

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Friday, 29 April, 2011

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

Ma Mya Creek Bridge (1) emerges as the first of its kind in time of Government of Republic of Union of Myanmar

YANGON, 28 April—The inauguration of Ma Mya Creek Bridge (1) on Hinthada-Hsongon-Myanaung Road in Ingapu Township, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Region, took place at the pavilion near the facility this morning.

The 190 feet long facility of RC type constructed by Bridge Group (1) of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction has a 24-foot-wide motorway and two three-foot-wide pedestrian walkways. It can withstand 60 tons of loads per vehicle.

The bridge will give further impetus to the flow of local goods to other regions through the networks of transport facilities along with development in the region's economic, social, health care and education sectors.

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint in his speech said that previous to the project, the bridge situated at mile post No.42/6 was a 150 feet long and 12 feet wide one. The 190 feet long and 30 feet wide newly-upgraded bridge is designed to avert unnecessary traffic block in future. The project launched on 1 January 2009 was implemented day in, day out by eight engineers and 73 skilled workers. It is the first above 180 feet long



bridge in the time of the government of Republic of Union of Myanmar. Ayeyawady Region has seen 55 above-180-foot bridges and 34 more under construction. (See page 8)

Ma Mya Creek Bridge (1) seen on Hinthada-Hsongon-Myanaung Road in Ingapu Township, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Region.—MNA

Education services planned with participation of private sector



Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye delivers speech at the ceremony.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—At the opening ceremony of the basic education school management refresher course No. 5/2011 at Nay Pyi Taw Basic Education High School No.6 this morning, Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye stressed the need for training the students at basic education high school level and higher education to uplift their proficiency skills in English and Mathematics and changing the way of thinking during the transitional period.

The minister noted that plan is underway to implement education services with the participation of private sector, adding that it is necessary to gear up

education promotion tasks to meet the international standard.

Altogether 220 township education officers and headmasters of BEHSs are attending the course that will last to 21 May.—MNA

World Veterinary Day marked in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—To hail World Veterinary Day which falls on 30 April, Myanmar Veterinarian Association gave an educative talk on vaccination and fight against rabies at the office of the head of Mandalay Region Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department. Head of Mandalay Region department Dr Thauung Htaik extended greetings. Research Officer Dr Win Myint lectured on rabies. Moreover, about 100 dogs in Mandalay municipal area were vaccinated against rabies free of charge.—MNA

Bomb attack in Morocco tourist cafe kills 14



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India shortlists planes for jet deal

PAGE 6

Messi gives Barcelona 2-0 win over 10-man Madrid



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PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 29 April, 2011

Emphasize maintenance of roads and bridges

Better transport is a basic need for development of every region. Ensuring smooth transport contributes much to economic development as well as to simultaneous improvement of socio-economic life of the local people.

Although Ayeyawady Region teeming not only with rivers, creek and lakes but also with fertile soil and rich natural resources had faced poor transport in the past, transport of commodities delayed. Trips wasted time of transport by car, by train or by boat.

At present, the people have easy access to various regions thanks to already-built roads and bridges. Paddy and rice, beans and pulses, meat, fish, salt and marine products can be transported smoothly and speedily from one place to another. Infrastructures on transport sector are being upgraded in the region for having better access in the future.

On his inspection tour of bridge constructions, President U Thein Sein visited Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) construction project on 25 April. In meeting with officials, the President stressed the need to maintain the existing roads and bridges for their durability while implementing new projects, and he called for practising thrifty methods.

Not only new bridges but also new railroads are being built in Ayeyawady Region. Kyangin-Pakokku railroad and Patheingyi (Begar) - Einme-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) railroad are under construction as a link with existing Patheingyi-Kyangin railroad. The already-commissioned railroad sections are serving the interest of the people in transport sector.

Holding the concept that where there is a land and water there is a job the State has created more job opportunities. Based on these sound foundations, all the people are to make strenuous efforts for uplifting their socio-economic life. Only when everybody has developed, will the nation lead to the track of development.

Family kits provided to fire victims in Mohnyin



Relief items providing to fire victims.

People's Festival

- * 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

U Kyaw Tin presents Credentials to Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—U Kyaw Tin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Canada, presented his Credentials to His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, on 19 April 2011 in Ottawa.—MNA

U Min Lwin presents Credentials to President of Bangladesh

NAY PYI TAW, 29 April—U Min Lwin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr Mohammad Zillur Rahman, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, on 21 April 2011 in Dhaka.—MNA

A& I Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador, UNDP Resident Representative



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing receives UNDP Resident Representative Mr Bishow B Parajuli.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing held a meeting with Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr. Li Junhua at his office here this morning, focusing on boosting agricultural cooperation between two nations and matters related to human resources development.

Next, the Union Minister received UNDP Resident Representative and UN Humanitarian Coordinator Mr. Bishow B Parajuli at the same venue. They held discussions on matters related to projects being implemented in cooperation with UNDP for development of agricultural sector and arrangements for development tasks of UN System.— MNA

MOHNYIN, 28 April—A ceremony to provide relief aids to fire victims was held at the Dhammayon in Bilu Village of Mohnyin Township on 21 April, attended by Township administrator U Kyaw Myint Hlaing and responsible persons of Township Red Cross Society.

Deputy Commanding Officer U Myint Wai of Township Red Cross Brigade presented family kits containing 18 items of family utensil to 14 fire victim households. A fire broke out at blacksmith of the village on 24 March. The fire destroyed 14 houses, leading 55 homeless.—Our correspondent from Mohnyin

Myanmar-China cultural comprehensive cooperation discussed



Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sandar Khin receives Chinese Cultural Counsellor Mr Gao Hua.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sandar Khin received Cultural Counsellor Mr Gao Hua from the Chinese Embassy at her office here this evening. They discussed matters related to participation in 20th Asian Festival to be held in China, entertainment programme of disabled artistes troupe from China to come to Myanmar, and comprehensive cooperation in culture.

MNA



A car lies overturned and buildings destroyed in Tuscaloosa, Ala, on 27 April, 2011. A wave of severe storms laced with tornadoes strafed the South on Wednesday; buildings across swaths of the university town were damaged or destroyed.

INTERNET

South storm death toll climbs to 178; 128 in Ala

TUSCALOOSA, 28 April—The death toll from severe storms that punished five Southern US states jumped to a staggering 178 Thursday after Alabama canvassed its hard-hit counties for a new tally of lives lost.

Alabama's state emergency management agency said it had confirmed 128 deaths, up from at least 61 earlier.

"We expect that toll, unfortunately, to rise," Gov Robert Bentley told ABC's "Good Morning America."

Mississippi officials reported 32 dead in that state and Tennessee raised

its report to six from one. Another 11 have been killed in Georgia and one in Virginia.

The fierce storms Wednesday spawned tornadoes and winds that wiped out homes and businesses, forced a nuclear power plant to use backup generators and prompted the evacuation of a National Weather Service office.

The National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla, said it received 137 tornado reports around the regions, including 66 in Alabama and 38 in Mississippi.

Internet

Car bomb kills four policemen northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 28 April—A police officer says a car bomb explosion has killed a police officer and three of his guards in northern Iraq.

Brig Gen Sarhad Qadir says the parked car bomb targeted Lt Col Mohammed Muhsin al-Jibouri as he drove by in the northern town of Hawija.

Qadir says the slain officer was travelling in a civilian car with his three guards when the explosive-laden car detonated around 2:00 pm on Thursday.

The blast also wounded eight civilian bystanders.

Although violence has ebbed in Iraq since early 2008, insurgents are still capable of launching attacks against Iraqi security forces and government officials.

The Sunni-dominated town of Hawija, once an militant stronghold, is located about 150 miles (240 kilometres) north of Baghdad.

Internet



Municipality bulldozer cleans up while Iraqi security forces stand guard at the scene of a road side bomb in eastern Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, 27 April, 2011. Targeting a police patrol the explosion wounded a number of people, police said.

INTERNET

Bomb hits Pakistan navy bus in Karachi, five dead

KARACHI, 28 April—A roadside bomb hit a bus taking Pakistani navy employees to work in Karachi on Thursday, killing five people in the third such attack this week and just days after the army chief claimed to have "broken the backbone" of militants.

The series of attacks in the country's largest city and economic heart show the determination and reach of al-Qaeda-linked extremist networks despite American-backed Pakistani army offensives against their main bases in the northwest close to the Afghan border.

The early morning blast mangled the bus and damaged nearby buildings.

Four of the dead

were sailors, while the fifth was a passer-by, said navy spokesman Salman Ali and Seemi Jamali, a doctor at the city's Jinnah Hospital. Five people were wounded.

The army has launched several offensives in the northwest, but bombings against government and security

force targets, as well as indiscriminate attacks on public places, have continued.

The Pakistani Taliban have little direct public support, but their identification with Islam, strong anti-American rhetoric and support for militants in Afghanistan resonates with some.

