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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

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Laotian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Mr Nilahath SAYARATH, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the hall of President Office here at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.—*MNA*

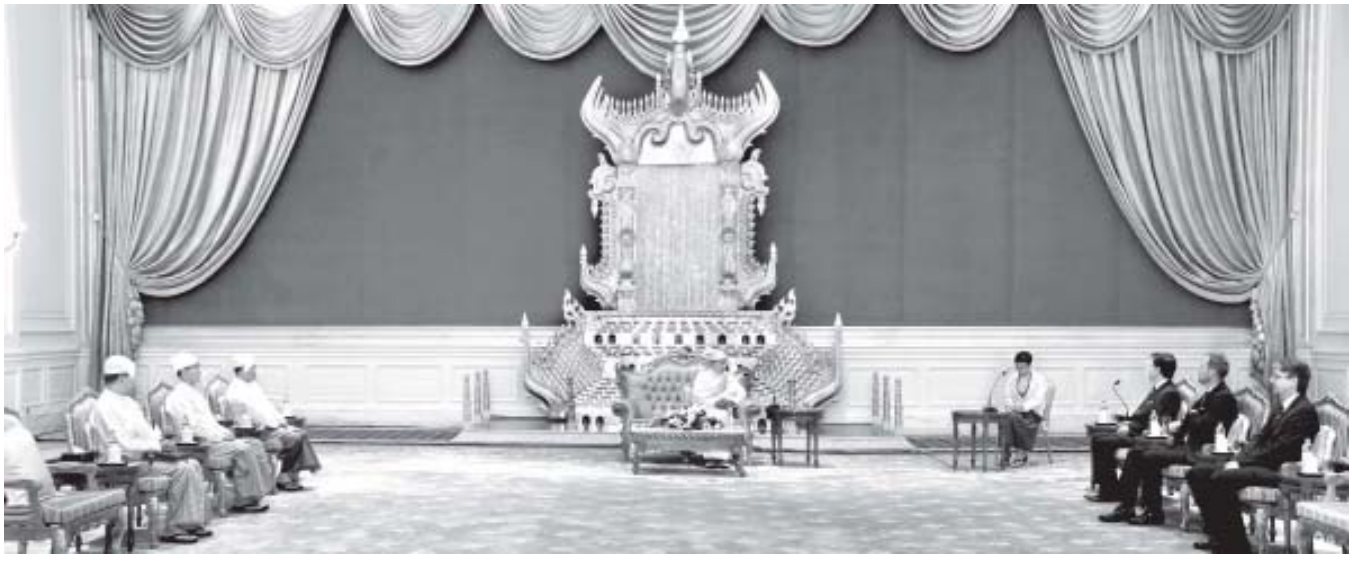
Mr Nilahath SAYARATH, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the LPDR to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presents his credentials to President U Thein Sein.
MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of French Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Mr Thierry MATHOU, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the French Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the hall of President Office here at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.

MNA



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives Mr Thierry MATHOU, Ambassador of the French Republic to Myanmar at the President Office in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 24 May, 2011

Welcome to Myanmar

Today, tourism industry has become a lucrative business in the world. The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is now working in cooperation with the Hoteliers Association and foreign travels agencies in boosting the Myanmar tourism industry.

Myanmar tourism industry has made considerable progress as a result of better communication service and smooth transport.

Every service provided for tourists must be as good as possible for their comfort and convenience while they are on holiday in the nation. Now, a plan is getting underway to open international level hotel courses as five-star hotel service is a must for a sudden boom in the tourism industry.

Archaeological regions, edifices and handicrafts have magic, as for tourists. Myanmar still has many picturesque sea beaches with captivating beauty foreign tourists admire to view and enjoy.

Improvement of tourism industry is a great part of national development. Good services for the industry symbolize tranquility and peace of the nation. So, hotel staff are to be trained well to become all polite, competent and hospitable to customers. Myanmar people's naturally polite and friendly behaviours and hospitality hold the hearts of foreign tourists. Therefore, all those engaging in tourism industry should provide best services to lure greater number of tourists to Myanmar in the interests of the nation.

KIA militiaman arrested with explosives in Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—A military column combed a farm hut, about five miles southeast of Yuzana Myaing Village, Myitkyina Township, Kachin State, on 21 May morning and arrested U Zaw Aung, 56, a militiaman of KIA of Naing Kalu Village in Myitkyina Township along with explosive devices such as 30 plastic mines made of PPC pipes measuring 4 inches in length and 2 inches in diameter, a roll of 110 feet long wires and five switches. Authorities concerned will continue to take further action against the captive.

MNA

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**

No (1) Oil Refinery (Thanlyin) being upgraded

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay made company by Yangon Region Electric, Energy, Industrial and Construction Minister U Kyaw Soe on 21 May inspected No (1) Oil Refinery (Thanlyin).

Yesterday morning, the Union minister inspected the off-shore oil field base (Thakayta) of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise which is the only one of its kind in Myanmar run with joint venture by the Ministry of Energy and oil companies.—*MNA*

***Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay inspects No (1) Oil Refinery (Thanlyin).*—MNA**

Union Education Minister receives Israeli guests

***Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye receives Ramat Negev Mayor Mr Shmuel Rifman of Israel.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May — Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye received Ramat Negev Mayor Mr Shmuel Rifman of Israel, Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yaron Mayer and party at the ministry this afternoon. They discussed educational affairs of the two nations.

MNA

Union Minister meets ICRC Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung received Representative of the International Red Cross Committee Office Mr Georges Paclisanu at the Union Government Office here this afternoon.

They held talks about matters for continued cooperation of ICRC and Myanmar in artificial limbs, boosting cooperation in the water supply and water purifying system, and continued mutual cooperation in the sectors in which the two sides can work together in future.

Also present at the call were Deputy Director-General at the President Office U Zaw Win and officials.—*MNA*

***Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung receives Representative of the International Red Cross Committee Office Mr Georges Paclisanu at the Union Government Office.*—MNA**

Missouri officials say at least 89 dead in tornado

JOPLIN, 23 May—Authorities say at least 89 have died in the massive tornado that struck the southwest Missouri city of Joplin.

City manager Mark Rohr announced the number at a pre-dawn news conference outside the wreckage of a hospital that took a direct hit from Sunday's storm.

Rohr said the twister cut a path nearly six miles long and more than a half-mile wide through the centre of town.

Much of the city's south side was leveled, with businesses, homes and restaurants reduced to ruins.

Internet

Emergency personnel walk through a neighbourhood severely damaged by a tornado near the Joplin Regional Medical Centre in Joplin, Mo, on 22 May, 2011. A large tornado moved through much of the city, damaging a hospital and hundreds of homes and businesses.—INTERNET

Militants storm Pakistan naval air base, 13 dead

KARACHI, 23 May—Taleban gunmen armed with rockets and explosives stormed a major naval air base in the heart of Pakistan's biggest city, destroying two US-made surveillance aircraft and killing 13 personnel.

It was the worst assault on a military base since the army headquarters was besieged in October 2009, piling further embarrassment on the armed forces three weeks after Osama bin Laden was found living under their noses.

Up to 20 militants crept into the base in the teeming port city of Karachi from three sides under the cover of night late Sunday, officials said, triggering gunbattles and a series of explosions.

More than 12 hours later, officials were unable to confirm that the attack on the PNS Mehran, a sprawling compound of the Pakistani navy's air arm, was over. By mid-morning, fire crews had doused towering flames over the base.

Interior Minister Rehman Malik said the "terrorists" sneaked into the base from three points adjacent to residential areas in the city of 16 million people, whose port is a vital hub for NATO supplies bound for Afghanistan. "A (single-storey) building in the premises is still under their occupation from where they are exchanging fire with our soldiers," Malik told reporters.—*Internet*

Two US soldiers killed in central Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 May—Two US soldiers were killed on Sunday during operations in central Iraq, the US military said.

The US forces announced the deaths in a military statement, without giving further details about how and where exactly the incidents took place. The names of the deceased are being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

It is the first death report of US soldiers in Iraq this month.

The death toll of US soldiers, who have been killed in Iraq since the war broke out in 2003, rose to about 4,454, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.—*Xinhua*

Gunmen briefly seize boat, eight Filipino crewmen

MANILA, 23 May—Police say masked gunmen seized a fishing boat and its eight crewmen in the southern Philippines but freed them hours later after a ransom was paid.

Regional police commander Felicisimo Khu Jr says the four gunmen forced the boat's skipper and his crew to return to Malangas Town in Zamboanga Sibugay Province after Saturday's attack to raise the ransom for their freedom. Khu said Monday that the gunmen fled after receiving the money and were being hunted by police and navy personnel.

Many fishing boats have come under attack from outlaws and al-Qaeda-linked Abu Sayyaf militants in the Philippines' volatile south.

The Abu Sayyaf bombed a ferry that killed 116 people in Manila Bay in 2004 after failing to extort money from its owner.—*Internet*

Fire and smokes erupt from a Pakistan's military air base after an attack by militants in southern Pakistan's Karachi on 23 May, 2011.—XINHUA

Iraqi children look for salvageable items amid the debris at the scene of an explosion in the Baghdad District of Sadr City. More than a dozen bomb attacks in and around Baghdad on Sunday left at least 19 Iraqis and two American soldiers dead and more than 80 other people wounded.—INTERNET

Suicide bomber kills four civilians in Afghanistan

JALALABAD, 23 May—A suicide bomber struck a crowded Afghan bazaar on Monday, killing four civilians and wounding another 14 in a remote town in the east of the country.

