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Union A & I Minister views demonstration of Palethwe hybrid paddy growing in Wetlet

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing views demonstration of transplanting Palethwe hybrid paddy plants in model farmland in Leinbin Village in Wetlet Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing viewed the demonstration of Palethwe hybrid paddy growing with G.A.P system, at model zone (450 acres) plantation in Leinbin Village of Wetlet Township, Sagaing Region yesterday morning.

He said that hybrid paddy production technology was widely used in the world.

It yields 300 baskets per acre. Systematic growing of paddy strains produced by Shwe Taung plantation and University of Agriculture would yield more than 200 baskets per acre. Farmers were to grow quality paddy strains so as to cover the costs, he said.

Farmers on their part were to try to ensure the quality of paddy for sustainable markets and the Ministry also provided the farmers with the research findings on agricultural technologies, he added. After that, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and wife Daw Khin Thant Zin presented cash awards and foodstuff to the paddy growers.

A total of 109 farmers in eight village-tracts in Wetlet Township, Shwebo District will grow 1080 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain.

MNA

Our Three Main National Causes

* **Non-disintegration of the Union**
* **Non-disintegration of National Solidarity**
* **Perpetuation of Sovereignty**

Kayin National Union-KNU opens Liaison Office in Kyaukkyi of Toungoo District

Region peace making group and Kayin National Union (KNU) peace making group pose for documentary photo after peace talks at Shwe Wah Tun Hotel in Bago.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April— Kayin National Union-KNU has established its Liaison Office in Kyaukkyi, Toungoo District, Bago Region, yesterday.

Present at the opening of the office were Union Ministers U Aung Min, U Soe Thein and U Khin Yi, Bago Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Thet Tun, departmental officials, members of social organizations and townselders, Secretary-General Naw Sipora Sein, General Saw Mutu Say Poe and party of Kayin National Union-KNU, and peace negotiators of both sides.

The office was formally opened by Union Minister U Aung Min, Bago Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Thet Tun, Secretary-General of KNU Naw Sipora Sein.

At the opening ceremony, Union Minister U Soe Thein presented a Grand Tiger car to General Saw Mutu Say Poe to be used by the office.

Afterwards, the union ministers and members of KNU arrived at Bago and Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win, Bago Region ministers and officials welcomed them at Shwe Wah Tun Hotel and hosted a dinner at the hotel in the evening.

Region level peace making group and KNU peace making group held a peace talks at the hotel today. The talks was participated by Union Ministers U Aung Min, U Soe Thein, U Khin Yi, Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Commander Brig-Gen Nyo Saw, Lt-Col Zaw Naing Oo of the Commander-in-Chief Office, the minister for Bago Region security and border affairs, the minister for Kayin national race affairs, members of the KNU peace making group and peace makers of the both sides.

Bago Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Thet Tun and Member of the Central Standing Committee of KNU Saw Thaw Thi Bwe exchanged minutes of the meeting.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed perpetuation of the ceasefire and establishment of liaison offices.

The Bago Region Chief Minister hosted a luncheon to participants of the peace talks at the hotel and presented souvenirs to the KNU peace making group led by Secretary-General of the KNU Naw Sipora Sein and General Saw Mutu Say Poe.

Afterwards, Naw Sipora Sein and Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win each presented flower baskets and K 500,000 to Oaktha Thanzin Music Band who entertained them with songs during the luncheon.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 11 April, 2012

Let's try to top HDI list

Nowadays, Human Development Index (HDI) is used to distinguish whether the country is a developed, a developing or an under-developed country, and also to measure the impact of economic policies on quality of life. UN uses HDI which is a composite statistic used to rank countries by level of human development. UNDP has been publishing Human Development Report (HDR) for the world countries annually since 1990.

The HDR includes the Human Development Index (HDI) which is a comparative measure of life expectancy, literacy, education, and standards of living for countries worldwide. According to the UNDP's report, it is observed that HDI of Myanmar is low compared to other ASEAN countries. So, Myanmar still is below the chart. So, Myanmar needs to try to promote health, education and living standards of people so as to top the chart. The countries also issue National HDR for their countries. There are also HDI for states, cities, villages, etc by local organizations or companies.

Like other countries, Myanmar also should publish its National HDR in order to access country's HDI. Now, the country sees greater transparency along with scores of reforms in all aspects since the current government takes office. In the past, it was very difficult to know the actual figures of the country. In addition, the figures issued by the government are different from UN's figures. The data should not be on paper. We must accept actual condition. Only when departments concerned publish actual figures, will the government know which sectors of the country are weak and develop. Then, the government could put more emphasis on much weaker sectors in its attempt to develop country.

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister inspects regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung on 7 April attended opening ceremony of upgraded inter-village concrete road between Htamanchaung and Magyibin villages and launch of electricity supply in villages of Ngapudaw Township.

Region Development Affairs Minister U Kyaw Win Naing and donor U Kyaw Win formally opened the road.

The region chief minister inspected construction of Maha Bandoola Hall at Basic Education Primary School in Htamanchaung village and the inter-village road.

He addressed the opening of upgraded BEHS, the ceremony to hand over school building and the donation ceremony of Man Myay Yazar Education Foundation in magyibin village.

Donors U Kyaw Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Than handed over related documents to the school building to Region Education Officer U Khun Kyaw Myint.

The region chief minister addressed coordination meeting for drafting and implementing regional plan at the Region government office yesterday.

Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung also received Managing Director of Far East Trading Co Ltd Mr Hiroshi Skuroyanagi and party at his office and discussed matters related to investment in the region.

MNA

***Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung unveils signboard of Basic Education High School in Magyibin Village of Ngapudaw Township.*—MNA**

Union Education Minister looks into exam papers marking

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, together with Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing, Director-General Dr Soe Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) and rector incharge Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint of Mandalay University, inspected teachers marking matriculation exam papers, at Mandalay University yesterday morning. He urged examiners to mark the papers systematically and fairly.

MNA

Experts meet to fight poverty in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April —A workshop on 2nd survey for livelihood in Rakhine State (2009-2010) was conducted at the Rakhine State Hluttaw on 4 April.

The workshop was opened with an address by Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin.

Personnel of the IHLCA of the UNDP discussed assessment of the poverty in the state and facts about the UN Millennium Development Goals.—*MNA*

Basic Summer Sports Course concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April— The concluding ceremony of the basic summer sports course (2012) was held at the State Sports Hall in Loikaw yesterday morning.

Jointly organized by State Sports and Physical Education Department and State Education Department under the supervision of Kayah State Sports and Physical Education Committee, the basic summer sports course (2012) was opened at the State Sports Hall and State Sports Ground (Daw Ukhu) from 1 March to 8 April.

It was attended by Kayah State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyaw Swe, the Kayah State chief justice, the deputy speaker of Kayah State, the region ministers, the state advocate-general, the state auditor-general, departmental personnel, members of state sports and physical education committee, the district/township administrators, teachers and 500 trainees.

State Minister for Social Affairs U Koe Yal made a concluding speech and then State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyaw Swe presented certificates to trainees and certificates of honour to course instructors.

The trainees demonstrated their skills.

MNA

YCDC MCWA branch donates cash to the aged

Patron of YCDC Maternal and Child Welfare Association Branch wife of Yangon Mayor Daw Khin Aye Nwe presents cash assistance and supplies to an older person.
YCDC

YANGON, 10 April—Maternal and Child Welfare Association branch of Yangon City Development Committee held the ceremony to donate cash assistance to the aged parents of above-75 years old at City Hall of Yangon this morning.

Patron of the association branch wife of the Yangon Mayor Daw Khin Aye Nwe extended greetings.

The Mayor, wife and party presented cash assistance and gifts to the aged.

At the ceremony, the association branch donated K 1,4540,000, foodstuff and personal goods to the aged.

MNA

Mobile GSM tower comes online in Lawpita

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs opened new GSM tower with a capacity of 3000 lines, at ShweNyaung Bingone of Lawpita Power Plant No.2 today. It was put into service with the aim of helping socio-economic development of rural people, contributing to better mobile networks in Kayah State and having easy access to mobile networks in Lawpita power plant and Lawpita village. —*MNA*

Matters on microfinance institutions clarified

YANGON, 10 April—Yangon Region Women's Affairs Organization clarified matters related to microfinance institution and disbursed small loans to region, district and township organizations at Basic Education High School No. 2 in Dagon Township this morning.

Patron of Yangon Region Women's Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thet Htay and Chairperson Daw Thaung Mya made speeches.

Officials shared disbursements in ratio to the organizations.—*MNA*

Suicide attacks kill 19 in Afghanistan

HERAT, 10 April— Suicide bombers killed at least nineteen people in attacks across Afghanistan on Tuesday, including 11 Afghan police, as insurgents ramped up violence ahead of the traditional summer fighting months.

Two bombers, including one wearing a head-to-toe covering burqa, blew up a car laden with explosives on the airport road outside the western city of Herat, killing eight civilians and three police, provincial governor spokesman Mohiddin Noori said.

Twenty-three people were wounded in the attack, which took place in a usually peaceful part of the country near the border with Iran.

In volatile southern Helmand province, three suicide attackers targeted the district governor's office in Musa Qala district, killing eight police. Two of the bombers were shot dead, but one managed to detonate explosives.

"The first one opened fire on Afghan police. In response he was killed by our forces, while the second one detonated himself and police killed the third," said Dawood Ahmadi, spokesman for the Helmand provincial governor.

A NATO spokesman on Monday said insurgents had so far shown no sign of planning a repeat of last year's unified spring offensive against foreign and Afghan forces, preferring isolated attacks on small units and bases.

MNA/Reuters

Map of Afghanistan locating Guzara in Herat Province where two suicide bombers rammed their vehicle into a local government compound Tuesday, killing at least 19 people. INTERNET

US should lead to end World Bank tradition: Nigerian finance minister

WASHINGTON, 10 April— The United States should take the lead and break the long tradition of an American always heading the World Bank, Nigerian finance minister and a nominee for the top post Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala said on Monday. Speaking after a "marathon" three-and-a-half-hour interview by the World Bank board, Okonjo-Iweala said the decision on who leads the global development institution should go to the candidate with the best skills for the job.

During her interview with the board, Okonjo-Iweala said she did not ask for the support of countries but pressed them to ensure that the selection process was open and merit based. Under an informal agreement between the United States and Europe, an American has always headed the World Bank and a European has led the International Monetary Fund since their founding after World War Two. Rising economic powers such as China, India and Brazil have called for an end to the long-standing tradition and are demanding more influence in global finance institutions.

Okonjo-Iweala, who left a top post at the World Bank last year for a second stint as Nigeria's finance minister, is up against former Colombian finance minister Jose Antonio Ocampo and US nominee Korean-American health expert Jim Yong Kim. Ocampo and Kim are set to be interviewed by the 25-member World Bank board on Tuesday and Wednesday respectively. It is the first time that candidates from developing countries have challenged Washington for the top post.

"Somebody has to break this" agreement, Okonjo-Iweala told an event hosted by the Centre for Global Development and *Washington Post*. "Therefore, who is the leader in this world? The US is looked on for that leadership," she added. The board is set to decide through consensus on a new president of the World Bank on 16 April. Kim is likely to succeed Robert Zoellick as World Bank president given the US's large voting bloc and support by European allies.—*Reuters*

March's heat melts records

WASHINGTON , 10 April — You likely felt it, but now it's official that March 2012 was the warmest March on record for the lower 48 states, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The average temperature of 51.1 degrees Fahrenheit broke the previous record set in 1910 by 0.5 degrees and was 8.6 degrees above average. According to NOAA's preliminary data, more than 15,200 record high temperatures were set for March and all 50 states broke at least one record.

March wasn't the only month that brought the heat. The average temperature of the contiguous United States for the first three months of 2012 was six degrees above normal, NOAA announced. The period from January through March for 2012 broke the previous first quarter record by 1.4 degrees. Weather records are normally beaten by tenths of a degree. While the warm temperatures made winter more tolerable, it worried scientists.

"Everybody has this uneasy feeling. This is weird. This is not good," said Jerry Meehl, a climate scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo. "It's a guilty pleasure. You're out enjoying this nice March weather, but you know it's not a good thing." The warm weather created favorable conditions for tornadoes and according to NOAA there were 223 preliminary tornado reports this March compared to an annual average of 80. While individual events cannot be sited as examples of climate change, climate scientists said extreme temperatures and weather events will become more frequent as a result of man-made climate change.