Internet



Pakistani paramilitary soldiers watch a damaged bus at the site of a bomb blast in Karachi, Pakistan on 26 April, 2011.

INTERNET

Bomb attack in Morocco tourist cafe kills 14

MARRAKESH, 28 April—A bomb killed 14 people including foreigners in Morocco's bustling tourist destination of Marrakesh, officials said on Thursday, in an attack that bore the hallmark of Islamist militants.

The blast ripped through a cafe overlooking

Marrakesh's Jamaa el-Fnaa square, a spot that is often packed with foreign tourists. A Reuters photographer said he saw rescuers pulling dismembered bodies from the wreckage.

If the bombing is the work of Islamist militants, it will be the first time they



Investigators work at the site of a blast at a cafe in Marrakesh on 28 April, 2011—INTERNET

have carried out a major attack in Morocco since 2003, when a series of suicide bombings in the commercial capital, Casablanca, killed more than 45 people.

Two residents in Marrakesh who were near the square told Reuters the explosion was carried out by a suicide bomber, but there was no immediate confirmation of this. "I heard a massive blast. The first and second floors of the building were destroyed," said one local

woman, who did not want to be identified. "Some witnesses said they have seen a man carrying a bag entering the cafe before the blast occurred."

The cafe is in the Marrakesh medina, or old city, which is designated by the United Nations cultural arm as a World Heritage Site. It is usually packed with stalls, storytellers and snake-charmers seeking to attract tourists.

Reuters

18 people injured in 2-train collision in Spain

MADRID, 28 April—Spain's rail authority says 18 people were slightly injured when a commuter train collided underground with an empty long-distance train in Barcelona. RENFE said two carriages of a commuter train carrying 70 passengers derailed after colliding with the other train, which was stationary. Sixteen people were treated in nearby medical centers, mostly for bruises. The accident occurred Thursday just before 10 a.m. (0800 GMT) as the commuter train began slowing down to stop in the Clot-Arago station in Barcelona city.—Internet

Afghan, Pakistan border clash kills one

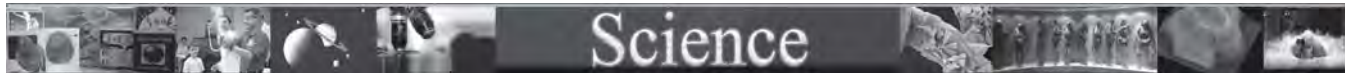
DERA ISMAIL KHAN, 28 April—Afghan border guards fired mortar shells toward a Pakistani military post in a northwestern tribal region on Wednesday, killing a soldier and wounding two others, a Pakistani government official said.

The mortars also wounded at least six local residents and damaged dozens of shops in the Angore Adda Town of the South Waziristan Region, Atifur Rehman said. "Pakistani security forces are also returning fire," he said.

No Pakistan army spokesman was immediately available for comment.

The latest clash came a day after Pakistani and Afghan forces traded artillery fire in the neighbouring North Waziristan tribal region, causing panic among residents. Afghan military official Abdul Rahman confirmed late Tuesday's clash in North Waziristan.

Afghan and Pakistan forces stationed along the rugged, porous border between their countries occasionally trade fire but the incidents rarely escalate or have diplomatic consequences. The clashes sometimes involve troops pursuing Taliban militants who travel from one side of the border to the other.—Internet



A view of the International Space Station in March 2011.
INTERNET

Russia launches cargo vessel for space station

MOSCOW, 28 April—An unmanned Russian cargo vessel set off Wednesday on a mission to supply the crew on board the *International Space Station* with a new shipment of equipment and supplies.

The *M-10M Progress* lifted off from the Baikonur space centre in Kazakhstan and was due to dock to the ISS on Friday at 1429 GMT, the Russian Federal Space Agency said in a statement.

The vessel was carrying 2.6 tonnes of supplies and scientific equipment for the international crew, which includes an Italian, two NASA astronauts and three Russians.

Besides the usual shipment of oxygen and other necessities, the latest consignment also included vegetable seeds and some fruit flies that could help the team grow the first garden in space, the Russian newsru.com website reported.

The ISS, built up from the first module launched by Russia in 1998, is orbiting 350 kilometres (220 miles) from Earth.—INTERNET

Massive study of rainfall launched

WASHINGTON, 28 April—US scientists are using aircraft to carry instruments aloft in an attempt to unlock the mystery of why some clouds produce huge amounts of rain, NASA says.

Convective clouds that form when warm, moist air rises and condenses at higher altitudes are the focus of a current scientific mission that runs through June, an agency release said.

In addition to aircraft, the mission will use comprehensive observations of rainfall in the United States by spacecraft, remote sensing and ground sensors.

The mission will be run from the Department of Energy's Southern Great Plains site near Ponca City in central

Oklahoma. Because April through June is severe weather season in Oklahoma, there will be plenty of convective clouds to study, researchers said.

"Because precipitation is so critical to our daily existence, we naturally would like to know how much rain falls at any given place and time," said Walt Petersen, who is leading NASA's component of the campaign.—INTERNET

Scientists hope to illuminate universe's dark side

CAPE CANAVERAL, 28 April—Everything scientists now know about the cosmos, from the Big Bang to black holes, has come from measurements of light rays.

But Mother Nature speaks in particles too, and until now their instruments have been largely deaf to her second tongue.

A device due to launch aboard the space shuttle *Endeavour* from Florida on Friday is

designed to give scientists their first detailed study of the electrically charged particles streaming through the cosmos.

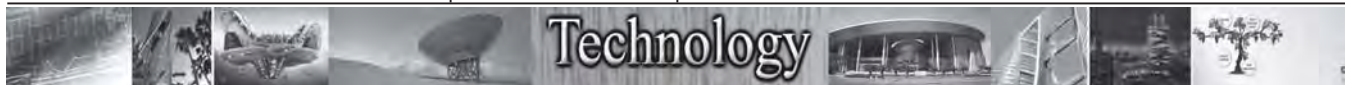
The Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer, or AMS, could reshape modern understandings of the universe, much the same way that the Hubble Space Telescope pioneered new frontiers in astronomy, including the startling discovery that the universe's rate of expansion is speeding up.

"Charged cosmic rays are a nearly unexplored region of science," said Massachusetts Institute of Technology physicist Samuel Ting, a Nobel laureate who heads the 600-member team that developed the \$2 billion AMS.

Reuters



Staff attempt to load the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer (AMS) detector into a US Air Force Galaxy aircraft during last preparations at Cointrin Airport in Geneva on 25 August, 2010.—INTERNET



Young Japanese women show their "iPad 2" tablet computers in Tokyo on 28 April, 2011. Hundreds of Apple fans in have queued to snap up the device as the latest version of the popular tablet finally went on sale after a month-long delay caused by the 11 March quake and tsunami.—INTERNET

Hundreds queue as iPad 2 hits Japan

TOKYO, 28 April—Hundreds of Apple fans in Japan queued to snap up the iPad 2 Thursday as the latest version of the popular tablet finally went on sale after a month-long delay caused by the 11 March quake and tsunami.

Customers in Tokyo waited patiently from early morning outside Apple's main stores in downtown Ginza and the shopping district of Shibuya, many killing time by playing on or reading from their previous-generation devices.

"I was determined to get the new model as it is thinner and lighter" than the original model, Masahiko Asakura, 40, said as he came out of the Ginza store, adding that he would now give his old iPad to his parents.

"The launch was a long time coming for me," said a 22-year-old physics student who only gave her surname as Kobayashi. "I thought the first model was a bit heavy, but the new one seems

the right size for me."

As the spring sun heated the pavement, Apple distributed bottled water and black parasols with the Apple logo to many of those queueing up to spend 44,800-60,800 yen (\$548-\$743) on the latest gadget.

The iPad 2, which hit stores in the United States on 11 March, had been scheduled to go on sale in Japan on 25 March.

But the launch was pushed back as Japan dealt with its worst disaster since World War II, which has left more than 26,000 people dead or missing and sparked a nuclear crisis at the tsunami-hit Fukushima atomic plant.

With many consumers in a jittery or glum mood since the calamity, data released Thursday showed household spending plunged by 8.5 percent in March from a year earlier, the biggest drop since records began in 1964.—INTERNET

Hynix Semiconductor 1Q profit falls 66 percent

SEOUL, 28 April—Hynix Semiconductor's quarterly profit fell 66 percent as sales declined and memory chip prices remained weak, though the company said business conditions should improve in the second quarter. Hynix, the world's second-largest manufacturer of computer memory chips, earned 273.5 billion won (\$254.9 million) in the three months ended 31 March, it said in a regulatory filing Thursday. It had net profit of 808.1 billion won a year earlier.

Sales in the first quarter fell 1.1 percent from a year earlier to 2.79 trillion won.