"Four civilians were martyred and another 14 were wounded," provincial governor's spokesman Faizanullah Pattan told *AFP*, adding that he did not know what the attacker's target had been.

There were no government offices or military patrols in the area where the incident happened in the small town of Najeel Khail in Alishing district of Laghman province, about 100 kilometres (60 miles) east of the capital Kabul. The explosives were strapped to the bomber's body, the spokesman said.—*Internet*

In free market, seeds of Africa's food solution

CATANDICA, 23 May— Peter Waziweyi is bouncing around the lush countryside of Mozambique in his 30-year-old truck, visiting his customers' maize fields and relishing the sight of their rich, ripening crops.

In an East African country that tried and failed to run its economy on Marxist lines, it is now the turn of small-time businessmen like Waziweyi to step forward. Waziweyi is a seed salesman and part of a chain linking scientists and farmers that experts hope will help Mozambique and other African countries solve their chronic food crises.

Waziweyi has gone from aid worker to entrepreneur, producing high-yield, drought-resistant hybrid seeds and selling them through the company he and his wife founded last year, called "Nzara Yapera" — "an end to hunger."—*Internet*

Car bomb kills 2 bystanders in northern Iraq

KIRKUK, 23 May—Iraqi police say a car bomb has exploded in a northern city that is rife with ethnic tensions, killing two bystanders and wounding 10 people.

Police Col Ghazi Mohammed Rashid says the car exploded Monday morning in southern Kirkuk as a security patrol was driving by.

The blast killed two people who happened to be near the car when it exploded. Ten people were wounded, including five policemen.

Police Capt Abdul Salam Zangana, who is posted at Kirkuk Hospital, confirmed the casualties.

Kirkuk is located 180 miles (290 kilometres) north of Baghdad.

The city has long been plagued by disputes among Arabs, Kurds and Turkomen over land and oil fields.

Internet

An injured boy is treated at a hospital after a car bomb in Kirkuk, 290 kilometers (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, 23 May, 2011.
INTERNET

Science

Sea levels set to rise by up to a metre

SYDNEY, 23 May—Sea levels are set to rise by up to a metre within a century due to global warming, a new Australian report said Monday as it warned this could make "once-a-century" coastal flooding much more common.

The government's first Climate Commission report said the evidence that the Earth's surface was warming rapidly was beyond doubt — with the last decade the hottest on record.

Drawn from the most up-to-date climate science from around the world, the report said greenhouse gas emissions created by human industry was the likely culprit behind rising temperatures, warming oceans, and rising sea levels.

Commissioner Professor Will Steffen said while the report had been reviewed by climate scientists from the Australian science body the CSIRO, the Bureau of Meteorology and academics, some judgments, including on sea levels, were his own.

A flash flood is seen in the centre of the Austrlian city of Brisbane. Sea levels are set to rise by up to a metre within a century due to global warming, a new Australian report said Monday as it warned this could make "once-a-century" coastal flooding much more common.—INTERNET

"I expect the magnitude of global average sea-level rise in 2100 compared to 1990 to be in the range of 0.5 to 1.0 metre," Steffen said in his preface to "The Critical Decade".

He said while this assessment was higher than that of the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change in 2007, which was under 0.8m, it was not inconsistent with the UN body which had said higher values were possible.—*Internet*

A Trip to the Moon': 1902 film classic gets 21st century facelift

LOS ANGELES, 23 May—NASA's Apollo astronauts may have first put boot prints on the moon in 1969, but moviegoers made the roundtrip long before that — in fact, way back in 1902.

Thanks to innovative French filmmaker, Georges Méliès, a pioneer of early cinema and special effects, audiences were transported across the intervening void to the moon. His 14-minute silent film, "A Trip to the Moon (Le Voyage Dans La Lune)," was arguably the "2001: Space Odyssey" of its time.

The film portrays members of the Astronomers' Club, dispatched on an expedition to the moon. Their mode of propulsion — a huge cannon — borrowed from French novelist Jules Verne's space adventure "From the Earth to the Moon," which was published in 1865.

The film shows the intrepid travelers arriving on the moon safe and sound, only to encounter the Selenites.

They escape the clutches of the Selenite king and hustle back to Earth in their bullet-shaped vehicle.

Landing in the ocean, the explorers are fished out by a sailor. All this is followed by cheers, decorations and a victorious parade for the six conquerors of the cosmos.

Internet

Photo taken on 22 May, 2011 shows the aerobatic flight during the Grand Rand Air Show at the Rand Airport in Johannesburg, South Africa. The air show held here today drew tens of thousands of spectators.
XINHUA

Technology

Visitors view an energy saving car at the open day of Challenge Bibendum 2011 in Berlin on 21 May, 2011.
INTERNET

Toyota cars to be driver's "friend" in social network service

TOKYO, 23 May—Toyota Motor Corp and cloud computing company Salesforce.com Inc will build a social network service that will enable owners to become "friends" with their cars and get friendly, tweet-like reminders for maintenance checks and other notices. The deal marks the second tie-up between the world's biggest automaker and a software company in as many months. Toyota and Microsoft Corp last month announced plans to bring Internet-connected services to Toyota's cars across the world. "Social networking services are transforming human interaction and modes of communication," Toyota President Akio Toyoda told a joint news conference with Salesforce.com CEO Marc Benioff in Tokyo on Monday. "The automobile needs to evolve in step with that transformation," Toyoda said.

Information technology and telematics are expected to play a key role in adding value to future cars, and become a marketing tool as consumers look for connectivity not just from their laptops and phones but also with their cars. Toyota has already developed its own telematics service to connect it with drivers and dealers.

Under the new private social network, called "Toyota Friend," owners will be able to "chat" with their Toyotas like they would with a friend on Twitter or Facebook.

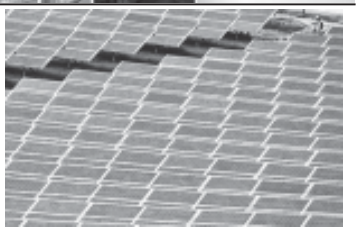
The car would have its own "profile" and send a message to the driver's phone, for instance, reminding him to recharge its depleted battery. The owner would be able to carry out a simple, two-way conversation with the car.—*Reuters*

Japan 'plans solar panels for all new buildings'

TOKYO, 23 May—Japan is considering a plan that would make it compulsory for all new buildings and houses to come fitted with solar panels by 2030, a business daily said Sunday.

The plan, expected to be unveiled at the upcoming G8 Summit in France, aims to show Japan's resolve to encourage technological innovation and promote the wider use of renewable energy, the *Nikkei* daily said.

Japan has reeled from the 11 March earthquake and tsunami and the nuclear crisis they triggered as it battles to stabilise the crippled Fukushima Daiichi atomic power plant.



A technician inspects newly installed solar panels. Japan is considering a plan that would make it compulsory for all new buildings and houses to come fitted with solar panels by 2030, according to the Nikkei business daily.—INTERNET

On Thursday, the first day of the two-day summit in Deauville, France, Prime Minister Naoto Kan is expected to announce Japan's intention to continue operating nuclear plants after confirming their safety, the *Nikkei* said without citing sources.—*Internet*

Toyota Motor Corp President Akio Toyoda, left, and Salesforce.com chief executive Marc Benioff pose for photographers in front of a plug-in Prius hybrid during a joint press conference in Tokyo Monday, 23 May, 2011.—INTERNET

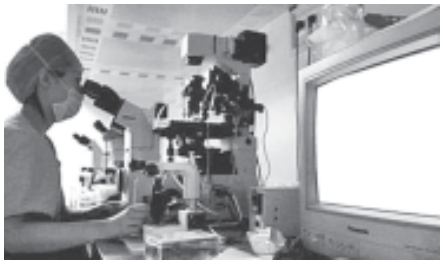
Health

Health Tip: Signs that you may have periodontal disease

Periodontal disease refers to a group of problems that affect the spaces between the gums and teeth. Proper and consistent oral hygiene can help prevent the disease.

The ADAM Encyclopedia says symptoms of periodontal disease may include:

* Gums that are red and swollen.
* Gums that bleed, even from just brushing your teeth.
* Chronic bad breath.
* Teeth that loosen.
* As the disease progresses, the gums recede, which could affect the way the upper and lower teeth meet when you bite down.—*Internet*



File photo shows a lab technician at a fertility clinic. An Australian woman on Monday won a court battle to use her dead husband's sperm to have a baby in a landmark case in New South Wales, where IVF treatment is banned without consent of the donor.—INTERNET

A new genetics test from NewGene for hereditary breast cancer cuts costs and turnaround times will also be the focus of its presence at the European Human Genetics Conference from 28 to 31 May.—INTERNET

Mozambique seeks to reduce measles deaths by 98%

MARRACUENE, 23 May— Mozambique plans to vaccinate 3.6 million children against measles over the next five days in a bid to reduce deaths by 98 percent by the end of 2012, a UN Foundation official said Sunday.

This will bring the southern African country closer to a World Health Organisation (WHO) goal signed by 46 sub-Saharan countries to reduce measles deaths by 98 percent.

