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The New Light of Myanmar

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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

Water poured at Bo trees across the nation on Fullmoon Day of Kason

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May—Today , Fullmoon Day of Kason (Buddha Day), is of religious significance for Buddhists across the world.

A ceremony to pour water at Bo tree marking the Buddha Day was held at the Bo tree in the precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, the secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Council and religious associations.

They sprinkled scented water at Bo tree and the religious association poured water at the Bo tree.

Devotees and pilgrims paid homage to Buddha images in the cave of the pagoda, made meritorious deeds and kept Sabbaths at the religious edifices.

Water pouring ceremony at Bo tree was also held at Dhatucaya (Datpaungsu) Pagoda in Bawgathiri Ward in Zabuthiri Township.

Likewise, pagodas, stupas and religious edifices were packed with local people who offered fruits, flowers, water, oil lights to the Buddha images and performed meritorious deeds.

Similar ceremonies took place at Lawkamarazein Pagoda and Phayakoehsu Pagoda in Pyinmana of Nay Pyi Taw District today.

Chairman of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Manaung Monastery Sayadaw Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Pandava and members of the Sangha together with pilgrims participated in the water pouring ceremony at Bo tree for the 33th time of its kind.

Phayakoehsu Pagoda in Pyinnama was held this evening. The local people traditionally poured water at Maha Bo tree in the precinct of the pagoda and performed meritorious deeds.

The 28th water pouring ceremony at Bo tree was held at Shwedagon Pagoda at its southeast corner this morning. Before the ceremony, Sayadaws consecrated the Bo tree and then those present poured water.

(See page 8)

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.

Ceremony to pure water at Bo Tree in Uppatasanti Pagoda Precinct in progress.
MNA

Election sub-commissions to be formed with competent members

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May—Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Tin Aye and members of Sagaing Region/District/Monywa Township sub-Commissions held a work coordination meeting at Hluttaw Hall of Sagaing Region yesterday morning.

The UEC chairman delivered an introductory speech.

Chairman of Sagaing Region Election Sub-Commission U Tin Oo gave an account of the functions of the commission. Sagaing, Monywa, Shwebo, Katha, Kalay, Tamu, Mawlaik and Hkamti district sub-commissions, the secretary of Naga Self-Administered Zone Sub- Commission and the chairman of Monywa Township sub-commission reported on their tasks in the 2010 Multiparty Democracy General Election, participation of sub-commissions at all levels, returning officers and members of poll stations, the holding of free and fair elections, and arrangements for forthcoming by-election.

In his address, the UEC chairman said that sub-commissions at all levels are responsible for holding free and fair elections in line with the laws and rules to enable the public to select reliable candidates. So, sub-commissions at different levels should consider themselves to be important organizations, he said. Members of Ward/Village sub-commissions, returning officers and members of poll stations are to be self-motivated and dynamic with good performance. A meeting, paper-reading session, and course are to be conducted once every month, he noted, adding that necessary equipment is to be installed in advance.—*MNA*

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 18 May, 2011

Admire, preserve cultural heritage

Convincing archaeological evidences reveal that Myanmar people have been living in the land later known as Myanmar from time immemorial.

Myanmar saw civilization aeons ago. Soon after ancient residents developed into national races, the land witnessed civilization in various sectors. The artefacts discovered across the nation indicate that our forefathers were of high cultural standard.

As to cultural heritage, Myanmars excavate archaeological sites, do archaeological research and preserve cultural and archaeological artefacts and edifices. Now, palaces of Myanmar monarchs and archaeological sites are being excavated and stone plaques and palm-leaf manuscripts and paper parchments are kept well.

Varieties of objects on cultural heritage and artefacts are on display in museums, thus showing that Myanmars are a people of well preserving and promoting national prestige and integrity.

The people are under a bounden duty to preserve cultural heritage. To keep objects on cultural heritage in museums alone is not enough in the process. Therefore, the people are to enhance their sense of admiring and preserving cultural heritage forever.

People's Desire

* **Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views**
* **Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation**
* **Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State**
* **Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy**

Union Commerce Minister meets merchants, agriculturalists in Magway

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint meets with officials of agricultural associations in Magway Region.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May—Ministry of Commerce will provide technologies and capital to beam and pulses and sesame growers in cooperation with private companies and help extended growing of oil crops for sufficiency of domestic consumption, said Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint in meeting with chairmen and officials from Myanmar Beans and Pulses Dealers Association, Myanmar agriculture producers association, companies and brokerages, at Magway, Magway Region on 14 May.

Chairmen from the associations explained implementation of works.

The Union Minister attended ceremony to grant loan to farmers at Aungmyaygon village, Magway Township.

In the evening, he met merchants and officials from broke-rages.

Yesterday, the Union Minister inspected unloading of palm oil off the ship to palm oil tank of Diamond Dragon Co., Ltd in Kyimyindine Township, Yangon. He met with the Chairman of Myanmar Oil Dealers Association, Diamond Dragon Co., Ltd and entrepreneurs.—*MNA*

UNFPA resident representative calls on Union Minister

Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi receives UNFPA Resident Representative Mr Mohamed S. Abdel-Ahad.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May—Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi received UNFPA Resident Representative Mr Mohamed S. Abdel-Ahad at his office here yesterday.

The frank meeting focused on collection of censuses and migration. *MNA*

299 drug related cases exposed in April

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May—In April 2011, 299 drug related cases were exposed: 15.8962 kilos of opium in 29 cases, 0.9686 kilo of heroine in 92 cases, 3.7314 kilos of opium oil in nine cases, 82.3917 kilos of low-grade opium in 44 cases, 33.6695 kilos of marijuana in 21 cases, 657607 stimulant tablets in 87 cases, 9.1379 kilos of speciosa in 11 cases, 0.488 litter of opium liquid in one case, 4.25 kilos of Ice, one kilo of morphine in one case, 3.862 kilos of pseudoephedrine in one case, one case of failure to register and two other cases. Action was taken against 459 suspects—379 men and 80 women—in 299 cases in accord with the law. — *MNA*

T.T.O holds 10th Anniversary of importing medicines of Denk Pharma

10th Anniversary medicines import from Denk Pharma Co by T.T.O Co in progress.—NLM

YANGON, 17 May—A ceremony to hold 10th Anniversary of importing medicines of Denk Pharma Co of Germany by T.T.O Co and to honour pharmacy owners was held at Chatrium Hotel here yesterday evening. General Manager Mr Frank Zimmermann of Denk Pharma Co extended greeting and explained medicines produced by Co.

After that, sale agents and best-selling agents were awarded. Denk Pharma Co is distributing 31 kinds of medicines in Myanmar.

Those wishing to buy medicines may contact T.T.O Trading Co., Ltd, Room No.1007, Yuzana Tower Shwegondine, Bahan Township, Yangon Region (01-559518 and 01-552720).—*NLM*

NATO incursion into Pakistan wounds two troops

MIRANSHAH, 17 May— A NATO helicopter from Afghanistan intruded into Pakistan's North Waziristan region on Tuesday, wounding two troops, local intelligence officials said, adding to tensions between Islamabad and the West.

"It happened early morning," a Pakistani intelligence official in the region, who declined to be identified, told Reuters. "The helicopter hit a Pakistani check post on the border in the Datta Khel area."

Another intelligence official said several Pakistani helicopters took off from Miranshah, the main town in North Waziristan, toward the site of the attack. The purpose of the Pakistani mobilization was unclear.

The Pakistani military was immediately unavailable for comment.

Lieutenant-Commander Colette Murphy, a spokeswoman for the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), said in Kabul that the coalition was aware of the reports and looking into them, but had no immediate comment.

Reuters

People look at a destroyed motorcycle that belonged to a civilian at the site of a suicide blast in Laghman Province on 9 May, 2011.
INTERNET

Security forces inspect a bus which was hit by a Katyusha rocket in Baghdad.—INTERNET

Iraqi police officer, civilian killed in violence

BAGHDAD, 17 May— A police officer and a civilian were killed and another three were wounded in Baghdad and Iraq's eastern province of Diyala on Tuesday, the police said.

In Baghdad, gunmen using silenced weapons shot dead Colonel Jassim Mohammed of the Interior Ministry's investigation department in the southwestern district of al-Amil, an Interior Ministry source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The attack is seen as part of a wave of assassinations by militias and gangs against Iraqi security members, officials and civilians. The attackers' tactics varied from suicide bombings, gunfire by silenced weapons and sticky bombs attached to vehicles. In Diyala province, the police found a body of a man in his 60s riddled with bullets and dumped on a road in the town of Buhruz, south of the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a source from the provincial operations command told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. In a separate incident, three people from one family were wounded in a makeshift bomb explosion at an orchard in al- Othmaniyah area, some 15 km southwest of Baquba, the source said.

Xinhua

Challenges remain in Afghanistan

BEIJING, 17 May—The Afghan army and the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force have made progress in fighting insurgents but challenges remain.

Lt General David Rodriquez, Commander of ISAF Joint Command said Afghan and coalition forces have made an impact against many of the insurgents' support bases and weakened the enemy's effectiveness.

But he noted that the Taleban-led insurgency would intensify this summer. Meanwhile, the Deputy Chief of Staff at IJC, said that the violence in Afghanistan is becoming much more isolated than it was in previous years.