"The business environment was very challenging," Hynix's chief financial officer Kim Min-chul told an earnings conference call. Prices for dynamic random access memory or DRAM chips, used mostly in personal computers, remained weak and uncertainties about global economic growth persisted, he said.—INTERNET

Google, Apple also gather location data via computers

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 April—Google Inc and Apple Inc also collect location data from computers, according to new reports in the US media Tuesday amid privacy concerns over the technology giants tracking mobile phone users.

The two companies obtained the information after a computer scans the area around itself for available Wi-Fi wireless networks, typically after users give a website permission to determine the computer's approximate location, *The Wall Street Journal* said in a report on its website.

Google is believed to gather the location data through software in its Chrome browser or search toolbar.

Xinhua



Microsoft Corp Chairman Bill Gates speaks during a news conference in Tokyo on 7 May, 2008.—INTERNET



Health



Health Tip: Stay inside when spring allergens are at a peak

Seasonal allergies can cause itchy, watery eyes, nasal congestion and sneezing.

The University of Maryland Medical Centre suggests these lifestyle changes to ease seasonal allergy symptoms from outdoor allergens:

- * Start your allergy medications a week or two before the season starts.
- * Don't take a camping trip or go on a hike when pollen counts are high.
- * Stay away from barns and hay, and try not to mow the grass or rake leaves.
- * Wear sunglasses to keep pollen out of the eyes. DNA samples are loaded onto a gel in a search for variations in genetic samples that would point to someone's susceptibility to lung, prostate, breast and colo rectal cancer at a cancer centre in 2005.
- * After spending time outside, take a shower and wash hair, change clothes and rinse out the nasal passages with a salt water rinse
- * Close windows and doors during allergy season.—Internet

DNA tests link Southern leprosy cases to armadillo

LOS ANGELES, 28 April—With some genetic sleuthing, scientists have fingered a likely culprit in the spread of leprosy in the southern United States: the nine-banded armadillo.

DNA tests show a match in the leprosy strain between some patients and these prehistoric-looking critters — a connection scientists had suspected but until now couldn't pin down.

"Now we have the link," said James Krahenbuhl, who heads a government leprosy programme that led the new study.

Only about 150 leprosy cases occur each year in the US, mostly among travellers to places like India, Brazil and Angola where it's more common. The risk of getting leprosy from an armadillo is low because most people who get exposed don't get sick with the ancient scourge, known medically as Hansen's disease and curable if promptly treated.

Armadillos are one of the very few mammals that harbor the bacteria that cause the sometimes disfiguring disease, which first shows up as an unusual lumpy skin lesion.—Internet

DNA samples are loaded onto a gel in a search for variations in genetic samples that would point to someone's susceptibility to lung, prostate, breast and colo rectal cancer at a cancer centre in 2005.—INTERNET



Heart attacks 'are worse' if they happen in the morning

LONDON, 28 April — People who have a heart attack in the morning tend to fare worse than those who have one at other times of the day and night, experts have discovered. Heart attacks occurring between 0600 and noon are more likely to create a larger area of damaged heart tissue.

The findings in *Heart* journal come from a study of over 800 patients in Spain. Experts say the body's natural sleep-awake cycle could explain the differences seen, but advise more research to confirm the findings. It is well established that a person's 24-hour body clock can influence heart attack risk.

For example, doctors know that people are more likely to have a heart attack around the time when they are waking up from sleep than at other times, but what is less known is the extent of damage that this leads to.—Internet



Surgeons perform heart surgery.
Heart attacks that occur in the morning are likely to be more serious than attacks at other times of the day, a specialist journal reported on Wednesday.

INTERNET



Business



Volkswagen Q1 profit soars to \$2.5 billion

FRANKFURT, 28 April—Automaker Volkswagen AG sharply increased net profit to euro1.71 billion (\$2.5 billion) in the first quarter as stronger sales in emerging markets such as China, Argentina, and Russia more than made up for slumps in debt-stricken European countries.

Earnings per share of euro3.47 topped analyst expectations of euro3.23. Company shares rose steadily after Wednesday's announcement and traded up 6 percent at euro117.45 by midafternoon German time.



In this 24 Feb, 2011 file photo the VW logo is seen at the company's headquarters at the Volkswagen plant in Wolfsburg, Germany. Automaker Volkswagen AG said on 27 April, 2011, its net profit jumped to euro 1.71 billion (\$ 2.5 billion) in the first quarter as sales rose strongly in North America, Asia and other emerging markets.—INTERNET

The company reiterated that this year's earnings would exceed last year's, despite a drag on profits from see-sawing exchange rates and higher raw materials prices.

Volkswagen delivered 1.99 million cars worldwide, up 14 percent, outperforming the world auto market, which grew 8.1 percent, the company said. Revenue jumped 31 percent to euro37.47 billion.—Internet

Fed says \$600B bond programme to end in June

WASHINGTON, 28 April—The economy and job creation have strengthened enough for the Federal Reserve to end on schedule a programme of buying Treasury bonds to help the economy, the Fed said Wednesday.

Ending a two-day meeting, the Fed made no changes to the programme. The decision was unanimous. The bond purchases were intended to lower loan rates, encouraging spending and boost stock prices. But critics worried that the purchases would feed inflation.

The Fed acknowledged a spike in oil prices. But it concluded that the pickup in inflation will be temporary.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke spoke at a historic news conference after the meeting. It was the first time



An Exxon gas station near the Watergate complex in Washington, DC. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke sought to cast the central bank as a dependable custodian of the US recovery in a first-ever press conference.—INTERNET

in the Fed's 98-year history that a chairman has begun holding regular sessions with reporters.

Bernanke said Fed officials expect the moderate economic recovery to continue after weak growth in the first three months of the year. Stocks rose after Bernanke spoke. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 95 points on the day to close at 12,690 — the highest point in nearly three years.—Internet



Stock index futures signal gains; GDP data eyed

NEW YORK, 28 April—Stock index futures pointed to a higher open on Wall Street on Thursday, with futures for the S&P 500 up 0.1 percent, Dow Jones futures up 0.2 percent and Nasdaq 100 futures up 0.1 percent at 0840 GMT.

Investors awaited a flurry of corporate results on Thursday from companies such as Coca-Cola (CCE.N), Microsoft (MSFT.O) and Procter & Gamble (PG.N), as well as the first estimate of the US first-quarter GDP growth. Economists in a Reuters survey forecast a 2.0 percent annualized pace of growth compared with a 3.1 percent rate in the final fourth quarter estimate.

US crude futures rose to their highest in 2-1/2 years and metal prices rallied as the Federal Reserve appeared in no rush to tighten its monetary policy.

The dollar sank to a three-year low against a basket of currencies on Thursday and was at risk of a drop to \$1.50 versus the euro, with momentum-driven investors piling in anticipation US interest rates will be low for a long time.—Internet

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, 8 April, 2011.—INTERNET

India shortlists planes for jet deal

NEW DELHI, 28

April— India seems to have narrowed the field in the race for a \$12 billion dollar fighter jet deal, with sources Thursday suggesting Dassault's *Rafale* and the *Eurofighter Typhoon* had been shortlisted.

"Only France's Dassault and Eurofighter have been requested to extend their commercial bids," a defence ministry official, who declined to be named, told AFP.

One of the most sought after military contracts of recent years, the deal for 126 fighters has witnessed fierce competition between defence giants like Boeing and Lockheed Martin of the United States, Sweden's Saab AB and the Russian makers of the MiG 35.



A British Eurofighter jet is seen in action taking off from an Italian military base.—INTERNET

Reports that a final shortlist had been drawn up were borne out by a statement Wednesday from Saab AB that its JAS-39 Gripen fighter had been deselected.

"Gripen has not been shortlisted for the Indian Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft (MM-RCA) programme," the statement said.

The Indian defence ministry refused immediately to confirm that the US and Russian bids had also been dismissed.

The long-delayed contract includes the outright purchase of 18 combat aircraft by 2012 with another 108 to be built in India.

Internet

French searchers close in on Air France black box

PARIS, 28 April—France's air accident investigation agency says an undersea search has found the chassis of the "black box" flight recorder from an Air France jetliner that crashed into the Atlantic Ocean almost two years ago. The agency said, however, that the recorder itself was not found.

The Wednesday statement from the agency said that a Remora 6000 deep-sea craft made the discovery on its first dive, and a second dive is already under way.

Investigators hope that the black boxes will help determine what caused the 1 June, 2009 crash of Flight 447 from Rio de Janeiro to Paris. All 228 people aboard were killed when the aircraft plunged into a remote area of the Atlantic during a thunderstorm. The bulk of the wreckage was only recently discovered.

Internet



Ash from the Tungurahua volcano is seen in Riobamba, Ecuador on 26 April, 2011. The country has ordered locals to evacuate towns near the base of the volcanic mountain located in the south, and issued an alert.