"This campaign has put Mozambique in a position to be the first sub-Saharan African country to reach the 2012 goal," said Andrea Gay, executive director for children's health at the UN Foundation.

Health officials across the country will vaccinate children under five years from Monday to Friday in a $4.5 million (three-million-euro) campaign.

Representatives of the WHO, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and former US senator Bob Bennett inspected preparations at the Marracuene district hospital outside the Mozambican capital Maputo before the start of the campaign.

One of the world's poorest countries, Mozambique has improved measles immunization to cover 74.1 percent of the population.—*Internet*

Most would pay more for safer food

PHILADELPHIA, 23 May—Challenging conventional wisdom that most people want smaller government and less expensive food, a US survey indicates most would pay more for safer food.

The Pew Charitable Trusts commissioned a poll by Hart Research and American Viewpoint that indicates 66 percent support additional funding for the US Food and Drug Administration to carry out new responsibilities related to food safety. Seventy-four percent feel it is worth a 1 percent to 3 percent increase in the cost of food to pay for new safety measures in the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, which was signed into law this year. In addition, 70 percent of those surveyed favour food companies paying an average annual fee of $1,000 to help cover the cost of new FDA food safety activities.

Twenty-five percent of US adults say they worry a great deal about food being contaminated with bacteria that makes it unsafe to eat, while 85 percent say the government should be responsible for ensuring that food is safe to eat and 71 percent of voters say the FDA plays a very important or essential role in protecting Americans' health and safety.

Internet

Business

Emerging economies deserve bigger role at global forums

LOS ANGELES, 23 May — Emerging economies deserve a greater role at key global forums such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, as they are projected to account for 70-80 percent of the world's economic growth in the next decade or so, said a US expert.

However, a heavy reliance on energy imports could be a threat to the fast growth of some emerging economies, said Bernard Baumohl, chief global economist of the Economic Outlook Group, in a recent interview with *Xinhua*.

While some emerging economies are energy self-sufficient, others have to import lot of fuels, and those highly dependent on specific commodities will see more inflation, he cautioned.

The expert also argued that a stronger US economy is in everyone's interest, including the emerging economies.

On the possibility that US firms could pull manufacture bases back to their homeland from the emerging economies, Baumohl said generally speaking, US companies do not make decisions on where to place their factories and plants for "national realistic reasons."

"They won't do it for altruistic reasons either. They will do it if they can achieve higher level of productivity to make a better and cheaper product," he said.

"That is the fact that could draw manufacturers to the US," said the expert.

Xinhua

Wal-Mart eyeing Europe with new London

LONDON, 23 May— Retailer Wal-Mart Stores (WMTN) is setting up a team in London to drive expansion into Europe, *The Independent* on Sunday newspaper reported. The world's largest retailer will bring a team to London to look at opportunities for European mergers and takeovers, and has hired Cushman & Wakefield to search for office space for 35-55 people, the newspaper said. Wal-Mart said in first-quarter results published on Tuesday that key US sales fell 1.1 percent. At Asda, its British arm, sales growth slowed. A Wal-Mart spokeswoman told *Reuters* the report was "speculation dressed up as fact." —*Reuters*

Shopping carts are seen outside a Wal-Mart Supercentre in Coolidge, Arizona on 6 December, 2010.
INTERNET

Sony expects annual net loss of $3.2bn

Models display Japanese electronics giant Sony's new "Vaio type P" notebook PC at the company's showroom in Tokyo, January 2008. Japan's Sony on Monday said it expected to swing to a $3.2 billion net loss for the fiscal year ended March, after delaying its corporate results to gauge damage from the 11 March earthquake and tsunami.—INTERNET

TOKYO, 23 May—Japan's Sony on Monday said it expected to swing to a $3.2 billion net loss for the fiscal year ended March, after delaying its corporate results to gauge damage from the 11 March earthquake and tsunami. The latest setback for the technology and entertainment giant comes as it tries to recover from the impact of the disasters and a massive online hacking attack that compromised millions of users of its network services.

In a preliminary earnings statement, Sony revised February's forecast for a 70 billion yen net profit and now expects a net annual loss of 260 billion yen ($3.2 billion), citing a charge for deferred tax assets.

The firm is due to report its full earnings on Thursday. The technology and entertainment giant said consolidated sales and operating revenue are expected to be in line with February's forecasts despite the impact of the earthquake and tsunami on production.

Internet

Shark kills kitesurfer in New Caledonia

NOUMEA, 23 May—A 15-year-old boy has died in New Caledonia after being attacked by a shark while kitesurfing, a report said on Monday.

The teenager, named only as Nathan, was surfing with his father and friends off Koumac Village in the north of the archipelago when he fell in the water, the New Caledonian said.

While swimming to recover his board, he was attacked by the shark, which mauled his leg. He was rushed to a hospital but did not survive.

Sharks are seen in the Northwestern Hawaii Islands. A 15-year-old boy has died in New Caledonia after being attacked by a shark while kitesurfing, a report has said.—INTERNET

In March 2009, a 19-year-old was killed by a great white shark while surfing near Bourail, in the island's south.—*Internet*

Typhoon Songda approaches Philippines

MANILA, 23 May—Typhoon Songda closed in upon the Philippines early Monday morning, and was moving northwest at 13 kilometre per hour (kph), the local weather bureau said.

Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said that the centre of Songda (local name: Chedeng) was earlier located at 880 kilometres east of Guiuan, Eastern Samar, with maximum sustained winds of 95 kph near the centre and gustiness of up to 120 kph.

The typhoon is forecast to reach 620 km east of Guiuan, Eastern Samar by Tuesday morning. It will bring rain and wind in Bicol and Manila in the next few days.

The Philippine government ordered preemptive evacuation of families if necessary in areas which could be affected by tropical storm Songda.

"The public and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils were advised to take appropriate precautionary measures such as preemptive evacuation of families in low-lying and mountainous areas as necessary," said Undersecretary Benito Ramos, executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

Xinhua

Iceland ash could reach Scotland by Tuesday

BEIJING, 23 May—Ash from an erupting Icelandic volcano could reach northern Scotland by Tuesday and parts of Britain, France and even Spain by the end of the work week , if the eruption continues at the same intensity.

The warning is based on the latest 5-day weather forecasts. Iceland's airports were closed on Sunday. With winds currently blowing the ash northwards, authorities say there's little risk of any further disruption to European or transatlantic airspace over the next 24 hours. But low-pressure weather systems are moving into Europe and Scandinavia.

Xinhua

S Korean court begins trial for five Somali pirates

SEOUL, 23 May—A South Korean court has begun a trial for five Somali pirates captured during a raid on a hijacked ship in the Arabian Sea.

The five were arrested in January after a team of South Korean commandos raided the seized South Korean-operated cargo ship and killed eight other pirates.

The commandos rescued all 21 crew members, including the ship's captain, who was shot in the stomach by one of the pirates during the raid.

The Busan District Court says the trial started Monday. The pirates have been charged with attempted murder, hostage taking and maritime robbery.

The court says the pirate who allegedly shot the captain could face the death penalty if convicted, while the other four could face up to life in prison. A verdict is expected Friday.—*Internet*

One of five Somali pirates gets off from a bus upon arrival at the Busan District Court in Busan, south of Seoul, South Korea, on 23 May, 2011.—INTERNET

The site of a traffic accident is seen in San Cristobal District of Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 22 May, 2011. At least 4 people were injured as a bus slammed into a supermarket in Buenos Aires Sunday. INTERNET

New Zealanders back borrowing to rebuild quake-hit Christchurch

WELLINGTON, 23 May—Almost three in every five New Zealanders support their government to borrow money to help rebuild the earthquake-devastated city of Christchurch, according to a new poll released Monday.

A nationwide survey of 1,154 people by polling firm HorizonPoll the day after the government laid out its economic plan in the Budget Thursday found 59.4 percent of people supported govern-ment borrowing for quake recovery, while 23.4 percent did not.

The government said the earthquakes — the first in September last year,and the second, which killed 181 people, on 22 Feb— will cost 5.5 billion NZ dollars (4.35 billion US dollars) in years. The government announced in the Budget that it would be issuing earthquake bonds with funds going to an earthquake recovery fund.

The poll found 1.5 percent of respondents would definitely invest in the bonds, and 11.3 percent would probably invest, representing a total 412,000 people among New Zealand's adult population of 3.2 million.

Raising the 5.5 billion NZ dollars from that number of people would require an average investment of 12,607 NZ dollars each. The poll also found 43.7 percent of New Zealanders thought the government should set aside funds and insure to cover the costs of future disasters and avoid the need to borrow.

Xinhua

Macao's visitor arrivals up 10.7% year-on-year in April

MACAO, 23 May—Macao's visitor arrivals in April this year reached 2,338,449, up 10.7 percent over the same month of 2010, according to figures released on Monday by the city's Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Of all the arrivals in April, 54.4 percent spent only one day, with about 694,935 arrivals coming from the Chinese mainland, the figures indicated.

Analyzed by place of residence, visitors from the Chinese mainland increased by 20.7 percent year-on-year to 1.27 million, 54.3 percent of the total, of which 495,424 travelling to Macao under the Individual Visit Scheme.