Currently, more than 140 thousand foreign troops, including nearly 100 thousand Americans, are deployed in Afghanistan. Late last month , the Taleban declared the start of a spring offensive against the Afghan army and NATO-led international forces.—*Internet*

Four NATO soldiers killed in IED blast in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 17 May— Four soldiers with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed on Monday in Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast in Afghanistan's restive southern region, the military alliance said on Tuesday.

However, the brief statement released by ISAF here did not reveal the nationalities of the victims, saying it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities.

Troops mainly from US, Britain, Canada and Australia have been stationed in the southern region within the framework of ISAF to fight Taleban militants there. The southern Afghan Provinces, the hotbed of Taleban, have been experiencing increasing militancy over the past couples of years despite continued military operations since mid last year.

Over 170 NATO soldiers, most of them Americans, have been killed in Afghanistan since beginning this year.—*Xinhua*

In this 10 May, 2011 photo, Afghan shepherd Asadullah Daad Mohammad, 12, sleeps on his bed at the International Committee of the Red Cross Orthopedic Center in Kabul, Afghanistan. Asadullah lost his legs, left eye and a finger, most likely after he stepped on a land mine while he was out with his goats and sheep in a Paktya Province south of Kabul about five months ago.—INTERNET

Afghan child workers outside at a shop welding gates in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 9 May, 2011.
INTERNET

US drone attacks kill 15 in Pakistan's North Wazirstan Agency

PESHAWAR, 17 May—At least 15 people were killed in two separate United States- led drone attacks in Pakistan''s North Wazirstan Agency on Monday.

The first attack at a house in the Khesro village killed nine suspected militants and destroyed the house completely, The Nation reports. Sources said that the house belonged to the militants.

In an another strike, a US drone fired two missiles at a moving vehicle in Miranshah, killing five travellers. It was a fifth drone attack in May that caused civilian losses.

The unmanned drone strikes are carried out by the US on reportedly "high value targets" in Pakistan but the Central Intelligence Agency has never officially acknowledged the programme.

US officials have defended the strikes as a vital tool in combating terrorism but critics point out that the bombings have caused massive civilian losses.

Internet

Science

An image released by the European Southern Observatory (ESO) shows an artist's impression of the atmosphere around a super-Earth exoplanet, the name given to rocky exoplanets only a few times larger than our own. Gliese 581d, a rocky world orbiting a nearby star, has been confirmed as the first planet outside our solar system to meet key requirements for sustaining life, scientists say.—INTERNET

S Korea picks sites for $4.7bn science belt

SEOUL, 17 May— South Korea on Monday announced sites for its $4.76 billion "science belt" designed to help Asia's fourth-largest economy take the lead in cutting-edge technologies. Daedeok district in the city of Daejeon will be the main base for the development, said Education, Science and Technology Minister Lee Ju-Ho. The government plans to inject 5.2 trillion won ($4.76 billion) into the project to build scientific infrastructure by 2017.

Daedeok will have key research facilities such as the National Basic Science Institute and a particle accelerator, used for research into the composition of matter.

The institute is expected to control 50 "site laboratories" manned by up to 3,000 scientists who will carry out research in various fields. Half will be in Daejeon and nearby areas, with the rest split among other cities. Daedeok will become a global hub for basic scientific research, minister Lee said, and help South Korea become a world technology leader. "I hope the science belt will contribute to the promotion of science and become the future of our nation," Lee told aides, according to his office.—*Internet*

Heavy rain engulfs the Bayswater Power Station near Muswellbrook in Australia's Hunter Valley. Australia's use of renewable energy as an electricity source has slumped as a percentage of total output over the past 50 years with an increasing reliance on polluting coal, research showed Tuesday.—INTERNET

Greenhouse may expand ocean dead zones and cause mass extinction: Australian scientists

CANBERRA, 17 May— Greenhouse gases may expand 'ocean dead zones' and could cause a mass extinction of marine life, Australian scientists warned on Tuesday.

An Australian research team analyzed ocean rocks back from 85 million years ago from the Late Cretaceous Period, which experienced greenhouse conditions similar to those predicted in 2050.

Within the ancient rocks, drilled from ocean beds off the western coast of Africa, the researchers found huge amounts of marine life buried within deoxygenated layers.—*Xinhua*

Australia's reliance on polluting coal surges

SYDNEY, 17 May— Australia's use of renewable energy as an electricity source has slumped as a percentage of total output over the past 50 years with an increasing reliance on polluting coal, research showed Tuesday.

A report, "Australia's Electricity Generation Mix 1960-2009", shows that renewable energy provided 19 percent of the nation's electricity in 1960 but only seven percent by 2008. During the same period Australia's overall energy use grew more than 10-fold with coal power increasing by 1,200 percent. "Sadly, we've made little progress in cleaning up our electricity supply over the past 50 years," said Mark Wakeham from Environment Victoria, a leading non-government organization that commissioned the report.—*Internet*

Technology

Google to sell its first corporate bond

SAN FRANCISCO, 17 May—Google plans to sell its first bond offering on Monday, a planned 3-billion-US-dollar sale to pay back short-term borrowings, US media reported.

According to *Wall Street Journal*, the Internet search giant will sell three-, five-, and ten-year portions later Monday via joint book runners Citigroup Inc, JP Morgan Chase & Co and Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

The three-year notes may yield 0.35 percentage point more than 10-year Treasurys, the five-year debt may pay a spread of 0.45 percentage point above Treasures and the 10-year securities may pay 0.6 percentage point above benchmarks, said the report.

At those suggested prices, Google, graded Aa2 by Moody's Investors Service and AA- by Standard & Poor's, would pay bond investors less than other AA rated companies have to offer to sell similar securities, *Bloomberg* reported. Bank of America Merrill Lynch index data show the average spread on AA rated bonds was 105 basis points as of 13 May. "We plan to use the proceeds to repay outstanding commercial paper and for general corporate purposes," Google spokesman Aaron Zamost said in an e-mailed statement.

Internet

Microsoft on Monday began letting Bing search results reflect "likes" of people's friends at Facebook as the social networking star and the software colossus grew closer.
INTERNET

Customer satisfaction with AT&T, T-Mobile drops

NEW YORK, 17 May—Sprint Nextel Corp, once dead last in customer satisfaction among the Big 4 national wireless carriers, now has the happiest subscribers, along with long-time leader Verizon Wireless, according to a survey released Tuesday.

The American Customer Satisfaction Index also shows tentative declines in customer satisfaction at the other two big carriers, AT&T Inc and T-Mobile USA. That comes as AT&T has agreed to buy T-Mobile USA for $39 billion in a deal that could close next year.

The acquisition could make AT&T and T-Mobile customers even less happy. Claes Fornell, professor of Business Administration at the University of Michigan and the designer of the ACSI survey, said it is common to find that customer satisfaction drops after a merger.—*Internet*

Bing and Facebook grow closer

SAN FRANCISCO, 17 May—Microsoft on Monday began letting Bing search results reflect "likes" of people's friends at Facebook as the social networking star and the software colossus grew closer. "The best decisions are not just fueled by facts, they require the opinions and emotions of your friends," Bing senior vice president Yusuf Mehdi said in a release.

"We're marrying fact-based search results with your friends' street smarts to combine the best data on the Web with the opinions of the people you trust the most and the collective IQ of the Web."

Microsoft also added a "Bing bar" button that Facebook members can use to indicate a "Like" for any web page they visit.

In October, Facebook and Microsoft announced they were working together to personalizing Internet searches.—*Internet*

Health

Researchers detect early lung cancer through gene expression changes in nasal cells

LOS ANGELES, 17 May— Using a simple, minimally invasive technique to analyze cells from the interior of the nose, researchers have detected lung cancer in its earliest stage.

For the study, the researchers at the Boston University Medical Centre collected nasal epithelial cells from thirty three smokers who were undergoing medically-indicated bronchoscopies for suspicion of lung cancer, according to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) on Sunday.

Of these patients, 11 were found to have benign disease and 22 had lung cancer. Brushings were taken from the right or left nostril and profiled on microarrays, a process that allows researchers to study gene expression changes.

The researchers identified 170 genes that were differentially expressed between patients with and without lung cancer. They also found that genes linked to colon cancer and adenocarcinoma, as well as genes that trigger cell division and blood vessel growth, were expressed more heavily in patients with cancer. Genes involved in tumor suppression were also expressed at lower levels in these patients.—*Internet*

Health Tip: Pregnant women must protect against toxoplasmosis

Toxoplasmosis is a parasitic infection that, if acquired by a pregnant woman, can threaten the fetus.

The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests how to reduce a woman's risk of acquiring toxoplasmosis during pregnancy:

* Ask someone else to clean the cat's litter box each day.
* If you must clean the litter box yourself, wear gloves and carefully wash your hands when you're finished.
* Always wash hands with soap and water after exposure to unwashed vegetables, raw meat, soil or sand.
* Don't eat undercooked meat.
* Freeze meat for a few days before you cook it. This will greatly reduce the chances of infection.
* Carefully clean with hot water and soap all knives and cutting boards after using them.
* Wash or peel vegetables and fruits before eating them.
* Don't drink untreated water, particularly when visiting another country.

Internet

World Health Assembly opens, pandemic influenza high on agenda

GENEVA, 17 May— The World Health Organization (WHO) opened its 64th World Health Assembly Monday in Geneva, and one of the central issue at discussion is the global preparedness for pandemic influenza.