XINHUA

Juan Alfonso Rey Echeverry (bottom), captain of Mozambican-flagged fishing vessel VEGA 5, is guarded by suspected masked pirates between Haradere and Hobyo.—INTERNET



Suspected Somali pirate pleads not guilty in US

NORFOLK, 28 April—A Somali man the US believes is the highest-ranking pirate it has ever captured pleaded not guilty in federal court Wednesday to piracy, kidnapping and weapons

charges related to the February hijacking of a yacht that left four Americans dead.

Mohammad Saaili Shibin, 50, is accused of acting as chief negotiator for more than a dozen pirates who took control of the yacht *Quest* in the Arabian Sea. The owners of the *Quest* — Jean and Scott Adam of Marina del Rey, Calif — were shot to death along with friends Bob Riggle and Phyllis Macay of Seattle after they were taken hostage several hundred miles south of Oman.

Unlike the other

suspected pirates, court documents say Shibin never boarded the *Quest* and that he operated from land. He is the first suspected pirate to be taken into custody in Somalia rather than at sea. Court documents say Shibin researched the hostages online to determine how much of a ransom to seek for them. Shibin has also acknowledged acting as a negotiator for a German vessel, the *M/V Marida Marguerite*, that was taken hostage by pirates in May and released in December, receiving \$30,000 for his services, prosecutors said.

Internet

Rebels kill five police officers in Colombia

BOGOTA, 28 April— Five police officers have been killed in two separate attacks by suspected rebel group members, authorities said Wednesday.

Explosives were detonated near a police station Tuesday in the southwestern town of Jambalo, Cauca, killing three police officers and injuring three civilians, including a child and a woman, local police commander Gen. Orlando Pineda said.

The fighting between government forces and suspected members of the rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) continued into Wednesday morning, damaging some houses and public utilities nearby, Mayor Carlos Betancur told La Fm radio station.

In a separate attack, two police officers were killed and one was wounded near Andagoya in the northwestern province of Choco when suspected FARC members attacked a local police station from a boat travelling on the San Juan river.

Xinhua

Fatah, Hamas in unity govt 'understanding'

CAIRO, 28 April— Rival Palestinian groups Hamas and Fatah reached an "understanding" in Cairo on Wednesday to set up a transitional unity government and to hold elections, prompting a swift warning from Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu demanded that Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas, who heads Fatah, "choose between peace with Israel or peace with Hamas."

And Washington, the key sponsor of direct Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations which collapsed last September, warned that any Palestinian unity government must renounce violence.

"The United States supports Palestinian reconciliation on terms which promote the cause of peace," said US National Security Council spokesman Tommy Vietor.

Internet



Rescue workers, residents and firemen try to recover the body of a woman after a landslide in Carambolo neighbourhood near Medellin on 27 April, 2011. The rains due to La Nina have rocked the Andean nation since last year, displacing 2.8 million people and killing nearly 400, according to the government. The landslide left three more people injured, authorities said.

XINHUA

Travel warning for Americans in Europe will end

LONDON, 28 April—A State Department official says a US travel advisory for Americans travelling in Europe that was set to expire the day after the royal wedding will not be extended.

The US State Department advised Americans in October to be wary amid reports that terrorists were planning a Mumbai-style attack on a European City. More than 160 people were killed in that 2008 attack, when gunmen fired on crowds in a shooting spree.

A US State Department official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the press, says Wednesday the threat expires Saturday — the day after the wedding. "We do not plan to renew it," the US official said, suggesting that the threat is no longer considered active or credible.—Internet

Silent Universities

Maung Hlaing

Every now and then, I come across some interesting news items in the dailies of both Myanmar and English. These news items are talks on enhancement of reading skills and opening of village libraries. Opening libraries means paving the way to a modern society of affluence. People say so.

Whatever it may be, such news items remind me of my childhood days. It was the time when our nation including rural areas were not developed like today. At that time, there were no enough schools let alone libraries.

To make matters worse, as insurgency was at large then, peace and stability did not prevail throughout the rural areas. We were brought up while the government troops and destructive elements were playing hide-and-seek, killing each other in those days.

In such situation, how could we widen our horizon? How could we take happiness in reading? How could we build a learning society? No reading rooms. No reading materials. As for us, we had to rely much on the monasteries where we pursued monastic education. Members of the Sangha taught us primary education simply because most of us were not able to pursue formal education at government schools for various reasons.

Because of the teaching monks, we came to know how to read and write. However, we did not know where we could continue to read and write.

We could see a silver lining in dark clouds of those days. That was nothing but a so-called little library emerged in our ward. It was a reading room known as only a single library called "Lin-yaung-chi", or "Gleam of Light".

Thanks to the efforts made by some farsighted ward elders, we were introduced to books. And so we came to know how to make good use of our leisure hours. Although we had an access to only few books, we came to have a taste for reading. We could read even translated works published by the then *BTS: Burma Translation Society* known as *Sarpay Beikman* today.

When I was in my high school days, our school came to have a school library larger than the one in our ward. To my memoirs, there was only a reading room run by *Information Department* known as *Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD)* today. No matter how they were called reading rooms, or reading centres, or libraries, they were the storehouse of knowledge. They were the places where we could seek knowledge.

It seems like just yesterday or the day before yesterday that we had lived in the undeveloped society.

Times have elapsed. Things have changed a lot. And we have been in the Age of Knowledge. Global countries are striving to develop in all aspects, including productivity, with the use of technology. To keep abreast of the global countries, we cannot ignore the importance of libraries that contribute much to human resource development.

In reality, libraries are a great blessing, especially to those who cannot afford to buy all the books they would like to read. As majority of the population of our nation are living in rural areas, we need more rural libraries to contribute to rural development. They help improve knowledge of local people. The rural folks can cultivate the reading habit and they can work together for sustainable

development of the libraries in return.

According to the statistics, a total of 55,755 village libraries have been opened nationwide with the investment of over 11 billion kyats. It is encouraging to learn that the Rural Library Foundation has been established and it will be a main organization responsible for long-term durability of the libraries and human resource development.

In fact, libraries are the life in providing knowledge to readers. Librarians are known as silent teachers and **libraries are called silent universities**. They are very useful and important in education and social spheres.

The situation today is quite different from that of the past. In the past, we toiled in hunting reading materials. Today, all kinds of books are inviting to us and we have libraries at our disposal. Men everywhere have enjoyed the benefits of learning. More and more books are being written to extend human knowledge. Governments and individuals throughout the world therefore, come to open more and more libraries to enable people to read as many books as possible.

Although e-books are all the rage these days, reading materials, or books are still playing a vital role in disseminating knowledge. Although Internet-users are mushrooming up day by day, book-lovers cannot resist going to libraries small or large.

We are to pool our resources to give helping hand to the Rural Library Foundation. Of all gifts, the gift of knowledge is the highest. Let us make hay while the sun shines for the growth of silent universities all over the nation.

Union Minister for Defence receives Japanese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Hla Min received Japanese Ambassador to the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Takashi Saito at his office here at 2 pm today.—MNA

EP-2 Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe received Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Mr Li Jinhua at the ministry,

here, this morning.

Their discussions focused on cooperation in electric power sector between the two countries.

MNA



Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe receives Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinhua.—MNA

Chinese Ambassador calls on Union Minister for Industry-2

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein received Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Mr Li Jinhua at the ministry, here, this

morning.

They cordially discussed cooperation in industrial development between the two countries and timely completion of projects.—MNA

Myanmar, Thailand seek ways to enhance satellite communication

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun received Chief Commercial Officer Mr Yongsit Rojsrivichaikul and party of Thaicom

Public Co Ltd from Thailand, at the ministry here today. The discussion covered beefing up satellite services and technological cooperation between the two countries.—MNA



Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun receives Chief Commercial Officer Mr Yongsit Rojsrivichaikul and party of Thaicom Public Co Ltd.—MNA

Ma Mya Creek Bridge (1)...

(from page 1)

He went on to say that the ministry is now undertaking 26 road projects in cooperation with 126 groups of companies. In addition, 36 companies are building 84 more roads stretching over 5252 miles in total under B.O.T system.

Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung spoke words of thanks.

Union Minister U Khin Maung Myint and Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and party had a stroll along the bridge.—MNA

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint and Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung strolling along Ma Mya Creek Bridge.—MNA



Photo shows
the newly-opened
Ma Mya Creek
Bridge in Ingapu
Township, Hinthada
District.

MNA



Myanmar, Japan to boost trade

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Takashi Saito at the ministry here today. They held discussions on promotion of trade between the two countries.

MNA

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint receives Japanese Ambassador Mr Takashi Saito.—MNA

Loan to improve lives of farmers in Mandalay Region

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint met with departmental staff in NyaungU District, Township and Sub-township, at NyaungU of Mandalay Region on 25 April. The Chief Minister called for being qualified staff equipped with honesty and goodwill and good servants. He urged them to ensure the accuracy of figures, present actual reports and provide farmers with loan at fair interest rate so as to improve living standards of farmers.