Visitors from Hong Kong (709,053) and South Korea (25,865) increased by 2.1 percent and 2.4 percent respectively, while those from markets like Taipei (110,410), Malaysia (27,122) and Thailand (24,468) decreased by 1.3 percent, 10.8 percent and 3.6 percent respectively.

Total visitor arrivals were 8,769,627 in the first four months of 2011, up by 6.6 percent year-on-year, according to the DSEC.

Analyzed by mode of transport, visitor arrivals by sea and by land totaled 3,455,019 and 4,780,144 respectively in the first four months of 2011, up by 1.9 percent and 12.2 percent year-on- year respectively, while visitor arrivals by air totaled 534,464 during the period, down by 7.1 percent year-on-year.

Xinhua

Inmates stand behind stacked bread at a bakery inside the Tihar Jail complex in New Delhi on 11 May, 2011. South Asia's largest prison - the Tihar Jail complex in New Delhi - is helping transform the lives of its inmates through vocational training in diverse fields to prepare them for a fresh start once they are released.—INTERNET

Union Defence Minister arrives back from Indonesia

YANGON, 23 May—The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Hla Min arrived back here by air yesterday afternoon after attending the 5th ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting held in Jakarta, the Republic of Indonesia, at the invitation of the Indonesian Defence Ministry.

MNA

Trees grown for greening Bawditahtaung region

Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye plants a Gangaw sapling.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Tree-planting ceremony for greening Bawditahtaung, jointly organized by Forest Department of Sagaing Region and Dry Zone Greening Department, was held at Bawditahtaung region in Monywa Township yesterday. Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye grew a Gangaw sapling and enjoyed the tree-planting of departmental staff and members of social organizations.

The Chief Minister inspected environs of Bawditahtaung and inflow of water to Bawditahtaung Dam and nurseries.

He attended the coordination meetings of Region High Court and District/Township Judges, Region/ District/Township Law Officers and Region/ District/Township Auditors.—*MNA*

Dy Construction Minister inspects road, bridge work in Toungoo District

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May— Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint on 21 May held a meeting with staff at the Public Works office in Toungoo District, and viewed Toungoo-Thandaunggyi Road.

After meeting staff at the Engineer's office of Thandaung Township and at Htantabin Township Engineer's office, he inspected Htantabin-Toungoo Road.

MNA

KNU extorts money, takes bus drivers and conductors hostage on Ye-Thanphyuzayat Road in Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May — KNU insurgents fired on and stopped five passenger buses en route from Ye on Ye-Thanbyuzayat Road between Kanikamauk and Lainmawchan villages in Ye township, Mon State at about 9 am today, taking the drivers and conductors hostage.

The incident is that some 30 KNU insurgents fired on the front wheel of a Shwe Myinpyan passenger bus out of the five air-conditioned buses from Shwe Myinpyan, Shwe Wal Kadana, Shwe Wah Phu, Kyezin Hein and Yazar Min bus lines, stopped them and extorted money. They extorted K 1 million each for Dawei-Yangon bus a year and K 300,000 for a Dawei-Mawlamyine bus a year. Out of six people who were captured, four managed to flee and only two remained. A military column is in hot pursuit of the escaped insurgents.

The entire national people abhor the KNU insurgents, who stick to their subversive acts to extorted money, rice and provisions from innocent people, it is learnt.

MNA

Banks Supervisory Committee, Myanmar Banks Association meet

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—The 128th meeting of the Banks Supervisory Committee and Executive Committee of the Myanmar Banks Association under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue took place at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue here this morning.

Union Minister U Hla Tun in his speech called for adaptation of projects designed for sustainable progress in the financial sector, improving capacity of staff, and effective use of information and communication technology.

MNA

Yangon Region Chief Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

***Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe receives Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Junhua.*—MNA**

YANGON, 23 May — Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe received Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Junhua at Yangon Region Government Office at 3 pm today.—*MNA*

***Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint delivering address at the opening ceremony.*—MNA**

New basic diplomatic course opened

YANGON, 23 May— The Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched the certificate course on basic diplomatic skills (26/2011) at Wunzinminyazar Hall of the ministry here at 10 am today, with an opening address by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint.

The 12-week course is being taken by a total of 210 trainees.

MNA

RUMFCCI President receives foreign guests

YANGON, 23 May — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung received Resident Representative Mr Carlos Velos of World Food Programme at RUMFCCI Office here on 16 May. They held discussions on purchasing agricultural produce of Myanmar through tender system, smooth and low-cost transportation of commodity and conducting workshops and courses for marketing agricultural produce.

Similarly, he received President Mr Manabu Takeuchi of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Yangon (JCCY) and Secretary and Managing Director Mr Toshihiro Mizutani JETRO (Yangon) in the afternoon. They discussed investment and cooperation in furniture and garment industries.

MNA

Talk on fishery resources conservation given in Myaungmya

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Talk on conservation of fishery resources was held at Fishery Department in Myaungmya District, Ayeyawady Region on 20 May. The aim is to disseminate knowledge on fishery resources conservation in line with instructions by Fishery Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. A total of 70 from Myaungmya Township attended the talks.—*MNA*

Deputy Defence Services Commander-in-Chief welcomes Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win welcomed Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army General MD Abdul Mubeen, ndc, psc at the welcoming reception at Zeyathiri Beikman here this morning.

On arrival at Zeyathiri Beikman in a motorcade, the Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army received a warmly welcome from the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

Taking position on the dais, the two generals took the salute from the Guard of Honours. They inspected the Guard of Honours.

The Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army presented his members to the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

The Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services also presented Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Ministry of Defence and senior military officers to the Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army.—*MNA*

***Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win and Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army General MD Abdul Mubeen, ndc, psc take position on the dais to take salute from the Guard of Honours.*—MNA**

Hline River-crossing Hlinethaya-Ahlon power grid under construction

YANGON, 23 May— Union Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Soe inspected Ahlon Township, here on 21 May morning. During his inspection tour, he looked into progress of switch yard construction site and use of turbines in the control room and supply of power at Ahlon Main Power Station, as well as project of Hlinethaya-Ahlon power grid (KV 230) crossing Hline River, R.C.S.2 tower of Ahlon side and R.C.S.1 of Khanaungto side.

The Union Minister held a meeting with Chairman of Yangon City Electric Supply Board and heads of the department, District Administrators, District level Engineers and officials concerned at the meeting hall of YCESB. At the meeting, he instructed them to make necessary preparation to run turbines in four main power stations in Yangon Region at full capacity and to serve dutifully.

MNA

***Union Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Soe inspects 230 KV Hlinethaya-Ahlon Power Grid (across Hline River) project.* —MNA**

Union Transport Minister receives Indian Ambassador

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung receives Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May — Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri at the ministry here this morning.

They held discussion on boosting water and air transport between the two countries and multi-development of Ayeyawady, Chindwin and Kaladan rivers.—*MNA*

Deputy C-in-C of Defence Services meets Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win meets Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army General MD Abdul Mubeen, ndc, psc.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May — Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win received a delegation led by Chief of Army Staff of Bangladesh Army General MD Abdul Mubeen, ndc, psc, at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

Also present at the call together with the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services were Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Ministry of Defence and senior military officers. The Bangladeshi delegation was accompanied by the military attaché from Bangladesh Embassy.

MNA

Environmental Conservation Committee meets NGOs

Union Minister for Forestry U Win Tun delivers speech in meeting with NGOs.—MNA

YANGON, 23 May—Chairman of the Committee for Environmental Conservation Union Minister for Forestry U Win Tun held a meeting with NGOs at the International Business Centre here this morning.

In his address, the minister said that the meeting is aimed at helping conserve the environment with experiences of NGOs in various sectors and advice from literati. Myanmar has adopted policies on environmental conservation since 1994 along with programmes not to sacrifice the environment in implementing nation-building tasks, he said, adding that the nation is working in cooperation with the international community as well as with the eight work groups in ASEAN in conserving the environment.

He said that the Committee for Environment Conservation was reconstituted with 21 ministers, deputy ministers and directors-generals from related ministries. Only when the committee mobilizes the participation of NGOs, periodicals and multi stakeholders, will it have its mission accomplished, he noted. He said that the committee welcomes any positive advice and suggestions on environmental conservation tasks to be carried out at the national level.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe in his report said that afforestation plans are implemented yearly around the region for sustainable development of the woodlands.

The minister made concluding remarks, following a general round of discussions by the attendees.—*MNA*

Union S&T Minister receives Indian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May — Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri at the ministry here this afternoon.

They discussed matters related to mutual cooperation in science and technology sector.

MNA

Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint receives Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri.—MNA

MTF President's Cup Tennis Tourney

YANGON, 23 May—The prize-giving ceremony for the Myanmar Tennis Federation President's Trouphy Tennis Tournament took place following finals at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, here, yesterday.

MTF President U Aung Maw Thein, General Secretary of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik, and Patron of MTF U Aung Thein Lin presented prizes to individual winners.

In the men's team event, first prize went to Excellent Unity, second prize, to Modern Myanmar, and third prizes, to Defence Ministry and YCDC.

MNA

University, training schools, hospitals in Magway inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May – Deputy Minister for Health Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin on 21 May visited Public Health University (Magway), Magway University of Medicine, 300-bed Teaching Hospital, the office of the head of Magway Region Traditional Medicine Department, Magway Nursing and Midwifery Training School, People's Hospital (Magway) and Minbu People's Hospital in Magway Region.