Internet

March's Heat Melts Records.— INTERNET

In this 29 March, 2012 file photo, a small boat pass in front of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise is seen anchored of the coast of Faliro, near Athens. The US Navy said on 9 April, 2012 that it has deployed a second aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf Region amid rising tensions with Iran over its nuclear programme.—INTERNET

US Navy deploys 2nd aircraft carrier to Gulf

DUBAI, 10 April — The US Navy said on Monday it has deployed a second aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf Region amid rising tensions with Iran over its disputed nuclear programme. The deployment of the nuclear-powered *USS Enterprise* along with the Abraham Lincoln carrier strike group marks one of the few times the Navy has had two aircraft carriers operating in waters near the Persian Gulf, said Cmdr Amy Derrick-Frost of the Bahrain-based 5th Fleet.

The two carriers will support the American military operations in Afghanistan and anti-piracy efforts off Somalia's coast and in the Gulf of Aden, she said. The warships also patrol the Gulf's strategic oil routes that Iran has threatened to shut down in retaliation for economic sanctions slapped on the Islamic Republic because of its nuclear programme, which the West suspects aims to develop nuclear weapons. Iran denies the allegations, and says its programme is solely for peaceful purposes.

The deployment of a second aircraft carrier is "routine and not specific to any threat," Derrick-Frost said. She did not say how long the Navy will keep the increased military presence in region. The US had two carriers operating in the region in June 2010. Two carriers were also deployed in March 2003 during the US led invasion of Iraq and in February 2007 in support of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Enterprise is based in Norfolk, Va. It was the Navy's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and is now on its last mission. The Enterprise was commissioned in November 1961. The carrier is scheduled to be deactivated this fall.—*Internet*

Chile navy rescues four from Antarctic ship

SANTIAGO, 10 April — Four Brazilians filming a documentary off the Antarctic coast were rescued by the Chilean navy after their ship became stuck in the ice, Chilean media said on Monday. Officials told the daily *El Mercurio* that the four Brazilians were safe and sound after their vessel *Mar Sem Fim (Endless Sea)* was trapped in icy, windy conditions near the Chilean Antarctic naval base.

The boat capsized in 100-kilometre (60 mile) per hour winds on Saturday near the Chilean base, about 1,200 kilometres (750 miles) south of tip of South America, said the head of Chilean base in Antarctica, Eduardo Rubilar. The ship was carrying four Brazilians filming on a documentary about navigation and the landscape of Antarctica.

Joao Lara, journalist and leader of the Brazilian expedition, praised the navy for the "risky maneuver" and said "they handled the situation in a controlled manner when the wind was very strong." The Brazilians were taken to the southern Chilean port of Punta Arenas. Chilean officials said it will monitor the area for a possible oil leak and will attempt to refloat the vessel in the summer season.

Internet

Handout picture released by Chilean Navy on 9 April of Brazilian yacht Mar Sem Fim, which scuppered on 6 April due to ice compression and adverse weather conditions in the Chilean Antarctica. Four Brazilians filming a documentary off the Antarctic coast were rescued by the Chilean navy after their ship became stuck in the ice, Chilean media say.— INTERNET

Japan sees nuclear contingency plans soon, before restarts

TOKYO, 10 April — Japan's government will announce soon its contingency plans for dealing with nuclear accidents to ease public concerns about restarting reactors closed since the Fukushima radiation crisis last year, Trade Minister Yukio Edano said on Monday. Contingency plans for Kansai Electric Power Co's two reactors, which are at the most advanced stage in the government's safety checks before restarting, would be announced in a few days, said Edano, who also has the energy portfolio.

The government, which has demanded a series of safety measures on all nuclear generators since the disaster last March, is also keen to see the public accept the idea of restarting the first two reactors. But it also wants to avoid power shortages this summer, when demand peaks. Osaka-based Kansai is the country's most nuclear-reliant regional power utility.

"I understand this is now a major concern of people and the most important point in case there were a severe accident," said Edano, referring to the government's improved contingency plans. "There is a possibility for any idled reactors, whether they are running or offline, to suffer from a severe accident as long as active nuclear fuels are located," he told reporters.

Reuters

Fungus behind bat die-off came from Europe

LOS ANGELES, 10 April — The mysterious deaths of millions of bats in the United States and Canada over the past several years were caused by a fungus that hitchhiked from Europe, scientists reported on Monday. Experts had suspected that an invasive species was to blame for the die-off from "white nose syndrome." Now there's direct evidence the culprit was not native to North America.

The fungal illness has not caused widespread deaths among European bats unlike in the US and Canada. In North America more than 5.7 million bats have died since 2006 when white nose syndrome was first detected in a cave in upstate New York. The disease does not pose a threat to humans, but people can carry fungal spores. It's unclear exactly how the fungus crossed the Atlantic, but one possibility is that it was accidentally introduced by tourists. Spores are known to stick to people's clothes, boots and caving gear. White nose syndrome has killed bats in four Canadian provinces and 19 US states, mostly in the Northeast and South. Last week, the illness marched west of the Mississippi River, infecting bats in Missouri.

Now that scientists have pinpointed the apparent origin of the epidemic, what can be done to protect bats? They play a crucial role in the ecological food chain by devouring insects. "There is still not much we can do beyond making absolutely sure we don't make things worse by accidentally spreading the fungus," said biologist Craig Willis of the University of Winnipeg in Canada. Willis and a team of US-Canadian scientists set out to determine whether the fungus behind white nose syndrome was native to this continent or invaded from abroad. To do this, they collected 54 little brown bats from an uninfected cave in Manitoba.

Internet

This Oct 2008, file photo, provided by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation shows a brown bat with white nose fungus in New York. Federal officials are granting $1.4 million to scientists investigating deadly white-nose syndrome in bats.
INTERNET

Deadly March tornadoes are first billion-dollar disaster of 2012

WASHINGTON, 10 April — A swarm of tornadoes that tore through the Midwest and Southeast in early March has earned the grim title of the nation's first billion-dollar weather disaster of 2012. From 2 March through the early hours of 3 March, 132 tornadoes were reported across nine states. Although those numbers are preliminary, and will undoubtedly decrease once overlapping reports are eliminated, their aftermath was devastating, causing more than $1.5 billion in damage and killing 40 people. The storms killed four people in Ohio, but they took the greatest toll in Indiana, killing 13, and Kentucky, where 23 people died. The costly disaster follows on the heels of a record-breaking year for devastation wrought by the vagaries of the weather and longer-term climate conditions. Last year, the United States experienced 14 separate events that caused $1 billion or more in damage. Five of those events were tornado outbreaks.

Last year's costliest weather disaster was the late April 2011 tornado outbreak, which produced an estimated 343 tornadoes across Midwestern and southern states, killing 321 people and causing some $10.2 billion in damage. [The Top 5 Deadliest Tornado Years in US History] This year's early March tornado outbreak was significant for a number of reasons, according to Jake Crouch, a climatologist with the National Climatic Data Centre (NCDC), and co-author of a new State of the Climate report from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released on 9 April.

Internet

Niceness is in your DNA, scientists find

WASHINGTON , 10 April — Many times, two siblings raised by the same parents, and subject to similar environmental influences, can turn out to be polar opposites: one kind and generous, the other mean-spirited. A new study reveals that the latter might simply have been dealt the wrong hormone receptor genes.

Oxytocin and vasopressin, two hormones that inspire feelings of love and generosity when they flood our brains, bind to neurons by attaching to molecules called receptors, which can come in different forms. The new research, led by psychologist Michel Poulin of the University of Buffalo, suggests that if you have the genes that give you certain versions of those hormone receptors, you're more likely to be a nice person than if you have the genes for one of the other versions. However, the researchers found that the genes work in concert with a person's upbringing and life experiences to determine how sociable — or anti-social — he or she becomes.

As detailed in a new article in the journal *Psychological Science*, hundreds of people were surveyed about their attitudes toward civic duty, their charitable activities and their worldview. They were asked, for example, whether people have an obligation to report crimes, sit on juries or pay taxes, whether they themselves engage in charitable activities such as giving blood or volunteering, and whether people — and the world as a whole — are basically good, or are threatening and dangerous.

Internet

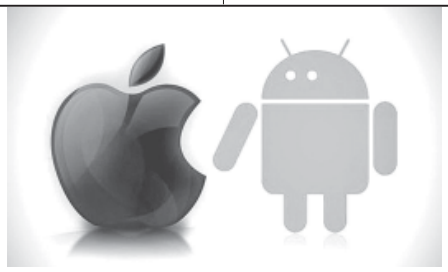
science

Google makes more money from iOS than Android

WASHINGTON, 10 April — It seems Google makes more money from Apple's mobile devices than its own Android smartphones and tablets, thanks to the use of Google's search products by those devices. The story comes by way of PC World, which cites a story from *The Guardian* looking at documents filed in Google's court case with Oracle. In that case, Google revealed that it has made less than $543 million from Android devices between 2008 and December 2011, and that's almost four times as much revenue has come from iOS devices.

The reason for that discrepancy is that Google doesn't make its money off Android, per se, but off the products it provides that mobile device owners use. Android gets licensed out to smartphone makers for free – that's part of what makes it so appealing and its use so widespread – and Google collects 30 percent of app sales and advertising on those devices. Meanwhile, on iOS, Google makes money through advertising on the use of search in Mobile Safari or ads used on Google Maps, for example, and it doesn't have to split that money with anyone.

Horace Dediu of Asymco reckons Google's take from iOS devices might be even higher than what *The Guardian* guesses at, figuring that Google could be making five times as much per iOS device as compared to Android.—*Internet*



Warning over medical implant attacks

LONDON, 10 April — Many medical implants are vulnerable to attacks that could threaten their users' lives, according to studies. Security researchers have developed attacks that locate and compromise implants used to manage conditions such as diabetes and heart disease. One attack caught a radio signal that, if re-broadcast, would have switched off a heart defibrillator. Researchers say more work needs to be done to secure implants and protect against malicious actions.

For increasing numbers of people an active life is only possible thanks to a medical implant that monitors their vital signs and which intervenes when needed. Pacemakers that regulate heart beats, pumps that deliver insulin and defibrillators that watch for abnormal cardiac rhythms are being fitted to many more people to help them manage these chronic conditions. Barnaby Jack, a researcher at security firm McAfee, has discovered that the wireless links used to interrogate and update these devices left them open to attack.

In two weeks of work he found a way to scan for and compromise insulin pumps that communicate wirelessly. "We can influence any pump within a 300ft [91m] range," Mr Jack told the BBC. "We can make that pump dispense its entire 300 unit reservoir of insulin and we can do that without requiring its ID number." Mr Jack said diabetics typically needed a dose of 5-10 units of insulin after a heavy meal to help regulate blood sugar. Making the device empty its cartridge into a host's bloodstream would cause "deep trouble".

Internet

Diabetics inject insulin to regulate blood sugar but too much can induce a coma.—INTERNET

In this 7 Jan, 2012 file photo, attendees at the National Retail Federation visit a Microsoft display, in New York.
INTERNET

Microsoft deal with AOL part of patent scramble

NEW YORK, 10 April— AOL's $1 billion deal to sell and license patents to Microsoft is another in a series of "Antiques Roadshow" moments in the technology world. Faded companies have been rummaging through their assets recently, and some of them have found musty old patents that turn out to be worth a great deal.

Patents have become a hot commodity in recent years. They give the holder the exclusive right to use certain technologies or business processes in the US Companies such as Microsoft, Apple, Facebook, Google and others are collecting large patent libraries and increasingly using them in lawsuits — to defend their businesses or to attack rivals.

A valuable patent is less like a forgotten Rembrandt and more like a rusty-but-serviceable gun. "Patents have become legal weapons. They're not representing ideas anymore," says James Bessen, a lecturer at Boston University and the director of a nonprofit that studies patent issues.

Two big deals in the past year have pushed patents into the spotlight. In July, a consortium that included Apple Inc and Microsoft Corp pledged to pay $4.5 billion for a collection of patents from Nortel Networks, a bankrupt Canadian maker of telecommunications equipment.—*Internet*

TECHNOLOGY

Obesity in pregnancy linked to autism

WASHINGTON, 10 April — Mothers who are obese or have diabetes during pregnancy may be more likely to have babies with autism or other developmental delays, said a US study published on Monday. The findings "appear to raise serious public health concerns," said the study in the journal *Pediatrics*, which comes amid an obesity epidemic in the United States with recent research showing autism strikes up to one in 88 children. Researchers examined 1,004 mother-child pairs from diverse backgrounds in California — about half of the children had autism, while 172 had other developmental problems and 315 were considered normal.

