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Functions of Thaphanseik Dam inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April— Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing yesterday inspected CCTV-installed computerized control rooms at main spillway of Thaphanseik Dam in Kyunhla Township.

Director-General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing of Irrigation Department reported on inflow of 7.5 million acre-feet of water to Thaphanseik Dam and storage of 2.2 million acre-feet of water at the dam, supply of water to summer paddy farms and generating electricity and control of sluice gate applying computerization process.

The Union Minister stressed the need to maintain the dam for its durability and conserve watershed forests.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint together with Sagaing Region Hluttaw Speaker U Thin Hlaing met departmental personnel, townselders and social organization members at the hall of Kanbalu Township General Administration Department.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing explained distribution of quality paddy seeds for development of agricultural sector, application of good agriculture method, and concerted efforts of the government, private entrepreneurs and farmers in harmony.

Union Minister U Win Myint explained promotion of trade sector of the State, export of 850,000 tons of rice and seeking of cost effective market and instructed officials to produce quality marketable crops.

Speaker of the Region Hluttaw U Thin Hlaing discussed pivotal role of research works for development of the region including its agricultural sector and assistance for the local people.

MNA

True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing meets departmental personnel, townselders and social organization members at Kanbalu Township General Administration Department Hall.—MNA

Kayin National Union (KNU) opens Liaison Office for Myeik/Dawei District, Brigade-4

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April — Kayin National Union-KNU opened its Liaison Office for Myeik/ Dawei District and Brigade-4 in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, yesterday.

The ceremony to open the office was attended by Union Minister U Zaw Min from Union level peace-making group, Chief Minister of Taninthayi Region U Myat Ko and Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Htay, Chairman of KNU Myeik/Dawei District Member of KNU Central Standing Committee Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win and members and responsible personnel.

Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko, Chairman of KNU Myeik/Dawei District Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win and Commander Brig-Gen Saw Dar Kyaw Lu of KNU Brigade-4 officially opened the liaison office and Union Minister U Zaw Min and members sprinkled scented waters on the signboard of the liaison office. Next, they visited the office.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Zaw Min, a region level peace-making group of Taninthayi Region Government and KNU Peace-making group led by Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win arrived at the City Hall in Dawei where they were welcomed by members of social organizations, departmental officials and local people.

Afterwards, the two sides held a peace talk and discussed matters on ongoing peace process. It was participated by the Union Minister, the Region chief minister, the commander, Taninthayi Region Minister Col Zaw Lwin and region ministers, the Taninthayi Region Advocate-General, KNU peace-making group led by Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win and members, Commander Brig-Gen Saw Dar Kyaw Lu of KNU Brigade-4 and members and peace negotiators.

During the meeting, they discussed matters on perpetuation of peace and ongoing peace process to be carried out after opening the liaison office.— *MNA*

Region level peace-making group of Taninthayi Region Government and Kayin National Union-KNU peace-making group make discussion for eternal peace.—MNA

We need to learn their ways

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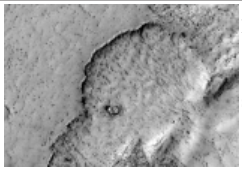
Supply craft docks with International Space Station

PAGE 4



Elephant on Mars sculpted by lava flow

PAGE 6

The show is based on Disney's successful 1994 animated feature.

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PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 12 April, 2012

Happy Myanmar New Year!

Padauks are in full bloom. Than-gyets, traditional antiphonal chants, are spreading over the atmosphere. It is Thingyan again. And it is Myanmar's Traditional New Year. It is celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine and elsewhere across the country.

In ancient times, the young lad sprinkled water from half-filled silver cup on the lass he had grown fond of with a spike of Padauk flowers. Thingyan songs depicted how Myanmar people were highly cultured.

As time goes by, changes are inevitable. Water is now thrown through pipes. Chants are replaced by raps. Western dances take the place of traditional choral dancers at most Thingyan pandals. DJs narrow the space for traditional short drum players. Some new Thingyan songs are sexually offensive. More's the pity! They become the hits.

Boozing becomes a fashion among the revellers, girls or boys. The crowd which go wild in the celebrations could harm the image of Thingyan which was celebrated in the past in style.

It is true that we have to follow the trends. Though we also have to preserve our own culture, the unique thing we should take pride of. Carbon-copying the alien cultures is something that we could not call development.

We could enjoy western music or dances or any other things any other time. But it is Thingyan, the festival with definite cultural values and the festival known to the rest of the world.

Shall we celebrate our traditional New Year in our unique style? Wish you a Happy New Year.

Union Science and Technology Minister receives Indian guests

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint received Adviser to the Prime Minister of India Mr Subramaniam Ramadurai of National Council on Skill Development of India together with Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr VS Seshadri at the ministry at 2 pm yesterday.

They discussed development of highly-qualified human resources and cooperation in information and communication technology between the two countries.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Dr Ko Ko Oo and Rector of Mandalay University of Computer Studies Dr Mi Mi Thet Lwin.—*MNA*

***Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint receives Adviser to the Prime Minister of India Mr Subramaniam Ramadurai of National Council on Skill Development of India.*—MNA**

Water supply tasks inspected in Taunggyi

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat, accompanied by Shan State Minister for Development Affairs U Tu Maung and Shan State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Sai Hsa Lu on 9 April inspected Rushakan supporting dam and the main dam in Taunggyi.

Director of Shan State Development Affairs Committee U Sai Tun Tun and Deputy State Superintending Engineer U Soe Than reported on supply of water to Taunggyi and extended process.

The State Chief Minister looked into water supply facility at Htithein (Kyauktan) spring through 12-inch water pipeline, Pamoene spring lake, BeUkan water tank and point-4 water supply work in Taunggyi.

He also inspected the site chosen for construction of 50000-gallon-capacity Yankintaung Lake and Phayagon Dam of Nyomi Village.

MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister views pollination of Palethwe paddy

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung, together with Region ministers and Region level departmental officials, attended pollination ceremony of special high yield hybrid Palethwe paddy in Wadu Village in Kangyidaunt Township in Pathein District yesterday morning. Region Manager of Myanma Agriculture Service U Myint Thein reported the chief minister on pollination of hybrid paddy. The Region Chief Minister attended to the needs.—*MNA*

Bago Region Chief Minister receives Consultant of UMFCCI

YANGON, 11 April— Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win received Consultant Mr Wong Yit Fang of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at his office yesterday afternoon.

They discussed Moeyungyi Sanctuary Lake which is one of the eco-tourism destinations and development of relaxation camp.—*MNA*

Central Bank of Myanmar Governor meets Maybank's Vice President

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April— Governor U Than Nyein of the Central Bank of Myanmar under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue received Vice President Chief Representative Mr. Abdul Malek Mohd Khair of Maybank and party at his office here on 6 April evening.

Both sides held a discussion about matters relating to promotion of the bilateral cooperation between Maybank and local banks in Myanmar.

MNA

Plants mimic scent of pollinating beetles

ZURICH, 11 April—The color and scent of flowers and their perception by pollinator insects are believed to have evolved in the course of mutual adaptation. However, an evolutionary biologist from the University of Zurich has now proved that this is not the case with the arum family at least, which evolved its scent analogously to the pre-existing scents of scarab beetles and thus adapted to the beetles unilaterally. The mutual adaptation between plants and pollinators therefore does not always take place.

Soon, the gardens and fields will be blooming, fragrant and buzzing again. Bees, flies and beetles fly, as they have done for millions of years, from flower to flower in search of food or mates, drawn by flower shapes, colors and the scents of the individual plants. Often, pollinating insects favor certain scents and preferentially visit the flowers in question. Previously, researchers always assumed that floral scents and the fondness of pollinating insects for a specific scent evolved mutually via coevolution of plants and insects. However, the evolutionary biologist Florian Schiestl from the University of Zurich now proves that this was not the case with the arum family and their pollinators.