During her visit, the deputy minister spoke on the need for doctors, physicians and nurses to try to win the trust and reliance of the people.

Yesterday, the deputy minister attended the 10th anniversary of Magway University of Medicine.—*MNA*

Informal settlers carry their belongings for relocation to the outskirts of Manila after opting to 'self-demolish' their shanties at suburban San Juan, east of Manila, Philippines Monday 23 May, 2011. Hundreds of families however are bracing for the forced demolition in the next few days as the local government's deadline for them to leave has lapsed Monday.
INTERNET

Chinese central SOEs' net profit up 18.2% in first four months

BEIJING, 23 May— China's state-owned enterprises (SOEs) administered by the central government, or the central SOEs, posted a net profit increase of 18.2 percent year-on-year in the first four months.

The pace of increase was 4.2 percentage points lower compared with that in the first quarter.

The combined net profits of the 121 central SOEs totaled 290.69 billion yuan (44.72 billion US dollars) during the January-April period, the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC) said in a statement on its website Monday.

The administration did not give any explanation for the profit rise nor the lower growth rate.

The SASAC said revenues of the central SOEs rose 24.1 percent year-on-year to 6.08 trillion yuan from January to April.

The SOEs had 553.99 billion yuan payable in taxes and fees for the first four months, up 27.3 percent from the same period of last year, according to the statement.—*Xinhua*

Thai police arrest suspected tiger trafficker

BANGKOK, 23 May— Police have arrested a man suspected of being a key player in one of Thailand's largest tiger trafficking rings, police and a wildlife conservation group said Sunday.

Authorities had been searching for the 49-year-old Thai man since last year, when they issued a warrant for his arrest after seizing a Bengal tiger cub during a separate operation, police said in a statement.

Police believe the network is buying tigers and selling them to purchasers mainly in China via land routes in neighbouring Laos and Vietnam, said Chanadda Thanikulap of the FREELAND Foundation, an anti-trafficking group based in Thailand.

***Photographers take photos of a 15-month-old female Bengal tiger during a police news conference in Bangkok, Thailand on 22 May, 2011.—*INTERNET**

The suspect was arrested Saturday in northeastern Thailand and is being held in Bangkok, police said.

The tiger captured last year — now about 1 1/2 years old and weighing 220 pounds (100 kilograms) — was put on display for reporters during a police news conference announcing the arrest.

Chanadda said the animal was being held by the national park service and appeared to have been habituated to human contact, leading authorities to believe it had been bred in captivity.

Internet

Last of 16 bodies found in Vietnam boat sinking

HANOI, 23 May— Vietnamese divers have recovered the body of the final victim who drowned along with 15 other people when a double-decker party boat sank in a river during a boy's birthday celebration. The boat captain has been detained for questioning.

Trieu Van Giau, chief of Binh Duong provincial waterway police, says the body of a 9-year-old boy was pulled early Monday from the boat, which was still submerged in the Saigon River.

An investigation is under way to determine what caused the restaurant-style boat to capsize Friday evening during high winds and heavy rains. Monday's state-run *Thanh Nien* newspaper quoted police as saying the boat's safety check expired three months ago and that the captain, who did not have a proper operating license, had been detained for questioning.—*Internet*

A bank employee counts bundles of Thai banknotes in Bangkok. The country's economic growth accelerated to the quickest pace in a year in the first quarter of 2011, helped by surging exports, official data has shown.
INTERNET

LA police arrest suspect in beating of Giants fan

LOS ANGELES, 23 May—Police in Los Angeles arrested one suspect and detained several other people for questioning on Sunday in connection with the brutal beating of a San Francisco Giants fan at Dodger Stadium.

A police spokesman said the suspect and others were detained during the execution of two search warrants stemming from the assault that left Bryan Stow, 42, in a coma after the Opening Day game on 31 March.

No further details on the case were immediately available.

Stow, a paramedic and father of two from Santa Cruz, California, had driven more than 300 miles to Los Angeles to see his beloved Giants play their arch rivals, the Dodgers, on the first day of the season.

Dressed in Giants apparel, he was attacked and beaten in the parking lot of Dodgers Stadium by two men wearing Dodgers gear after the game, police said.

Last week, Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck revealed that a woman driving the getaway car was wearing a Dodgers jersey bearing Andre Ethier's number 16.

Stow was transferred last week from a Los Angeles-area hospital where he had been treated since the attack to San Francisco General Hospital, closer to his home.

Family members have said he is showing signs of recovery, no longer suffering seizures, but has yet to regain consciousness.

Police and other officials planned to hold a news conference later on Sunday at Dodgers Stadium to discuss further details of the investigation.

Prior to the beating, Dodgers owner Frank McCourt and city officials had been roundly criticized in the local media and by talk-radio hosts for lax security at the stadium, where pundits say an atmosphere of intimidation and thuggish behavior had gone unchecked for several years.

Reuters

Mexico mass graves of 219 signal major cartel rift

DURANGO, 23 May— The vacant car repair lot hardly looks out of place in a vibrant but gritty part of the northern colonial city of Durango, famous as the set for John Wayne westerns.

Only a closer look reveals the secrets hidden at "Servicios Multiples Carita Medina," clues to exactly what kind of "multiple services" were rendered. The freshly turned soil is sprinkled with lime to kill the smell and littered with discarded Latex gloves and an empty cardboard box: "Adult Cadaver Bag. 600 gauge, Long Zipper, For Cadavers of up to 75 inches. 15 pieces."

In the most gruesome find in Mexico's four-year attack on organized crime, police dug up 89 bodies in the repair lot, buried over time in plain sight of homes, schools and stores.

Then, like the killers, authorities left one of Mexico's most puzzling crime scenes completely open and unprotected. It was the largest of seven graves found in bustling urban areas of the city of almost 600,000, where a total of 219 bodies have been uncovered since 11 April.—*Internet*

***In this picture taken on 16 May, 2011, a truck sits inside a junkyard where more than 41 bodies were found buried in a mass grave, in Durango, Mexico. —*INTERNET**

Seeing-eye sheep, goats guide blind horse in Montana

SALMON, 23 May—Michelle Feldstein was prepared to provide special accommodations for the blind horse she recently added to the flightless ducks, clawless cats and homeless llamas inhabiting her animal shelter in Montana.

But nothing could prepare her for the 40-legged, seeing-eye entourage that accompanied "Sissy," a sightless, 15-year-old quarter horse.

"Sissy came with five goats and five sheep — and they take care of her," said Feldstein, the force behind Deer Haven Ranch, a private rescue facility she runs with her husband, Al, on 300 acres north of Yellowstone National Park. The seeing-eye sheep and guard goats are never far from the white mare, and they never lead her astray. They shepherd Sissy to food and water, and angle the horse into her stall amid blowing snows or driving rains.

"They round her up at feeding time and then move aside to make sure she gets to the hay," Feldstein said. "They show her where the water is and stand between her and the fence to let her know the fence is there."—*Internet*

***Sissy, a blind quarter horse, is guided by a seeing-eye entourage of five goats and five sheep at an animal shelter in Montana near Yellowstone National Park in this undated handout photo.*—INTERNET**

Mizuho Financial Group President Takashi Tsukamoto reacts during a news conference at the Bank of Japan in Tokyo on 23 May, 2011. Japan's Mizuho Financial Group said on Monday its president, Takashi Tsukamoto, would step down and be replaced by the head of its corporate banking unit, Yasuhiro Sato.
INTERNET

Labelux buys Jimmy Choo for $812 million

LONDON, 23 May—Upscale British shoemaker and retailer Jimmy Choo was bought by luxury goods group Labelux from TowerBrook Capital Partners LP, the companies said on Sunday.

The companies did not disclose terms of the deal, but two sources familiar with the deal said it was worth about 500 million British pounds ($812 million).

Vienna-based Labelux, whose other investments include shoemaker Bally, said Jimmy Choo's co-founder and Chief Creative Officer Tamara Mellon and Chief Executive Officer Joshua Schulman would stay on in their current jobs.

Mellon will take a stake in the subsidiary being created to own Jimmy Choo.

Labelux, founded by Germany's billionaire Reimann family in 2007, was said in media reports to have outbid final-round bidder private equity firm TPG Capital. *Reuters*

***A woman looks at a Jimmy Choo open-toed slingback shoe displayed in a shop window on Via Condotti in central Rome on 7 October, 2008.*—INTERNET**

IAEA team to investigate nuclear disaster

TOKYO, 23 May— Six International Atomic Energy Agency experts arrived in Japan Monday to assess the situation at the quake-crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

The radiation-leaking facility and four of its six reactors were damaged by the 11 March earthquake and tsunami that also killed and displaced thousands of people.

The IAEA experts will work with experts from about a dozen countries during their 10-day trip to look at the situation at Fukushima, one of the world's worst nuclear disasters, *Kyodo News* reported.

The efforts to stabilize the Fukushima plant since 11 March have been constantly hampered by a host of problems, including hydrogen explosions, radiation leaks, inadequate cooling of the pools holding spent nuclear fuel rods resulting in their partial melting, and flooding of the reactors by contaminated water.

The investigators will present their findings at a ministerial meeting on nuclear safety to be hosted by the IAEA next month in Vienna.