As public health officials from 193 WHO Members gathered at the Assembly to conduct annual review WHO's activities and set new priorities for the future, the new framework on combating possible outbreak of pandemic influenza will also be submitted for approval. The framework was reached at an open-ended working-group meeting of WHO Member States on April 17 this year. If successfully passed, the framework will function to ensure that influenza virus samples could be shared among WHO members and the organization itself.—*Internet*

Competitors play video games at an expo in 2007. Teens who play a lot of video games are likely to sleep less than the eight to nine hours a night.

INTERNET

Business

New TMX takeover proposal eyes foreign expansion

TORONTO, 17 May—A proposal by a group of Canadian banks and pension funds to take over the operator of the Toronto Stock Exchange offers cost savings and opportunities for international growth, the group said on Monday.

A consortium calling itself the Maple Group Acquisition Corp is proposing a C$3.6 billion ($3.7 billion) deal to buy TMX Group, aiming to derail a $3 billion friendly bid for the exchange operator by the London Stock Exchange. Shares of TMX were up 6.01 percent at C$44.26 early on Monday afternoon on the Toronto Stock Exchange. "It presents a clear path to creating additional value by optimizing the balance sheet, margin expansion, improved multiple potential and the ability to pursue international growth opportunities," said Luc Bertrand, the vice-chairman of National Bank of Canada, one of the banks involved in the proposal. "There is huge value creation opportunity here, so at the end of the day the re-rating or increased valuation of the combined group will certainly allow the group to consider opportunities elsewhere," he said.—*Internet*

***London Stock Exchange CEO Xavier Rolet (L) and TMX Group CEO Tom Kloet speak to the media in an overall view of the TMX Broadcast centre in Toronto, 9 February, 2011.—*INTERNET**

Vodafone surprises with bullish outlook

LONDON, 17 May— Vodafone, the world's largest mobile operator by revenue, issued a bullish outlook for 2012 on Tuesday after posting resilient full-year results boosted by customers upgrading to smartphones.

Analysts had expected the British firm to post a cautious outlook after recent weak trading updates from rivals, but instead Vodafone said it was gaining or holding market share in most of its major markets and leading the switch to higher tariff smartphones.

The group also posted a strong performance in its key emerging markets of India and South Africa and said the more stable economies in northern Europe had offset weakness in southern Europe.

Vodafone Chief Executive Vittorio Colao said the group also expected to pull further ahead in coming years as customers opt for the firm's superior network to access the Internet through phones such as Apple's iPhone while on the go.—*Internet*

SanDisk to buy SSD developer Pliant for 327 mln USD

SAN FRANCISCO, 17 May— Flash memory chip maker SanDisk announced Monday that it will acquire Pliant Technology, a leading developer of enterprise solid state drive (SSD), for about 327 million US dollars in cash plus equity-based incentives.

The acquisition could give SanDisk a boost in the enterprise storage market. Unlike traditional hard drives storing data on magnetic disks, SSDs keep information on faster flash memory chips.

Pliant said in a news release that it uses multilevel-cell (MLC) NAND in enterprise SSDs, making the drives more affordable for a broad adoption.

According to market research predictions provided by SanDisk, the enterprise SSD market is projected to reach 4.2 billion dollars in 2015, up from 994 million dollars in 2010, fueled by the expanding use of MLC NAND technology.

"We believe that the combination of Pliant's innovative technology and enterprise-level system expertise with SanDisk's high-quality, large-scale MLC memory production is a winning value proposition for customers," SanDisk CEO Sanjay Mehrotra said in a statement.

The deal is expected to close by the end of SanDisk's second fiscal quarter.—*Internet*

Chicago corn hikes most in a week as wet weather threatens to cut crop yield

CHICAGO, 17 May—Chicago corn on Monday witnessed the biggest rise in a week, as market expected that US wet weather would delay spring planting and threatened the crop yield. Wheat also rebounded from earlier weakness. But soybeans further declined amid expectation that soybeans would gain acres.

The most active corn contract for July delivery hiked 15.5 US cents, or 2.27 percent, to close at 6.975 US dollars per bushel. July wheat climbed 8.75 cents, or 1.2 percent, to 7.365 dollars per bushel. July soybean declined three cents, or 0.23 percent, to 13.265 dollars per bushel.

Rain in parts of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio was twice the normal amount in the past month, according to weather forecast. Floods are even swamping fields in the Mississippi River delta area.

As a result, the planting of crops was delayed. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently said that corn seeding advanced at half of last year's pace as of May 8, and soybean and spring-wheat sowing also were behind. Besides, market hearsay went that China may have bought near one million metric tons of old corn crop, which also helped drive corn higher. Meanwhile, European wheat growing areas failed to receive as much rain as anticipated in the weekend, which also threatened the global wheat supply and helped buoy the price.

However, the soybeans market carried weak sentiment into Monday, as a lack of significant concerns for late plantings and expectation that soybeans will gain acres if weather remains wet in the northern plains helped to spark the sell-off in the market.

Xinhua

Firefighters work at the site of fire in Moscow, on 17 May, 2011. Seven people were killed and seven others injured early Tuesday when a fire engulfed an apartment building in downtown Moscow, the RIA-Novosti news agency reported.—XINHUA

Cologne's apartment fire causes one dead 17 seriously injured

BERLIN, 17 May—A fire in an apartment building in the city of Cologne, west of Germany, overnight caused one woman dead, 17 people seriously injured.

The police said the fire broke out in the flat of the woman, who later died in hospital from serious burn. Her husband and 16 other neighbours suffered dangerous smoke inhalation.

It took 58 firemen about two hours to put out the fire until Tuesday morning and the police are investigating the causes of the accident.—*Xinhua*

Five killed as suicide bombers hit check post in SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 17 May– At least five people were killed and some others wounded Tuesday when some suicide bombers targeted a check post in the outskirts of the southwestern Pakistani city of Quetta, local sources said.

A bomber detonated and killed himself and two others, while another two female bombers were shot dead by the security forces. Along with the suicide attacks, some unknown militants also fired at the check post of the paramilitary Frontier Corps and exchange of fire was heard between the security forces and the militants.—*Xinhua*

Argentina to hold presidential elections on 23 Oct

BUENOS, 17 May—Argentina on Monday announced the official dates for the country' s general elections to be held later this year.

General electinons will be held on 23 Oct while primary elections will be held on 14 Aug, the national gazette said.

If a second round of voting is needed to determine the outcome in Argentina' s presidential elections, that will be held on 20 Nov. Current Argentine President Cristina Fernandez has already announced she is seeking re-election for the period 2011-2015.

Half of the South American country' s members of parliament are also up for re-election along with senators for eight provinces, including Buenos Aires, Formosa, Jujuy, La Rioja, Misiones, San Juan, San Luis and Santa Cruz.

According to the National Election Chamber (CNE), Argentina has a total of 28.7 million registered voters out of the country' s population of 40 million people.

Parties that don' t meet the requirement for getting at least 1.5 percent of the total votes in the 14 August primary elections will be disqualified for participation in the legislative and presidential elections in October.—*Xinhua*

Photo taken on 17 May, 2011 shows construction site of the Jiaxing-Shaoxing Bridge in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province. The Bridge, which is designed to join Jiaxing and Shaoxing cities of east China's Zhejiang Province across the Hangzhou Bay, will be put into operation in 2012. It is expected to halve the journey between Shaoxing and the economic hub Shanghai to 1.5 hours by then. Currently, 130 piers have been erected and the bridge deck pavement is about to start.—XINHUA

6.1 magnitude quake strikes off Java, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 17 May—A magnitude 6.1 earthquake jolted Java island of Indonesia on Tuesday, but there were no potential for tsunami and no casualty reported, officials said.

The quake jolted at 07:14 a.m. Jakarta time (0014 GMT) with epicenter at 170 km southeast Blitar of East Java and at a depth of 25 km under sea bed, Jajat Djatmika, official of the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency, told *Xinhua* by phone.

The intensity of the quake was felt at 4 MMI (Modified Mercally Intensity) at Blitar, 3 to 4 MMI at Karang Kates, and 4 MMI in Yogyakarta, he said.

Local Disaster Management and Mitigation Agency in East Java confirmed that there were no immediate report of damage or casualty in the province, JR Mahmud told *Xinhua* by phone from East Java. Indonesia sits on the Pacific "Ring of Fire" where continental plates meet, causing frequent seismic and volcanic activity.—*Xinhua*

Edgy look : Models present creations by Hungarian designers Zita Csabai and Zsofia Farkas during a fashion contest at the Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest.
INTERNET

Colombian police captures two Venezuelans linked to drug lord Makled

BOGOTA, 17 May—Two Venezuelans who are believed to be linked to the Venezuelan-Swedish drug lord Walid Makled have been arrested in Colombia, police in the South American country said Monday.

The two Venezuelans, Victor Rafael Reales and Alvaro Luis Ospino, were arrested in an operation on Saturday in an exclusive area of Barranquilla, capital of the northern Colombian province of Santander, Colombia's National Police said in a statement.

The capture came less than a week after Colombian authorities extradited the alleged drug trafficker Walid Makled to Venezuela following a request by Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez. Police said the operation leading to the capture of the two Venezuelans was successful "thanks to the management of intelligence sources and surveillance technology" and cooperation with Venezuelan authorities, the police said.