Scent of the scarab beetle mimicked

Schiestl and a colleague from Bayreuth studied the arum family and one of its pollinators, the scarab beetles. In the beetles, they discovered many scent molecules used for chemical communication that were also found in the plants. Based on a phylogenetic reconstruction, they realized that these scents were already present in the ancestors of today's scarab beetles. Evidently, these prehistoric scarab beetles already used the same or similar scents back in the Jurassic period to find food or mates. Unlike today's scarab beetles, these ancestors did not pollinate plants, the first members of the arum family to be pollinated by beetles not appearing until around 40 million years later.—*Internet*

Yemen air force, troops kill 62 militants

ADEN, 11 April— Yemen's air force and ground troops killed at least 62 suspected al-Qaeda-linked fighters on Wednesday, officials and tribal sources said, in the government's latest drive to contain an increasingly fierce Islamist insurgency.

Militant group Ansar al-Sharia said however only two of its fighters had been killed in Wednesday's clashes.

Still reeling from a year of political upheaval that eventually unseated former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, Yemen is grappling with militants who have been exploiting weakened central government control to spread their influence, particularly in the country's south.

Local officials and residents said the army killed 30 militants in fighting on Jebel Yasuf, a mountain around 10 km (6 miles) from the southern town of Lawdar.

Yemeni policemen sit in a pickup truck in front of Sanaa's International airport in Yemen on 8 April, 2012.
INTERNET

Dozens of people have been killed in the Lawdar area since Monday, according to officials, after Ansar al-Sharia fighters attacked an army camp there.

Tribal sources later said a further 27 militants, including a local commander called Ahmed Dararish, had been killed by tribal fighters near the southern entrance to Lawdar. Three tribesmen also died in the clashes.

An air strike on the town of Umm Ayn, around 10 km from Lawdar, killed another 5 militants, a local official said.

Ansar al-Sharia denied that. In an emailed statement whose authenticity could not immediately be verified, it said the air raid, which it blamed on a Saudi war plane, had struck a warehouse belonging to a civilian.

A senior government official said the fighting around Lawdar marked a turning point in its fight against Ansar al-Sharia (Partisans of Islamic Law) following a series of defeats.

"The battle of Lawdar is considered a decisive one for the army against the terrorist groups and a prelude to the cleansing of all towns seized by militants in the province of Abyan," said the official. He said 10 militants had also been captured. Ansar al-Sharia said none of its fighters had been taken prisoner.

The Defence Ministry said in a text message it had destroyed a number of checkpoints set up by militants on a main road linking Lawdar to the neighboring province of al-Bayda, re-opening the route.

It also cited unnamed military sources as saying that Saudi Arabian, Pakistani and Somali nationals were among the militants killed in the Lawdar area.—*Reuters*

China urges 'flexibility' in Iran nuclear talks

TEHERAN, 11 April — Iran's economic ally China urged all sides on Tuesday in upcoming nuclear talks to show "flexibility and sincerity" even as Teheran sent mixed messages with hints of compromise and blasts of defiance. The appeals by China — among the world powers taking part in the negotiations later this week — carry significant weight in Teheran and the West, and appeared aimed at nurturing the cautious hope that this dialogue won't quickly collapse like the last attempt more than a year ago.

Senior envoys from Iran and six world powers — the five permanent UN Security Council members plus Germany — are expected to hold preliminary strategy sessions Friday in Istanbul and move into direct talks the next day. The timetables appear open, but there is speculation that the sessions will not stretch beyond Saturday in a bid for a slower, step-by-step approach that will involve scheduling future rounds of talks. "We hope all parties will cherish and seize this opportunity, show flexibility and sincerity in the dialogue, to open a constructive and sustained dialogue process," said a statement from China's Foreign Ministry.

China provides an economic lifeline to Iran as one of its major oil customers and investors in Iranian projects. China and Russia, also part of the nuclear talks, have opposed the tough sanctions implemented by the US and Europe. Some potential cards have been revealed in advance of the talks. The US and allies are rallying around efforts to quickly curb Iran's uranium enrichment, a process which produces reactor fuel but can also make weapons-grade material at higher levels. Iran strongly denies that it seeks nuclear arms.

Internet

Putin speech may offer clues on next Russian government

Russian Prime Minister and President-elect Vladimir Putin plays the piano during his visit to a theatre in St Petersburg on 10 April , 2012. — INTERNET

MOSCOW, 11 April — Russian President-elect Vladimir Putin will play up his economic achievements on Wednesday in his last annual address to parliament as Prime Minister, a speech that will be scoured for clues on the makeup of his next administration. The set-piece speech, which comes less than a month before Putin is sworn in on 7 May, will offer the once and future Kremlin chief - a master of policy detail - a platform to set out a growth agenda for his six-year term.

But Putin, 59, will face tough questions from opposition lawmakers emboldened by the largest protests of his 12-year-old rule over alleged ballot fraud in December's parliamentary election and last month's presidential vote.

Police guarding the State Duma (lower house of parliament) detained one of the protest organizers, leftist opposition leader Sergei Udaltsov, as he tried to join some 30 anti-Putin demonstrators hours before the 12 pm (0800 GMT) address.

While the focus of the annual report is on the economy, Putin — accused by the opposition of stifling political dissent — may also offer glimpses of his foreign policy priorities after a campaign colored by his harsh criticism of the West. Opponents and foreign governments are watching for signs Putin could expand the limited political reforms the Kremlin offered during a winter of protests or go the other way and crack down on perceived challenges to his grip on power. Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, told reporters on the eve of the address that Putin would outline "priority steps" and give "a detailed review of the state of the Russian economy and the social sphere".— *Reuters*

Iraqi MPs are seated in parliament in Baghdad in 2010. Iraqi MPs have approved the first independent human rights commission in the country's history, with a remit to track rights violations, lawmaker Ashwaq al-Jaff said on Tuesday.
INTERNET

Iraq parliament approves rights commission

BAGHDAD, 11 April — Iraqi MPs have approved the first independent human rights commission in the country's history, with a remit to track rights violations, lawmaker Ashwaq al-Jaff said on Tuesday. "The main role of this commission is to monitor all violations of human rights in all fields and in all governmental and non-governmental institutions," Jaff said of the High Commission for Human Rights, which was approved by parliament on Monday.

"Any citizen will have the right to file a complaint directly to the commission," said Jaff, a member of parliament's human rights committee. Jaff said the commission will take "independent decisions" and "will issue annual reports to the parliament and to the international organizations." "We are a country that lived for 35 years in which human rights were violated, and even after 2003 there were some violations of human rights. The role of this commission is to show the citizens what human rights are," she said.

All of its members signed a commitment not to belong to political parties while serving on the commission, Jaff said. The commission will replace the Human Rights Ministry after 2014 elections at the latest, she said.

A parliamentary source said that MPs on Monday approved the commission, which will be made up of 11 members, among them two women, and three substitutes, who will serve four-year terms. Salama al-Khafaji, a 53-year-old Shiite dentist who was a member of the US-backed interim governing council, will head the commission, the source said.— *Internet*

East Coast wildfires whipped up by winds

NEW YORK, 11 April — Raging wildfires fueled by strong winds scorched thousands of acres (hundreds of hectares) in New Jersey and on New York's Long Island on Tuesday as firefighters scrambled aircraft to contain the blazes. A snowless winter and dry spring have transformed the New York City metropolitan area into a tinderbox, with recent strong winds fanning the flames, authorities said.

Wildfires were also reported in several states along the eastern seaboard. On eastern Long Island, where New York Governor Andrew Cuomo declared a state of emergency, three sections within a 2,000-acre (809 hectare) area were burning. But a fire was extinguished on the grounds of the Brookhaven National Laboratory, a nuclear physics facility about 70 miles of New York City, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone told a news conference.

In southern New Jersey, a blaze persisted in a 1,000-acre area of the picturesque Pine Barrens but was contained on the firing range at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, where it scorched 300 acres. Military firefighters succeeded in containing the fire on the base and were concentrating on putting out hot spots, said Staff Sergeant David Carbajal.— *Reuters*

Ezra Fife and Dave Zebroski (R) carry a burned cart out of a destroyed garage following a large wildfire in Manorville, New York on 10 April, 2012.
INTERNET

Exhibition staff members display the most well-preserved baby mammoth, named Lyuba, at a Press preview in Hong Kong on 10 April , 2012. The one-month old baby mammoth of the Ice Age, died 42,000 years ago and was preserved in the ice. Lyuba was found by a reindeer herder in permafrost of the Yamal Peninsula, Siberia in 2007. She will be exhibited in Hong Kong from 12 April to 10 May.— INTERNET

Endangered blue butterfly receives Federal protection

MIAMI, 11 April—A small blue butterfly that lives along the Florida coast is the latest addition to the Endangered Species List, federal officials announced this week. Effective on 6 April, the Miami blue butterfly is protected by law. Unlike monarch butterflies, known for their harrowing migrations, Miami blues spend their lives in just one area.