While the study did not say whether the mother's weight or diabetic status caused the children's developmental problems, it did find strong associations between the likelihood of such ailments and the mother's health in pregnancy. For instance, mothers who were obese were about 67 percent more likely to have a child with autism and more than twice as likely to have a child with some kind of disorder than normal-weight moms without diabetes.

More than 20 percent of the mothers of children with autism or other developmental disability were obese. Just 14 percent of the mothers of normally developing children were obese at the time of pregnancy, it said. Also, the autistic children of diabetic moms appeared to have more severe disabilities — with greater deficits in language and communication skills — than the autistic children of normal-weight moms.

Mothers who are obese or have diabetes during pregnancy may be more likely to have babies with autism or other developmental delays, a US study has said.
INTERNET

Internet

Omega-3 supplements no help against repeat heart trouble

WASHINGTON, 10 April — Taking omega-3 fatty acid supplements won't protect against repeat heart attacks, strokes or other cardiovascular problems, a new analysis indicates. "I was not surprised at these findings because I assumed that there was no benefit of omega-3 supplements," said lead researcher Dr Seung-Kwon Myung, chief of the carcinogenesis branch of the National Cancer Centre, Republic of Korea. The study is published online 9 April in the Archives of Internal Medicine. Instead of taking supplements, people trying to prevent heart disease or repeat problems should eat oily fish such as salmon, tuna and mackerel, which are all rich in omega-3 fatty acids, Myung said.

"It is effective against cardiovascular disease to eat fish rich in omega-3 fatty acids, not supplements," he said. Many studies have demonstrated that eating fatty fish two or more times a week is linked with a lower risk of death from cardiovascular disease. However, studies that looked at the potential cardiovascular benefits of fish oil supplements have produced mixed results. Myung and his colleagues selected 14 studies that had been published in the medical literature. In all, the studies looked at more than 20,000 patients who had a history of cardiovascular disease.

The patients' average age was 63. Nearly 80 percent were men. The studies were published between 1995 and 2010. The daily dose of omega-3 fatty acid supplement ranged from about half a gram to nearly 5 grams a day. The follow-up period ranged from one year to nearly five years.

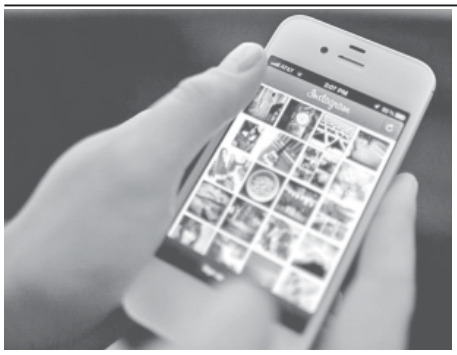
Myung's team looked to see if the supplements made a difference in sudden cardiac death, heart attack, congestive heart failure, death from any cause, stroke or transient ischemic attacks (often called TIAs or mini-strokes). The supplements did not reduce the risk of any of those problems. The researchers did find a small reduction in cardiovascular death risk.

Internet

Climate change could be tough on seniors' health

WASHINGTON, 10 April — Even small swings in temperatures could put elderly people with chronic illnesses such as diabetes, heart failure and lung disease at greater risk of death throughout the coming summer, a new study indicates. Researchers from the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston found temperature fluctuations related to climate change could claim thousands of lives every year.

Experts predict climate change could increase variations in summer temperatures, particularly in the mid-Atlantic states and in parts of France, Spain and Italy. In these more volatile regions, this could pose a serious public health risk, the study authors claimed. "The effect of temperature patterns on long-term mortality has not been clear to this point. We found that, independent of heat waves, high day-to-day variability in summer temperatures shortens life expectancy," study author Antonella Zanobetti, a senior research scientist in the department of environmental health at Harvard, said in a news release from the university. "This variability can be harmful for susceptible people." Using Medicare data from 1985 to 2006, the researchers tracked the long-term health of 3.7 million chronically ill people older than 65 living in 135 American cities. After considering each person's individual risk factors, they determined if any of these people died due to variability in summer temperature. The study, published in the 9 April online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, revealed that years with larger summer tempera-ture swings had higher death rates than those with smaller swings. This was true for each city examined.—*Internet*



Instagram is demonstrated on an iPhone on 9 April, 2012, in New York. Facebook is spending $1 billion to buy the photo-sharing company Instagram in the social network's largest acquisition ever. Instagram lets people apply filters to photos they snap with their mobile devices and share them with friends and strangers.
INTERNET

Facebook buying photo-share app Instagram for $1b

NEW YORK, 10 April — Facebook is spending $1 billion to buy the photo-sharing company Instagram in the social network's largest acquisition ever. On the surface, that's a huge sum for a tiny startup that has a handful of employees and no way to make money. But the lack of a business model rarely dampens excitement about hot tech upshots these days. As Facebook has shown, itself without ads or revenue in its early days, money goes where the users are.

Instagram lets people share photos they snap with their mobile devices. The app has filters that can make photos look as if they've been taken in the 1970s or on Polaroid cameras. Its users take photos of everything from their breakfast egg sandwiches to sunsets to the smiling faces of their girlfriends. In a little more than a year, Instagram attracted a loyal and loving user base of more than 30 million people. Apple picked it as the iPhone App of the Year in 2011.

Instagram's fans, brand recognition and its potential are difficult to put a price tag on. Yet Facebook has — and can afford it. The company is preparing for an initial public offering of stock that could value it at as much as $100 billion in a few weeks. What's $1 billion? A drop in the bucket, really. "Facebook after this IPO is going to be in a position to be predatory. They can make sure no one steps in their way and buy anyone who gets in their way," said Wedbush analyst Michael Pachter, who follows social media.

Buying Instagram, he added, not only eliminates a rival but gives Facebook the technology "that is gaining crazy traction."

Facebook is paying cash and stock for San Francisco-based Instagram and hiring its dozen or so employees. The deal is expected to close by the end of June.

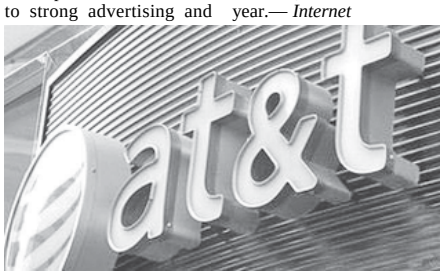
Internet

AT&T sells Yellow Pages for close to $1b

WASHINGTON, 10 April — US telecom giant AT&T has sold the Yellow Pages to a private equity firm for $950m (£600m). AT&T shares fell 0.7% after it sold the local listings business to Cerberus Capital Management, which once owned US carmaker Chrysler. The sale includes 1,200 Real Yellow Pages print titles - which reach 150 million US homes — as well as YP.com.

The Yellow Pages business units generated about $3.3b in revenues in 2011. As part of the deal, AT&T will get a 47% stake in the new entity, YP Holdings. "It enables AT&T to focus on its core strategy of leadership in wireless, IP, cloud- and application-based services," said Jose Gutierrez, president of AT&T Advertising Solutions.

"At the same time, it gives our advertising customers, partners and developers continued access to strong advertising and search innovation and performance." The deal includes assets of AT&T Advertising Solutions, which delivers sales and customer support, and AT&T Interactive, and is expected to be closed by the middle of the year.— *Internet*



The Yellow Pages generated about $3.3b in revenues in 2011 for the US telecom.— INTERNET

Carriers agree to disable stolen phones for good

WASHINGTON, 10 April — Cellphone companies and the government are trying to make it as difficult to use a stolen cellphone as it is to sell a stolen car. US Sen Charles Schumer said in a statement late Monday that major cellphone carriers and the Federal Communications Commission have agreed to set up a database of identification numbers that are unique to each phone.

Using the list, cellular carriers will be able to permanently disable a phone once it's been reported stolen. Until now, US carriers have only been disabling so-called "SIM" cards, which can be swapped in and out. That's enabled a black market to exist for stolen phones. Schumer said that the goal of the agreement is to make a stolen cellphone "as worthless as an empty wallet."

He has said that unique ID numbers known as International Mobile Equipment Identity numbers are already effectively used in Europe to deter stealing. Schumer also said he will introduce legislation to make it a federal crime to alter or tamper with a phone's IMEI number. According to New York police, 42 percent of all property crimes of individuals in New York City in 2011 involved a cell phone, and some crimes have been accompanied by violence. Both iPhones and Android phones use SIM card technology that makes them susceptible to being resold after thefts.

Internet

Business

Thai king leaves hospital for cousin's funeral

BANGKOK, 10 April — Thailand's frail king left the hospital where he has been staying for more than two years on Monday for a rare public appearance at the funeral of his cousin. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the world's longest reigning monarch, left Siriraj hospital in a wheelchair, wearing the customary white royal uniform and a black armband for the memorial rites of Princess Bejaratana Rajasuda.

Together with his wife Queen Sirikit, he lit candles and incense at a specially constructed royal crematorium at the Sanam Luang ceremonial ground in Bangkok's historic district attended by saffron-robed monks and top officials including Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. The monarch, now 84, was admitted to hospital in September 2009 to be treated for a respiratory condition and has rarely left, aside from a few public appearances. He was due to return to hospital after the funeral.

Princess Bejaratana, the only child of late King Vajiravudh, died in July 2011 from a blood infection at the age of 85 and had lain in state since then at the Dusit Maha Prasart Throne Hall in the Grand Palace. Her remains were transported in a large golden urn atop a gilded teak chariot pulled by more than 200 men in one of three processions ahead of her cremation due to be held later Monday, which was declared a special holiday.

Internet

This handout photograph taken and released by the Royal Bureau shows Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej (R) preside at the royal cremation of Thai Princess Bejaratana Rajasuda Sirisobhabannavadi at Sanam Luang in Bangkok.— INTERNET

Ex-rebel held in Philippine blasts

A contingent of Philippine marines prepare to be deployed to the island of Palawan, in 2009. INTERNET

MANILA, 10 April — Philippine police have arrested a former Muslim rebel in connection with bomb blasts that wounded three people on the tourist island of Palawan, an official said on Monday. Two devices went off nearly simultaneously outside a hotel in the El Nido beach resort and outside a bus depot in the provincial capital Puerto Princesa on Thursday. Suspect Hiya Hassan was arrested Sunday after allegedly sending a threatening text message to the bus company that was hit, Palawan police chief Abad Osit told reporters.

Hassan's 14-year-old daughter, who owned the mobile phone used, was also initially detained but had since been released without charge, Osit said. "He's a former MILF who later returned to the fold of the law," Osit said of Hassan, referring to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, the largest Muslim guerrilla group in the southern Philippines. Police would file charges of attempted murder for the bombings, as well as for making grave threats against one of the bombed establishments, Osit said."He sent a message to the effect that, 'If you persist, there will be more of the same'," Osit said. He did not disclose what Hassan was allegedly demanding.

Police have not found any threats sent to the hotel that was bombed but investigators are treating it as a related case, he added. "The IEDs (improvised explosive devices) that we detected in the debris recovered from the scenes were similar and appear to have come from the same source," Osit said. The blasts wounded a hotel cook in El Nido as well as a rickshaw driver and his female passenger in the provincial capital Puerto Princesa, about 175 kilometres (110 miles) away. Palawan is a major Philippine tourist draw with its beaches and spectacular rock formations.— *Internet*

Yemen: 64 killed in clashes with al-Qaeda fighters

SANAA, 10 April — An al-Qaeda attack on a Yemeni army post in the south set off clashes that left 64 people dead on Monday and prompted local civilians to take up arms alongside the military to beat back the militants, said army officials and residents. The dawn attack is the latest in a series of bloody battles in recent months that mark an escalation in al-Qaeda's efforts to expand its control around a swath of land it seized last year. The group took advantage of the country's political turmoil to overrun cities and towns in southern Yemen.

The militant movement appears to be on the offensive, assaulting and sometimes overrunning army positions, although it also suffers reverses. The officials said this latest assault fell on an outpost in the town of Lawder in Abyan Province, some 155 miles (250 kilometres) southeast of the capital of Sanaa. Residents and military officials said 40 militants were killed in the clashes. Additionally, 18 soldiers, including a colonel, were killed battling the militants, officials said. Six civilians allied with the army were also reported killed.