Reales and Ospino are wanted for their alleged involvement in the 2009 murders of a veterinarian and a journalist who had testified as part of prosecutors' evidence against Makled.

Makled, who was detained in Colombia last August, was extradited to Caracas last Monday to face a variety of charges that include murder, drug trafficking, money laundering and acts of corruption.—*Xinhua*

A Chinese boy climbs on a small-scale model of the US Capitol while visiting Beijing's World Park on 16 May, 2011. The theme park attempts to give visitors the chance to see the world without having to leave Beijing.
INTERNET

Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) fixed with trusses

YANGON, 17 May — Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint assisted in installation of trusses at Ayeyawady Bridge in Nyaungdon yesterday.

On his inspection tour of the bridge, the union minister called for worksite safety at the bridge which is under construction by the special project group-5 of Public Works.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) is located in Nyaungdon in Maubin District, Ayeyawady Region. It is of reinforced concrete type and the main span of the bridge is 7402 ft long and it is flanked by over 3-foot-wide walkways. The approach road to the bridge is 3412 ft long while the approach railroad is 13143 ft long in total. The motor road on the bridge is 28 ft wide and the railroad is 14 ft wide. The water clearance of the bridge is 262 ft wide and 57 ft high and the bridge can withstand 75 tons of loads.

The bridge crosses the Ayeyawady River in 20 spans —16 spans each has a span of 120 metres long, two spans each has 100 metres long and two spans each has a span of 60 metres long. On them, altogether eight spans and 114 metres distance of the bridge have been installed with trusses.—*MNA*

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint inspects installation of trusses at Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon).
CONSTRUCTION

Union Commerce Minister tours Bago Region

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint delivers a speech in meeting with responsible persons from Bago Region MIA, and merchants and officials in Pyay and Thayawady districts.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint delivered a speech in meeting with responsible persons from Bago Region Merchants and Industrialists Association, and merchants and officials from companies and brokerage houses in Pyay and Thayawady districts at City Hall of Pyay on 15 May.

Bago Region Minister for Ecomomic U Kyaw Myint, and chairmen of Bago Region Merchants and Industrialists Association, Pyay Township Wholesales Centre, Myanmar Beans and Pulses and Sesame Association and Myanmar Oil Millers Association reported on assistance they can provide for smooth functioning; and attendees, on challenges they are facing.

The Union minister inspected Zeya Shwe Ti Rice Mill of Khittaya Hintha Rice Co in Khittaya Industrial Zone, Pyay Township, and attended the providing of cash assistance for 2010-2011 monsoon paddy season and the forming of an agricultural producers association in Kyanigan Village-tract, Shwedaung Township.

He visited Ko Pya Gyi Rice Mill of Shwe Pya Rice Co in Gyobingauk Township and met farmers in the paddy field of Shwe Wah Hintha Rice Co. He inspected the providing of agricultural inputs for farmers working for mutual interest and the Pea Mill of OkthaU Pea Co in Okpo.—*MNA*

Myanmar Tourism Board formed, development of tourism industry discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May— A ceremony to form the Myanmar Tourism Board was held in conjunction with the coordination meeting on development of tourism industry in border entrances and Bagan Zone at the hall of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, here, yesterday afternoon.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan gave instructions on formation of the Myanmar Tourism Board and systematic development of tourism industry in Muse, Tachilek and Kawthoung border entrances and Bagan Zone.

Officials participated in discussions on constitutional records of the Myanmar Tourism Board and findings on the draft rules.

Deputy Minister U Htay Aung gave a supplementary report on plans for systematic development of tourism industry.

MNA

Coordination meeting on formation of MTB and development of tourism industry in border entrances and Bagan Zone in progress.—MNA

Training of Trainers on Community TB Care course concluded

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May— Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and National TB Control Project of Department of Health conducted Training of Trainers on Community TB Care course, organized by Global Fund Round 9, at Thiriyadana Hall of MWAF on 11 May noon.

Director Dr Win Maung (Disease Control) of Department of Health presented purpose of the course and President of MWAF Dr Thet Thet Zin gave an address.

The two-day course was taken by a total of 65 members of MWAF and MMCWA.

MNA

MTF President's Tennis Tourney goes on

YANGON, 17 May—The Myanmar Tennis Federation President's Cup Tennis Tournament 2011 continued at the Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township this morning.

In the second day contest, players participated in the 20 matches of men's team event, men's single and double events, women's single and mixed double event, girls' U-10 and boys' U-12 single events, boys' and girls'U-14 event single events. The tournament will continue at the same venue tomorrow. Admission is free.—*MNA*

Water poured onto Bo tree in precinct of Datucaya (Dat-paungsu) Pagoda in Bawga-thiri Ward of Zabuthiri Township.
MNA

Shwedagon Pagoda packed with devotees on Fullmoon Day of Kason.
MNA

Water poured Bo at trees...

(from page 1)

Pro-Rector of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) Presiding Nayaka of Maha Theindaw Pariyatti Monastery of Pabedan Township Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Kumara administered the Nine Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas. Later, the congregation shared merits gained. After that, members of the Sangha and devotees poured water at Bo tree dedicating to the Lord Buddha.

Similar ceremonies were held at Sule, Botahtaung, Maha Wizaya, Shwephone-pwint, Kaba Aye, Sacred Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon), Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image, Mogaung Pagoda, Maha Atula Saddhammayanthi Sasana Beikman, Kyaikkasan, Ngadatgyi, Chaukhtetgyi, Koedat-gyi, Meilamu, South Okkalapa, Kyaikkaloh, Kyaikkhauk, Kyaik-hmawwun, Thunphaya-gyi pagodas in Yangon Region.

This morning, local people in Mandalay performed meritorious deeds at religious buildings in Mandalay and poured water onto Bo trees at Shwekyeemyin, Hsutaungya, Hsutaung-pyae, Mandalaytaung, Yankintaung, Aung-dawmu, Maha Bawdibin and other pagodas.

MNA

Religious associations from ministries recite religious verses in cave of Uppatasanti Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Kason.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Thein Nyunt pours scented water onto Bo tree in precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda.
MNA

28th Water pouring ceremony onto Bo tree of Shwedagon Pagoda in progress.—MNA

33rd water pouring ceremony onto Bo tree of Lawkamarazein Pagoda in Pyinmana Township in progress.—MNA

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivering a speech at literary awarding ceremony.—MNA

Emergence of a modern developed nation calls…

(from page 16)

Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association is the pillar of the literary world and it has to take the leading role. All the people, including politicians, businessmen and those from the literary world, are to work in the national interests. Only then can national development be achieved and democracy cause will be promoted.

Then, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan presented Life-time Achievement Pakokku Literary Award to U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe); first, second and third awards to Maung Han Tint (Pinlebu), Myaylat Min Lwin and U Nyunt Wai on behalf of writer Pyay Aye Thet respectively in the genre of a collection of poem; and first, second and third awards to Shwe Nyatha Myat Min, Paing Hlaing Thit and Pathein Aung Than Oo respectively in the novel genre.

Union Minister U Soe Maung presented first, second and third awards to Ye Myat Tin, Kyunsin Myay Saw Khet and Maung Chaint respectively in the genre of a collection of short stories; and first and second awards to Zin Min (Thameinhtaw) and Dr Tin Thein (Geology) respectively in the treatise genre.

Minister U Aung Kyaw Min presented first, second and third awards to Than Tun (Mawlamyine), Maung Yint Kyu (Myaungmya) and U Soe Myint Than on behalf of writer Maymyo Chit Swe respectively in the research literature genre.

MWJA Chairman U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit), Pakokku Literary Award Trust Fund Supervisory Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lanmadaw), Managing Director U Ye Tint of Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Information Ministry, MWJA Vice-Chairman (3) U Ko Ko Hlaing and Director U Myo Thant of Education Planning and Training Department of the Education Ministry presented National Culture and Fine Arts University Scholarship for 2010, Pakokku U Ohn Pe Award for Myanmar subject for 2011, Pakokku U Ohn Pe Award for Basic Education High School to university and high school level students.

Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Committee Chairman U Tint Swe explained facts about literary award.

Life-time Achievement Award-2010 winner Writer U Myint Kywe (Maung Myint Kywe) spoke words of thanks on behalf of the winners.

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win and family donated K 0.1 million to Pakokku Literary Award Trust Fund.

Afterwards, Union Ministers U Kyaw Hsan and U Soe Maung, and officials accepted donations from well-wishers.

The Union Ministers together with the winners had documentary photo taken.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan then cordially greeted the attendees.

In front of the hall, Book Festival to mark the literary awarding ceremony was held on 15 and 16 May where books from PPE and Sarpay Beikman of the Ministry of Information, and bookshops from Yangon were available at special discount.

MNA

Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung awards Writer Zin Min (Thameinhtaw).—MNA

Myanmar selected athletes get better prepared for 26th SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May— Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Union Minister for Sports and for Hotels and Tourisms U Tint Hsan held a meeting with secretaries and officials from 34 Myanmar Sports Federations at the ministry here this morning.

The Union Minister called them for exerting themselves to achieve in competition of the 26th SEA Games and for hosting the 27th SEA Games.