Tokyo Electric Power Co, the plant's operator, said Monday a nuclear waste disposal facility at the site will be filled up in the next several days with radioactive floodwater diverted from No 2 and 3 reactors.—*Internet*

Iran's nuclear power plant to join national grid "soon"

TEHERAN, 23 May— Head of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Fereidoon Abbasi said the Bushehr nuclear power plant would join the national grid soon, semi-official *ISNA* news agency reported Monday.

"Bushehr nuclear power plant is becoming operational and its operational phase is passing a positive process," Abbasi said Sunday on the sidelines of a cabinet meeting.

"The facility will join the national grid soon. The achievement will be made public as soon as the nuclear plant is connected to the national grid," he was quoted as saying.

"No power has been generated from the facility so far and we are now only conducting experimental tests to launch the reactor," he said, adding that "we need to run the installation safely."

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said earlier this month that Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant will be operational within weeks.—*Xinhua*

Local residents stand in front of a HSBC branch in Hong Kong. Chinese manufacturing eased to a 10-month low in May, preliminary HSBC data showed Monday, fuelling fears of a slowdown in the world's number two economy and sending Shanghai and Hong Kong shares down.
INTERNET

Volcano in Russia's Far East spews ash to 6.5 km

VLADIVOSTOK, 23 May— Karymsky volcano on the Kamchatka Peninsula in Russia's Far East has spewed ash to an altitude of 6,500 metres, local media reported Monday.

Nearly 180 earthquakes in surrounding areas were recorded by seismographs in the past 24 hours. Specialists said there was no danger for local settlements including Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky some 100 km away from the volcano. Karymsky volcano, directly north of Karymsky Lake, started to erupt on 2 Jan, 1996 and continues to emit ash and steam with varying intensity.—*Xinhua*

S Korea plans to put troubled savings banks on sale

SEOUL, 23 May — South Korea plans to put the country' s troubled savings banks on public sale, the state deposit insurer said Monday.

The public sale notice will be announced through a sale advisory firm on Tuesday, with bidding open to all industrial players with stable financial conditions and abilities to absorb soured assets, the Korea Deposit Insurance Corp (KDIC) said in statement.

South Korea's financial watchdog suspended a total of eight savings banks in January and February due to their liquidity shortages.

Samhwa Mutual Savings Bank, which was suspended in January, resumed its operations after being acquired by the nation's No 2 banking group Woori Finance holdings, but the remaining banks, including former top player Busan Savings Bank, have been controlled by the KDIC.

After receiving the letter of intent from potential buyers by the end of this month, the KDIC plans to select preferred bidders by mid-July, before completing the sales process by mid-August.

The KDIC added it will stop its forced sale process for those banks if they succeed in normalizing businesses on their own before the 14 June deadline.

Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RUKUN VOY NO (585)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RUKUN VOY NO (585) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.5.2011 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
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MAHMUT SAKA VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAHMUT SAKA VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.5.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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: CITIC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD CHINA

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (141)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (141) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 21.5.2011 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 CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Aspen Global Incorporated, a company incorporated in Mauritius, situated at c/o Kross Border Trust Services Ltd, St. Louis Business Centre, Cnr Desroches & St. Louis Streets, Port Louis, Mauritius, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

SEPTRIN

Reg. No. 2261/2007

in respect of "Pharmaceutical preparations being antibacterials for human use".

TRANDATE

Reg. No. 8145/2007

in respect of " Pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations and substances for human use and for veterinary use ".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **Aspen Global Incorporated**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 24 May 2011

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (1109)

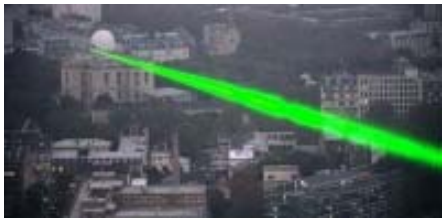
Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (1109) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.5.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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
AGENT FOR: M/S T S LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



***A laser beam travels between the Paris Observatory and the Montparnasse tower rooftop (not pictured) in Paris in October 2009.—*INTERNET**

***Photo taken on 22 May, 2011 shows the cartoon sculptures of Chinese traditional characters, before the gate of the National Animation Industry Park, in Tianjin, north China. National Animation and Industry Comprehensive Demonstration Park, the first national-level animation industry park in China, is scheduled to open at the end of May. Upon completion, the park will become a flagship project for the national cultural industry, providing funding, technology, marketing and other services to animation industry. At present, over 180 enterprises, including a number of animation businesses and major publishing companies, are planned to settle in the park.—*XINHUA**

Stunt leaves man in critical condition

SANTA CLARITA, 23 May—A dangerous skateboarding stunt left one man in the hospital and one man in jail in Santa Clarita, Calif, authorities say. Edward Culhane, 35, fell off his skateboard while "hotboarding," a stunt where a skateboard rider holds onto the back end of a moving car. He sustained serious head injuries, the *Los Angeles Times* reported. He was in critical condition at Henry Mayo Newhall Medical Centre Sunday after the fall.

The car's driver, Ryan Howell, 33, was arrested for suspicion of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, police said. —*Internet*

German scientists beat data transfer record

BERLIN, 23 May—Computer users who despair over slow Internet connections should take heart — German scientists have broken a speed record, sending data contained on 700 DVDs over a single laser beam, in one second.

The scientists at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) Monday said they had broken the world record by sending data at a speed of 26 terabits per second.

The data, sent over 50 kilometers (31 miles) on a single laser beam, was coded thanks to a system known as orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) in which the laser beam is divided into separate colour streams.

"With 26 terabits per second, you can simultaneously transmit up to 400 million telephone calls per second," said Professor Juerg Leuthold of the institute in a statement.

Internet

Appeal to trace tiger toy owner after police alert

SUSSEX, 23 May—Police are trying to trace the owner of a life-sized tiger toy which sparked a major police alert in Hampshire over fears a real animal was on the loose. Officers were deployed and a helicopter was scrambled with specialist thermal imaging cameras over the field, near Hedge End, on Saturday afternoon.

***A concerned member of the public contacted police believing the stuffed toy was a real tiger.—*INTERNET**

The scare stopped play at the Rose Bowl cricket ground for 20 minutes. Hampshire police said the toy was being treated as lost property but they were investigating whether it was a hoax. They said they did not know how it got there but was similar to one which would be won at a fair. The alarm was raised by a member of the public who spotted what they thought was an escaped white tiger hiding in a field, through a camera's zoom lens. Officers said they had responded as if it was a real incident, close to junction seven of the M27. Animal specialists at nearby Marwell Zoo were enlisted by police to offer advice and were prepared to send a team with tranquilizer darts to overcome the tiger.

Internet

Italy toddler dies after being left in car for hours

ROME, 23 May—An Italian toddler has died after being left in a hot car for five hours by her father who had forgotten to drop her off at day care. Doctors in the city of Ancona declared the 22-month-old Elena dead - three days after the incident.

Father Lucio Petrizzi, a professor of veterinary medicine, said that he had inexplicably thought he had left her at a nursery on the way to work.

Prosecutors are due to decide whether to charge him with manslaughter. Mother's appeal Mr Petrizzi said he had left his daughter in the car on Wednesday. He said he had returned from work only to find her barely breathing in his car. —*Internet*

Limbless French swimmer set to cross five continents

A Frenchman who gained fame for swimming the English Channel with no arms or legs has set himself a new challenge: to cross five continents in waters marked by sharks, poisonous jellyfish, icy currents and cargo ships.

Philippe Croizon, 43, who lost both his arms and legs in an electrical accident 17 years ago, has begun preparing one year ahead to swim hundreds of kilometres in waters connecting five continents from May to August.

"My crossing of the Channel was a message of hope and of life to all my fellow companions in misfortune," Croizon said, who will be accompanied by long-distance swimming champion Arnaud Chassery, 34. "With this new challenge, we intend to accomplish an act of peace, of solidarity, of sharing with all able-bodied and handicapped men, of all skin colours, cultures and backgrounds combined," said the father of two.

Doctors were forced to amputate his limbs after he was hit by a 20,000-volt charge in 1994 as he tried to dismantle a television antenna from a house roof.

As he recovered in hospital he saw a television documentary about a Channel swimmer and an ambition was born. He used special prostheses with flippers to make the crossing.

Frenchman Philippe Croizon (pictured) who gained fame for swimming the English Channel with no arms or legs has set himself a new challenge: to cross five continents in waters marked by sharks, poisonous jellyfish, icy currents and cargo ships.

News Album

In this 2 Feb, 2011 photo, provided by Enahhm Hof, Wim Hof of the Netherlands, known as the Iceman, prepares for a performance in a tank of ice for German Television, in Inzell, Germany.

Dutch "Iceman" controls body through meditation

The sun beams down on a warm Dutch spring morning, and the Iceman's students look wary as they watch him dump bag after bag of ice into the tub of water where they will soon be taking a dip.

The plan is to try to overcome the normal human reaction to immersion in freezing slush: gasping for air, shivering uncontrollably, and getting back out again as soon as possible. Instead, under the direction of "Iceman" Wim Hof, the group of athletes is going to stay in the water for minutes practicing his meditation techniques, seeking possible performance or health benefits.

Hof, 52, earned his nickname from feats such as remaining in a tank of ice in Hong Kong for almost 2 hours; swimming half the length of a football field under a sheet of ice in the Arctic; and making the Guinness record books for running a half-marathon barefoot in Finnish snow in deep subzero conditions.