The Chief Minister, accompanied by Mandalay Mayor Minister for Development Affairs U Phone Zaw Han and Minister for Agriculture and Forestry U Myint Than, inspected

supply of water by Kyaukpadaung Development Affair Committee.

In the afternoon, the Chief Minister inspected cultivation of summer paddy in Magyeetan village-tract in Kyaukpadaung Township.

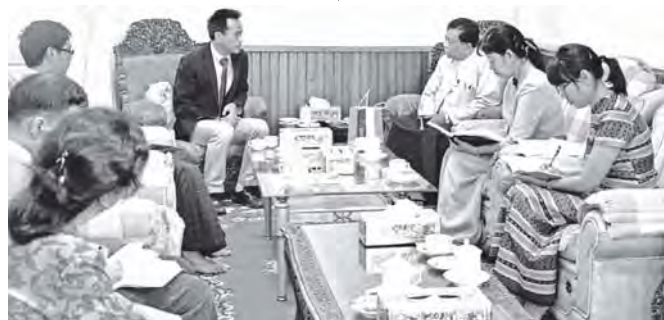
The Chief Minister arrived at Meiktila Plain Greening Project in the east of Thedaw-Wundwin in the evening. There, Director U Soe Nyunt of Mandalay Region Irrigation Department and officials reported to the Chief Minister on Kengkham multi-purpose dam project, Nampa dam project, Zawgyi multi-purpose dam project (completed in 1997-1998), Myogyi Dam project and Myaungmagyi project in Meiktila Plain.—MNA

Deputy Health Minister receives Japanese guest

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint received Resident Representative of Save the Children (Japan) Mr Yasuyuki Fujino at the Ministry of Health here this afternoon.

They held discussions on achievement in the tasks jointly implemented by Save the Children (Japan) and the Ministry of Health, and follow-up programmes.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint meets Resident Representative of Save the Children (Japan) Mr Yasuyuki Fujino.—MNA

Union Minister Maj-Gen Thein Htay receives Chinese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Maj-Gen Thein Htay received Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Mr Li Jinhua at the ministry, here, yesterday evening.

They discussed plans on cooperation in development of border regions, improvement of social-economic life of national races and industrial development between the two countries.

MNA

Workers to be rewarded if production exceeds target



Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik inspects Tin Smelting Plant (Thanlyin).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik made an inspection tour of Tin Smelting Plant (Thanlyin) under No. 2 Mining Enterprise in Thanlyin Township Yangon Region on 25 April.

In his instructions, the minister said that if production exceeds the target, rewards are to be provided to workers.

The minister stressed the need to minimize wastage in production of

tin, appoint skilled workers and to meet the target production in financial year, to encourage staff to undertake agriculture and livestock breeding on a manageable scale, to give priority to welfare of staff and to take security measures.

The minister inspected tasks at the minerals warehouse on Phonegyi Street in Seikkan Township of Yangon Region.

MNA

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.

Union F&R Minister receives Chinese Ambassador



Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinhua calls on Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinhua at the

ministry here today. They frankly discussed bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

MNA

Eucalyptus, teak plantations inspected

YANGON, 28 April — Mon State Forestry Minister U Win Maw Oo met staff of Mon State Forest Department and Myanmar Timber Enterprise at the office of Mon State Forest Department on 7 April.

On 8 April, he inspected the deputy general manager's office of Mon State Timber Enterprise, Myinthaya Nursery of Mon State Forest

Department, hard wood eucalyptus plantation of inexpensive rural housing and teak plantation of Pharaok village.

On his arrival at Mawlamyine (Affiliated Chaungzon Township) on 23 April, the minister grew a plant at the office of Chaungzon Township in-charge and inspected hard wood eucalyptus plantation.

MNA

Suspension bridge over Bago River...

(from page16)

I am now over 60. I pursued primary education in Kamakale Village. In those days, the headmaster and assistant headmistress commuted to Kamakale Village through the river to teach the students. So, the Bago River was a natural barrier.

From my youth to 2010, there was only bridge over the Bago River in downtown Bago. Now, there has emerged a suspension bridge over the river, linking Htongyi Village and Kawa. And there is another bridge built due to Yangon-Mandalay Highway Project.

The suspension bridge over the Bago River was built with the contributions made by an anonymous donor. He got local people build the concrete foundations of the suspension bridge on both sides. He said that only local people contributed their service to the building of the bridge, would they have a sense of valuing and maintaining the facility. When the concrete foundations were mature, the suspension bridge was built with ready-made

steel rods, pillars and sheets within one day.

The Bago River is calm and serene in the summer, but very violent in the rainy season due to torrents. I spent a night many times at the residence of the headmaster on Kyauktan

side whenever the river was in flood.

Now, local people have won triumph over the natural barrier owing to the goodwill of the anonymous donor.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 21-4-2011



People can cross the Bago River with convenience.

Japan factory output, consumer spending plummet

TOKYO, 28 April—Japan's factory production and consumer spending both fell the most on record in March as the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disasters sent the country's halting economic recovery into reverse.

The government said Thursday that industrial production plunged 15.3 percent from February after the 11 March earthquake and tsunami devastated Japan's industrial northeast, crippled a nuclear power station that continues to leak radiation and caused widespread power shortages.

Factory production



In this 18 April, 2011 file photo, workers give the final checkup on the cars of Honda Accord Tourer at Honda Motor Co's Saitama Factory in Sayama, north of Tokyo, as the Japanese automaker resumed limited production of automobiles on 11 April.—INTERNET

had been expected to fall sharply due to the disasters, but the drop was worse than the forecast of an 11.4 percent decline in a Kyodo News agency survey of analysts.

The disasters, which

killed about 25,000 people, destroyed many factories, causing severe parts and component for manufacturers across the Japanese economy but especially for automakers.

Internet

German consumer sentiment to fall

FRANKFURT, 28 April—Consumer sentiment in Germany is set to fall further in May following a decline in April which was the first for 10 months, the GfK economic research institute said on Wednesday.

The institute's survey of 2,000 households in Europe's biggest economy resulted in an indexed 5.7 points, a relatively solid level but a drop from 5.9 points the previous month, a GfK statement said.

GfK uses its findings to publish an indexed estimation for the month ahead, and the latest reading might undermine hopes for a rebound of consumption to help exports drive German growth.

German consumer prices gained an average of 2.1 percent in March, a level that exceeds the European Central Bank's target of just below 2.0 percent.

Of the GfK survey's three main components, two showed clear declines, notably consumer's assessment of overall economic prospects as well as those of their own finances.

But their propensity to make large purchases



Shoppers browse in Berlin. Consumer sentiment in Germany is set to fall further in May following a decline in April which was the first for 10 months, the GfK economic research institute said on Wednesday.—INTERNET

remained strong owing to the fact that "the excellent economic situation in Germany and rising employment are evidently easing fears of job losses," GfK said.

Internet

S Korea current account surplus rises



Containers are seen stacked up at a terminal in the southeastern port city of Busan.—INTERNET

SEOUL, 28 April—South Korea's current account surplus increased in March from the previous month due to strong exports despite

rising oil and other raw material prices, the central bank said Thursday.

The account surplus, the broadest measure of

trade with the rest of the world, was \$1.43 billion last month compared to a revised \$1.13 billion in February.

The surplus in March 2010 stood at \$1.20 billion. The account remained in the black for a 13th consecutive month, boosted by robust exports amid the global economic recovery. The goods account surplus rose considerably to \$2.86 billion in March from a revised \$1.53 billion in February.—Internet

China census shows population aging rapidly

BEIJING, 28 April—China's population is aging rapidly, the government said Thursday, though its leaders are refusing to relax strict family planning controls that are part of the cause. The results of a national census conducted late last year show the proportion of elderly people in the country of 1.34 billion jumped, while that of young people plunged sharply. The census results, announced Thursday, also show that half the population now lives in cities.

The census adds data to the world-changing shifts under way in China in the past decade, as economic reforms raise



In this photo taken, 25 April, 2011, an elderly Chinese man talks to a child on a street of Daxing District in Beijing, China.—INTERNET

living standards and pull more people off farms into the cities while families get smaller and the population ages. China's rapid aging has fueled worries over how long the country will be able to sustain its high

economic growth, as fewer young people are available to work in factories and build the roads that transformed it into the world's second biggest economy after the United States.—Internet

Brazil to train about 150,000 professionals by June 2012 for 2014 World Cup

BRASILIA, 28 April—Brazilian Ministry of Tourism will train about 150,000 professionals by June 2012 to work in the 12 cities that will host games during the 2014 World Cup.

According to the Minister of Tourism Pedro Novais, who participated in a public hearing in the Brazilian Senate on Wednesday, the total number of people to be trained by 2013 amounts to 306,000 professionals and about 280 million dollars will be invested in training programmes.