The Miami blue's range once extended from the Dry Tortugas, at the tip of the Florida Keys, as far north as St Petersburg on the state's western coast, and Daytona Beach on the eastern coast.

Now the butterflies are found on only a handful of remote islands within the Florida Keys. Only a few, small populations are known to remain, according to a statement from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Coastal development and spraying for mosquitoes caused a big drop in the Miami blue butterfly population in the 1970s. In the early 1990s, after Hurricane Andrew swept across the state, some researchers thought the butterfly had gone extinct.

In 1999, a photographer discovered a small colony of the butterflies living in Bahia Honda State Park in the Florida Keys, but by 2003, only 50 individual butterflies remained, according to a 2004 news release from the University of Florida.

Since then, a smattering of small populations has survived. In August 2011, the butterflies were given an emergency listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), but the protections lasted for only 240 days.

Internet

UFO video over South Korea: Fact or faked?

SEOUL, 11 April—An airplane passenger videoed a mysterious oval white object flying over Seoul, South Korea, on 7 April. The video has been lighting up the Internet since, and of course many people are offering extraterrestrial explanations.

As is de rigueur these days, the UFO clip was uploaded to YouTube, where it has been viewed millions of times. Some comments say it's clearly an extraterrestrial spacecraft; others insist it's a fake.

Still others say it's neither but instead is a real object — such as a plastic bag in the wind, a parachute seen from above, or a drop of water on the window — that simply looks strange from that angle.

Aside from the anonymity of the cameraman, the video raises some red flags about its authenticity.

For one thing, the video is not complete; it has been purposely edited to leave some information out. We know this because it begins in progress, with the UFO already well in frame, in the lower right-hand corner.

The video camera didn't suddenly turn on to capture that scene; there must be at least some video that was recorded the first few seconds of the camera being turned on or the cameraman pointing the camera out the window.

This type of selective editing is common among UFO hoax videos. There's also the fact that the cameraman waits almost seven seconds before he mentions the UFO to his companion.

It's clearly present, and it would be hard to keep your reaction to yourself if you were watching while you were videotaping. Perhaps most strange, even though he clearly spots the UFO, the cameraman makes no effort to follow the object after it zooms up and out of frame; instead he videotapes more or less the same area of sky for the remaining 10 seconds of the clip.—*Internet*

SCIENCE

Supply craft docks with International Space Station

HOUSTON, 11 April — NASA has released this beautiful picture of the moment a supply spacecraft arrived at the *International Space Station*. The unmanned spaceship was bringing up oxygen, food, fuel and other supplies for the six astronauts on board.

It's called *Automated Transfer Vehicle-3 (ATV-3* for short), and took five days to reach the space station from Earth, docking on 28 March. The crew had to change their sleeping patterns so they could monitor the arrival to ensure nothing went wrong. *ATV-3* is expected to stay at the space station until early September, when it will be released and will burn up in the Earth's atmosphere.— *Internet*

Supply craft docks with International Space Station.— INTERNET

Darpa says it wants robots to be able to interact with more tools when deployed to a disaster zone. INTERNET

Disaster zone robot competition announced by Pentagon

WASHINGTON, 11 April — A competition to develop next-generation robots capable of saving lives in disaster zones has been unveiled by the Pentagon's advanced research laboratory. Darpa says it wants "adaptable robots with the ability to use human tools — from hand tools to vehicles". It plans to hold a series of emergency response physical challenges. A $2m (£1.3m) prize is being offered to the team with the best technology. The competition begins in October. The agency says it hopes software engineers, video game developers and other experts from fields outside robotics will take part "to increase the diversity of innovative solutions".

Robots have already been deployed into danger zones. After the Fukushima nuclear plant meltdown in 2011, Japanese authorities used unmanned vehicles and "first responder" robots developed by the British firm Qintetiq to move heavy debris and measure radiation levels. The US Army has also used robots in Iraq and Afghanistan to clear buildings and check for explosive devices.

However, Darpa says more work needs to be done to make the machines interact with humans more naturally. "This challenge is going to test supervised autonomy in perception and decision-making, mounted and dismounted mobility, dexterity, strength and endurance in an environment designed for human use but degraded due to disaster," said Gill Pratt, Darpa's programme manager. "Adaptability is also essential because we don't know where the next disaster will strike."

Internet

'Tough' rules govern smart meter data sharing

LONDON, 11 April — Consumers should be able to decide how much data smart meters surrender about their energy use, says the government. The plan to give consumers control is part of official guidelines for the mass rollout of smart meters — devices that show exactly how much electricity and gas is being used — to UK homes. The meters should be fitted in 30m UK homes by 2019, at a cost of £11.7b. The guidelines come as FBI warnings emerge about attacks on smart meters that make them report low energy use.

The government proposals lay out technical specifications for the 53 million smart meters it wants installed in UK homes by the end of 2019. The move to bring in the gadgets aims to reduce power use, cutting bills and helping the government meet energy efficiency targets. Mass roll-out of smart meters is due to start in 2014 and energy firms are expected to shoulder most of this cost. But the government believes the high cost of the mass rollout will be offset by the £7bn or so of savings it will bring about for both consumers and power suppliers.

Audrey Gallacher, director of energy at Consumer Focus, said the watchdog group broadly welcomed the proposals. She added: "We continue to have concerns that the costs of the scheme may be underestimated and that costs for consumers could rise." The guidelines cover what energy firms can do when installing metres. Energy minister Charles Hendry said the installation rules were "tough" because fitters would not be allowed to try to sell consumers more services during installation.

In addition, all households fitted with the gadgets must get an in-home display that logs how much power is being consumed. Alongside the guidelines goes a consultation exercise to find out what should happen to detailed energy use data. The government proposes that consumers choose who can access this information. Basic data used for billing will be available to suppliers without asking. — *Internet*

Smart meters will let consumers know how much power they are using. INTERNET

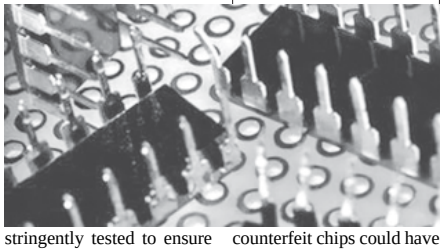
Fake semiconductors 'could cause tragedy'

LONDON, 11 April — The number of fake memory chips and processors in use has tripled since 2009, suggests a report. The report, compiled by semiconductor analyst IHS iSuppli, said fakes were found in phones, computers, military hardware, cars and hospital equipment. The analyst said the fakes were turning up in so many places that they might soon put lives at risk. The military and aerospace firms were the most likely to be using fakes, it said.

More than 1,363 fakes were reported in 2011, said the report, and threatened to dent a market worth more than $169b (£109b) a year. The five most widely counterfeited chips included memory chips, microprocessors and analogue integrated circuits (IC). Analogue ICs are widely used in domestic gadgets such as wireless routers, TVs and computers. Typically, said iSuppli, the fake parts were low cost copies of widely used semiconductors or components discarded by chip firms during fabrication. Manufacturing wastage for semi-conductors is high because the components are stringently tested to ensure they will perform reliably throughout their life.

Rory King, a spokesman for iSuppli, said using counterfeit chips could have serious consequences because they were much more likely to fail.

Internet



Fakes are turning up in more and more gadgets, warns iSuppli. INTERNET

TECHNOLOGY

Artificial heart keeps boy alive for record 251 days

The Berlin heart is used as a bridge to a heart transplant. INTERNET

LONDON , 11 April — A three-year-old boy has been kept alive with an artificial heart for more than eight months, which doctors say is a record for a child in the UK. Joe Skerratt from Gillingham, Kent, was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, which meant his heart struggled to pump blood around his body. He was temporarily fitted with a "Berlin heart", to give his own a helping hand. After 251 days, he finally had a heart transplant last year. Joe's mother, Rachel, said "we started to see his character coming back" after he was fitted with the Berlin heart. But this was the start of a long wait for a heart donor.