A Yemeni soldier stands on a hill overlooking Saana. INTERNET

Yemen's military in the south, poorly equipped and low on morale after a series of defeats, has not been able to fight the group and its supporters alone. In cities like Lawder, residents have become fed up with the government's inability to protect them and, in a country where tribes posses weapons, have taken up arms to protect themselves.—*Internet*

Police say Tulsa shooting suspects confessed

OKLAHOMA CITY, 10 April — Two white men accused of shooting five black people in Tulsa, Oklahoma, killing three of them, have confessed to authorities, media reports said on Monday, citing police and court documents. Jake England, 19, has admitted to police that he shot three of the victims and Alvin Watts, 33, has said that he shot two others, a Tulsa police spokesman told the *New York Times*. Three men and a woman were shot within a mile of each other in north Tulsa before dawn on Friday, police said. The body of a fifth victim was discovered outside a nearby funeral home in the predominantly black part of the city the same morning.

Police have described the shootings during the predawn hours of Friday as random because there is no evidence the suspects knew any of the victims. One witness said the gunman simply pulled his pickup truck to the side of the street and asked for directions before he opened fire. England and Watts were arrested on Sunday in the shooting spree, which left residents on edge and prompted an intensive manhunt across Tulsa and surrounding areas.—*Reuters*

Members of the the Osage County Sheriff Department prepare to assist Tulsa police in Tulsa, Oklahoma on 7 April, 2012 in their manhunt for a man in a white pickup truck who shot five people in the early morning 6 April , 2012.— INTERNET

The MS Balmoral sets sail for the Titanic memorial cruise from Southampton, England, on 8 April, 2012. INTERNET

Titanic memorial cruise delayed by strong winds

LONDON, 10 April — A memorial cruise retracing the route of the Titanic 100 years since it sank has been slightly delayed because of high winds, a spokeswoman for the cruise said on Monday. The Titanic Memorial Cruise arrived at the town of Cobh, on Ireland's southern coast, about two hours later than scheduled due to the bad weather, Rachel O'Reilly said. The vessel, called the MS Balmoral, set sail from Southampton in southern England on Sunday for the 12-night cruise.

Cobh, once known as Queenstown, was the Titanic's last port of call before it set out across the Atlantic in April 1912. As the Balmoral pulled into the town's port Monday, it was welcomed by thousands of cheering well-wishers. The ship, which carries 1,309 passengers — including relatives of some of the more than 1,500 Titanic passengers who died — will leave Cobh around midnight for the North Atlantic site where the ship hit an iceberg and sank, O'Reilly said.

The cruise seeks to recreate the experience onboard the Titanic — minus the disaster. Many passengers are dressed in period costumes for the journey, as are crew members and stewards. Passengers will also eat meals from the Titanic's menu, while a live band plays music of the era. Two special memorial services will take place over the weekend: The first close to midnight 14 April, when the Titanic hit the iceberg, and the second on early 15 April, when the ship sank.

The Balmoral is operated by Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, whose parent company, Harland and Wolff, built the Titanic in Belfast.

Internet

Militant Irish nationalists renew threats, six arrested

BELFAST, 10 April — Police in Northern Ireland arrested six men in Londonderry on Monday after a group of Irish militant nationalists threatened renewed armed attacks on law enforcement during a ceremony attended by hundreds at a city graveyard.

A man wearing a balaclava said Oglaigh na hEireann, also known as the Real IRA, would "continue to attack Crown Force personnel, their installations, as well as British interests and infrastructure," in footage broadcast by television station UTV.

Around 300 nationa-lists attended the wreath-laying ceremony to mark the anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising in Dublin against British rule. A number of supporters applauded the speech.

Reuters

Yanpel Dam to help contribute to availability of irrigation water and drinking water and boosting agricultural production in Magway Region

Yanpel Dam

* **It is located near Wattkathay Village in Taungdwingyi Township in Magway Region.**
* **The dam is of earthen type.**
* **Its main length is 9100 feet and height , 78 feet. Its saddle dyke No.1 is 1500 feet long and No.2, 6000 feet long.**
* **It has 35140 acre feet of storage capacity.**
* **It can supply irrigation water to 10000 acres of land for summer paddy, monsoon paddy, groundnut, sesame, beans and pulses.**

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye

Translation: MT

Main canal of Yanpel dam supplies irrigation water to farmlands.

Indonesia rescues 120 Australia-bound Afghan migrants from a leaking wooden ship

JAKARTA, 10 April— Indonesia says it has rescued 120 Afghan migrants from a leaking wooden ship headed to Australia.

An official called Joko from the National Search and Rescue Agency says they received a distress call from the ship's captain on Sunday and went to their aid. The Afghans were taken by tanker to a port on the western side of Indonesia's Java Island.

Witnesses said on Monday that police were still negotiating with the migrants who were refusing to leave the tanker. Joko says they will be handed over to immigration officers. Migrants without legal documents are usually deported home while others may apply for asylum. Migrants from conflict-ridden countries have long used Indonesia's thousands of islands as a transit point for their way to Australia.—*Internet*

You can now get your own chocolate 3D printer for $4,600

WASHINGTON, 10 April — Some 3D printers can print out jawbones, teeth, and guitars; others can print something far yummier — pieces of chocolate. Last year, a group of scientists from the UK.'s University of Exeter built a printer that can make chocolatey works of art. Now, the aptly-named Choc Creator Version 1 is available for purchase, though it sure doesn't come cheap — the machine is worth $4,600. Dr Liang Hao, the lead scientist who worked on the project, founded the Choc Edge company to manu-facture the printer for anyone who wants (and can afford) it. His team tweaked and improved the printer since it was first introduced to the masses last year. According to Dr Hao, operating the enhanced machine is easy as pie: "You just need to melt some chocolate, fill a syringe that is stored in the printer, and get creative printing your chocolate." If you have a strong desire to become a 3D-printing chocolatier, it may be best to get your Choc Creator now. The company is running a discount promo for the first 90 buyers, bringing the price down to just$4,000, not including the $130 shipping fee you need to add for delivery stateside. Check out the video above to see Choc Creator in action.— *Internet*

Yangon Region Chief Minister looks into development undertakings

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe inspects construction of Seikkyi-Khanaungto Suspension Bridge.—MNA

YANGON, 10 April—A ceremony to consecrate Buddha Image at Aungthukha Meditation Centre of Zeyathukha Monastery was held in conjunction with merit sharing of the centre in Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township this morning, attended by Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay.

The Region Chief Minister inspected progress in construction of Seikkyi-Khanaungto suspension bridge.

The suspension bridge will be 1680 feet long and the facility will have 24 feet wide two-way motor road. The construction of the bridge commenced on 13 February 2012.

The Region Chief Minister provided K 700,000 and 20 corrugated iron sheets each to seven fire victim households to the township administrator at the office of Township War Veterans Organization.

Daw Khin Thet Htay, region ministers and officials also presented relief supplies to the fire victims.—*MNA*

L & F Ministry assigns project duties to departments

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April —Livestock and Fisheries Ministry has assigned project duties for 2012-2013 fiscal year to departments of the ministry.

At the ceremony to assign project duties to the departments at the ministry here, Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint called for making efforts for achieving success of the project duties of the ministry in cooperation with region and state governments, joint-venture enterprises, private businesses, cooperatives societies.

The Union Ministry laid down eight policies, five objectives and 15 tasks for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Speaking on the occasion at the ceremony, the Union Minister also stressed the importance of information on environmental change, climate change and unforeseen events.

He also called for prevention of extinction of fish species, over excessive fishing and damaging ecological system.—*MNA*

UNFPA to cooperate in Myanmar's development process

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Social Development Committee U Maung Maung Swe met UNFPA resident representative Mr Mohamed S. Abdel-Ahad, at Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Hall No.1 in Hluttaw Complex here this afternoon.

Both sides had a discussion on UNFPA's cooperation in development process of Myanmar, ensuring people have equal rights in healthcare and social development, and attending HIV/AIDS Coordination meeting between Indochina, Asia and regional countries to be held in Bangkok of Thailand and Population and Social Development Conference, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey.

MNA

Golf tournament marks Maha Thingyan Festival

Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint awards winner in 2012 New Year Thingyan Golf Tournament.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—To mark the 2012 New Year Festival, the Thingyan golf tournament kicked off at Ngantay Golf Course in Mawlamyine on 8 April, attended by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint.

The State Chief Minister then paid homage Maha Datu Shwezinkyaik Hair Relic Pagoda in Zinkyaik Model Village of Paung Township.

He launched supply of electricity to the pagoda, opened the passage to the uphill road and sponsored pilgrimage of 250 older persons.

The State Chief Minister viewed completion of concrete road and installation of power line, thriving rubber farm at the foot of Kalama Hill, storage of water at Kataik Dam and thriving paddy plantation in Yinnyeintaung field.

In the evening, he presented prizes to the winners in the Thingyan golf tournament.—*MNA*

Dy Education Minister receives TCS Vice-Chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Vice-Chairman of TATA Consultancy Services (TCS) and advisor to the Prime Minister of India in the National Council on Skill Development Mr Subramaniam Ramadurai paid a call on Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe, at the ministry here at 3.30 pm today. They discussed teaching of computer technologies at universities and basic education schools in Myanmar.—*MNA*

Deputy Minister U Ba Shwe receives Vice-Chairman of TATA Consultancy Services (TCS) and advisor to the Prime Minister of India in the National Council on Skill Development Mr Subramaniam Ramadurai.—MNA

Myanmar and Thai entrepreneurs to meet on 25 April

YANGON, 10 April—A discussion between Myanmar entrepreneurs and Thai entrepreneurs group led by Chairman of The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) Mr Payungsak Chartsutipol, will take place at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, at 1.30 pm on 25 April.

Those Myanmar entrepreneurs who want to attend the discussion are to register not later than 24 April.—*MNA*

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.

Taking fire preventive measures a matter of urgency in dry season

T.S. (NLM)

According to its geographical features, the country is prone to multiple hazards. Its coastal regions are exposed to cyclones, storm surges, and tsunamis while major parts of the country are at risk from earthquake and fires.

The country is vulnerable to natural and man-made fires right across the country. Fire is especially likely in the dry zone and densely populated areas. Due to the excessive forest coverage throughout the country, forest fire incidents are found in almost all regions and states. However, they are particularly common in upland areas of regions and states such as Bago, Chin, Kayah, Kachin, Mandalay, Rakhine and Shan.

Fire or combustion is a chemical chain-reaction accompanied by evolution of intense heat and light. Fire or combustion occurs when three elements, namely, fuel, oxygen and heat react. If conditions are right, a fire can start almost anywhere at any time. If all three are not present in sufficient quantities, a fire will not ignite or a fire will not be able to sustain combustion. Combustion will continue as long as these three factors are present. If one of them is removed, the fire will be extinguished.

Fire cases often lead to the loss of human lives and property. The value of property loss depends on the fire intensity, the location and the duration of the blaze. According to the Fire Services Department, fire hazards account for 70 per cent of disasters in the country and the annual losses are approximately one billion kyats.

Generally, the high incident of urban fire are due to climatic conditions including temperature, use of flammable construction materials, increasing urban development and people's negligence when using fire. To fulfill the growing urban population's need for housing, construction and extension of buildings, apartments and houses are taking place at a speedy rate with an increase in the number of slums and improper houses. However, the enforcement on land use planning and building design for fire safety is still weak. The crowd population, congested houses and careless handling of electrical appliances and fuels often lead to fire cases.

The country does not receive rainfall all year round. The wet season lasts for about five months and the dry period for the remaining seven months. The maximum temperature reaches up to 40°C in the central dry zone during the peak hot season. The majority of households live in dwellings with thatched roofs, bamboo walls and wood plank floors. Rural people prefer to live in bamboo houses with thatched roofs made of bamboo shaves and Nipa palm leaves as these materials are inexpensive, locally available, do not require sophisticated technology and suit the local weather conditions, but they are flammable.

Regardless of location, urban or rural areas, uncovered cinders left cooking with wood or charcoal, candles left alight after use, exposure to naked flames, and unattended mosquito coils near diesel, patrol and engine oils may lead to accidental fire.

Mandalay Yadanabon Market on fire in February 2008.

Disasters cannot be stopped from happening. But their impact can be reduced dramatically if the right disaster risk reducing measures are taken in advance. With climate changes there can be more and more intense natural disasters.

As the major cause of fire cases is people's negligence when using fire, public awareness activities on fire hazard should be carried out intensively and continuously in the dry season. And educational activities through newspapers, journals, magazines, pamphlets and billboards are effective tools for public awareness generation. Meanwhile, the community-based disaster management organization should frequently remind the people to be alert for fire, to use fire with care, and to keep fire extinguishers and locally available materials for extinguishing fire such as fire-hook, fire flat, sand, water and buckets at home.