These people will work mainly in airports, car rental companies and hotels as drivers, adventure guides, receptionists, information providers, housekeepers and managers.—Xinhua

Vodafone struggles in India market

NEW DELHI, 28 April—When British mobile phone giant Vodafone paid \$11.1 billion to buy an Indian cellular operator four years ago, it had high hopes the purchase would offset saturated markets at home.

"This kind of deal is what we all dreamed about when we were students," former chief executive Arun Sarin exulted after the company bought a 67 percent controlling stake in the Indian firm then known as Hutchison Essar.

But even though Vodafone has won tens of millions of new subscribers in the hyper-competitive Indian market, it has faced innumerable

problems.

"Has India been a good case in terms of return on investment?" Vodafone global chief executive Vittorio Colao said on a visit this month to the country. "Unfortunately, the answer is no."

The Indian market soured for Vodafone, the world's biggest mobile firm by revenues, soon after its entry. "For sure, the market has become tougher. Within a year of our acquisition, the rules were changed and six new (national) licences were issued. New players came into the market with very aggressive pricing," Colao said.

Internet

Indian commuters pass by a billboard of British mobile giant, Vodafone in New Delhi. Vodafone had to write off \$3.7 billion last year on its Indian investment after cut-throat competition among the more than dozen operators slashed calling tariffs to below one cent a minute.—INTERNET



Visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (L) and Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak talk during a photo call at an official welcoming ceremony in Putrajaya outside Kuala Lumpur on 28 April, 2011.
INTERNET



Malaysia, China sign pacts to boost investment

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 April—China and Malaysia signed agreements Thursday to boost investment in a string of projects involving energy, infrastructure and communications that

add to Beijing's influence in Southeast Asia.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak presided over the signing ceremony after holding talks in Malaysia's administrative capital.

China also approved an application by Malaysia's central bank to establish a representative office in Beijing to facilitate trade in local currencies, Wen said. Malaysia is China's biggest trading partner in Southeast Asia.

The deals included an agreement between China Huadian Engineering and Malaysia's Janakuasa to build a coal-fired power plant. Janakuasa had previously been awarded the \$1.5 billion plant project that is expected to be completed in 2015 in southern Vietnam.

Another contract was for the supply of network infrastructure and services between Malaysia's Digi Telecommunications and China's ZTE Corp.

Internet

Indonesia to host 5th int'l conference on cocoa



Workers dry cocoa beans at a warehouse in Makassar in Indonesia's South Sulawesi Province on 6 April, 2010.—XINHUA

JAKARTA, 28 April—The Indonesian Cocoa Association (ASKINDO) will hold its fifth Indonesian International Cocoa Conference in Nusa Dua of Bali Province on 7 to 8 July, the *Jakarta Post* reported on Thursday.

The conference, titled 'Working together for a better cocoa future', will be attended by cocoa buyers, producers and experts from all over the world.

"Representatives of cocoa trading associations from several countries such as Ghana, Ivory Coast, the United States and some Asian countries will join the meeting," ASKINDO Chairman Zulhefi Sikumbang said in a media briefing ahead of the conference on Wednesday.

Zulhefi said the conference's key focus was to discuss sustainability and certification for improved profitability, social and environmental conditions.

The certification is to verify that the company can produce good, quality products and use environmentally-friendly technology.

Zulhefi said the association already had discussed the certification system with the Agriculture Ministry in 2009, but the government had yet to take any action.

Xinhua

Hyundai shares jump to record high after profit surge

SEOUL, 28 April—Hyundai Motor Co (005380.KS) reported a 47 percent jump in quarterly profit on Thursday, sending its shares to a record high, with investors betting earnings will continue to grow as Japanese rivals struggle with a production slump.

The South Korean firm is less reliant on Japanese parts than other global car makers such as General Motors

(GM.N) and Hyundai is widely seen among the biggest beneficiaries of a prolonged disruption in Japanese output this year following the 11 March earthquake.

"Hyundai has been emerging as an alternative to Japanese cars, shaking off its image as a maker of cheap cars," said Lee Dong-jin, a fund manager at KTB Asset Management. "It's now seeing some benefits

from increasing production at overseas plants while the world took a hit from the financial crisis."

Reuters

A man walks into the Hyundai area during the opening day of the Shanghai Auto Show on 19 April, 2011.

INTERNET



Apple denies tracking iPhones, to fix 'bugs'

WASHINGTON, 28 April—Apple on Wednesday dismissed claims it was tracking iPhone users but said it would fix software "bugs" that resulted in location data being unencrypted and stored for up to a year.

"Apple is not tracking the location of your iPhone," the California-based company said in its first response to privacy questions raised by a pair of researchers. "Apple has never done so and has no plans to ever do so."

Apple said the iPhone was not logging a user's location but maintaining a database of nearby Wi-Fi hotspots and cell towers to "help your iPhone rapidly and accurately calculate its location when



A man displays an iPhone in 2009. Apple on Wednesday denied claims it was tracking the location of iPhone users but said it planned to fix "bugs" that resulted in location data being unencrypted and stored for up to a year.—INTERNET

requested."

According to the British researchers, iPhones and iPads running iOS 4, the latest operating system, were

storing latitude and longitude coordinates in a hidden file along with a time stamp and the data was easily retrievable.

"By passively logging your location without your permission, Apple have made it possible for anyone from a jealous spouse to a private investigator to get a detailed picture of your movements," they said.

Apple said the location data the researchers were seeing on the iPhone is "not the past or present location of the iPhone, but rather the locations of Wi-Fi hotspots and cell towers surrounding the iPhone's location, which can be more than one hundred miles away from the iPhone."

Internet

Asian economy to grow seven percent in 2011-12

HONG KONG, 28 April—Asia will continue to lead global economic growth over the next two years even as it grapples with risks including inflation and the effects of Japan's tsunami, the International Monetary Fund said Thursday.

"Robust" regional growth of close to 7 percent will be fueled by exports and domestic demand, Anoop Singh, director of the Washington-based body's Asia & Pacific department, said in the twice-yearly report. Asia's overall economy grew 8.3

percent in 2010. Growth will be driven by economic powerhouses China and India. The IMF forecasts China's economy will grow 9.5 percent while India will expand about 8 percent over the next two years.

Internet



Tourists visit the park of the International Horticultural Exposition 2011 in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on 28 April, 2011. The International Horticultural Exposition 2011 kicked off here Thursday.—XINHUA

**MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER**

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for supply of the following items in Euro;

Sr No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Closing Date
1.	12(T)2/MR(ML) 2011-2012	Rolled Steel for Diesel Electric Locomotive Tyre (Rough Turn)	240 Nos	3.6.2011 (12:00)hr
2.	12(T)3/MR(ML) 2011-2012	Spare Parts for Machinery and Equipment	25 Items	17.6.2011 (12:00)hr

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 2.5.2011 during office hours and for further detail please call Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 291994,

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11007)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.4.2011 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 T.S LINES LTD**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV DIBENA UNITY VOY NO (137)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA UNITY VOY NO (137) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.4.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-2 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
COLTD**
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Adaptable urban birds have bigger brains

LONDON, 28 April — City dwelling birds have larger brains relative to their body size, according to scientists. They have found that family traits are key to identifying why certain birds thrive in European cities. "Urban adapters" including tits,

crows, nuthatches and wrens all come from families of related species that have large brains compared to their bodies.

Scientists suggest that larger brains make birds more adaptable to the changeable conditions of city living. Researchers from the Evolutionary Biology Centre, Uppsala, Sweden and the Donana Biological Station, Seville, Spain studied 82 species of birds from 22 families.—*Internet*



Urban birds are more resourceful.— *Internet*

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Beiersdorf AG (a German Company) of Unnastrasse 48, 20253 Hamburg, Germany, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:



Reg. No. 606/2011

In respect of "Class 03: Soaps, perfumery, cosmetics, preparations for the care, cleansing and embellishment of the hair, deodorants for personal use, sun care preparations; Class 05: Pharmaceutical preparations and preparations for health care; plasters, especially medicated plasters, dressing and bandaging materials for health care; disinfectants; Class 10: Surgical and medical apparatus and instruments; orthopedic articles; contraceptives, especially condoms; compression bandages".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.
Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for Beiersdorf AG
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 29 April 2011

Announcing A Marriage

The marriage is announced between

Aung Mon

son of U Tin Aung San and Daw Aye Khin of No. 223, 1st floor, 40th Street, 9th Quarter, Kyauktada Township, Yangon and

Zin Mar Lwin

daughter of U Khin Maung Latt and Daw Kyin Hmawae of No. 25, Konezaydan Street, 6th Quarter, Pazundaung Township, Yangon on Monday, the 25th April 2011 before Daw Nyo Mi San, Judge, Juvenile Court, Yangon with the permission of both sides of parents.