"When Joe passed the 200-day mark on the Berlin heart we started to really question what else could be done if a heart wasn't found, but we knew deep down there wouldn't be much," she said. "On day 251 the call we had been waiting for came. We were offered a heart for Joe. The call came early in the morning and time seemed to stand still before he was taken down to theatre." After the operation, Joe's chest would not be closed for four days. Rachel said: "Seeing his new heart — a normal size and thumping away in his chest — was incredible." Their first night back home was celebrated with Joe's favourite meal — pizza.

Joe was first diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy when he was taken to hospital looking grey at just three weeks old. An X-ray showed his heart was severely enlarged. He was later diagnosed with a genetic disorder—Barth syndrome, which leads to muscle weakness, short stature and feeding problems. In December 2010, Joe's heart was failing and doctors found his valves were leaking. His heart had now become even more enlarged and was taking up too much space in his chest.

A few days later his heart stopped twice while he was in hospital. He was then transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital in London, where his heart stopped for a third time. Doctors stabilised Joe and he was fitted to a Berlin heart. The Berlin heart is about the size of a small fridge. Some children need to be on the device for only a couple of weeks, while for others, the wait for a new heart can take many months.Dr Alessandro Giardini, consultant paediatric cardiologist at Great Ormond Street, said: "We are really delighted to see Joe doing so well and thriving at home. He spent a long time with us in hospital.

"Joe was very lucky to be able to have a heart transplant. There is a chronic shortage of donor organs for children in the UK and at any one time we have several children in the hospital awaiting a transplant. Lots of children wait years for an organ to become available and can very sadly die while they are doing so."Joe's parents have both called for people to join the NHS organ donor register. Rachel said: "We are eternally grateful to the donor family. — *Internet*

Joe Skerratt, fit and well after 251 days with an artificial heart.— INTERNET

Health Tip: Prevent periodontal disease

Periodontal disease occurs when the tissues that protect and stabilize your teeth become infected.

The American Dental Association suggests how to help prevent periodontal disease:

* Give your teeth a thorough brushing at least twice daily.
* Floss daily. And if your dentist approves, use a mouth rinse containing fluoride.
* Eat a nutritious, balanced and healthy diet.
* Have dental checkups and cleanings at least twice annually.—*Internet*

Dental X-rays may be linked to benign brain tumours

NEW YORK, 11 April — People who underwent frequent dental X-rays in the past, before radiation doses were lowered, may be at greater risk of a usually benign form of tumour in the lining of the brain, a new study suggests. The research doesn't definitely link dental X-rays to the tumours, which affect about 1 percent of people. It's also possible that dental X-rays, which are now given at a lower radiation dose, have nothing to do with the tumours. Still, the study suggests that dental X-rays could be a risk factor for the tumors, called meningiomas, said study author Dr Elizabeth Claus, a neurosurgeon at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston and a professor of epidemiology at Yale University School of Medicine.

The findings suggest that patients should talk to their dentists about the possible dangers of X-rays and be aware of national recommendations regarding their use, she said. "I do not get the feeling that people are aware of those guidelines," she said.

"Many people are having them every six months or every year when the American Dental Association is saying once every two to three years." (That's the recommendation for the patient who's never had a cavity or only a small number of fillings and isn't at increased risk for a cavity). *Internet*

People leave the Alcoa Business Services Centre in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in this 13 Feb, 2007 file photograph. Alcoa Inc, the largest US aluminum producer, reported a first-quarter profit that topped Wall Street forecasts as prices for aluminum rose in the early months of 2012.— INTERNET

Alcoa surprises Wall Street with first-quarter profit

NEW YORK, 11 April — Aluminum producer Alcoa Inc surprised Wall Street with a first-quarter profit after a loss in the fourth quarter of 2011 as global markets improved, especially in the aerospace and automobile sectors. The results, which beat analysts' forecast for a loss, sent the company's stock up 6 percent to $9.80 in after-hours trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

"We pretty much see growth in all global end markets," Chief Executive Officer Klaus Kleinfeld told analysts on a conference call. "On aerospace, the market goes from strength to strength." He said demand for aluminum in North America was strong in most industrial sectors except for building and construction. "China, (there is) growth across all segments. A little softer but still good, good growth. The markets in Europe are hovering along," he said.

Alcoa, which makes aluminum for aircraft, cars and beverage cans, raised its 2012 global growth forecast for the aerospace market by 3 percentage points to 13-14 percent and said it expects global growth in the auto industry of 3-7 percent. The company also projects a global aluminum supply deficit in 2012 and reaffirmed its forecast that global aluminum demand would grow 7 percent in 2012, on top of the 10 percent growth seen in 2011.— *Reuters*

In this 22 Aug, 2006, file photo, a train loaded with coal travels through northeast Wyoming near Gillette. Government data shows US coal exports reached their highest level in two decades last year as strong overseas demand offered an outlet for a fuel that's been falling from favour at home. INTERNET

Nike and Reebok settle NY fight over Tebow apparel

NEW YORK, 11 April — Running for a loss, Reebok has scrapped its effort to sell New York Jets Tim Tebow apparel, agreeing to rid stores of thousands of jerseys and T-shirts it stamped with the quarterback's name after he was traded from the Denver Broncos to the Jets last month. The terms of a settlement with Nike were disclosed Tuesday in papers filed in US District Court in Manhattan that had been signed a day earlier. It was not clear if any money changed hands.

Beaverton, Ore.-based Nike Inc sued Reebok International Ltd two weeks ago, saying the rival apparel maker was trying to squeeze the most out of the end of its 10-year NFL apparel licensing deal by stamping Tebow's name on jerseys and T-shirts even though Nike was about to begin a five-year NFL contract of its own. Judge Kevin Castel immediately blocked Reebok from selling 6,000 Tebow-Jets jerseys and 25,000 T-shirts it was distributing to stores while he heard evidence in the case. After a daylong hearing last week, he left his restraining order in place and announced that he believed Nike would ultimately prevail in its claims.—*Internet*

In this 26 March, 2012, file photo, Reebok-branded New York Jets football jerseys with the name and number of Jets quarterback Tim Tebow are displayed at a Modell's store in New York. — INTERNET

Coal exports surge to highest level since 1991

BILLINGS, 11 April — US coal exports reached their highest level in two decades last year as strong demand from Asia and Europe offered an outlet for a fuel that is falling from favour at home.

US Department of Energy data analyzed by *The Associated Press* reveal that coal exports topped 107 million tons of fuel worth almost $16 billion in 2011.

That's the highest level since 1991, and more than double the export volume from 2006.

Much of the increase went to slake the thirst of power-hungry markets in Asia, where rapid development has sparked what mining company Peabody Energy calls a "global coal super cycle" that heralds renewed interest in the fuel. *The AP's* analysis showed coal exports to South Korea leapt 81 percent last year to more than 10 million tons. India saw a 65 percent jump, to 4.5 million tons. And Japan bought almost 7 million tons of US coal last year — a 119 percent increase — as the nation sought alternatives to nuclear power after an earthquake and tsunami prompted the Fukushima nuclear complex meltdown.

King Coal faces a tougher outlook in the US, where competition from cheap natural gas and costly new rules for power plants are eroding its historic dominance in electricity generation. Coal's share of the domestic power supply has fallen by more than 20 percent in the past several years, forcing companies to search out new customers or risk having to cut production from US mines that produced almost 1.1 billion tons last year. *Internet*

Business

DOJ may sue Apple over ebooks as early as Wednesday

An Apple Store employee sells Apple's new iPad to a customer at the 5th Avenue Apple Store in New York, on 16 March, 2012. — INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 11 April— The Justice Department could sue Apple Inc as early as Wednesday over alleged electronic book price-fixing, while settling with several publishers as early as this week, two people familiar with the matter said. The Justice Department is investigating alleged price-fixing by Apple and five major publishers: CBS Corp's Simon & Schuster Inc; HarperCollins Publishers Inc; Lagardere SCA's Hachette Book Group; Pearson and Macmillan, a unit of Verlagsgruppe Georg von Holtzbrinck GmbH.

A lawsuit against Apple, one of the parties not in negotiations over a potential settlement, could come as early as Wednesday but no final decision had been made, the people said.

Apple declined to comment. The Justice Department and the five publishers could not be reached for comment.