There are a series of measures that can be undertaken to avoid the possibility of a fire occurrence. Every household should take necessary prevention and preparedness actions to prevent fire outbreaks. The community is at the heart of implementing fire preventive measures. However, government intervention in policy, guidelines and enforcement for fire prevention and mitigation of loss and damage are also important.

Boat race held at Buddha Pujaniya in Ponnagyun

PONNAGYUN, 10 April—The Buddha Pujaniya of ancient Hsutaungpyae Uriztaw Pagoda was held in Ponnagyun of Rakhine State from 30 March to 2 April.

At the Buddha Pujaniya, the traditional boat race was held and prizes were awarded to the winners on 2 April.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi Aung of Ponnagyun Township and officials presented prizes to respective victorious boat rowers.—*Myanma Alin*

Hotel services courses wrap up

YANGON, 10 April—Hotel service courses concluded at Chatrium Hotel on Po Sein Road in Bahan Township of Yangon on 8 April afternoon.

Managing Director U Hla Htay of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism made a concluding remark and presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Principal Daw Nay Yi Aung of Star Resources Hospitality Management Academy, Deputy Principal U Aung Mya Soe and instructors presented completion certificates to 450 trainees.

The courses were conducted by Star Resources Hospitality Management Academy.

Myanma Alin

Mibamyitta Nanthan Creek Bridge commissioned into service in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 10 April—A ceremony to open self-reliant Mibamyitta Nanthan Creek Bridge was held at the bridge in Nyaunggon Village of Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, on 25 March morning.

At first, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Sai Tin Aung made a speech. Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Soe Lay, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Pe Thaung and wellwisher U Moe Kyaw Khaing of Shwe Myithsone New Strength Jewellery Company cut the ribbon to inaugurate the bridge.

It is 120 feet long, 12 feet wide and 17 feet high bridge built with reinforced concrete piers.

Wellwisher U Mya Sein-Daw Tin Oo (Shwe Myithsone New Strength Jewellery Company) of Mandalay have spent K 16 million and local people of the township K 14 million on construction of the bridge on a self-reliant basic.

Myanma Alin

DISTRICT NEWS

Poem

A New Year Wish!

* Buds come out in early summer
Blooming are yellow Padauk flowers
With cool clean and aromatic water
The festival goes on as usual
* Choral dancers in harmony
Festive music ever fantastic
Young men sing antiphonal chants
In own style they are attractive
* A donation amidst sound of big drums
On this pavilion free food available
Say Sadu in peace of mind
Happy Myanmar New Year celebrations
* With pure joy and fun
Water festival in tradition
Peace and prosperity for all
A wish for this New Year

Yenatha Maung Kyaw Nyunt (Trs)

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION HELD: ***The roundtable discussions on preservation of Myanmar fine tradition organized by Bahan Township Women's Affairs Organization was held at Pre-Primary School in Kyaikkasan Ward of Bahan Township on 25 March. The Chairperson of District WAO speaks at the discussion.***

MYANMA ALIN

UMFCCI officials receives Japanese guests

YANGON, 10 April—Vice-Presidents of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Zaw Min Win and U Aung Lwin, and General Secretary Dr Myo Thet met Managing Director Mr Yasuhiko Kondo and party of AEON Thana Sinsap (Thailand) Public Co Ltd of Japan at the office of the federation on 26 March morning.

They discussed promotion of mutual economic and investment matters, purchase of household electronic equipment in Myanmar through credit card and installment system, progress of banking systems in Myanmar, and opening of AEON Company branch in Myanmar.

UMFCCI

Rural gravel road inaugurated in Ottwin

OTTWIN, 10 April—The opening ceremony of Nyaungchehtauk-Myetnikwin rural gravel road, built by Ottwin Township Development Affairs Committee in 2011-2012 fiscal year, was held on the road section on 24 March.

At first, Township Administrator U Kyaw Shwe, Bago Region Hluttaw representative U Win Myint of Ottwin Township Constituency-2 and Executive Officer U Khaing Tun of Township Development Affairs Committee formally opened the road section.

Myetnikwin Village-tract Administrator U Shwe Thee spoke words of thanks.

It is a 1720 feet long and 10 feet wide road built at a cost of K 10.11 million by Township Development Affairs Committee.

Myanma Alin

Concrete road for bicycles, motorcycles completed

DISTRICT NEWS

MANDALAY, 10 April—With the aim of ensuring safety transport for increasing number of bicycles and motorcycles in Mandalay, Roads and Bridges Department of Mandalay City Development Committee extended local roads and upgraded the roads to asphalt concrete facilities.

The 20 feet wide and 7400 feet long concrete road for bicycles and motorcycles between Yadanapura Museum and Mandalay-Lashio railroad, western part of Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Chanmyathazi Township on 31 March.

As of 6 April, bicycles and motorcycles can use the new concrete road. However, action will be taken against vehicles that roll on the facility for bicycles and motorcycles under Mandalay City Development Committee Law.—*Kyemon*

Higher production of paddy discussed in Thanlyin Township

YANGON, 10 April—A meeting between Shwewah Thiha Paddy Production Company and local farmers was held at the Dhammayon in East Monastery in Thahtaykwin Model Village in Thanlyin Township of Yangon South District on 5 April.

Vice-Chairman U Aung Than Oo of Myanmar Rice Industry Association explained arrangements of the company to supply inputs to farmers, higher production of paddy, reclamation of model farmlands, application of 14 agricultural technology, and successful cultivation of 1000 acres of model farmlands.

Deputy Head of Thanlyin Township Agriculture Department Daw Khin Htwe Phyu gave a supplementary discussion on agricultural technology.

Later, the vice-chairman of the association and officials coordinated the reports of local farmers.

Myanma Alin

Day Care Centre for Aged Doctor opened

YANGON, 10 April—In honour of World Health Day which falls on 7 April 2012, the Day Care Centre for the aged doctors was opened at 14-A, Tel: 8603513, South Horse Race Course Road, Tamwaygyi (B) Ward, Tamway Township, Yangon, as of 1 March.

The centre was opened by Aged Doctors Group of Myanmar Medical Association. It is kept open from 9 am to 5 pm daily.

MMA

People satisfy fair supply of electricity in Bago

BAGO, 10 April—Under the arrangements of Bago Region Electrical Engineer U Ko Ko Naing, Bago District Electrical Engineer U Aung Than Win and Bago Township Electrical Engineer U Aung Than Htut, electricity is being supplied to about 100 wards of Bago in rotate system depending on share of electricity for Bago.

As there are three sub-power stations in Bago, these facilities must supply 15 megawatts to the local people of Bago daily. At present, as the region consumes about five megawatts only, the people face difficulties in deficiency of electricity supply.

As such, Bago Township Electrical Engineer's Office manages supply of electricity to the local people in rotate system to be able to satisfy their demand.

National power grid is passing across Bago. Kamanat sub-power station east of Bago supplies electricity to Yangon City Electricity Control and Bago Electricity Control through national grid depending on the receiving of electricity.

An official said that the electricity deficiencies will last up to early monsoon.

Nilar Win (Shwethwaygyi)

Mango cultivation extended in Mandalay Region

MANDALAY, 10 April—Myanmar is one of the origins of mango plants. At present over 200 species of mango plants are grown across the nation.

According to the statistics of Agriculture Department in 2010-2011, there are 192,865 mango plants. In October 2011, mango worth US$ 10 million was exported. Among mango species in Myanmar, Seintalon, Shwehintha, Myakyauk, Yinkwe and Machitsu are marketable.

Kyaukse, TadaU, Amarapura, Pyinmana, Lewe, Natogyi and Myingyan regions in Mandalay Region are favourable for thriving mango plants. These regions are blessed with fair rainfalls for budding of mango plants.

Now, mango zone has been established in Mandalay Region with extended cultivation. Preparations are being made for establishment of mango processing factory. The merchants export good quality mango fruits to other country through fruit brokerages in Mandalay.

Kyemon

LIBRARY WORKS UNDERTAKEN: ***Dawbon Township Information and Public Relations Department makes field trips to grassroots level for carrying library works. On 21 March, Head of Township IPRD Daw Khin Htay Myint of Dawbon Township discusses durability of library at Bawa Shayhsaung Library in Nweaye Ward.***

MYANMA ALIN

Self-reliant library opened in NyaungU Township

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—The opening ceremony of Alinyaung Library was held at the library in Phonedaw Village of Taungzin Village-tract in NyaungU Township in Mandalay Region on 26 March morning.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Tun Tun Win of NyaungU District General Administration Department and wellwisher Sayadaw U Thondra formally opened the library.

Staff Officer Daw Tin Mya Lwin of NyaungU District Information and Public Relations Department explained the purpose of establishing the village library and facts about the library.

The Sayadaw explained the purpose of donation for the library and handed over documents related to the library to village administrator U Saw.

After that, NyaungU District IPRD donated books, wellwisher Daw Khin Pyone Yi (Cho Zaw Construction Co) sky net receiver and U Tin Hla-Daw Khin Kyaing family of Mandalay TV set to the library. On behalf of the wellwishers, the staff officer of District IPRD handed over the donations to a member of the library committee.

Myanma Alin

Pathein-Hinthada local train derails

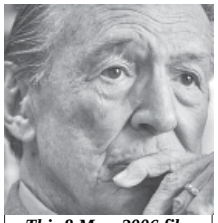
PATHEIN, 10 April—The 187-up local train that left Pathein for Hinthada derailed between mile posts No. 159/9 and 159/10 on Pathein and Hinthada railroad section near Magyichaung Village of Kangale Village-tract in Kyaunggon Township at 4.50 pm on 5 April.

Two wagons and one brake carriage of the train derailed in the incident. Daw Ohn Than, 52, daughter of U Han Tin of Thayagon Village in Yekyi was injured at her arms and Ma Thet Thet Myint, 36, daughter of U Tin Myint of Khamauksu Village in Laymyethna Township injured at her head.

Officials carried out normal situation for the carriages.—*Kyemon*

TAKE FIRE PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Mike Wallace, '60 Minutes' interrogator, dies



This 8 May, 2006 file photo shows Mike Wallace, longtime CBS "60 Minutes" correspondent, during an interview at his office in New York.—INTERNET

NEW YORK, 10 April — "Mike Wallace is here to see you."

The "60 Minutes" newsman had such a fearsome reputation that it was often said that those were the most dreaded words in the English language, capable of reducing an interview subject to a shaking, sweating mess.

Wallace, who won his 21st and final Emmy Award at 89, died Saturday in the New Canaan, Conn, care facility where he had lived the last few years of his life. He was 93.

Wallace didn't just interview people. He interrogated them. He cross-examined them. Sometimes he eviscerated them pitilessly. His weapons were many: thorough research, a cocked eyebrow, a skeptical "Come on" and a question so direct it took your breath away.

He was well aware that his reputation arrived at an interview before he did, said Jeff Fager, CBS News chairman and Wallace's long-time producer at "60 Minutes."—*Internet*

In this 5 April, 2012 photo, an MBTA train pulls into a stop on Commonweath Avenue near Boston University in Boston. The tunnels and bridges have long since been built, but Boston's massive and oft-maligned Big Dig project has left a legacy of debt in Massachusetts that many contend is crippling the state's overall transportation network. Big Dig debt was cited as one of the reasons why the MBTA was forced last week to raise fares and cut some service.— INTERNET

Suspect in dismembering says he met woman online

URBANA, 10 April — A man suspected of stabbing, suffocating and dismembering his girlfriend told a newspaper that he met her through Facebook while looking for new friends and that he met two of his alleged accomplices at a library just three days before the killing.

Matthew Puccio, 25, is among five people charged in connection with the death of 21-year-old Jessica Rae Sacco, whose remains were found in the bathtub of their Urbana duplex apartment in late March, about a week after police believe she was killed.

A couple from Fenton, Mich, and two people from Urbana are accused of failing to intervene in the killing and helping Puccio cut off or transport limbs that were dumped in southern Ohio and Kentucky, about 70 to 85 miles away.

In an interview, Puccio said he met Urbana residents Sharon Cook and Christopher Wright at a local library days before the killing, then contacted them afterward and was stunned that they helped him cover it up instead of calling the police, the *Springfield News-Sun* (http://bit.ly/HnNkaf) reported on Sunday. "It shocked the hell out of me," Puccio said. "I figured they'd be the first to call the cops on me."

