
- * News
- * Come and visit, no matter the distance
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs and Dances

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * Live Transmission (Thingyan Festival)
- * Thingyan Songs and Dances
- * News
- * Auspicious and Traditional Thingyan
- * News
- * Come and visit, no matter the distance
- * News
- * Preserving Myanmar Handicrafts
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs and Dances
- * News
- * Ponnya Rama Mogok Vipassana Meditation Monastery
- * Live Transmission (Thingyan Festival)
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs and Dances
- * News
- * Monastery Yot Son Kyaung (Sa-Le)
- * Myanmar Movies "Dancer and Drummer"



**Saturday,
16 April**

View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:15 am**
2. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:25 am**
3. To Be Healthy Exercise

- 7:30 am**
4. Morning News
- 7:40 am**
5. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 8:25 am**
6. International News
- 8:30 am**
7. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 11:00 am**
1. Martial Song
- 11:10 am**
2. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 11:25 am**
3. Thingyan Performance by Yoyn Kids
- 12:10 pm**
4. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 12:30 pm**
5. TV Drama Series
- 1:30 pm**
6. Teleplay

- 2:00 pm**
7. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 2:20 pm**
8. Song Programme
- 2:35 pm**
9. One village and one Product
- 2:45 pm**
10. Dance Of National Races
- 2:50 pm**
11. International News
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial Song
- 4:05 pm**
2. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 4:30 pm**
3. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Business Management)
- 4:45 pm**
4. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

- 4:50 pm**
5. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 5:30 pm**
6. Thingyan Performance by Yoyn Kids
- 6:00 pm**
7. Evening News
- 6:15 pm**
8. Weather Report
- 6:20 pm**
9. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 6:50 pm**
10. Dance Of Thingyan Festival
- 8:00 pm**
11. News
12. International News
13. Weather Report
14. Cartoon Series
15. Myanmar Movies
16. Gitadagale Phwinfbaohn

- ★ 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

Plum growers enjoying big harvest in Yamethin Township

Byline & photos: Reporter Nyunt Shwe



A pile of dried plum at a plum brokerage house in Yamethin Township.

Due to the unusual rainfall, the yield of plum trees that grow naturally at crop plantations and paddy fields in rural areas and the farmed plum trees in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region, is far higher than previous year. So, the plum brokerage houses and plum mills in urban

areas of the township are thronged with plum dealers.

Local plum growers are making hefty profits from plum farming at low expenses this year. Inspired by the good news, I visited Yaza Phyto Plum Brokerage House and Plum Mill at Wa-toe Zaygon Ward in Yamethin

Township.

There, a plum farmer said that plum started to be in fruit in the Myanmar month of Tazaungmone and were in season in Pyatho and Tabodwe; that plum was of two types — thick flesh and thin flesh; and that thin-flesh plum was exposed to the sun for five days and thick-flesh plum,

for 10 days to be dried.

I also heard that thick-flesh plum was priced at 2200 kyats and thin-flesh plum, at 2600 kyats a basket; that it rained a lot this year, so every plum tree was in cluster; even at the beginning of the plum season, plum was sold at the price of 2500 to 2600 kyats a basket, which was two times the price last year; and that therefore, after the harvest of monsoon paddy, farmers also got extra money from the trade of plum.

Owing to the abundant plum harvest, Yamethin Township sees 17 plum wholesale centres this year. Plum merchants are visiting the villages (See page 10)

Model chick pea plot harvested

SEIKPYU, 15 April— A seed bank in Seikpyu Township provided quality strains of cold season crops and chick pea (Yezin-8) to local farmers.

Model chick pea plot was harvested on 1.50 acres of farmland at field No. 1116 of farmer Daw Than Htay in Koedaunt Village on 2 March.

Township IPRD



Tablets may be starting to steal people away from their laptops, desktops, and even televisions, according to a survey released this week by Google's AdMob service.

INTERNET