The Justice Department is investigating whether deals Apple cut two years ago with the quintet of major publishers—when the consumer electronics maker launched its iPad tablet computer - were done with the intent of propping up prices for digital books, sources have said.

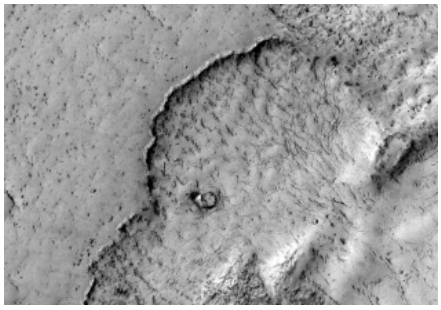
Internet

Elephant on Mars sculpted by lava flow

WASHINGTON , 11 April —The dried flood of lava over the surface of Mars has created the spitting image of the eye and trunk of an elephant. The curve of the animal's forehead and the dent of an ear also appear in a new photo taken by the High Resolution Imaging Science Experiment (HiRISE) on NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.

"This is a good example of the phenomena 'pareidolia,' where we see things (such as animals) that aren't really there," University of Arizona planetary geologist Alfred McEwen wrote in an update posted on the university's HiRISE website. The Mars elephant illusion photo shows a region of the Red Planet called the Elysium Planitia, which is the youngest flood-lava province on Mars. Scientists aren't sure if the lava flows on Mars were deposited quickly, or over a longer time period, as is the case on Earth, where most lava floods were put in place over years to decades.

"This is probably true for much of the lava on Mars as well," McEwen wrote. "An elephant can walk away from the slowly advancing flow front. However, there is also evidence for much more rapidly flowing lava on Mars, a true flood of lava. In this instance, maybe this elephant couldn't run away fast enough." The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, which has been circling the Red Planet since 2006, was launched in 2005. The orbiter, currently in an extended phase of its mission, has transmitted more data to Earth than all other interplanetary missions combined, NASA officials have said.— *Internet*



Elephant on Mars sculpted by lava flow .— INTERNET

A builder installs glass panels on 1 April, 2012 near the top of the Shard, the European Union's tallest building,in London. The developers building the Shard defended their security measures after it emerged that a group of "urban explorers" had broken into the skyscraper.— INTERNET

'Urban explorers' scale unfinished Shard

LONDON, 11 April—The developers building the Shard defended their security measures on Monday after it emerged that a group of "urban explorers" had broken into the skyscraper. Spectacular photographs apparently showing trespassers leaning over scaffolding at the top of London's 310-metre Shard tower as the city lights twinkled below appeared online over the weekend.

Sellar Property Group, the developer scheduled to finish work on the European Union's tallest building next month, admitted there had been a break-in but said it had stepped up security in response.

"We believe this is an incident which took place around December 2010," said a Sellar spokesman. "The breach was discovered very soon afterwards and security immediately tightened." "Today security on the site is tight with 14 night-time security guards on duty continuously who cover all areas, as well as 25 CCTV cameras in operation together with a ground floor level laser alarm system," he added.

But Bradley L Garrett, an American graduate who posted some of the photographs on his blog Place Hacking, said he and a group of fellow "urban explorers" had climbed the Shard's stairs "half a dozen" times.

"It is impossible to secure a site that big," said the 31-year-old. "The security guards that work on the site are only human. No one wants to sit there watching cameras 12 hours a day," added the Californian, who completed a PhD on urban exploration at the University of London in February.

The group first climbed the Shard to watch the New Year's Eve fireworks over London in December 2010, Garrett added.

Internet

'Little Paris Kitchen' spells success for British chef

PARIS, 11 April—From au pair to television chef of the moment, Rachel Khoo has come a long way since she landed in Paris from London six years ago, armed with schoolgirl French and a love of cooking.

With a bestselling recipe book and BBC series, "The Little Paris Kitchen", now under her belt, the 31-year-old looks well placed to be the next big thing on the television chef scene. Or rather, the next small thing.

For Khoo's new-found fame comes courtesy of the micro-restaurant which the bubbly brunette ran in her tiny 21-square-metre studio in the city's bohemian Belleville District.

Hosting *AFP* at the tiny flat, Khoo explained that her bijou eatery was a side-effect of research for what would become "The Little Paris Kitchen" recipe book — her third after two volumes of cake recipes for a French publisher.

"It was because I'm single! I live on my own and if you test 120 recipes — there's so much food that goes to waste," she said. "I wanted to be able to test recipes, not waste food, and have some money to cover the ingredients."

British chef and author, Rachel Khoo poses at her micro-restaurant named "La petite cuisine" that she runs in her tiny 21-square-metre studio. With a bestselling recipe book and BBC series, "The Little Paris Kitchen", now under her belt, the 31-year-old looks well placed to be the next big thing on the televison chef scene. INTERNET

So in January last year the young chef decided to tap into the worldwide trend for home restaurants. Hugely popular with hipsters over the last couple of years, these lunch or supper clubs see amateur cooks play chef at their own tables to invited guests in return for a donation to cover costs.

There was no shortage of Parisians willing to help with the leftovers of her experiments in bringing a British twist to Gallic classics.—*Internet*

London welcomes Chinese probe over Briton's death

LONDON, 11 April — Foreign Secretary William Hague welcomed an investigation into the death of a British man in China, after Chinese authorities reopened their probe on Tuesday.

Chinese police have found evidence that the wife of Bo Xilai, the disgraced former senior Chinese politician, may have been involved in the murder of businessman Nigel Heywood, state media said.

Hague told Sky News television he had taken a "personal interest" in the case."I decided a few weeks ago that we should ask the Chinese authorities to investigate the death of Mr Heywood, so of course I welcome the announcement," he said. "The Chinese are doing as we asked them to do and we now look forward to seeing those investigations take place, and in due course hearing the outcome of those investigations."

Heywood died in the southwestern city of Chongqing, a sprawling metropolis which is at the heart of China's biggest political drama in years after its leader Bo was removed last month.

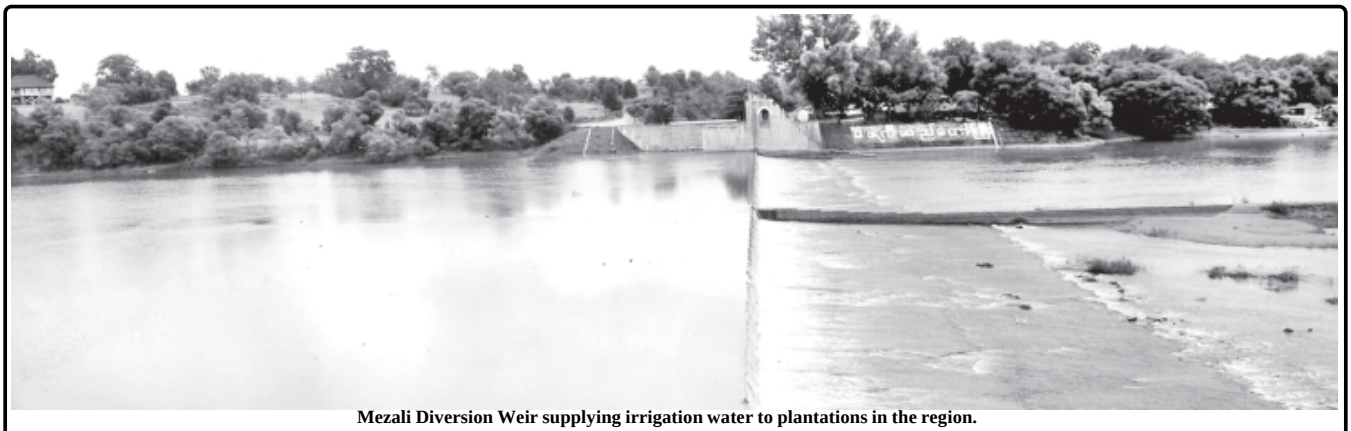
The Briton is believed to have been a close business associate of Bo. A Foreign Office spokesman said: "We welcome the fact that the Chinese are investigating this case; indeed we had called for this to happen. We will await the conclusion of their investigations."

Internet

Woman charged with faking cancer for NY wedding

WHITE PLAINS, 11 April—Strangers donated the beautifully embroidered wedding dress, the two rings, the honeymoon time-share in Aruba. They acted quickly, too, because the bride was dying of cancer. Or so she said. The state attorney general's office announced Tuesday that Jessica Vega, 25, has been indicted on charges of fraud and grand larceny for getting her "dream wedding" by falsely claiming she was dying of leukemia.