The Union Minister heard reports presented by the directors-general and officials of the teams on arrangements for athletes, holding courses for the referees who would serve in the games. Deputy Minister U Aye Myint Kyu gave a supplementary report.

The Union Minister urged to comfort Myanmar selected athletes who are getting camp training with their needs.

MNA

Yangon Mayor visits tax-free markets, new Thiri Mingala Market

YANGON, 17 May—Yangon Mayor and Minister for Development Affairs of Yangon Region U Hla Myint this morning visited tax-free markets in Tamway, Dagon and Kamayut Townships and Thiri Mingala Market in Hline Township where he called on officials to supervise sale of fresh foodstuff at reasonable prices.

On his arrival at new Thiri Mingala Market (Bayintnaung) which is under construction, the mayor inspected progress of construction work. —*MNA*

Power stations in Shan State (South) inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May — Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe inspected power accessibility in Loilem, Namsang, Laikha, Panglong, Mongpong and Kholan from 66-KV Power Grid in Loilem of Shan State (South); progress in installation of extended 66-KV Loilem-Panglong-Laikha-Mongkai Power Grid and Kholan-Wumsin-Mongnawng Power Grid; and 66-KV Mongnawng-Kehsi, Mongnawng-Mongshu, Mongnawng-Mongsan Power Grids to be implemented on 14 May.

The minister called for completion of power grids and stations on schedule.

He inspected 132-KV Main Power Station in Namsang and construction of power station in Kholan, Wumsin, Mongnawng and Mongkai.

The union minister also visited electrical engineer office in Namsang, construction of power station in Hopong and electrical engineer office in Hopong.

He met with Shan State Minister for Electric Power U Sai Tun Yin and Pa-O Self-Administered Area Leading Body Chairman U San Lwin and discussed matters related to distribution of electricity.

The minister also met State/District/Township level staff.—*MNA*

*Visitors watch a performance stated at the pavilion of Shanxi Province at the 7th China International Culture Industry Fair (ICIF) in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, 15 May, 2011. The 7th ICIF was concluded here on 16 May, with the total volume of transaction reaching 124.549 billion RMB (19.13 billion US dollar), up by 14. 42 percent compared to the previous fair. —*XINHUA

Gunmen kill six in southern Mexico attack

ACAPULCO, 17 May— Authorities in southern Mexico say gunmen opened fire on four local police officers, killing them and two bystanders.

Guerrero state police say two other bystanders were wounded when the gunmen shot the officers Monday in the downtown area of Coyuca de Catalan.

Police say in a statement that the four city police officers, a taxi driver and a woman who was selling food in the area died at the scene.

Coyuca de Catalan is in a mountainous zone known as Tierra Caliente that is plagued by drug violence. More than 35,000 people have died in such violence nationwide since Mexico began a crackdown on cartels in December 2006.—*Internet*

A fire-fighter from the Strathcona fire department searches for hot spots at a destroyed neighbourhood in Slave Lake, Alberta 16 May, 2011.
INTERNET

Canadian wildfire forces Alberta town to evacuate

SLAVELAKE, 17 May— Wildfires that blazed through a northern Canadian town forced the evacuation of nearly 7,000 people.

Slave Lake Mayor Karina Pillay-Kinnee said Monday that nearly one-third of the buildings were destroyed after strong winds suddenly turned the flames on the town.

All residents were ordered to leave Sunday afternoon, but evacuation proved difficult as smoke and fast-moving flames blocked some of the highways.

Some residents fled to a town 130 kilometers (80 miles) away. No deaths or injuries have been reported but rescue officials were knocking on doors to ensure that everyone ordered out had gone and no one was left behind.

Alberta Municipal Affairs said 95 percent of the town was empty and only essential or firefighting staff remained. Alberta cabinet minister Thomas Lukaszuk said it was the largest single-day displacement of people in the province's history.—*Internet*

Sacred mountain and lake in SW China's Tibet

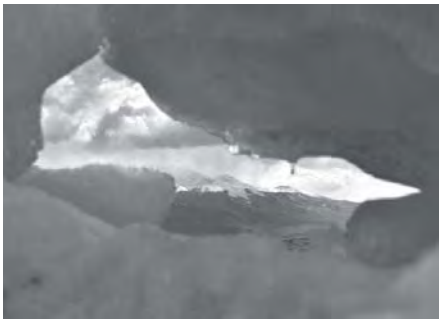

*Photo taken on 2 May, 2011 shows ice and snow near the Mansarova Lake in Burang of Ali Prefecture, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region. The Mount Kailash, the highest peak in the Gangdise Mountains with an altitude of 6,656 meters, and the Mansarova Lake, which lies about 20 kilometers southeast of Mt Kailash are considered sacred places by four religions: Tibetan Buddhists, Bonpos, Hindus and Jains. The altitude of the lake is about 4,588 meters, making it one of the highest fresh water lakes in the world. It is said one trip around the sacred mountain, about 52 kilometers to take three days to complete, will wipe away all the sins of one's current lifetime.—*XINHUA

Building collapses in Ark, killing young girl

MORRILTON, 17 May—A cosmetic store and a bridal boutique that was undergoing renovations collapsed in central Arkansas on Monday, killing a 2-year-old girl and injuring at least six other people.

Dozens of firefighters sifted through the wreckage left from the two-storey brick building hours after rescuers pulled Alissa Jones' body from the rubble and accounted for everyone else trapped inside, authorities said.

Investigators were trying to determine whether ongoing construction at one of the ground-level stores, which sold wedding gowns, was to blame for the collapse about 50 miles northwest of Little Rock. Authorities had not declared an official cause by Monday evening.

"We don't know how or why they collapsed," said Brandon Baker, the director of emergency management in Conway County. "We just know it was fast." Of the 10 people inside the building, Baker said one died and four others were injured. Conway County coroner Richard Neal identified the girl as Alissa Jones and said one of her relatives was among the injured.

But a local hospital confirmed six people were treated. Christy Hockaday, chief executive of St Vincent Morrilton, said five of the six were released and the remaining person was in good condition.

Brian Matthews, who owns an auto detailing shop nearby, said he heard a loud crash about noon. "When I looked up, there was nothing but smoke," he said.

A building that housed a beauty parlor in downtown Morrilton, Ark collapsed Monday, 16 May, 2011, killing a young girl and injuring at least five other people. According to police, rescue teams are searching the wreckage for possible survivors but they think most people escaped.
INTERNET

Internet

Fire kills seven in Moscow apartment building

MOSCOW, 17 May— Seven people were killed and seven others injured early Tuesday when a fire engulfed an apartment building in downtown Moscow, the *RIA-Novosti* news agency reported.

Some 20 people had been evacuated form the old three-storey building, *RIA* quoted a spokesman for Moscow's fire-fighting service as saying.

A total of 15 fire-fighting units had been called to extinguish the blaze.—*Xinhua*

Four dead, several missing in coal mine explosion in central China

CHANGSHA, 17 May— Four people were confirmed dead and four to five others are still missing in a coal mine accident that occurred Tuesday morning in central China's Hunan Province, local authorities said.

Rescuers are still trying to find the missing miners.—*Xinhua*

Vietnam to boost nuclear power infrastructure

HANOI, 17 May—Vietnam Atomic Energy Department (VAED) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) held a seminar here on Monday to discuss measures to fulfill the master plan for building Vietnam's nuclear power infrastructure for the 2011-2015 period, according to *Vietnam* News Agency on Tuesday.

Vietnam placed focus on human resource development, completion of legal bases, conduction of feasibility studies and preparation for necessary conditions for nuclear power infrastructure, Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Le Dinh Tien addressed the meeting.

Tien spoke highly of IAEA's support to Vietnam in developing nuclear power infrastructure via technical assistance projects. He said delegates' contributions will help Vietnam design and conduct a training program on nuclear technology.

During the 5-day seminar, participants discussed measures to fulfill the master plan for building national nuclear power infrastructure for the 2011-2015 period, and human resource development for the nuclear power industry. IAEA and Vietnamese experts will also discuss the completion of a national project on nuclear power information popularization until 2020 for the Vietnamese Prime Minister to approve. Vietnam plans to build the first nuclear power plant in central Ninh Thuan province with a total investment of 3.5 billion US dollars, which is expected to operate during 2017-2020 with a capacity of 2,000 MW. By 2020, Vietnam will have a shortage of 65 billion KWh of electricity. Together with imports, the plant will help in reducing the shortage, VAED reported.—*Xinhua*

Recordings recovered from crashed Air France jet

One of the two flight recorders of the Air France flight 447, which crashed in 2009, is displayed to reporters during a press conference at the French investigators' headquarters in Le Bourget, near Paris, on 12 May, 2011. **INTERNET**

PARIS, 17 May—French investigators said Monday they have recovered all the flight data and cockpit voice recordings from the recorders of an Air France jet found in the Atlantic depths nearly two years after it crashed.

The recorders were located by underwater robots and hoisted up from depths of nearly 4,000 meters earlier this month, in one of the most expensive and complicated air crash investigations in history.