Puccio said he had met Sacco through Facebook while he was living in Texas.

Puccio said Sacco provided support he needed after his former fiancée left him and took two of his children.

Puccio said he and Sacco argued often and that their relationship became more stressed because she didn't get along with Andrew Forney and his wife, the Michigan couple who began living at the home shortly after Puccio moved in last fall.

Internet

Brazil not planning new incentives for automakers

SAO PAULO, 10 April — Brazil has no plans to offer further incentives for automakers, but the government does not rule out taking steps to boost the competitiveness of other industries, Trade and Industry Minister Fernando Pimentel said in an interview published on Sunday.

Pimentel told *O Estado de Sao Paulo* newspaper that the Brazilian government wants to encourage automa-kers to invest more heavily in innovation to meet surging demand in the world's fourth biggest auto market.

"The industry already has many incentives. I don't see the need to touch that," he said. Brazil last week announced a battery of tax breaks and subsidized credit to help struggling manufa-cturers and speed up the country's fragile economic recovery. Critics say those measures are just short-term solutions and don't address underlying problems such as a heavy tax burden, bureauc-racy and lack of investment.

Under recently adopted measures for the auto industry, carmakers will be offered tax cuts in exchange for further investment in research and development. "Bring over here the engineering, production, research and innovation departments. We want products conceived in Brazil. We have the capacity to produce," Pimentel told *Estado*.

He also said Brazil is ready to help other industries regain competitiveness and mentioned pharmaceuticals, chemicals, appliances and fertilizers as sectors that are on the government's radar.

President Dilma Rousseff said domestic demand is key for the BRICS nation to resume vigorous economic growth after a disappointing 2.7 percent expansion in 2011, down sharply from 7.5 percent growth in 2011.—*Reuters*

A man passes an electronic screen displaying graphs of the movements of share prices around the world as cherry blossoms are in full bloom in Tokyo on 9 April, 2012. INTERNET

Suicide rates rising among Canadian girls

MONTREAL, 10 April — Suicide rates for female teens and pre-teens in Canada rose over the past few decades even though the overall number of youths who took their own lives was dropping, according to a Canadian study that covered nearly 30 years. Researchers whose findings were published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal also noted a change in the preferred methods of suicide, from guns or poisons to suffocation by strangulation.

"Our message is that all suicide is a tragedy and the trend is very disturbing," said lead author Robin Skinner, an epidemiologist with the Public Health Agency of Canada in Ottawa. In 1980, 0.6 per 100,000 girls between the ages of 10 to 14 committed suicide, rising to 0.9 per 100,000 in 2008. But among girls 15 to 19 years old, the rate rose from 3.7 per 100,000 in 1980 to 6.2 per 100,000 in 2008. Overall, suicide is the second leading cause of death for Canadians between 10 and 19 years old, after accidents.

Skinner told *Reuters* Health there was a small improvement in suicide rates for all Canadians in that age group between 1980 and 2008. Whereas 6.2 of every 100,000 young Canadians killed themselves in 1980, the rate fell to 5.2 per 100,000 in 2008 — in general, a 1 percent annual decline over nearly three decades. The group found there was no significant change in the suicide rate for boys 10 to 14 years old. In 2008, 1.6 per 100,000 committed suicide. But the rate for those aged 15 to 19 fell considerably, from 19 per 100,000 in 1980 to 6.2 per 100,000 in 2008.

The study did not examine why the rates for girls increased over the 28-year period, or why that of boys dropped, but they did point out a steady rise among both sexes in deaths by suffocation. Previous research has found that young people perceive hanging to be a "clean, quick and painless method" of suicide, according to the authors.—*Internet*

Russian polar expedition yacht missing in Antarctica

LONDON, 10 April — A Russian Polar expedition yacht with a crew of seven has gone missing in Antarctica, a spokeswoman has told the BBC News website. There has been no contact with the Scorpius since Monday night, when the crew said gale-force winds were keeping it at anchor, Anna Subbotina said. It is believed to be stuck in ice between two polar research stations.

The crew—four Russians and three Ukrainians—set out in September to visit the two poles. Ms Subbotina said she had last received an email from the crew at 03:00 Moscow time on Tuesday (23:00 GMT on Monday). They had left Ukraine's Vernadsky polar station in the Argentine Islands and were on their way to Russia's Bellingshausen station in the South Shetland Islands when the storm forced them to drop anchor.

Reporting winds of about 40 knots (74km/h; 46mph), they wrote: "In wind like this, it is very dangerous to enter the strait which is full of underwater stones." Ms Subbotina said she was concerned because she had had an agreement with Captain Sergei Nizovtsev to make contact every two or three days since the boat set sail on 18 September. "I hope very much that it is just a technical fault with the communications," she added.

In the course of the trip, officially known as the Russian Polar Sailing Expedition, the crew have already produced spectacular photo journals of wildlife and ice formations in Antarctica, displayed on their website. Their mission statement speaks of bringing "glory to Russia" in the course of exploring both the poles. The Scorpius is a 29.45-metre (96-ft) sailing yacht with a steel hull, built by the Dutch firm Jongert in 1991.

Internet

Coast Guard rescues 10 off Fla coast

MIAMI, 10 April—The US Coast Guard said one of its crews and another boat rescued 10 people they found clinging to a small pleasure boat that capsized off the Miami coast.

The incident involved five adults and five children who were aboard the 14-foot boat when it capsized about 8 pm Saturday about 250 yards off Sea Isle Marina.

A Coast Guard crew pulled seven of the boaters to safety and a Tow Boat US crew helped three others.The Coast Guard told the newspaper only minor medical concerns were reported.— *Internet*

The Russian polar expedition yacht dropped anchor during a storm. INTERNET

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HOA NAM VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HOA NAM VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.4.2012 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: M/S WOOHYUN SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIN BO LIN 3 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIN BO LIN 3 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.4.2012 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: UNION OCEAN SHIPPING LTD CHINA

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BILLION VOY NO (132)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BILLION VOY NO (132) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W ( ) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (159)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (159) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W ( ) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FORTUNE HERO VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FORTUNE HERO VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.4.2012 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 HAPPY VOY NO (140)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA HAPPY VOY NO (140) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W ( ) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (151)

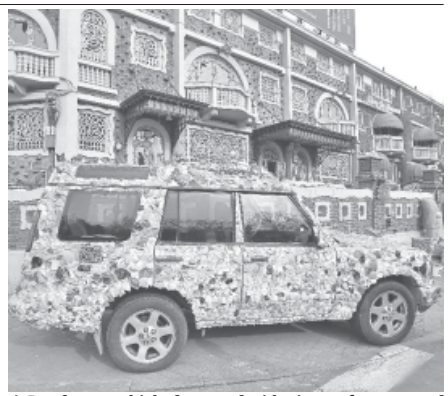
Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (151) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.4.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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



A Landrover vehicle decorated with pieces of pottery and porcelain works is seen at a street in Tianjin Municipality, north China, on 9 April , 2012.
XINHUA

The heavy rain hits Sanaa, capital of Yemen, on 9 April, 2012.— INTERNET

Four Chinese oil workers killed in Niger helicopter crash

ABIDJAN, 10 April — The Chinese embassy in Niger confirmed Monday that the wreckage of a missing helicopter was found in the desert in northern Niger, with all six people aboard killed. Four Chinese oil workers and two French crew members died of the crash, said the embassy.

The Chinese workers, all employees of China's oil giant CNPC, was traveling Friday morning in the chartered helicopter from their base in Agadem to a working site.

At the news of the crash, the Chinese embassy immediately contacted the Niger government and military for help, Xia Huang, Chinese ambassador to Niger, told *Xinhua* on Monday.

The embassy also informed the French embassy, considering the two crew members were French nationals.

Although the deep desert where the helicopter went missing made the search very difficult, with concerted efforts the wreckage of the helicopter was finally found, Xia said.—*Xinhua*

Ford recalls more than 140,000 Focus vehicles

CHICAGO, 10 April — Ford Motor Company is recalling 140,312 of its 2012 Ford Focus models in the United States due to a potential issue with the car's windshield wiper, US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said on Monday.

According to NHTSA filings, some US Ford Focus vehicles may have a missing component in the windshield wiper motor that would normally keep water out. Without the safeguard, the electric connection could become faulty and cause the passenger-side wiper to fail, which could potentially lead to a crash due to limited visibility. Ford said that there have currently been no reported accidents due to the windshield issue.—*Xinhua*

Mechanic takes motorized couch for a spin

A New Zealand mechanic who designed a motorized couch with a top speed of 37 mph said his creation has been admired by townspeople, even police officers. Josh Steeg of Hastings said he and some friends took the couch for an Easter spin through Napier as part of a scheme to attract business for his mechanical work and perhaps even the couch itself, *Hawkes Bay Today* reported on Monday.

"Who knows, someone might see it as a great opportunity to do some advertising," Steeg said. The couch has a 2008 Yamaha Jog motor, a stereo system and speedometer, and it pulls a refreshment trailer. Steeg said the rig was a hit with people in the community.

"Police had a look at us but it was all good. It's only the second time I've had it out for a run. If I had a dollar for every time someone stopped us to take a photo today, I'd be rich," he said.

Actor Adam West gets playful during an unveiling ceremony honoring him with the 2,468th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Los Angeles on 5 April, 2012.

Man serves public for 63 years

An 84-year-old Virginia man has been recognized by *Guinness World Records* for having the world's longest career as a civil servant. Sara Wilcox, a *Guinness World Records* spokeswoman, said Hardy Cash began serving the public 1 July, 1947, when he was hired to assist Elizabeth City County Executive WR "Buddy" Freeman with office tasks, and his career ended when he retired as the Hampton city ombudsman on 28 Jan, 2011, the *Newport News Daily Press* reported on Monday.

Wilcox said Cash's public service, which lasted 63 years, 210 days, is now believed to be the world's longest and will appear in the next edition of the *Guinness Book of World Records*. "Hardy Cash is a Hampton icon," Mayor Molly Joseph Ward said.

"To remain in public service to one city for more than 60 years is a feat that won't likely be duplicated any time soon. We are most grateful to him for his commitment to public service."

New waxwork figures of Prince William, Duke of Cambridge and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge are revealed at Madame Tussauds in London .

Woman uses telepathy after crash

A California woman who barely survived a car crash said she reached out to her husband for help, telepathically. Tracy Granger, 56, was driving from Pasadena to Juniper Hills in the Palmdale area the evening of 25 March when her pickup truck veered off the road and plunged 350 feet down the side of a mountain, KTLA-TV, Los Angeles, reported on Monday.

Granger said she considered climbing up the mountain side, but knew it would be impossible as she suffered a fractured neck, pelvis and several broken ribs during the crash. So, she reached out to her husband with her mind. "I sat down and I said out loud, 'Lee, I'm overdue,'" Granger said. "'Something has happened. Figure it out.'" Sheriff's deputies spotted Granger's truck the next morning.

"As deputies were walking along the ridge-line here, they actually saw a tool box laying down," said Sgt. Andrew Nagel of the LA County Sheriff's Department. "They got some binoculars, looked and then found her way down at the bottom of the canyon there, up against a tree," he said. Granger was unconscious when first responders reached her, but when she came to she told them she was very grateful. "I'm very grateful for them," Granger said. "The care, the support and the love that I've been shown."

Woman poured bleach on man's lap

Police in Florida said they arrested a woman accused of pouring bleach on her ex-boyfriend's lap while he was driving. Gainesville Police said Shanay Jackson, 19, was arguing with her ex-boyfriend Wednesday night while he was driving and allegedly pushed him in the face and poured bleach on his lap, *The Gainesville Sun* reported on Friday.

"(Jackson's) actions caused the victim's clothes to be soaked with bleach which produced a burning sensation to the victim's groin," officer Kimano Edwards wrote in the arrest report. "The victim drove a short distance away and had to pull over onto the side of the road to remove his clothing due to the burning sensation caused by the bleach."Jackson was charged with misdemeanor simple battery.

News Album

Jolie's wicked turn in 'Maleficent' gets 2014 date

LOS ANGELES, 10 April — Angelina Jolie is turning wicked as one of Disney's most-famous villains in "Maleficent," a live-action twist on "Sleeping Beauty" that's set for release just under two years from now.Walt Disney Studios announced Monday that "Maleficent" is due in theaters on 14 March, 2014.