"By pretending to have a terminal illness, Vega inexcusably took advantage of the community's hearts and minds, and profited off of their generosity," said Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. "Our office will hold this individual accountable for fleecing the public through lies and deception." Vega, formerly of Montgomery, NY, was arrested in Virginia on 3 April, extradited to New York and arraigned Friday in Orange County Court in Goshen. She pleaded not guilty. A call to the Legal Aid firm that represented her was not immediately returned. Among the alleged victims listed in the indictment is the Nu-Cavu restaurant in Wallkill, where the bridal reception was held and wine and appetizers worth more than $1,000 were donated. Part-owner Carmela Vitolo-Gelsomine said, "We tried to do the best we could for her. We thought she was in a situation where she needed help." Others listed as victims are the boutique that donated the wedding dress, and a woman who volunteered to do hair and makeup for the bride and seven bridesmaids.—*Internet*



Mezali Diversion Weir supplying irrigation water to plantations in the region.

Dams, sources of irrigation and potable water in Magway Region, boosting agricultural development

Mezali Diversion Weir

* Mezali Diversion Weir is of stone-embedded concrete type.
* It has 380 ft in length and nine ft in height.
* It can irrigate 96777 acres of farmland.

Ngachin Dam

* The facility is situated near Ngachin Village in Seikpyu Township of Pakokku District.
* It is of earthen type.
* It has 43 ft in height, 1980 ft in length. and the 300-foot-long saddle dyke.
* Its storage capacity is 1160 acre feet of water.
* It can irrigate 150 acres of farmland.
* Ngachin Dam contributes to boosting production of beans and pulses, cotton, sugarcane and industrial crops for export plus regional rice sufficiency.

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye

Translation: HKA

Control Tower of Ngachin Dam.

Kyaukhsauk Dam

* The dam lies near Kyaukhsauk Village in Myaing Township of Pakokku District in Magway Region.
* It is dammed on Kyaukhsauk Creek.
* It is of earthen type.
* It has 25 ft high and 2900 feet long.
* Its storage capacity is 519 acre feet of water.
* It benefits 150 acres of farmland for paddy and other crops.
* It contributes much to the greening of the region.

Photo shows Kyaukhsauk Dam.

NASA scientist says mystery fireball in Texas actually a jet contrail

WASHINGTON, 11 April — A bright object that streaked across the Texas sky during the day 4 April, originally believed to be a meteor burning up as it entered Earth's atmosphere, was actually a flying jet and its contrail, a NASA scientist has confirmed. Local news stations reported that the bright object was a fireball (an especially bright meteor) and Bill Cooke, head of NASA's Meteoroid Environment Office, initially said it was indeed a fireball, and more evidence of the mysterious and unexplained observation that there are more fireballs in the spring than other times of the year. However, other experts argued that the Texas fireball was actually a jet contrail reflecting the glow of the setting sun, making it appear fiery. Cooke has agreed. "Reviewing the video, it does appear to be a contrail," he told Life's Little Mysteries. "There were sightings of a daytime meteor 2 April but this video is not of a meteor/fireball. Different event." The 2 April daytime fireball — a rare event, as a meteor must be at least one yard across for its atmospheric entry to be visible during the day — was seen by thousands of people in New Zealand.— *Internet*

Korean Air says jet diverted in Canada after threat

SEOUL, 11 April — A Korean Air passenger jet made an emergency landing at a Canadian military airbase after a call centre in the United States received a threat by telephone late on Tuesday, the airline said.

Korean Air flight 72, which was en route to South Korean Capital Seoul, diverted to the Comox base on Vancouver Island in Canada's Pacific Province British Columbia, soon after takeoff from Vancouver, the airline said in a statement released on Wednesday in Seoul.

"The (Korean Air) US call centre received a call that there was a threat on board the aircraft," Korean Air said in a statement. A Korean Air spokeswoman could not confirm whether it was a bomb threat, as earlier reported by Canadian media. The plane, a *Boeing 777*, had 147 people including 134 passengers on board, the airline said.

Two US fighter jets, which took off from Portland, Oregon, intercepted it and shadowed it until it landed at the Canadian base, the Pentagon said in a statement.

"The airline will decide about the continuation of the flight after discussion with the airport and related authorities," Korean Air said.

Reuters

Region Chief Minister attends opening ceremonies of new streets in Yangon

YANGON, 11 April— Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe this morning attended a opening ceremony of Kamakyi new concrete street in Thingangyun Township constructed by Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) of Yangon City Development Committee.

The chief minister, together with Yangon Mayor Region Development Affairs Minister U Hla Myint and Region Road Transport Minister U Aung Khin, formally opened the street.

The street is 3300 ft long and 48 ft wide. It can withstand 60 tons of loads. It is constructed with K 290-million fund of YCDC.

The Region Chief Minister also attended the opening of new Yadana concrete road in Thakayta Township.

The street is 19650 ft long and 44 ft wide. It can withstand 60 tons of loads. It is constructed with K 1500-million fund of YCDC.—*MNA*

***Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe walks on newly-opened Kamakyi concrete road, constructed by Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) of Yangon City Development Committee, in Thingangyun Township.*—MNA**

MNSC Chairman Union Minister receives Thai guests

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan received Chairman of Thailand-Myanmar Cultural and Economic Association General Chetta Thanajaro and party at the Ministry of Sports here yesterday morning.

The meeting focused on reorganization of the association, technical assistances in tap system, exchanges in education and cultural sectors and cooperation in tourism sector.

Also present at the call were Vice-Chairman of MNSC Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu and officials and Secretary of the association Gen Tawee Sup and party.—*MNA*

Dawei District team emerges champions in Minister's shield soccer tournament

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April — Dawei District team became a champion of Taninthayi Region Chief Minister's shield soccer tournament for women- 2012 after beating Myeik District women's team 1 on 8 April.

After the final match, the presentation ceremony was held and Chief Minister of Taninthayi Region U Myat Ko presented the shield to Dawei District women's team. Daw Khin Nandar Aung, wife of the Taninthayi Region Electric and Industry Minister, Daw Thet Htar, wife of the Taninthayi Region Advocate-General and Daw Akari Khaing, wife of the Taninthayi Region Chief Minister awarded the athletes.

MNA

Progress of projects in MoU clarified

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—A ceremony to clarify progress of six-month period in implementing five projects included in the MoU signed by Ministry of Construction and UN-Habitat was held at the hall of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development under the Ministry of Construction yesterday morning.

It was attended by Deputy Construction Minister U Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Director-General U Khin Sein of DHSHD and officials, Mr Srinivasa Popur and party of UN-Habitat.—*MNA*

Cash donated to second lift of Kyaikthanlan Pagoda

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—With the assistance of Mon State Government and supervision of Kyaikthanlan Pagoda Board of Trustees of Mawlamyine, the cash donation for construction of second lift to be installed at the eastern stairways of the pagoda was held at the platform of the pagoda on 7 April.

On behalf of the wellwishers, wellwisher U Tin Nyunt explained the purpose of building the second lift.

Mon State Minister for Transport U Tun Hlaing accepted K 13 million donated by U Tin Nyunt and family of Okpo Road in Hline Ward of Mawlamyine in memory of late Daw Than Yin. Next, Daw Yi family of Myaing Yadana two-storey market donated K 1 million to Secretary of Mon State government U Zaw Lin Tun and Commander of Mon State Police Force Police Col Nay Myo.

A plan is under way to build the 85 feet high lift spending K 200 million.

Those wishing to donate cash to the fund for the lift may contact Secretary of Mon State Government U Zaw Lin Tun and Chairman of Kyaikthanlan Pagoda Board of Trustees U San Myint, Tel: 057-26156 and 098700776, Secretary U Han Lwin, Tel: 0949801057, and Treasurer U Khin Maung Win, Tel: 095322300.

MNA

Preparations made for enjoying Mandalay Maha Thingyan Festival

Maung Maung Soe (Myitnge)

Sein Sabei Phu, Crystal (Tawwin Diamond House) is under construction.