The parents of both sides

and

Aung Mon & Zin Mar Lwin



The Allen Telescope Array has gone into "hibernation".—*Internet*

Alien search telescope is shelved

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 April — A monitoring system for potential extra-terrestrial communication has been shelved due to budget cuts. The Allen Telescope Array (ATA) in California has been mothballed, according to the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (Seti) Institute. Funding for the observatory, which hosts the ATA, has been cut to one-tenth its former level. The Seti Institute was established in 1984 to look for life beyond Earth.

The telescopes, at the Hat Creek Radio Observatory north of San Francisco, California, have a number of science goals, including searching for radio signals from intelligent life in the Universe.—*Internet*

France: Mulhouse airport traffic controller killed

PARIS, 28 April — An air traffic controller has been found stabbed to death at the EuroAirport outside Mulhouse, France, near the Swiss and German borders.

Police say the 34-year-old was found in a pool of blood in an office in the control tower that is accessible only with an identity badge. Prosecutors have opened a murder investigation, French reports say.

The victim, a married

father of one who has not been named, was a senior official at the airport. A spokesman for the civil aviation authority, the DGAC, said the victim, who had worked at the

airport since leaving education in 1998, was in charge of the control tower. He was found shortly after 0800 (0600 GMT) by an employee of the airport.—*Internet*



Air traffic at the airport was not affected by the killing, officials said.

Internet

Police lose suspect, and his chair

NEW YORK, 28 April — Police in the US are looking for a robbery suspect who escaped from custody by slipping out of a back door while handcuffed to a chair.

John Caesar, 58, was being questioned over theft from a bar in Buffalo, NY. He was handcuffed to the chair in a police station when he escaped. Police said the chair was missing and Caesar may still be handcuffed to it.—*Internet*

Police in the US are hunting a theft suspect who escaped while handcuffed to a chair.

Internet



FDA set to approve drug for hepatitis C

WASHINGTON, 28 April—A US Food and Drug Administration advisory panel advises approval of Merck & Co's hepatitis C drug boceprevir, government officials say.

The FDA advisory panel of outside experts voted 18-0 to approve boceprevir, expected to be marketed under the brand name Victrelis, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

FDA staff say the agency is leaning toward approving boceprevir and a similar product, telaprevir, from Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc. Telaprevir is scheduled to be reviewed Thursday by the same FDA advisory panel, the *Journal* says.

Debra Birkant, the director of FDA's anti-viral-drugs division told the *Journal* both products appear to increase sustained virologic response

rates, "to more than 30 percent above what we have today."

Both drugs — protease inhibitors, designed to block an enzyme that helps the hepatitis C virus replicate — worked better when added to existing treatments and in some cases, shortened the total treatment time.

Internet



A handout picture released by the Vicente Lopez Municipality shows female bus drivers posing by a bus of the Bicentenario line in Vicente Lopez, Buenos Aires in March 2011.

Bus drivers sought, no men need apply

A town near Buenos Aires, leery of the screeching stops and careening turns it says typifies male drivers, has hired exclusively women to shuttle its passengers around.

"With women driving, the bus line is more family oriented, more friendly," said Rafaela Nuyl, 34, one of 28 newly hired drivers for the new bus service in Vicente Lopez.

The bus line in the town 270,000, which has been operating since the beginning of the month, makes frequent stops at local primary schools, elder day care centres and a maternity hospital, said officials in Vicente Lopez.

News Album

Man faked 911 call to avoid arrest

Authorities in Florida said they arrested a man who made a fake 911 call about a shooting to avoid being arrested for driving on a suspended license.

Collier County sheriff's deputies said Jonathan Paul Rorech, 31, of Naples, was pulled over about 1 am Tuesday while driving 45 mph in a 30 mph zone and he told the deputy he had a North Carolina driver's license at home, the *Naples Daily News* reported Wednesday. The sheriff's report said the deputy discovered Rorech did not have a valid North Carolina or Florida driver's license but sent the motorist on his way when he received a report of shots fired. The deputy arrived at the location of the reported shooting and discovered there had been no shots fired. He suspected the 911 call was false and recognized Rorech's voice from the recording of the call.



A chef tries to work with the largest mango pie in the city of San Carlos, Pangasinan Province, Northern Philippines, on 26 April, 2011. A total of 400 pieces of mango pie, each weighing 10 kilos with a total cost of 400,000 Philippine Peso (about 60463 RMB) were displayed in a 100-square-metre table and shared by more than 1,200 residents in the city of San Carlos.

Spanish man sues parents over allowance

A judge ordered a 25-year-old Spanish man who sued his parents for ending his allowance to quit freeload, officials said.

Judge Jose Luis Utrera, who presides over the Family Court of Malaga, ordered a man from Andalusia in southern Spain to leave his parents' home within 30 days, *Think Spain* reported.

The son, who has not been named in court documents, sued his parents after they cut his monthly allowance of \$587. The judge said the family couldn't afford the luxury of maintaining an adult offspring

and said the man, who doesn't work or attend college, is capable of finding a job. "Parents have no absolute or unlimited obligation to provide maintenance for their adult children — such actions are only limited to certain circumstances," Utrera said. In Spain, it's not unusual for offspring to remain living in the parental household well into their 30s, especially when the youth unemployment rate is the highest in the European Union at 40 percent.

There are 4.6 million unemployed in Spain, government figures for the fourth quarter of 2010 indicate.

Crash spills cereal on Ohio Turnpike

The Ohio Highway Patrol said a portion of the Ohio Turnpike was closed for nearly three hours Wednesday morning when a crash spilled cereal onto the road. The patrol said eastbound traffic near Toledo was shut down for nearly three hours after a semi driver, who investigators said may have fallen asleep at the wheel, crashed through a guard rail and landed on its side, leading a tow truck to crash into the trailer, WTVG-TV, Toledo, reported Wednesday.

Authorities said bulldozers were called in to clean up. The semi driver was taken to the University of Toledo Medical Centre with non-life-threatening injuries and the tow truck driver refused medical treatment for minor injuries, the highway patrol said.

Lohan admits I made 'a lot of mistakes'



Actress Lindsay Lohan appears in a courtroom during a hearing in Los Angeles on 10 March, 2011.—INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 28 April—Actress Lindsay Lohan, who was recently sentenced to 120 days in jail for a probation violation, admits she's

made "a lot of mistakes."

The 24-year-old star of "Mean Girls" and "Freaky Friday" has battled drug and alcohol addiction in recent years. She is now awaiting trial on a shoplifting charge.

A judge last week sentenced Lohan to 120 days in jail because the theft allegation violated the terms of her probation in a prior driving under the influence case. Her lawyer is appealing the decision.—*Internet*



Musicians of the Italian cinema orchestra present the theme score of the Hollywood movie "Gone With the Wind" during a symphony concert at the People's Great Hall in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 April, 2011. The Italian cinema orchestra, together with Chinese singers, presented film scores of classic Chinese and foreign movies during a symphony concert, which was held here Tuesday as one of the events of the ongoing 1st Beijing International Film Festival.—XINHUA

Las Vegas to host Michael Jackson show

LOS ANGELES, 28 April—Cirque du Soleil and Michael Jackson's estate unveiled plans Wednesday for a permanent show honoring the pop icon at a Las Vegas casino resort, including items from his Neverland Ranch.

While the permanent show won't open until early 2013, the dance company will also bring

its Michael Jackson "The Immortal" world tour to the US gambling mecca's Mandalay Bay resort and casino this December, they said.

"We are excited about creating this new Michael Jackson production for Mandalay Bay. Michael Jackson is creatively inspiring for Cirque du Soleil artisans and creative teams,"

said Cirque du Soleil boss Daniel Lamarre.

The executors of the late King of Pop's estate have agreed to an official Michael Jackson Fan Fest opening at the same time as the tour shows in Las Vegas, the first such officially-endorsed project since he died in June 2009.

Internet

Soviet film classics find new life on YouTube

Moscow, 28 April—The Moscow film company behind some of the greatest classics of Soviet cinema on Wednesday said it had agreed to make dozens of its best-known movies freely available on YouTube.

The agreement between Mosfilm and YouTube means that an initial batch of 50 films that still have legendary status in Russia but are little known outside will for the first time find a wide foreign audience.

The unabridged films have been posted with subtitles and Mosfilm said it will add five more films every week, meaning that by the end of the year a library of 200 films will be available in high definition.

The movies posted so far include "Ivan Vasilevich Changes Occupation", a 1973 comedy where a Soviet engineer accidentally sends feared Tsar Ivan the Terrible to modern Moscow with his homemade time machine.

Also available is "White Sun of the Desert" (1969), the first of a genre of Soviet co-called Easterns set in Central Asia that is still traditionally watched by cosmonauts before every space launch.