The cause of the crash is unclear, and investigators and victims' families are hoping the recorders will shed light on what sent Air France Flight 447 into the sea 1 June, 2009, en route from Rio de Janeiro to Paris. All 228 people aboard were killed. The French air accident investigation agency BEA said Monday that an inter-national team down-loaded the material from the "black box" voice and data recorders over the weekend.—*Internet*

A Lockhead Martin F-16 Fighting Falcon flies on the second day of the Farnborough International Airshow in south England, in this file picture taken 15 July, 2008. Lockheed Martin Corp says it hopes to sign sales contracts for up to 18 F-16 fighter jets to both Iraq and Oman by early 2012, and expects to book a total of about 100 additional orders by the end of the decade, Reuters reported on 16 May, 2011. **—REUTERS**

Police find explosive device on bus in Ireland

DUBLLN, 17 May—Police and Army officials say an explosive device found on a bus has been "made safe" in advance of Queen Elizabeth II's arrival in Dublin Tuesday.

The device was found in the luggage compartment of a bus traveling on the outskirts of Maynooth in County Kildare west of Dublin, officials said. It was found late Monday night and was declared safe early Tuesday morning after a controlled explosion by bomb disposal experts.

Internet

Irish police search handbags near the Garden of Remembrance in Dublin ahead of the visit of Queen Elizabeth. A bomb was defused on a bus near Dublin after police were tipped off by an anonymous call. **—INTERNET**

UK women over 35 years read pirated e-books!

LONDON, 17 May—A new survey has discovered a new breed of pirates taking over the Internet - women over the age of 35. It found that these book-loving women are the main culprits behind a surge in illegal download of e-books.

The rise in popularity of gadgets such as the Kindle and iPad has seen the popularity of e-books soar. A fifth of Britons now read them. In the poll, more than a third of those who own tablet computers admitted they had illegally downloaded an e-book. And a quarter of them planned to carry on doing so. The majority of those reading pirated e-books are women over the age of 35. But only five percent of them know about the Digital Economy Act which bans piracy, according to the study by Entertainment Media Research for law firm Wiggin.

Fifty-nine percent of those polled said people who download and read pirated e-books should not be punished. Instead the websites that allow the illegal downloads should be blocked, they said.

"Internet piracy among women has always been a rarity but the popularity of e-books looks to have changed that," the *Daily Express* quoted Alexander Ross, a partner at Wiggin, as saying.—*Internet*

Visitors watch a cosplay in the Millennium City Park in Kaifeng, central China's Henan Province, 8 February, 2011. The Millennium City Park was built to reappear the beauty and prosperity of Kaifeng city 1,000 years ago, when Kaifeng was the capital of Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127AD). **—XINHUA**

Fukushima No1 rods "completely melted"

BEIJING, 17 May—The operator of the Fukushima Nuclear plant, TEPCO, says it's trying to determine whether the facility was actually damaged by the earthquake on March 11th, rather than the resulting tsunami. TEPCO also says fuel rods in the facility's number one reactor have completely melted down.

A spokesman for TEPCO has outlined a new analysis of the crisis. A review of data suggests the number 1 reactor's fuel rods were fully exposed within five hours of the quake, causing them to heat rapidly. By the next morning - just 16 hours later - the rods had largely melted down. If the new data analysis is correct, it means the facility was mainly damaged by the quake itself - not the resulting tsunami, as previously thought.

The No 2 and No 3 reactors are thought to have gone through a similar process, but with only 30 percent damage to their fuel rods. TEPCO has now decided to send a new team inside the plant to check the accuracy of the findings.

In response, Prime Minister Naoto Kan told Japan's parliament that the company will release an updated timetable for resolving the crisis on Tuesday.But Kan said stabilization of the reactors would still be limited to within six to nine months.

The new findings come as Japan on Friday ordered residents outside the established thirty-kilometer exclusion zone to leave their homes. Around 8-thousand people are to be relocated by the end of the month.

Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (090)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (090) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.5.2011 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
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Salvadoran police investigate plane crash killing two Chinese

SANSALVADOR, 17 May— El Salvador's National Civil Police (PNC) on Monday were investigaing the crash of a small plane that killed the pilot and two Chinese nationals in a region close to the capital. The reason for the crash remained a mystery as the YS 300 ED aircraft had undertaken a test flight, said the PNC. It crashed minutes after taking off from the Ilopango airfield some 10 km east of San Salvador Sunday afternoon.

"There was nothing out of order," said Alirio Serrano from El Salvador's Civil Aviation authority.

The two Chinese, Li Guoliang, 58, and Yu Wenkai, 42, were in Salvador on business on behalf of a Chinese aircraft company from Wuxi, China's eastern Jiangsu province. They died alongside the pilot Yaron Degani, a Salvadoran of Israeli origin. Degani, 56, had lived in El Salvador for over 20 years where he had funded the Pulsar Group, a company which has specialized in the manufacturing of a variety of spare parts for small airplanes since 2005 and has recently participated in a bidding to supply aircraft to the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

Serrano told local press that the plane had gone to an altitude of about 500 feet and crashed about 500 meters from the landing strip. "Local air traffic controllers said they heard a noise and then a shout."—*Xinhua*

Two children missing as two bodies found in unit at Robina on Gold Coast

ROBINA, 17 May — Two bodies have been discovered at a Gold Coast home this morning. Police are inspecting a unit complex in Robina where the bodies of a man and woman were found, reported *The Courier-Mail*.They say two children — one a five-year-old girl — are missing from the unit.

Police at the scene of a double murder at Robina.— INTERNET

They have put out an alert for them last seen at the unit around 10pm yesterday.Police say there are signs of struggle in the unit. The bodies have signs of trauma. The bodies were discovered by a male relative of one of the victims around 8am today. Police say it is "too early" to say if the deaths are part of a domestic issue.

Homicide and forensic detectives are part of a large police contingent currently on the scene. They have cordoned off the perimeter of the property. The area, which is opposite Robina Town Centre, is home to many small businesses and major offices.— *Internet*

Mississippi floods: Thousands flee as floodgates open

NEW ORLEANS, 17 May — Thousands have evacuated the US state of Louisiana after floodgates were opened on Saturday to relieve pressure from the swollen Mississippi River. More floodgates are to be opened in the coming days to help save more populated areas like Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

The man-made floods will damage thousands of homes and hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland. Meanwhile, President Barack Obama met families affected by flooding in Memphis in Tennessee on Tuesday. The president, who was driven past the bulging Mississippi, also spoke to local officials and emergency responders who confronted the region's highest waters since 1937. Sheriff's deputies and National Guardsmen have been knocking on the front doors of residents along the Mississippi River in Louisiana since Saturday and ordering them to leave.

Internet

Woman wants to see Tigers for her 104th

DETROIT, 17 May — A Detroit woman whose plan to attend a Tigers game for her 104th birthday was foiled by rain said she is planning a second attempt. Mary Johnson, a longtime Tigers fan who has yet to see her beloved team play at Comerica Park, said the team provided her with a suite to watch Sunday's game in celebration of her Tuesday birthday, but the game was postponed by rain, the *Detroit Free Press* reported on Monday.

"We'll wait 'til another day," she said. Johnson's caretaker, Steve Eick, 54, hosted an alternative birthday party at his home when the game failed to materialize. Eick, who also cele-brated his own birthday on Sunday, said he will work on a new plan to ensure Johnson gets to see the Tigers play in person.

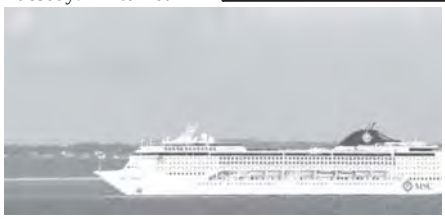
Internet

Cruiseliner adrift after breakdown

STOCKHOLM, 17 May — A cruise ship carrying 2,000 passengers and crew spent much of Sunday adrift after an electrical failure. The liner operated by the Swiss-Italian company MSC Cruises broke down in the Baltic Sea, off the Swedish island of Gotland. "It appears that there was a complete electrical failure. In that situation, the engines do not work," Birger Knutsson of the rescue centre said.

In a statement, the cruise firm said the boat would be towed to the port of Nynashamn near Stockholm overnight, where it would organise the repatriation of its 1,800 passengers. Travelers would be offered another cruise, valid until December 2012, the Geneva-based company said.

The MSC Opera left Southampton on 7 May for a 10-night trip taking in Stockholm, Helsinki, St Petersburg and Copenhagen, and was due to return to Southampton on Tuesday.—*Internet*



A helicopter flies over the cruise ship as she floats adrift after a black out, off the Swedish island of Gotland. MSC Opera with 2,000 people on board, lost all power.— INTERNET

Thousands are fleeing ahead of the man-made floods.— INTERNET

Teens injured in fall from 'Zipper' ride

BATON ROUGE, 17 May —A Baton Rouge, La, amusement park ride started up before a sister and brother got off, throwing them to the ground and seriously injuring them, officials said. The girl, 15, and boy, 13, were exiting a ride called the "Zipper" when it started up again, *The (Baton Rouge) Advocate* reported.

The teens were seriously injured but will recover, officials said. Investigators said they were trying to find out why the ride started up again. Members of the St Helena Parish School Board were trying to find out who authorized the company that owns the ride to set it up on school property without board authorization.

Internet

S Korea celebrates traditional coming-of-age day

SEOUL, 17 May —A traditional coming-of-age cere-mony was held in central Seoul on Monday to cele-brate young people turning 20 and to raise their awareness about roles and responsibilities that come with being an adult. A number of young men and women dressed in Hanbok, South Korean traditional clothes, gathered in Namsangol Hanok Village to mark the country's coming-of-age day that annually falls on Monday of the third week of May.