As Mandalay Region Government allowed construction of 36 water throwing pandals including Mandalay Mayor's Water Throwing Pandal, pandals of national entrepreneurs and companies for enabling the dwellers of Mandalay to happily enjoy Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival 1373 Myanmar Era in Mandalay, the water throwing pandals are under construction around the moats of Mandalay Nanmyo in competitiveness.

A total of 36 water throwing pandals in the municipal area of Mandalay City Development Committee of Mandalay Region are two decorated pandals and 17 water throwing pandals on the southern moat of 26th Street, one decorated pandal and 11 water throwing pandals on 66th street, and one decorated pandal, three water throwing pandals and one local decorated float on the west of moat on 80th street.

The water throwing pandals in Mandalay are NwayU May pandal, Alpine, AR Star (Xin Xing), Lolli Pop Chanaye Mandalar, Summer Holiday, Lazy Club, MCDC, Central Command Headquarters (Nanmyo Thu), Fantastic, Domino Family, Transformer, Maung Phusarshin, Nway Yati, War Festival, Sein Sabei Phu, Crystal (Tawwin Diamond House), and Maritime (Platinum) on 26th street.

On the east part of moat, 66th street are packed with water throwing pandals namely Myanmar Hoteliers Association, JLANN, Spy (DJ-Clean), Win (Avatar), Yangon-Mandalay Directory, Sagawah Myay, Manthiri, Crystal Light, Myat Shwenadi, Defence Services (Air) and Tokyo-Yankee.

The 80th Street on western moat is parked with Shan national, Htet Myat and Myawady water throwing pandals.

There is no water throwing pandal on 12th street of northern moat. Anyone may join the pandals happily with free K 5000 on the Akyo Day, K 8000 on Akya Day, K 10000 on first Akyat Day, K 12000 on second Akyat Day and K 15000 on Athet Day.

Myanma Alin: 11-4-2012

Translation: TTA

Photo shows progress of Mandalay Mayor's Water Throwing Pandal.

We need to learn their ways

Tin Maung Than

There was a big business meeting in Nay Pyi Taw recently where nearly 200-strong Korean business representatives met with Myanmar counterparts in their mission to extend cooperation with our country in various sectors including investment, industrial technology and human resources development.

Mr. Seok Cho, Vice Minister of Knowledge Economy of Korea, in his congratulatory remarks at the Korea-Myanmar Economic Cooperation Forum expressed his government's eagerness to share its development experience and know-how with Myanmar. This maybe good news for us as we are willing to extend international cooperation based on mutual interest.

In addition, the Korean government has an agenda in which strengthened intergovernmental channels for economic cooperation comes first, followed by the reinforcement of the functions of the Korea-Myanmar joint committee for energy and natural resources cooperation, and the Korea-Myanmar joint committee for mineral resources cooperation. "We need closer exchanges between officials both at the senior level and at the working level" the Korean Vice Minister noted.

As to administer bilateral economic cooperation initiatives on broader scale, the Koreans also proposed a high-level cooperation channel while promoting private sector economic cooperation.

Moreover, Korean government sees the Korea-Myanmar Economic Cooperation Forum as a place where members of the business communities on both sides can set-up and enhance cooperation.

As the Koreans, we too hope business organizations on both sides—for example, the two chambers of commerce and industry—will actively seek opportunities to cooperate through various channels. The Business Council for Economic Cooperation maybe a good example.

The Koreans also have a plan to strengthen infrastructure for bilateral cooperation and expand its ODA programs and to pave the way for organizations on both sides—for example, the two chambers of commerce and industry—to actively seek opportunities to cooperate through various channels.

So we foresee greater Myanmar-Korea cooperation through which we can have opportunity to set up joint ventures with the Northeast Asian economic powerhouse while trying to understand each other more. Knowing about Korean etiquette will be an

interesting and amusing way to create better understanding of their culture.

Generally, Koreans are hospitable people happy to greet guests and it is part of their culture. However, their modern societal values remain firmly rooted in the principles of Confucianism as their culture is over 5000 years old.

Keep in mind that the Korean people together with their culture are of a homogeneous society having strong ties to their families and country. Generally Koreans have a propensity of giving more priority to national interest than theirs.

Accordingly, establishing a system that serves the entrepreneur's interest without including benefits to the country may not be easy. We must emulate this practice.

Like in Myanmar, we must always remove our shoes when entering a Korean house. There are also some restaurants requesting guests to enter without wearing shoes. Koreans are very respectful of the elders, and we have already noticed this in Korean TV dramas.

At the dinner table, we must wait for the elders to hold their spoon before we take ours, and keep pace with them. Table manners in Korea say that there should not be any leftover food on our plate. We can show that we are full by just putting our chopsticks on the chopstick rest or on the table.

Koreans are very friendly people always ready to treat every visitor with the highest esteem and kindness. But we must understand their politeness does not mean that we have become trustworthy and reliable people, or that we are a particularly important person. It only means that we also must show our politeness to the same degree.

These are some of the tips to deal with our Northeastern Asian friends, and we are sure that our entrepreneurs and their representatives have more information and knowledge on this field.

Our country, Myanmar on her part is in transition to democracy seeking greater international cooperation that will bring progress in the sectors from capacity building to infrastructural development the foundations for our sustainable economic growth.

So we will keep on finding common ground with global partners including the people from northeast Asia in our own interest.

We need to learn their ways of doing business and emulate their working spirit, discipline, patriotism, zeal and intelligence. Some even say that *Koreans* are the only people in the world who can make the Japanese look lazy. So we can imagine how hardworking they are and their fast growing economy bears witness to this fact.

*****

DISTRICT NEWS

Free clinic opened in Pyawbwe Township for public health care services

PYAWBWE, 11 April—Organized by MettaU Social Welfare Association of Kyaukchat Village in Pyawbwe Township, MettaU Free Clinic was opened at the clinic on 28 March morning.

Patron of the association KanthaU Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jatila, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Myint Soe of Pyawbwe Township, Shwenyaungphu Station Doctor Dr Min Khaing, Chairman of the association village administrator U Hsan Min Tun, village elders, members of social organizations, well-wishers and local people.

The Sayadaw, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Myint Soe of Pyawbwe Township and Shwenyaungphu Station Doctor Dr Min Khaing formally opened the clinic.

The station doctor explained the purpose of opening the clinic.

Secretary of the association U Myint Thein briefed them on tasks of the association. Member of the association Daw Ni Ni Myint explained the financial report.

Later, responsible persons presented certificates of honour to wellwishers.

Myanma Alin

Mobile radio station launched in Bago

BAGO, 11 April—A ceremony to open Hinthagon GSM/UMTS mobile phone radio station of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications in Bago Region was held at the station.

An official of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications and a responsible person of Elite Co explained construction of new radio station.

Next, Bago Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Kyaw Oo, the Bago Region Manager of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications and a local cut the ribbon to open the radio station.

Bago Region Minister for Development Affairs U Ye Myint Tun pressed the button to unveil the signboard of the new radio station.

Communication

Reading habit raised in Bhamo

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—A ceremony to raise reading habit, organized by Bhamo District Information and Public Relations Department, was held in conjunction with the book donation ceremony at the city hall in Bhamo on 26 March morning.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Tay Zar Aung of Bhamo District General Administration Department made a speech.

Staff Officer Daw Nan Mya Mya Win of District Information and Public Relations Department explained the purpose of holding the reading habit raising and book donation. Chairman of Township Writers and Journalists Association U San Wai talked advantages of reading.

Next, Information and Public Relations Department (Head Office), Myanmar Libraries Foundation and District and Township departments donated 2963 books, 58 radios and three TV sets worth K 2.3 million to 10 libraries.

Later, writer Maung San Win (Bhamo) who secured the second prize in Doh Kyay Ywa journal short story contest was awarded at the ceremony.—*Myanma Alin*

LOANS DISBURSED: ***Kayan Township Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Work Committee disbursed loans on 30 March. Chairman of the Work Committee Township Administrator U Tin Myint presents loans to leader of microfinance institutions of 45 wards and village-tracts.***

KAYAN SOE MYINT

April showers contributes to cultivation in Yesagyo

YESAGYO, 11 April—The rain that showered in the northern part of Yesagyo Township in Magway Region about one hour on 3 April morning set the new record of rainfalls.

The showers benefited cultivation of summer paddy, summer sesame and pre-monsoon green gram. Moreover, gram and sunflower have already been harvested there, so there was no damage in the rain.