The film will spell out the back story of the evil enchantress in Disney's animated classic "Sleeping Beauty." Production designer Robert Stromberg, a two-time Academy Award winner for "Avatar" and "Alice in Wonderland," is set to direct.— *Internet*

Angelina Jolie

Dior names Raf Simons as new artistic director

PARIS, 10 April — Christian Dior has named Belgian designer Raf Simons as its new artistic director, seven months after its icon, John Galliano, was convicted by a Paris court for drunken anti-Semitic ravings. A fashion rebel of a different sort, Simons — who began his career as a furniture designer and has had his own successful menswear label — will present his first show for the renowned Dior fashion house in July, according to Monday's announcement.

Galliano was dismissed by Dior in March 2011, days before its fall-winter runway show, after a video went viral on the Internet showing the bad-boy designer inebriated and insulting a fellow client at a Paris cafe. He was heard slurring "I love Hitler," among other incendiary remarks.

Belgian designer Raf Simons

The 44-year-old Simons, who designed for the minimalist Jil Sander label from 2005 until just recently, was a top name among rumored candidates for the Dior job. A statement by Dior said Simons will serve as artistic director for haute couture, ready-to-wear and women's accessories. It praised him as "one of the greatest current talents" and said he will "inspire and propel into the 21st century" the style carried on by the prestigious house since its creation in 1946.

Internet

Ronnie Wood: Rolling Stones to go into studio soon

NEW YORK, 10 April — Ronnie Wood says the Rolling Stones will meet in a recording studio later this month "to just throw some ideas around." The guitarist for the legendary rock group said on Monday that he and the band just want "to get the feel again." He also added that the Rolling Stones 50th anniversary is like training for something big.

"It's like working out for the Olympics or something," Wood said. "You've got to go into training. So we're going to go into training." Wood made the comments on Monday in an interview following a press conference for his exhibition, "Faces, Time and Places," which features his own paintings. It includes pieces of him and his band mates, as well as Muhammad Ali and Al Pacino.

Wood, who said he first started painting at age 3, enjoys doing it because it's a reflection of his own ideas, unlike music, which he calls "a group effort."

The exhibit launched Monday and will close on 30 June .—*Internet*

***Rolling Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood stands near one of his pieces during a news conference unveiling his new art exhibit "Faces, Time and Places" on 9 April, 2012, in New York.*— INTERNET**

Pacific atoll goes Gaga for pop diva

NEW YORK , 10 April — The tiny Pacific atoll of Niue is attempting to lure US pop superstar Lady Gaga to its shores by pledging every single person from the island will attend if she performs there.

The island, about 2,500 kilometres (1,500 miles) northeast of New Zealand, has about 1,600 inhabitants and Niue Tourism spokesman Mike Hogan said they were all keen to see a concert by the chart-topping diva.

"It's not a promise many places could make, every person coming along," Auckland-based Hogan told *AFP*. "She's really struck a chord with the kids on the island. She's so unusual and she thinks outside the box. So we thought we'd think outside the box and invite her here."

The hope is that Lady Gaga will add an appearance in Niue after performing concerts in New Zealand in June. Hogan said Niue would be thrilled to pamper the singer at one of its resorts if she did make the trip.

"We'd reserve a whole wing for her, of course," he said. "There's only one flight a week from New Zealand but I presume she'd have her own jet, so she could stay as long as she liked."

Known locally as "The Rock", Niue was settled by Polynesian seafarers more than 1,000 years ago and the palm-dotted island's name in the local language means "behold, the coconut".

Internet

***US pop star Lady Gaga performs in Belfast, Northern Ireland, in November 2011. The tiny Pacific atoll of Niue is attempting to lure US pop superstar Lady Gaga to its shores by pledging every single person from the island will attend if she performs there.*— INTERNET**

Chelsea boss Roberto Di Matteo, pictured on 7 April, believes the race for fourth spot in the Premier League will go to the final game of the season after their 1-1 draw against Fulham at Craven Cottage here on Monday.
INTERNET

Di Matteo predicts tough fight for fourth spot

LONDON, 10 April — Chelsea boss Roberto Di Matteo believes the race for fourth spot in the Premier League will go to the final game of the season after their 1-1 draw against Fulham at Craven Cottage here on Monday. Di Matteo's men could have gone above fourth-placed Tottenham, who lost to Norwich earlier on Monday, had they beaten their west London rivals.

But Frank Lampard's penalty — his 150th Premier League goal — on the stroke of half-time was cancelled out by Clint Dempsey's late header for Fulham. The top three teams in the Premier League at the end of the season gain direct entry into the Champions League group stages, with the fourth-placed side set for the qualifying round.

This draw left Chelsea two points behind Tottenham, their opponents in an all-London FA Cup semi-final at Wembley on Sunday. Di Matteo, interim manager following the sacking of Andre Villas-Boas, said Chelsea's habit of conceding late goals — they've let in 20 in the final 10 minutes of games this season — was frustrating.—*Internet*

Oosthuizen joins elite Masters company with wonder shot

AUGUSTA, 10 April — Champion Bubba Watson will always have the prestigious green jacket but, once the dust settles, the most stirring memory of the 76th Masters will be the wonder shot for the ages conjured up by Louis Oosthuizen.

Oosthuizen, who romped to a seven-stroke victory at the 2010 British Open, triggered one of the loudest roars ever heard at Augusta National with his astonishing albatross two at the par-five second.

The gap-toothed South African with the silky swing holed out from 253 yards with a four-iron to record the first albatross, or double-eagle, on that hole and only the fourth ever achieved at the Masters. Playing with eventual winner Watson in Sunday's final round, Oosthuizen watched as his ball landed on the front of the green in between the two bunkers and bounced along before rolling up the hill.

The fans crammed around the green applauded politely but the ball kept on rolling, tracking sharply from left to right before dropping into the cup with what appeared to be its dying breath. The cheering reached an ear-splitting crescendo and the sound reverberated around the Georgian pines as players on every part of the course were alerted to something very special.

Oosthuizen thrust both arms skywards before high-fiving his caddie. Watson considered joining the celebrations but thought better of it.— *Reuters*

Bubba Watson of the US (R) receives his green jacket from 2011 champion Charl Schwartzel (L) of South Africa after winning a playoff to become champion of the 2012 Masters Golf Tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia, on 8 April, 2012.
INTERNET

Lyon's coach Remi Garde. Lyon will be bidding to keep their Cup double bid on track this week as they take on third division Gazelec in Ajaccio in the French Cup semi-final on Tuesday followed by the League Cup final against defending champions Marseille on Saturday.
INTERNET

Lyon target Cup double

LYON, 10 April — Lyon will be bidding to keep their Cup double bid on track this week as they take on third division Gazelec in Ajaccio in the French Cup semi-final on Tuesday followed by the League Cup final against defending champions Marseille on Saturday.

It is the first time that Lyon will be competing in the two Cup finals in the same year - a feat achieved by Paris Saint-Germain three times (1995, 1998, 2008) and Lorient once in 2002.

After their Champions League elimination on 7 March in Nicosia following a difficult winter, Lyon have hit form with five wins including beating PSG to book their spot in the French Cup semi-final.

Lyon, seven-time Ligue 1 champions from 2002-2008, are fourth in the league 10 points behind leaders Montpellier, after their 2-1 win over Auxerre at the weekend.

"The results are there and they give us confidence, reinforced by the players ambition, some of whom have never won a trophy. Some came to Lyon with that aim," said coach Remi Garde. But he remained wary of their rivals."

It's not by chance that Gazelec are in the semi-finals but thanks to their footballing qualities," said Garde.

"Ajaccio have a very good defence, in-form players and a strong attack." Gazelec captain Louis Poggi said his team were ready for what will be a massive tie for them as they are also in line to move up to Ligue 2.

"We're living a dream but we've still not won anything yet," said Poggi.
Internet

Deschamps desperate to pull Marseille into gear

PARIS, 10 April — Didier Deschamps has pledged that Marseille will not coast to the end of the season, vowing to pull last year's Ligue 1 runners-up back into gear with just six games remaining.

Deschamps' side host league leaders Montpellier on Wednesday, just three days after losing 2-1 at great rivals Paris Saint-Germain, leaving them ninth in the table with just a single point from a possible 21 in their last seven games.

"It hurts," said Deschamps after the defeat, Marseille's 10th in 11 matches in all competitions, which has left them 23 points behind Montpellier. A desperate run of form for 2010 champions Marseille means that they and Deschamps — reportedly a summer contender for the vacant Chelsea manager's post — could miss out on a Champions League qualification.

France's only European champions are 16 points outside the top three. "We can't turn the clock back," added Deschamps. "We have to swallow this and think of what is ahead of us. There are six weeks left in the competition. "Nobody wants to freewheel to the finish. We have to do everything we can to finish as best we can."
Internet

Didier Deschamps, has pledged that Marseille will not coast to the end of the season, vowing to pull last year's Ligue 1 runners-up back into gear with just six games remaining.— INTERNET

Madrid face derby clash to defend lead over Barca

MADRID, 10 April — A midweek programme brings no respite to the battle for La Liga, as Barcelona entertain Getafe on Tuesday while leaders Real Madrid make the short trip to city rivals Atletico on Wednesday. With seven games remaining and a trip to the Camp Nou later this month, Madrid cannot afford any more slip-ups after a 10-point gap over their rivals has been reduced to four in less than a month.

In that period Madrid have won just two out of five, drawing three matches, while Barca have been victorious in their last nine league outings. The Catalans came from behind to beat Zaragoza 4-1 on Saturday while 24 hours later Madrid were ineffective in attack as they drew 0-0 at home to Valencia. Barca midfielder Thiago Alcantara was quick to send out a message to Madrid after Saturday's hard fought victory. "Madrid will have to sweat blood to win this league," he said, as the two sides move closer to their 21 April showdown.

Barca's opponents Getafe, who sit 10th and only one point from a Europa League place, were the first of only two teams to defeat them this season. That 1-0 defeat in November has only been followed by a 3-2 loss at Osasuna in February, as Barca have scored a club record 161 goals in 54 matches in all competitions. They will be without Cesc Fabregas on Tuesday after he picked up his fifth yellow card against Zaragoza, while Gerard Pique and Dani Alves are both doubts with muscular problems. Atletico Madrid will look to do Barca a favour in Wednesday's "Madrileno" derby.— *Internet*

Real Madrid's Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo reacts during the Spanish league football match Real Madrid against Valencia at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, on 8 April.— INTERNET

Brazil lawmakers to mark Santos FC's 100th bash

SANTOS, 10 April — Brazil's Chamber of Deputies will pay a special tribute to Santos FC Tuesday to mark the prestigious club's 100th anniversary, Santos President Luis Alvaro de Oliveira Ribeiro said on Monday. "It will be an event to mark our 100 years," he said in a statement posted on Santos website. "It's a huge honor for Santos to be celebrated in this manner."

The legislative tribute is to be attended by the Ribeiro, Vice President Odilio Rodrigues as well as club's past and present stars, including the legendary Pele, Pepe and young prodigy Neymar. The 20-year-old Neymar is considered the future star of Brazilian football and has been targeted by several European clubs, including Barcelona's rivals Real Madrid.