Internet



Cirque du Soleil and Michael Jackson's estate have unveiled plans for a permanent show honouring the pop icon at a Las Vegas casino resort, including items from his Neverland Ranch.—INTERNET



People work in the sound room of the Mosfilm film studio in Moscow in 2007. INTERNET



A view of the London 2012 Olympic stadium, in London.— INTERNET

Over half of London Olympic events oversubscribed

LONDON, 28 April — Five sports events and the opening and closing ceremonies sold out in the first round of ticket sales for the 2012 London Olympics, with 1.8 million applicants making 20 million requests. After a six-week online application period for the 6.6 million tickets on sale, Olympic organizers said on Wednesday that more than half of the 650 competition sessions in 26 sports were oversubscribed.

While tickets remain for sports such as track and field, already sold out are track cycling, rhythmic gymnastics, triathlon, modern pentathlon and the cross-country equestrian competition. Also no

longer available are tickets for both ceremonies, with the opening on 27 July, 2012, 10 times oversubscribed. Tickets for those events will be allocated through a lottery system.

The London organizing committee, known as LOCOG, also said the "majority" of the swimming and tennis sessions have sold out. Organizers had hoped to sell 80 percent of the tickets by Wednesday, leaving about 1.3 million available for sale in a later phase. LOCOG did not disclose exactly how many how many tickets have been bought or how many remain unsold, but said there will be further sales in June and July.— *Internet*

Soderling struggles, Tsonga stunned in Estoril tennis

ESTORIL, 28 April — Robin Soderling struggled to a patchy if encouraging victory on Wednesday to open play at the Estoril Open as Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga made a miserable debut at the clay court event. Top seed Soderling was looking on the bright side after coasting in the first and last sets but fighting for his life in the second to emerge with a 6-1, 6-7 (4/7), 6-1 defeat of France's Jeremy Chardy.

Tsonga, like Soderling playing his first career match at the Estadio Nacional, was much less successful as he went down quietly to Pablo Cuevas of Uruguay 6-2, 7-6 (7/0). The third seed had little to offer after the loss, his second from three played on clay this spring. "It was perfect conditions, but my opponent played well and I didn't," said the former Australian Open



Robin Soderling of Sweden

finalist. "There was nothing special in the match or in my game today.—*Internet*

Irate Mourinho rails against Barca 'favouritism'

MADRID, 28 April — Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho could not hide his anger in the wake of the 2-0 Champions League semi final first leg defeat to rivals Barcelona at the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday, saying referees always favoured Barcelona. The Portuguese coach highlighted the dismissal of Pepe on the hour mark of being another example of this favouritism.

A late brace from Lionel Messi helped Barcelona put one leg in the Wembley final but there were sour grapes as Mourinho, who was sent to the stands, vented his fury

at the straight red card for Pepe. Chelsea couldn't get to the final three years ago (in the 2009 semi-final) against Barcelona. Against Inter Milan last year we played with ten men against Barcelona (Inter still went on to eliminate them and win the trophy beating Bayern Munich) and once again this year we played with ten men," bemoaned Mourinho.

Internet



Bayern will not pay 'astronomical' sum for Neuer



Schalke's goalkeeper Manuel Neuer

BERLIN, 28 April — Bayern Munich warned Schalke 04 on Wednesday that it is not ready to pay out an "astronomical sum" for goalkeeper Manuel Neuer. "We want Manuel," Bayern president Uli Hoeness said in comments to the *tz* daily.

Real Madrid's Portuguese coach Jose Mourinho

"When there's a desire, we can find a solution but Schalke management must now not come up with an astronomical sum. "Negotiations haven't started, but they're imminent."

Neuer starred in Schalke's 2-0 defeat to Manchester United in the semi-final, first leg Champions League tie on Tuesday. The goalkeeper produced a sequence of stunning saves in the opening period, only for second-half strikes from Ryan Giggs and Wayne Rooney to earn United a victory that scarcely reflected the extent of their dominance.— *Internet*

Messi gives Barcelona 2-0 win over 10-man Madrid

MADRID, 28 April — Lionel Messi's clutch scoring was overshadowed by the loud complaining from the other side. Messi lit up an ill-tempered Champions League semifinal on Wednesday with two goals in the last 15 minutes to give Barcelona a 2-0 victory against short-handed Real Madrid.

"A team that has nine European Cups never gives up on a series, I'm convinced of that," Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola said. "We played a very good game."

We controlled their counterattacks, their aerial game, which is very dangerous."

The match turned on the ejection of Madrid's Pepe in the 61st minute. That enraged Madrid coach Jose Mourinho, who was sent to the stands for protesting the decision, leaving Madrid playing with 10 against Barcelona for the fourth straight game.

Pepe was sent off after colliding with Daniel Alves as he lunged for a ball and Mourinho was sent to the stands for sarcastically clapping and showing a thumbs up to the fourth official.

Mourinho has seen his team finish with 10 players in his last five matches against Barcelona, counting Inter Milan's 1-0 defeat at Barcelona in the semifinals last year. Inter still advanced, then won the championship against Bayern Munich.— *Internet*



Barcelona's player Lionel Messi celebrates his goal against Real Madrid's goalkeeper Iker Casillas during their Champions League semi-final first leg soccer match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid .

INTERNET

SPORTS

Lyon's Toulalan suffers knee injury

LYON, 28 April— Lyon's former France midfielder Jeremy Toulalan looks set to miss their next league match against Toulouse on Sunday after suffering a left knee injury in Wednesday's 3-2 win over Montpellier. The 27-year-old - who has not earned a recall to the national side since receiving a one game suspension for his role in the French players training ground strike at last year's World Cup finals — had to go off in the ninth minute of the match.

Lyon coach Claude Puel — who has switched Toulalan to a central defensive role this season — said that the 36-times capped Toulalan could have suffered ligament damage. "We will see what the

outcome is of the scans that he undergoes this evening or tomorrow morning," said Puel, who played an influential part in persuading Toulalan in not retiring totally from football after the World Cup debacle.— *Internet*



Lyon's former France midfielder Jeremy Toulalan

Cologne name Volker as third coach of season

BERLIN, 28 April — Cologne on Wednesday named Volker Finke as interim coach after the shock departure of Frank Schaefer, in the third change this season for the struggling Bundesliga club.

Finke, 63, has been sporting director at Cologne since February and will take charge of the final three matches of the season.

Schaefer, who had taken charge of the club from Zvonimir Soldo in October, announced earlier this month that he would be quitting Cologne at the season's end, but his departure was brought forward after the club lost 4-1 to Wolfsburg at the weekend.

It was their third loss in a row that left Cologne, which appeared to be climbing the table after a run of seven straight home wins just before this latest poor run, in 14th place. Schaefer is the 12th Bundesliga manager sacked this season, an all-time record for the German top flight. In 2006-07 a total of 10 managers either left or were sacked.— *Internet*

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

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

People's Desire

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

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

Suspension bridge over Bago River contributed by anonymous well-wisher

Byline and photos: Sein Hlaing Bo

The Bago River is a well-known waterway as the Mingun Bell forcibly took from Singuttara Hill, where the Shwedagon Pagoda is situated, by Portugal Philips Debritto (a) Nga Zin Gar, governor of Thanlyin, sank in the mouth of the



The suspension bridge crossing Bago River.

Dawbon River near the Bago River. Therefore, the name "the Bago River" is featured in many historical periodicals.

The Bago River is about 90 miles long from its mouth to Yangon. It rises at the place where the Thameehla Creek and Zarmayi Creek that flows from the Hsinnhamaung Mountain, a mountain of the 2639 feet high Bago Yoma Mountain Range in Thayawady meet. In the rainy season, log rafts and bamboo rafts are set adrift downstream the Bago River.

My native region is on the bank of the Bago River. However, I cannot swim because my parents and grandparents forbade me from having a swim in the river. I used to get cross the river daily.

If a local wanted to Bago or Yangon from my native town, he had to go to Kyauktan Station through the river by boat. People of such surrounding villages as Moe Khaing Gyi, Moe Khaing Lay, Kyartet and Nibban, if they had to go to Bago or Yangon, had to the port by bullock cart first.

Then, they had to proceed to the station through the river. Thence, they took their trains to the destinations. At that time, there was no barber shop in Kamakale Village.

If a villager wanted to have a hair-cut or to have a cup of tea or a plate of fried noodle, he had to go to Kyauktan Village, crossing the Bago River.

(See page 9)

Hlawga Park to be kept open on Workers' Day

YANGON, 28 April — Hlawga Park of Forest Department will be kept open from 8 am to 6 pm on 1 May (Workers' Day) for public relaxation and recreation. — MNA



Apple denies location-tracking allegations after week-long silence

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 April— Apple Inc. on Wednesday denied the alleged location-tracking practice of its mobile operating system, saying it will release software updates to make iPhone store less location information to quell public concerns over privacy.

According to the statement, the location data researchers saw on iPhone is a database of Wi-Fi hotspots and cell towers around users' current location that Apple is maintaining to help iPhone rapidly and accurately calculate its location when requested. It noted Apple cannot locate iPhone users based on Wi-Fi hotspot and cell tower data as the information is in an anonymous and encrypted form.—Internet