Among the participants were foreigners staying in South Korea, enjoying the opportunity to embrace the transition into adulthood in the country's traditional way.—*Internet*

A group of students wearing traditional Korean costumes attend a coming-of-age ceremony at a university in Seoul, capital of South Korea on 16 May, 2011.— XINHUA

A staff member scans the microchip implanted under the skin of a pet dog in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, on 16 May, 2011. Guangzhou started to implant microchips to pet dogs in the city on Monday. The microchip is much useful in the return of lost pet dogs and data management on pets' register, medical care and identification.

News Album

Passenger saves bus as Swedish driver has heart attack

Quick action by the head of a Canadian choir touring Sweden narrowly averted an accident when the driver of their tour bus suffered a heart attack at full speed, Swedish media reported Monday.

About five minutes into the University of Manitoba choir's journey from Stockholm's Arlanda Airport towards the town of Sundsvall, about 350 kilometres (200 miles) north of the capital, the bus starting swerving uncontrollably on the highway.

At that point, choir leader Elroy Friesen noticed the driver had fallen over the wheel, he told the local paper, *Sundsvall Tidning*.

"I threw myself forward and put the gear stick in what I thought was neutral. Then I hit the brakes," he said.

The bus eventually stopped, and none of the 32 passengers were hurt.

Passengers then pulled the driver out of the bus, with one choir member performing resuscitation and giving him mouth to mouth.

An ambulance arrived shortly after and he survived.

Passengers outside a bus in New York. Quick action by the head of a Canadian choir touring Sweden narrowly averted an accident when the driver of their tour bus suffered a heart attack at full speed, Swedish media reported.

Visitors appreciate the bread sculptures at Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art in Shanghai, east China, on 15 May, 2011. The exhibition exhibited 64 suites of bread sculptures made in Swiss traditional way, designed by Italian artist Beatriz Millar.

US makes mistake on visa lottery, must redraw

The US State Department on Friday said it mistakenly told more than 22,000 people that they had won a special US visa lottery due to a computer glitch, and that the drawing would have to be redone.

The news dashes the hopes of those who believed they were eligible for the next step in obtaining one of the coveted "green card" lottery visas and gives a second, if remote, chance to the rest of the 19.6 million people who had applied. Because of a computer programing error, 90 percent of the winners were selected from the first two days of applications rather than from the entire 30-day registration period.

"We sincerely regret any inconvenience or disappointment this problem might have caused," David Donahue, the State Department official who oversees the programme, told reporters.

He said that the problem had been fixed and the results of the new drawing from among the same 19.6 million people who applied were expected to be available around 15 July. Under the Diversity Immigrant Visa Programme, the US government makes available some 50,000 visas each year drawn randomly to people who come from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States.

The lottery gives the winners the opportunity to immigrate without having a family member or an employer sponsor them — the typical route to a US "green card" denoting permanent residency. Donahue said the US government wrote the malfunctioning computer program. Another US official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said no one will be disciplined for the error.

Shakira gives Venezuela's Chavez signed, red guitar

CARACAS, 17 May—Colombian pop star Shakira has given Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez an autographed electric guitar that is painted red, the colour of the leader's socialist political movement.

The Grammy award winner and songwriter sent him the instrument after visiting the South American country in March, Chavez said on Sunday and thanked her for the gift.

"I was practicing last night, looking for the plugs. It's electric, a very modern guitar and I'm not used to it," Chavez said during a phone call to a state TV station. "I was singing some songs, old ones, a Mexican one." Known for his informal style, Chavez often belts out Latin American folk songs during political rallies and speeches.

"How am I going to practice 'Waka-Waka' with this swollen foot?" Chavez asked when an official suggested he sing Shakira's hit song for last year's World Cup. He ended the call singing a bolero, a slow Latin American song.

Reuters

An electric guitar autographed by the Colombian pop star Shakira is seen on a table in Caracas on 15 May, 2011.—INTERNET

Miss World 2007 Zhang Zilin arrives for the premiere of the film "The Tree of Life" in competition at the 64th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France, on 16 May, 2011.
XINHUA

No1 Gisele Bundchen earned 45 million dollars.—XINHUA

Gisele Bundchen leads Forbes top-earning models list

BEIJING, 17 May—Forbes.com has compiled their list of the top-earning supermodels for 2011. Leggy Gisele Bundchen, earning 45 million US dollars, has taken the number one spot for the 7th year.

German supermodel Heidi Klum came in second place, earning 20 million dollars; while the third place went to British model Kate Moss, who made 13.5 million dollars.

Xinhua

LA rapper M-Bone killed in drive-by shooting

LOS ANGELES, 17 May—Los Angeles rapper M-Bone, a member of the group Cali Swag District, was killed in what appeared to be a drive-by shooting, police and celebrity news sites said on Monday.

Police said a man was shot while outside a liquor store in the Inglewood area on Los Angeles on Sunday night and pronounced dead at a nearby hospital. Website TMZ.com identified him as rapper M-Bone, whose real name is Montae Talbert. M-Bone was a member of hip-hop group Cali Swag District who found success with the 2010 single dance hit "Teach Me How to Dougie". TMZ.com quoted police sources as saying that M-Bone was shot twice in the head and appeared to have been a random victim in a drive-by shooting by an unknown assailant.

M-Bone's age was given variously by authorities as 19 and 22.

Reuters

LA rapper M-Bone

Blackburn manager on drink driving charge

LONDON, 17 May— Blackburn manager Steve Kean has been charged with drink driving after failing a breath test hours after his team's 1-1 draw on Saturday which handed the title to Manchester United, a report said. The under-pressure boss was travelling along the M6 in northwest England when he was pulled over by Cheshire police and will now appear before Crewe magistrates' court on 7 June, according to a *Press Association* report.

The agency quoted a Cheshire police spokesman as saying: "At 8:50 pm on Saturday 14 May, Cheshire officers stopped a Mercedes car on the M6 southbound carriageway, between Junction 19 and 18." "The driver, a 43-year-old man, provided a positive breath test," the spokesman confirmed. Despite the impressive draw with the newly crowned Premier League champions, Rovers remain embroiled in a relegation dogfight with one match of the season remaining.— *Internet*

Blackburn manager Steve Kean

Bayern in talks with FA Cup winner Jerome Boateng

BERLIN, 17 May—German giants Bayern Munich confirmed on Monday that they were in talks to buy German international defender Jerome Boateng from FA Cup winners Manchester City.

According to Tuesday's edition of *Bild*, the 22-year-old — who has only been at City for a season — would cost 12.5 million euros ($17.8m), which is what the English club paid Hamburg to sign him last year. Bayern are reportedly unwilling to offer more than 8m euros.

Bild claim Boateng, who impressed at last year's World Cup finals, where Germany finished third, will sign a four-year contract with Bayern, who have had a disappointing season, failing to defend their league and cup titles."Negotiations are underway," Bayern's incoming coach Jupp Heynckes told *Bild*.

Internet

German international defender Jerome Boateng

A football fan waves a banner reading: "This is Rome" at Olimpico stadium in the Italian capital.— INTERNET

Top Italian football clubs reflect on failures

ROME, 17 May—While a lot of attention has been focussed this Serie A season on the surprisingly positive campaigns of Napoli, Lazio and Udinese, there are three other teams whose failures have been just as notable.

While the other three were surpassing expectations and battling for a place in next season's Champions League, Juventus, Roma and Sampdoria have been the big losers this term. And each one has staked their claim for the biggest of the under-achievers.

First there is Roma who finished second last year, missing out on the title by two points, paying dearly for a home defeat to Samp four matches from the end of the season. They began this term with high hopes of going one further and strengthened with the signings of forward Marco Borriello from AC Milan and midfielder Simplicio from Palermo.— *Internet*

Djokovic emulates Nadal in qualifying for ATP Finals

PARIS, 17 May— Unstoppable Serbian Novak Djokovic on Monday became only the second player since 1990 to qualify for the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals before the French Open.

The 23-year-old world number two sealed his place in the finals after beating world number one Rafael Nadal in last Sunday's Rome Masters to extend his unbeaten run this year to 37 matches. Djokovic's last loss came in the semi-finals of the Finals last year, to former world number one Roger Federer.

He will be competing in the Finals for a fifth successive year, which has seen him win the title once, in 2008. — *Internet*

Spain's Rafael Nadal (R) and winner Serbia's Novak Djokovic hold their trophies at the Rome tennis open tournament on 15 May, at Rome's Foro Italico. — INTERNET

Maradona named coach at Dubai's Al-Wasl

DUBAI, 17 May— Argentina legend Diego Maradona is to take over as coach next season at Dubai's Al-Wasl, the club announced on Monday. "Al-Wasl Sports Club is proud to announce the appointment of Diego Armando Maradona as head coach of Al-Wasl Football Club, in a momentous development that will see the football legend lead the team for the next two seasons," the club said in a statement.