He tried to climb Mt Everest in 2007 wearing only sandals and shorts, but suffered frostbite and turned back at 7,400 metres (24,300 feet) — he wants to test the limits of human potential, not die trying.

Alleged thief survives 200-foot fall

A Staten Island, NY, man out on bail for allegedly stealing an expensive handbag survived a 200-foot jump after allegedly stealing another one, police say.

New York Port Authority police were chasing Darin Hickman, 46, after he allegedly shoplifted a tony Louis Vuitton purse from a mall in New Jersey. Just as Hickman got close to the Goethals Bridge in Elizabeth, NJ, he rammed a police car, causing his Mitsubishi Diamante to catch fire, the *New York Post* reported Sunday.

Hickman jumped out of the car and bolted down the highway and then he made a totally unexpected move, police said.

"Suddenly, he makes a hard left — and falls 200 feet!" an officer on the scene marveled. "I still, to this moment, can't believe what I saw. This mope threw himself off a bridge, and has no external injuries and seems to be fine."

When police and firefighters discovered Hickman alive and breathing, all he wanted to know was, "How's my car" the officer said.

The alleged robber was out on bail for stealing a comparable Louis Vuitton bag worth $2,500 last week.

Miss World Harvest Festival finalists bring cheer to school

KUCHING, 23 May—The 15 finalists of Miss World Harvest Festival 2011 recently made a surprise appearance at SK St Teresa here.

The visit, part of the beauty contest's promotion activities, had brought entertainment and cheers to teachers and students of the school.

The Miss World Harvest Festival 2011 will be held on 28 and 29 May at Sarawak Cultural Village (SCV).

The finalists are; Sharifah Elya Nabila, Asheila Bakri, Princess Alma, Suljirina Lucas, Zaimeera Zada, Erlin Christopher, Faynella Saing, Mellianne Stopher, Hafiza Md Basir, Grace John, Nor Faizah Abdul Latif, Emilya George, Dorothy Dolly, Azerina Sabri and Liyana Eddie.

A similar event will be held on 26 May at the Spring from 3 pm until 9pm while a mini concert at Kuching Waterfront at 8pm will be held a day earlier. The results of two subsidiary titles namely Miss Fitness Sarawak Plaza and Miss Springtime would be known tomorrow and 26 May respectively.

Xinhua

The 24-year-old contestant Riza Santos (L Front) poses after she was crowned Miss World Canada 2011 in Richmond of Vancouver, Canada, on 19 May, 2011.—XINHUA

Tambourine man still playing songs: Dylan turns 70

LOS ANGELES, 23 May—Music icon Bob Dylan turns 70 this week with stars lining up to pay tribute to the 1960s folk-protest singer turned enigmatic rock legend, still touring after half a century.

Dubbed the "voice of a generation" for anthems like "The Times they Are a-Changin'" and the poet laureate of folk for "Hey Mr Tambourine Man" and others, Dylan shows no signs of slowing down as he enters his eighth decade. "He's an inspiration, really, to us all, beyond even the songwriting, because he's always trying to go somewhere new. I love the man," said Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards, no spring chicken himself.

U2 frontman Bono said the young Dylan was way ahead of his time. "The tumble of words, images, ire and spleen shapeshifts easily into music forms 10 or 20 years away, like punk, grunge or hip-hop," he wrote in Rolling Stone magazine.

It is not clear how Dylan will celebrate his birthday Tuesday, but at least he's not actually on the road — his informally-dubbed "Never Ending Tour" is taking a break this month, although it will resume in Europe in mid-June.

Music icon Bob Dylan, pictured in April 2011, turns 70 this week with stars lining up to pay tribute to the 1960s folk-protest singer turned enigmatic rock legend, still touring after half a century.—INTERNET

Internet

Lady Gaga hatches new album, to mixed reviews

LOS ANGELES, 23 May—Pop provocateur Lady Gaga unveils her second full-length album this week, three years after taking the music world by storm — but while sales will likely be huge, early reviews are mixed.

True to her social media-friendly form, the 25-year-old is releasing "Born this Way" in unconventional style by posting some songs on online social game Farmville ahead of Monday's launch, as well as other singles already issued. The title track was released in February, shortly be-fore Gaga — real name Joanne Angelina Germanotta — caused a storm by turning up inside a giant translucent egg at the music industry's annual Grammys awards show. "I want to celebrate and share 'Born This Way' with my little monsters in a special way that's never been done before," Gaga said of the release of excerpts on her in-game "GagaVille" farm last week. Her "little monsters" are the legions of fans who worship the star, whose hit singles from her first album, 2008's "The Fame," included "Bad Romance," "Paparazzi" and "Poker Face."—*Internet*

US singer Lady Gaga

Chelsea sack coach Ancelotti

LONDON, 23 May — Chelsea manager Carlo Ancelotti had been sacked from the coaching position after a trophy-less season that saw them finish runners up to Manchester United, the club confirmed in a statement on Sunday. "Chelsea Football Club can confirm that Carlo Ancelotti parted company with the club today," a statement on Chelsea's website read following the team's 1-0 final day defeat at Everton. —*Xinhua*

Chelsea manager Carlo Ancelotti

Toms rallies at Colonial for 13th career win

FORT WORTH, 23 May — David Toms was beginning to wonder if he could ever win again on the PGA Tour. Now he has the most satisfying victory of all. More than five years after he last won, a week after losing in a playoff and a day after blowing a seven-stroke lead at Colonial to go into the final round trailing, the 44-year-old Toms shot a 3-under 67 on Sunday to win at Hogan's Alley.

"I'm not dreaming, am I? This is actually happening, right?" Toms asked when he entered the interview room wearing the championship plaid jacket. "Wow, I didn't know if this day would ever come again." Toms regained the lead for good from Charlie Wi with an eagle with a wedge shot from 83 yards at the par-5 11th hole, and finished 15 under — a stroke ahead of Wi. "It's one of the most perfect shots I've ever hit," Toms said.

Internet

David Toms

Manchester United captain Nemanja Vidic (C) lifts the English Premier League trophy after their match against Blackpool at Old Trafford in Manchester.—INTERNET

English Premier League (2010-2011) League Table

	Team	P	W	D	GD	PTS
1	Man Utd	38	23	11	41	80
2	Chelsea	38	21	33	36	71
3	Manchester City	38	21	33	27	71
4	Arsenal	38	19	43	29	68
5	Tottenham	38	16	14	9	62
6	Liverpool	38	17	7	15	58
7	Everton	38	13	45	6	54
8	Fulham	38	11	43	6	49
9	Aston Villa	38	12	59	-11	48
10	Sunderland	38	12	56	-11	47
11	WBA	38	12	71	-15	47
12	Newcastle	38	11	57	-1	46
13	Stoke City	38	13	48	-2	46
14	Bolton	38	52	56	-4	46
15	Blackburn	38	11	59	-13	43
16	Wigan Athletic	38	9	61	-21	42
17	Wolves	38	11	66	-20	40
18	Birmingham	38	8	15	-21	39
19	Blackpool	38	10	9	-23	39
20	West Ham Utd	38	7	70	-27	33

Fergie selection dilemma ahead of Champions League

MANCHESTER, 23 May — Sir Alex Ferguson admitted that his Manchester United players had presented him with a selection dilemma ahead of next week's Champions League final.

Ferguson watched his title-winning United side bring the curtain down on their successful domestic campaign with a 4-2 victory over Blackpool which relegated their opponents at Old Trafford on Sunday.

The result ensured United finished nine points clear of second-placed Chelsea — their biggest winning margin since they finished 10 points clear of Arsenal in 2000-01 season. Ferguson made nine changes to the side that drew at Blackburn eight days earlier to secure a record 19th title. And he admitted he had a selection headache as his side look to complete a Premier League-Champions League double by defeating Barcelona at Wembley next Saturday.

Internet

Manchester United's Scottish manager Sir Alex Ferguson

Kitajima wins men's 200 breastroke gold at Japan Open

OSAKA, 23 May—Two-time Olympic champion Kosuke Kitajima had a difficult win in men's 200m breaststroke on the last day of the Japan Open 2011 Swimming Championships at Namihaya-Dome in Kadoma of Osaka. However, it was still the first time for him to clinch the gold medal in the three-day event after he lost to Ryo Tateishi in the men's 100m breaststroke on the first day.

Tateishi became his major rival again and led for the first 150 metres before Kitajima caught up and took the lead in the last 50 metres, clocking in the winning time of 2:11.43, which was almost 4 seconds away from his Japanese record. Junior high school student Kanako Watanabe displayed an impressive swim in front of the arena.—*Xinhua*

Ferrer takes opening win at French Open

Spain's David Ferrer

PARIS, 23 May—The World No. 7 David Ferrer from Spain easily went through Jarkko Nieminen of Finland in straight sets, winning his first round match in the men's singles at the French Open on Sunday. Ferrer stepped into the Philippe Chatrier court as the highest ranking player on the first competition day, seeing off the world No 50 Finn 6-3, 6-3 and 6-1.