Santos has won eight Brazilian championships and seven international titles, including three Copa Libertadores and two Intercontinental Cups. The club was founded on 14 April, 1912 at the initiative of three sports enthusiasts from the nearby port city of Santos.
Internet

Santos striker Neymar celebrates a goal in 2011. Brazil's Chamber of Deputies will pay a special tribute to Santos FC on Tuesday to mark the prestigious club's 100th anniversary, Santos President Luis Alvaro de Oliveira Ribeiro said on Monday.— INTERNET

International Sports

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(11-4-12 09:30 am ~ 12-4-12 09:30 am) MST

- News
- Mon Traditional Thingyan Rice
- News
- Myanmar Meets Europe (JASS MEETS YANGON)
- News
- News Tid-Bit
- News
- Who can match their Unique Music and Fashion?
- News
- Thingyan Songs & Dances
- News
- Thuta Swesone Manuscript Award Presentation
- News
- Paypin Bridge: Connection the Future
- News
- Myanmar Movie "The Moon born from the Sun"

MYANMAR TV

(11-4-2012) (Wednesday)

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

7:45 am
2. Nice and Sweet Song

8:05 am
3. Dance of Thingyan Festival

8:35 am
4. International News

4:00 pm
5 . Martial Song

4:05 pm
6 . Dance of Thingyan Festival

4:20 pm
7. Performance With Song

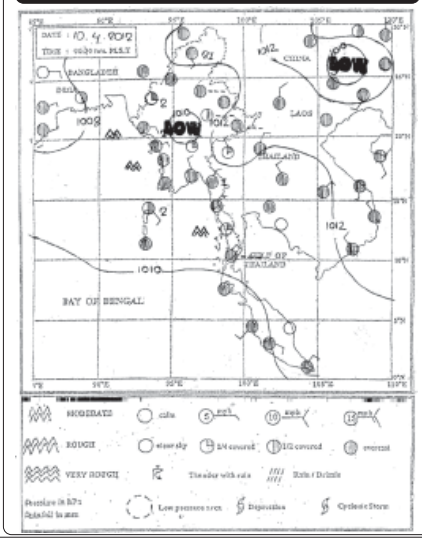
4:55 pm
8. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:20 pm
9. "ASEAN" Programmes

6:00 pm
10. AFC Cup 2012 Group Stage Football (Live) Home United (Singapore) & Yangon United (Myanmar)

8:00 pm
11. News
12. Korea NG Series
13. TV Drama Series
14. Myanmar Video Feature

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 11th April, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F) Maximum	Minimum	For Tomorrow Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	28/82	19/66	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
2	Kayah	29/84	18/64	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
3	Kayin	37/99	22/72	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
4	Chin	21/70	10/50	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
5	Upper Sagaing	28/70	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
6	Lower Sagaing	37/99	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
7	Tanintharyi	38/100	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
8	Bago	38/95	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
9	Magway	35/95	24/75	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
10	Mandalay	35/95	23/73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
11	Mon	38/100	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
12	Yangon	37/99	23/73	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
13	Rakhine	30/86	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
14	Southern Shan	25/77	14/57	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
15	Northern Shan	28/82	15/59	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
16	Eastern Shan	32/90	15/59	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
17	Ayeyawady	35/95	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	37/99	22/72	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	37/99	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	35/95	23/73	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State, scattered in Chin States, isolated in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions, Kayah and Mon States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Region and stage. Day temperature were (2°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Lower Sagain, Magway Regions, Northern Shan and Kayah States, (6°C) below April average temperatures in Upper Sagain and Mandalay Regions, Kachin State and about April average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Minbu and Zaung Tu (38°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (0.83) inch, Machanbaw (0.79) inch, Maungdaw and Paung (0.59) inch each.
Bay Inference	Weather is partly cloudy in West Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Squall with moderate to rough Seas are likely at time off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach(30) to (35)mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.
Outlook for subsequent two days	Continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Upper Myanmar areas.

Wundwin Township facilitated with Leinbin Bridge

WUNDWIN, 10 April— Leinbin Bridge, donated by wellwisher U Myint Thu (M Group)-Daw Phyu Phyu Thant, son Maung Hsan Thu Shein Thant and family, was held in Wundwin Township of Meiktila District on 7 April morning.

The bridge was built by M Group of Asia World Co Ltd. The facility is 92 feet long and 10 feet and three inches wide. Pedestrian way is five feet wide on either side. Clearance of the bridge is 10 feet high. The bridge was constructed in April 2011. The wellwishers spent K 64.6 million on construction of the bridge.

Thanks to the bridge, the local people enjoy fruits of better transport, social, health and health sectors.

Kyemon

CSC ISSUED: ***A ceremony to issue citizenship scrutiny cards to eligible citizens was held in Ywathitgyi Village of Hopin Sub-township of Mohnyin District in Kachin State on 28 March in accord with Moe Pwint-2 Plan. Head of Kachin State Immigration and National Registration Department U Kyi Lin explained issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards and household registration.—*** **TOWNSHIP IMIGRATION**

No London 'divorce' for China's Li

LONDON, 10 April— China's top tennis player Li Na has blasted media scrutiny of her Olympic preparations by insisting she will not be giving her hen-pecked husband coach the boot for this year's London Games.

The reigning French Open champion, who has always had an uneasy relationship with the Chinese media, will stick with Jiang Shan and not hire a foreign coach, she told the *China Daily*.

"I don't know why the media are so interested," said the outspoken 30-year-old. "Maybe you are not confident in Jiang and my current team.

"Up to now, I haven't had any intention of recruiting a foreign coach," said Li, who often pokes fun at her husband in interviews. "I hope the media won't ask about it again."

Jiang guided Li to the final of last year's Australian Open, where she lost a tough three-setter to Belgium's Kim Clijsters.

Danish Fed Cup captain Michael Mortensen took over and helped her win the French Open title but Jiang was reinstated after the US Open.

Li's form dipped after becoming Asia's first grand slam winner in Paris, although the player expressed confidence ahead of the Olympics.

"Compared with reaching the final at the Australian Open last year, people may feel a little bit disappointed about my results this year," said the world number eight.

"But I think my form is okay right now and I have no regrets so far."

Li has planned her year around London.

"After the French Open, I won't play any matches until Wimbledon," she said. "After Wimbledon, I will go back to China for two days and then see my doctor in Germany. "Then, I will go to London one week before the Olympics to adjust to the grass court." The Games, which take place from 27 July to 12 August, will be Li's third Olympics. "It might be my last Olympic Games, so I don't want to have any regrets," said Li, who failed to win a medal after losing the third-fourth playoff match on home soil at the 2008 Beijing Games.—*Reuters*

Li Na of China serves to Maria Sharapova of Russia during their match at the Sony Ericsson Open on 27 March, 2012.
REUTERS

Balotelli apologises for Man City sending-off

Manchester City's Mario Balotelli celebrates after scoring against Manchester United during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 23 Oct, 2011.
REUTERS

LONDON, 10 April— Manchester City's volatile forward Mario Balotelli has apologised for being sent off in the 1-0 defeat against Arsenal at the weekend, his agent told the *ANSA* news agency on Monday.

"I'm very sorry for what happened because of the disappointment it caused Manchester City and especially (manager) Roberto Mancini for whom I want the best and who I admire," Balotelli said through his agent Mino Raiola.

"I haven't broken the ethics code," said Balotelli. "I've already missed the national team once because of an act of stupidity, I won't do it a second time.

"As for my future at the end of the season, I will speak to the club and we will see."

Mancini said after Sunday's defeat that he would probably sell the striker at the end of the campaign.

The Italian was lucky to stay on the pitch as long as he did on Sunday after a dangerous studs-up first-half challenge on Arsenal's Alex Song that the referee did not see. Two separate yellow cards later for nasty challenges on Bacary Sagna meant he was dismissed in the 90th minute and the defeat has almost certainly scuppered City's title hopes.

Mancini said last week that if he had been a team mate of Balotelli in his own playing days he would probably have ended up punching him and even now he does not speak to him every day "because if I did I would need a psychologist".—*Reuters*

Man City will fight to the end, says Lescott

MANCHESTER, 10 April— Manchester City defender Joleon Lescott vowed not to give up the fight in the Premier League title race on Tuesday despite Manchester United's seemingly inevitable march towards a 20th title.

City fell a massive eight points behind United on Sunday following their 1-0 defeat at Arsenal, effectively ending their title hopes with only six games remaining this season.

However Lescott insisted City would not give up until it was mathematically impossible to catch leaders United.

"It's out of our hands but we've got to keep going and if United slip up then we've got to be there to capitalise," Lescott said. "If they don't, then obviously it's going to be impossible for us to catch them now.

Lescott also said City's players were determined to avoid the nightmare scenario of United clinching the title at Eastlands in the Manchester derby on 30 April.—*Internet*

Manchester City defender Joleon Lescott

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Union H&T Minister meets Region/State in-charges

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan met Region/State in-charges at Nilar Meeting Hall of the ministry here yesterday morning.

He said 53 officers and staff have been assigned to each hotel zone as Region/State in-charges and members to realize four missions of the ministry, with 22 objectives to be adhered to. He pointed out that the tourism industry will enjoy sustainable development only when arrival, accommodation and transportation for tourists are smooth and easy. The ministry is working in cooperation with related ministries to introduce e-visa system for smoother entrance of tourists to Myanmar, he said. Plans are underway to introduce e-visa at Yangon International Airport in the fourth week of this April.

He called on the Region/State in-charges to make all-out efforts to fulfill four basic missions and 22 objectives of the ministry for sustainable development of tourism industry.—*MNA*

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan meets Region/State in-charges.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (10-4-2012)

Hkamti	**(0.83) inch**
Machanbaw	**(0.79) inch**
Maungtaw	**(0.59) inch**
Paung	**(0.59) inch**

Myanmar youth golfers secure prizes in True Visions International Junior Golf C'ships

YANGON, 10 April—Over 200 golfers from 14 countries including Myanmar participated in the 11th True Visions International Junior Golf Championships 2012 held at St Andrew, Rayong Green Valley Golf Course in Pattaya of Thailand from 3 to 6 April.

Ye Htet Aung of Myanmar secured the championship trophy in the 15-21 aged singles' event. The Myanmar team comprising Ye Htet Aung, Wai Yan Lin, Sithu Ye Yint and Yin May Myo won the third prize.

Sithu Ye Yint in the 15-21 aged and Hein Sithu in the 11-12 aged event bagged consolation prizes. The Myanmar golf team comprising 17 players was led by Joint Secretary of Myanmar Golf Federation U Myo Tun and Coach U Chan Han. The victorious Myanmar golf team arrived back here by air on 7 April evening. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Vice-President of Myanmar Golf Federation U Aung Kyi, General Secretary U Aung Hla Han and their parents and relatives.—*MNA*

Loss of predators in northern hemisphere affecting ecosystem health

A grizzly bear in Yellowstone National Park. —Internet

SCIENCE DAILY, 10 April— A survey on the loss in the Northern Hemisphere of large predators, particularly wolves, concludes that current populations of moose, deer, and other large herbivores far exceed their historic levels and are contributing to disrupted ecosystems.

The research, published recently by scientists from Oregon State University, examined 42 studies done over the past 50 years.

It found that the loss of major predators in forest ecosystems has allowed game animal populations to greatly increase, crippling the growth of young trees and reducing biodiversity. This also contributes to deforestation and results in less carbon sequestration, a potential concern with climate change.

"These issues do not just affect the United States and a few national parks," said William Ripple, an OSU professor of forestry and lead author of the study. "The data from Canada, Alaska, the Yukon, Northern Europe and Asia are all showing similar results. There's consistent evidence that large predators help keep populations of large herbivores in check, with positive effects on ecosystem health." Densities of large mammalian herbivores were six times greater in areas without wolves, compared to those in which wolves were present, the researchers concluded.—*Internet*

Arsenal could have signed Ronaldo

MADRID, 10 April— Cristiano Ronaldo would have signed for Arsenal rather than Manchester United if they former had been more decisive, according to the agent of the Real Madrid star.

The 27-year-old forward moved to Old Trafford from Sporting Lisbon in the summer of 2003, but it was the Gunners who had initially shown the most serious interest in acquiring his signature.

Arsene Wenger had sent scouts to run the rule over the Portuguese youngster on numerous occasions and, it appeared, Ronaldo would be on his way to Arsenal in time for the 2003-04 season.

However, Ronaldo soon made himself known to Sir Alex Ferguson when Manchester United met Sporting in a pre-season friendly to inaugurate the Estádio José Alvalade in Lisbon.

Arsenal scouted Ronaldo on numerous occasions.

Ronaldo starred for Sporting as they defeated United 3-1 and, as Arsenal hesitated, Ferguson made his move for the promising youngster.

"I remember what happened to Ronaldo at Arsenal," Ronaldo's agent Jorge Mendes said, according to skysports.com.

"They watched him nine or ten times, and when everything seemed decided, then Manchester United played at the inauguration of the Alvaladze Stadium (Sporting Lisbon) and the players themselves urged Ferguson to buy him."

Mendes also revealed that Luis Nani moved from Sporting to United in similar circumstances, with Arsenal having tracked him during his days in Lisbon.

Mendes added: "Nani was also followed by Tottenham and Arsenal, but as I say, who sleeps in business loses."

Internet

Taking fire preventive measures a matter of urgency in dry season

PAGE 9

A Landrover vehicle decorated with pieces of pottery and porcelain works is seen at a street in Tianjin Municipality, north China, on 9 April , 2012.

PAGE 12

PAGE 14

Chelsea boss Roberto Di Matteo, pictured on 7 April, believes the race for fourth spot in the Premier League will go to the final game of the season after their 1-1 draw against Fulham at Craven Cottage here on Monday.

Li Na of China serves to Maria Sharapova of Russia during their match at the Sony Ericsson Open on 27 March, 2012.

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