The 50-year-old Maradona was manager of the Argentina national side at last year's World Cup in South Africa, but was sacked after they lost 4-0 to Germany in the quarter-finals. His name had been mentioned in connection with several coaching jobs since then, notably in the English Premier League and in Iran, but nothing came of these speculations. — *Internet*

Argentina legend Diego Maradona (R) is to take over as coach next season at Dubai's Al-Wasl, the club announced on Monday.— INTERNET

Ben Swift takes early lead at Tour of California

SACRAMENTO, 17 May —Britain's Ben Swift held off a hard-charging Peter Sagan to win the weather-shortened opening stage of the Tour of California.

The 23-year-old Swift on Monday stormed into the lead, emerging from a large sprint pack to finish the 124 kilometers (76.7 miles) in two hours, 47 minutes and 12 seconds. It was the fifth win of the season for Swift, who competes for Team Sky.

Slovakia's Sagan, of Liquigas-Cannondale, finished right behind Swift in second and Aussie Matthew Goss, of HTC-Highroad, was third.

Monday's second stage was run on a shortened course because of snow and chilly temperatures which wiped out Sunday's planned first of the eight-stage event in the Lake Tahoe area.

Swift goes into the third stage with a four-second cushion over Sagan and a six-second lead over Goss.

Internet

Ben Swift of Great Britain and riding for Sky Procycling celebrates after out-sprinting the field to win stage two of the 2011 AMGEN Tour of California, from Nevada City to Sacramento, on 16 May.— INTERNET

SPORTS

Licka jeopardises Lyon's Champions League push

PARIS, 7 May—A scorching half-volley by Czech midfielder Mario Licka earned Brest a 1-1 draw at home to Lyon on Monday that damaged the visitors' hopes of securing Champions League qualification.

Third-placed Lyon, humiliated 4-0 by Auxerre in their previous outing, were bidding to pull four points clear of nearest rivals Paris Saint-Germain.

They were only able to extend their advantage by two points, however, meaning that beaten French Cup finalists PSG can assume pole position in the race for a Champions League place if they win at Bordeaux on Wednesday.

Failure to secure third place would mean Claude Puel's side miss out on a place in Europe's premier cup competition after 12 successive participations.

Internet

Brest's Mario Licka celebrates after scoring during the French L1 football match Brest versus Lyon at the Francis Le Ble stadium in Brest, western France.— INTERNET

Tiger says he's still aiming to be at US Open

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, 17 May —Tiger Woods says he didn't do any more damage to his left leg at The Players Championship and expects to play the US Open next month.

Woods made it only nine holes last week at The Players — his shortest tournament ever — when he withdrew after nine holes because of what he described as a chain reaction of pain from his left knee to left Achilles and tightening in his calf. He shot 42 on the front nine.

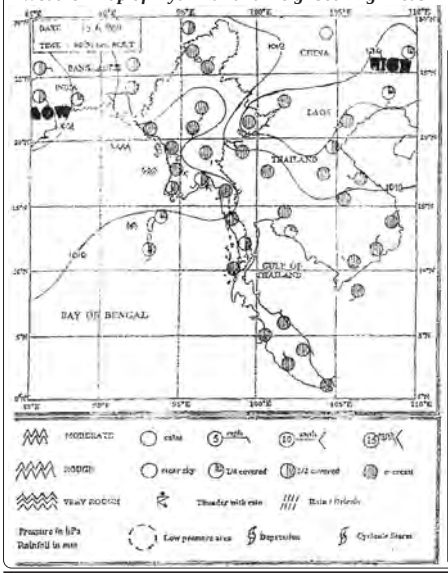
On his website on Monday, Woods said he irritated the knee and Achilles without making them worse. He said doctors have advised rest, cold water therapy and soft tissue treatment, which he said he already had been receiving.— *Internet*

Tiger Woods of the US

WEATHER

Tuesday, 17th May, 2011

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Ayeyawady Region, Kachin and Shan States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions, Chin State, scattered in Mandalay, Magway and Bago Regions, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Bago Region, Kachin and Rakhine States, (5°C) above May average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region, (3°C) below May average temperatures in Eastern Shan State, (5°C) below May average temperatures in Kayah State about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperature were Chauk (42°C) and Minbu (40°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyauktaw (2.72) inches, Gwa (2.28) inches, Ngathyiechaung (2.20) inches, Katha (1.41) inches, Myitkyina (1.37) inches, Belin (1.34) inches and PyinOoLwin (1.30) inches.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 16-5-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 17-5-2011 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 17-5-2011 was (79%). Rainfall on 17-5-2011 was (Nil).

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 16-5-2011 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 17-5-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 17-5-2011 was (71%). Rainfall on 17-5-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 17-5-2011 was (0.08) inch at Nay Pyi Taw, (0.20) inch at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (0.08) inch at Mandalay. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (10.87) inches at Nay Pyi Taw, (16.18) inches at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (8.46) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (6) mph from South at (9:30) hours MST on 17-5-2011.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North and East central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 18th May 2011: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, scattered in Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Regions, Kayin and Mon States, and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in the Eastern Myanmar Areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 18th May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of cerainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18th May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of cerainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18th May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of cerainty is (80%).

NFL, players start another day of mediation

MINNEAPOLIS, 17 May—NFL owners and players and their legal counsel have returned to court for another round of mediation.

Commissioner Roger Goodell arrived Tuesday morning with other league leaders, and other owners entered the courthouse in separate small groups. Linebacker Mike Vrabel showed up shortly before attorneys for the players.

This is the sixth day of talks with US Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan. After a series of stinging rebukes in court, the NFL has a significant, favorable ruling in hand. The same three-judge panel that sided with the league to keep the lockout in place will hear arguments next month on the legality of the NFL's first work stoppage in nearly 24 years. The hearing at the 8th US Circuit Court of Appeals is 3 June in St Louis.—*Internet*

Michael Hursfeld, center, speaks and Shawn Stuckey, right, listens, as the two attorneys for retired NFL football players, address the media outside the federal courthouse Monday, May 16, 2011 as court-ordered mediation between the players and the NFL resumed in Minneapolis.—INTERNET

Wednesday,

18 May

View on today

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw-Uppatasanti Paritta

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning News

7:40 am
4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am
6. Health Programme

8:10 am
7. Cultural Dances

8:20 am
8. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

8:40 am
9. International News

8:45 am
10. Musical Programme

4:00 pm
1. Martial Song

4:10 pm
2. Musical Programme

4:20 pm
3. Song Of National Races

4:30 pm
4. Teleplay (Health)

4:55 pm
5. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures)-Third Year (Economic)

5:10 pm
6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:15 pm
7. Classical Songs

5:25 pm
8. "ASEAN" Programme

5:40 pm
9. Documentary

6:00 pm
10. Evening News

6:15 pm
11. Weather Report

6:20 pm
12. Traditional Boxing

6:35 pm
13. Shwe Yin Chone Than

6:55 pm
14. Teleplay (Forest)

7:15 pm
15. Documentary

7:40 pm
16. Centanry Of Alinga Kyawzwar Shwe Pyi Aye (Composer)

8:00 pm
17. News
18. International News
19. Weather Report
20. Korea NG Award
21. TV Dramma Series
22. Myanmar Video

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

Programme Schedule

(18-5-2011) (Wednesday)

Transmissions		Times
Local	-	(09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	-	(18-5-11 09:30 am ~ 19-5-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

* Opening
* News
* Mya Nan San Kyaw Golden Palace
* Fatty Kids Contest 2011
* News
* Yathe Taung township in the nat-shell
* News
* Aureum Palace Resort
* News
* Industrial Advancement for The National Interest

Oversea Transmission

* Opening
* News
* Mya Nan San Kyaw Golden Palace
* Fatty Kids Contest 2011
* News
* Yathe Taung township in the nat-shell
* News
* Aureum Palace Resort
* News
* Industrial Advancement for The National Interest
* News
* A Journey to Shan Plateau
* Khamti Shan Weaving Technique
* News
* Endless Wonders.....(Htukkant Thein Temple)
* Traditional Meritorious Deeds Ceremony (Pindaya Region)
* News
* Kambozathadi: Palace of Conquerors
* Music Gallery
* News
* Shwe Inn Tha, Eco-friendly Resort
* Myanmar Movie "Mommy's Girls"

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

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

People's Desire

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

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

Emergence of a modern developed nation calls for harmonious physical and intellectual development

Pakokku Literary and Scholarship Award ceremony held

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May—The Pakokku Literary and Scholarship Award ceremony (2010), established by Pakokku U Ohn Pe, was held at Pyithaya Hall in Pakokku, Pakokku District, Magway Region, yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Magway Region Minister for Education and Health U Aung Kyaw Min, departmental officials, the chairman and CEC members of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, members of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Committee, Pakokku Literary Award Fund Supervisory Committee and social organizations and local people.

First, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivered an opening speech. He said that like the State presenting literary awards every year, the presenting of private literary awards, including Pakokku Literary Award, is actually helping the people to widen their scope of knowledge. Emergence of a modern developed nation calls for harmonious physical and intellectual development.

The aim of presenting such literary awards is in a way to serve the interests of not only an individual or an organization but also the entire national people. So, the award-winning writers are urged to continue producing fine literary works and organize the people to cultivate a constant habit of reading and cooperate in the efforts for promoting public knowledge. Again, the award-winning students are to continue to work hard to become the brilliant ones who can serve the best interests of the nation and the people.

(See page 9)

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan presents award to first prize winner in novel genre Shwe Nyatha Myat Min at Pakokku Literary Award ceremony. MNA