"I played very well, excellent tennis," said the 29-year-old, who knocked out No 1 seed Rafael Nadal in the quarterfinals of this year's Australian Open, reaching a Grand Slam semifinals for the first time. "I always hope I get good performances in Paris. I think you need to take it step by step, one match after the other, because all matches are different," said Ferrer, whose best results here were two quarterfinal finish.—*Xinhua*

Porto's coach establishes a mark better than Mourinho

LISBON, 23 May—Porto coach Andre Villas-Boas created a new legend in Portuguese soccer after his team beat Vitoria 6-2 to win the Portuguese Cup title. At the age of 33, Villas-Boas won more titles in one season than Jose Mourinho. In his first season in Porto, Villas-Boas won the Portuguese Supercup, the Portuguese Championship, UEFA's Europa League and the Portuguese Cup whilst Mourinho's record was three. For Porto, it was the 58th official game of season. The team showed the burden of the effort, making too many defensive mistakes.—*Xinhua*

Hopkins becomes oldest champion at 46

MONTREAL, 23 May— Bernard Hopkins became the oldest fighter to win a major world championship, taking the WBC light heavyweight title on Saturday night from Jean Pascal at the age of 46. Hopkins (52-5-2) broke the age record set by George Foreman in a heavyweight title victory over Michael Moorer in 1994. Hopkins won at 46 years, 4 months, 6 days. Foreman was 45 years, 10 months.

"I won't retire until I'm 50," Hopkins said. He won the WBC, IBO and The Ring magazine titles from the 28-year-old Pascal (26-2-1), the Montreal fighter who was making his fifth defence before 17,560 at the Bell Centre. The bout was a rematch of their 18 Dec draw in Quebec City.

Internet

WBC light-heavyweight boxer Bernard Hopkins

SPORTS

PREMIER LEAGUE

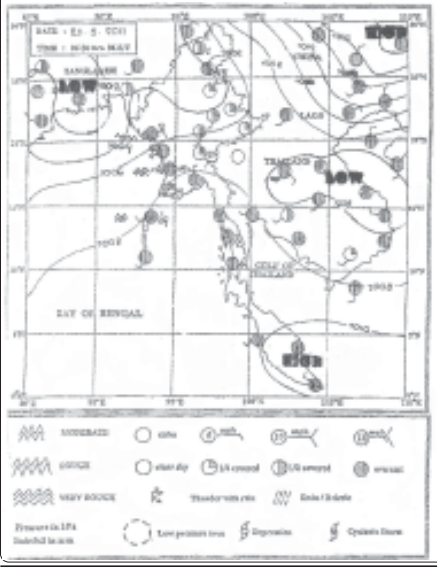
Top Scorers

	Player	Team	Top Scorers
1	Dimitar Berbatov	Man Utd	21
2	Carlos Tevez	Manchester City	21
3	Darren Bent	Aston Villa	17
4	Robin van Persie	Arsenal	17
5	Peter Odemwingie	WBA	15
6	Dudley Campbell	Blackpool	13
7	Andrew Carroll	Liverpool	13
8	Javier Hernandez	Man Utd	13
9	Dirk Kuyt	Liverpool	13
10	Florent Malouda	Chelsea	13
11	Rafael Van der Vaart	Tottenham	13
12	Clint Dempsey	Fulham	12
13	Didier Drogba	Chelsea	12
14	Kevin Nolan	Newcastle	12
15	Charlie Adam	Blackpool	11
16	Wayne Rooney	Man Utd	11
17	Johan Elmander	Bolton	10
18	Steven Fletcher	Wolves	10
19	Asamoah Gyan	Sunderland	10
20	Salomon Kalou	Chelsea	10

WEATHER

Monday, 23rd 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 fairly widespread in Ayeyawady Region, Kachin and Mon States, scattered in Bago and Yangon Regions, Rakhine and Kayin States and isolated in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions and weather have been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfall in Mon State. Day temperatures were (3°C) above May average temperatures in Ayeyawady Region and Eastern Shan State, (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State and about May average temperature in the remaining Regions and States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Paung (4.72) inches, Nyaunglebin (1.93) inches, Maungtaw (1.38) inches,Kyaikmaraw (1.24) inches, Thaton (1.21) inches, Longlone(1.18) inches and Shwegyin (1.06) inches.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 22-5-2011 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 23-5-2011 was 76°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 23-5-2011 was (71%). Rainfall on 23-5-2011 was (Nil).

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 22-5-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 23-5-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 23-5-2011 was (79%). Rainfall on 23-5-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 23-5-2011 was (Nil) at Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and Mandalay each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (11.78) inches at Nay Pyi Taw, (18.04) inches at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (8.78) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (4) mph from Southeast at (09:30) hours MST on 23-5-2011.

Bay Inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 24th May 2011: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated to scattered in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Bago Region, Kachin and Chin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of thundery condition in to the Deltaic areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 24th May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of cerainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24th May 2011: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of cerainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24th May 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of cerainty is (80%).

Udinese reject $49 million bid for Sanchez

ROME, 23 May—Udinese have rejected a 35 million euro bid for star Chile winger Alexis Sanchez, club president Gino Pozzo revealed.

Udinese face a fight to hold onto Sanchez despite having secured a place in next season's Champions League play-off round following Sunday's 0-0 draw against AC Milan.

A lot of the club's success this season has been put down to attacking pair Sanchez and top-scorer Antonio Di Natale.

And while at 33 club captain Di Natale is unlikely to go anywhere — he turned down a move to giants Juventus last summer — Sanchez is another matter.

"For me Sanchez is worth as much as (Lionel) Messi but that's a personal valuation and not an objective one," said Pozzo.

Chile's winger Alexis Sanchez shoots the ball during the 2010 World Cup match against Brazil in Johannesburg. INTERNET

"It's hard to find other players of that level, you only find two or three like him in every generation. "We've received a 35 million euro bid which we've refused because I believe he's worth more than that." As well as Sanchez, Pozzo is trying to fend off interest in his Swiss midfielder Gokhan Inler. "Napoli are putting us under a lot of pressure for the Swiss, we'll talk again in two or three days."—*Internet*

Myanmar TV

Tuesday,

24 May

View on today

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning News

7:40 am
4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:00 am
6. Health Programme

8:10 am
7. Songs Of Yester Years

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

8:30 am
9. Song Of National Races

8:40 am
10. International News

8:45 am
11. Musical Programme

4:00 pm
1. Martial Song

4:10 pm
2. Musical Programme

4:20 pm
3. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

4:35 pm
4. Teleplay (Traffic)

4:50 pm
5. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures)- Third Year (Botany)

5:05 pm
6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:15 pm
7. The Mirror Images Of The Musical Programme

5:25 pm
8. One Village & One Product

5:35 pm
9. Sweet Melody

5:45 pm
10. Documentary

6:00 pm
11. Evening News

6:15 pm
12. Weather Report

6:20 pm
13. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

6:35 pm
14. Sing A Song

7:00 pm
15. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
16. News
17. International News
18. Weather Report
19. Just for Laughs
20. TV Dramma Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

Programme Schedule

(24-5-2011) (Tuesday)

Transmissions		Times
Local	-	(09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	-	(24-5-11 09:30 am ~ 25-5-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

* Opening
* News
* Mrauk U, Treasure Trove of Rakhine Culture
* News
* Benevolence, above all
* Stream of Songs
* News
* Current Affair "A Fresh Breath of Myanma Media Paradigm"
* News
* Myanmar's Traditionals and Culture "Myanmar's Secret Beautifier"

Oversea Transmission

* Opening
* News
* Mrauk U, Treasure Trove of Rakhine Culture
* News
* Benevolence, above all
* Stream of Songs
* News
* A Fresh Breath of Myanma Media Paradigm
* News
* Myanmar's Traditionals and Culture "Myanmar's Secret Beautifier"
* News
* Youth of the Future (Harry Ko-Violinist)
* News
* Fabulous Coiffure Hairstyle
* Music Gallery
* News
* UMFCCI In Full Swing
* News
* Pagoda Forest in Pa-O Land
* Myanmar Movie "Dancer and Drummer"

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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

Pyithu Hluttaw/Amyotha Hluttaw Committees members, Region/State Hluttaw speakers discuss Hluttaw procedures

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint makes a speech on Hluttaw procedures at Hluttaw Hall.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May — Members of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Committees and Speakers of Region/State Hluttaws met to discuss Hluttaw procedures at Hluttaw Hall here at 9 am this morning.

The meeting was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swar, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, members of Bill Committees, Public Accounts Committees, Rights Committees and Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committees of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and speakers of Region/State Hluttaws.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann gave speeches on Hluttaw procedures.

Those present held discussions on Hluttaw procedures. The first-day meeting was concluded at 3.25 pm.

MNA

IDADACIT marked with painting, cartoon, poster contests

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—The 14th Ayeyawady Region Level Painting, Cartoon and Poster Contests to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse Control and Illicit Trafficking took place at Mya Shwe Wah Hall in Myaungmya on 14 May.

Fifty-four students from primary, middle and high schools from the district contended for prizes. Commander of Myaungmya District Myanmar Police Force Police Major Nyi Nyi, district level departmental officials, and officials from the Myanmar Police Force supervised the contests.

MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (23-5-2011)

Paung	(4.72) inches
Nyaunglebin	(1.93) inches
Maungtaw	(1.38) inches
Kyaikmaraw	(1.24) inches
Thaton	(1.21) inches
Launglon	(1.18) inches