One month and five days old Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation on 10 acres of farmland in the irrigated area of Shwekyaung River Water Pumping Station, in the northern part of Yesagyo, also consumed the betterment of natural rain water.

Pe Tun Zaw-Yesagyo

FIRE DRILL PRACTISED: ***Under supervision of the Executive Officer of Township Development Affairs Committee, workers of Township Development Affairs Committee, members of Township Fire Brigade and servicemen of Myanmar Police Force, electricians and members of market board of trustees participating in fire drill at east wing of Myoma Market in Nyaunglebin on 29 March.—MNA***

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Mawlu

MAWLU, 11 April—Indaw Township Immigration and National Registration Department of Sagaing Region made a field trip to grassroots level for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards to local people from four villages of Simaw Village-tract in Mawlu region as part of efforts to implement Moe Pwint-2 Plan.

On 18 March, the departmental personnel team led by Staff Officer U Aung Thu of Township Immigration and National Registration Department and Assistant Township Officer U Kyaw Min issued cards to 381 people from four villages of Mawlu region.—*Kyemon*

Hailstones, strong winds hit Yedashe

YEDASHE, 11 April—Due to strong winds and heavy rain in Yedashe Township, hailstones with the measurement of seeds of tamarind dropped at 6.40 pm on 6 April.

In the incident, branches of trees fell down on telephone lines and electrical cables causing power cut.

Roofs of some houses and roadside shops blew off in the strong winds. It was reported that there was no casualty in the occurrence.

Some trucks with loads of onion were wet in the heavy rain. Both heavy rain and strong winds became calm at 7.30 pm the same day.—*Kyemon*

GSM tower built in Yesagyo for better communications

YESAGYO, 11 April—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs focuses on betterments in economic, social and education sectors of Yesagyo Township.

With the aim of ensuring improvement of social economic life and alleviation of poverty, and smooth communications of GSM mobile phones at any time, eight towers are being built.

Engineer in-charge U Pyi Sone Aung and party of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications (Head Office) built a communication tower in the compound of the combined office of Yesagyo on 3 April.

Kyemon

A communication tower is being constructed in the compound of the combined office of Yesagyo.

Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival for KhinU

KHINU, 11 April—A coordination meeting on organizing Myanmar Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival was held at the hall of General Administration Department in KhinU of Sagaing Region on 3 April.

At first, Administrator of KhinU Township U Yazar Aye made a speech.

At the ceremony, the township administrator instructed officials to supervise the festival like that of previous years. Executive Officer U Chit Ngwe of Township DAC explained construction of downtown pavilion, Township Judge U Tun Kyi entertainment of Thingyan Yein troupes and music bands at four wards, Township Law Officer U Aung Min Chun dances of Yein troupe and traditional costume, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Than Win security and disciplinary entertainment and Sagaing Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Myo Nyein paying respects to 87 older persons on Myanmar New Year Day.

The township will hold the festival traditionally.

Myanma Alin

Transformers installed in wards for sufficient supply of electricity in Mawlu of Indaw Township

MAWLU, 11 April—With a view to supply sufficient electricity to local people of Mawlu in Indaw Township of Sagaing Region, Township Electrician U Maung Maung Nyein and workers installed two 100 KV transformers in Ohndok Village and Myamarlar Ward 5 of Mawlu on 22 March morning.

Electricians installing transformer in Mawlu region.

One of two transformer was installed in Ohndok Village and another one in Myamarlar Ward 5 of Mawlu.

Kyemon

TAKE FIRE PREVENTIVE MEASURES

DISTRICT NEWS

MLF invites cash, books

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

Vehicles under inspection for safety in Maha Thingyan period in Yesagyo

YESAGYO, 11 April—Traffic accidents happen in the period of Maha Thingyan Festival due to revelry activities.

With a view to ensuring reduction of traffic accidents and safety of life, Yesagyo Township Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee is carrying out inspection of vehicles and drivers whether they abide by traffic rules on wheel tax, vehicle licence, driver licence, wearing of helmet, overloads and drunkard driving.

Pe Tun Zaw-Yesagyo

An official team educates drivers of vehicles to abide by traffic rules in Yesagyo.

Golden Hamilton's Carp species being bred in cage in Shan State

YANGON, 11 April—Hamilton's Carp species fishes are now successfully breed in the cages. If there is better fish species with high growth rate, plan is under way to breed such species, said Shan State Fisheries Federation recently.

"Now, test breeding achieves success. I would like to make request to take better species of fish with higher growth rate," an official of Shan State Fisheries Federation at the 13th Annual General Meeting of Myanmar Fisheries Federation on 7 April.

President of the Myanmar Fish Breeders Association U Than Lwin gave advice that fish from the cage should be fed with floating feedstuff and it will minimize loss and wastage of feedstuff.

"In addition to domestic fish feedstuff, the breeders should feed fish with floating feedstuffs. Such type of feedstuff will develop the growth of fish. Minimizing of feedstuff can benefit growth of fish in a short period," he said.

Tilapita fish species should be bred in the cage. Floating feedstuff can be fed to Tilapia. These fish species are marketable in the domestic market and benefit the breeders.

Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)

China returns to trade surplus in March

Shipping containers pile up at a container port in Wuhan, in central China's Hubei Province. China swung back to a trade surplus last month, reversing a massive deficit recorded in February, the official Xinhua news agency said on Tuesday.— INTERNET

BEIJING, 11 April — China said on Tuesday it recorded a trade surplus last month, reversing a massive deficit in February, but exports were still weak owing to economic woes in major overseas markets.

The country recorded a trade surplus of $5.35 billion in March, as exports rose 8.9 percent to $165.66 billion for the month, Chinese customs said in a statement on its website. Imports rose just 5.3 percent to $160.31 billion in March, it said.

The Asian giant's trade figures are politically sensitive, with Beijing and Washington embroiled in a long-running dispute over the value of the yuan, which US politicians say is kept artificially low to help Chinese exporters.

In February, China posted a huge deficit of $31.48 billion — the largest in more than a decade — as it felt the ripples from the debt crisis in Europe and the stuttering recovery in the United States. Analysts had predicted a deficit of $3.2 billion for March, according Dow Jones Newswires. "The March surplus figure is relatively small as the deterioration in overseas markets since last year has continued to affect China's exports," Liao Qun, China economist for Citic Bank International, told *AFP*.

Internet

Venezuelan minister says kidnapped diplomat freed

CARACAS, 11 April — Venezuela's justice minister says a diplomat from the Costa Rican Embassy has been freed hours after he was seized by kidnappers.

Justice Minister Tareck El Aissami says in a message on his Twitter account that Guillermo Cholele, the trade ambassador for the Costa Rican Embassy, has been freed and is in good health.

El Aissami said in the message on Tuesday morning that the diplomat was with police and being taken to be reunited with his family.

Internet

Residents of a building wait outside it as police officers allegedly look for the abductors of Costa Rican diplomat Guillermo Cholele in Caracas, Venezuela, on 9 April, 2012. Cholele was kidnapped on Sunday in Venezuela and his abductors have demanded a ransom, Costa Rican officials said on Monday. INTERNET

Men dressed in costumes parade during a regatta in Lagos, Nigeria on 8 April, 2012. Organizers held a boat regatta Sunday as part of the ongoing Lagos Carnival. The carnival will come to its height Monday as dancers and masqueraders walk through the streets of Lagos' two main islands. INTERNET

Peru says rescue of nine trapped miners imminent

ICA, 11 April — Rescuers were closing in on nine workers trapped inside a wildcat mine in southern Peru on Tuesday and officials said they could be pulled to the surface within hours after spending five days underground. The men have been stuck about 656 feet below ground since the Cabeza de Negro gold-and-copper mine partially collapsed on Thursday. They have been receiving oxygen and liquids through a giant hose in place since before the accident.

"We have a couple of meters (feet) left to go," Mines and Energy Minister Jorge Merino told reporters at the site monitoring the digging operation. "We've advanced six meters (19.5 feet) in a tunnel that's eight meters (26 feet) long."The cave-in spurred calls to formalize Peru's vast informal mining sector, which generates as much as $2 billion a year in income, according to private estimates.

Reuters

People work in a collapsed mine to rescue trapped miners in Ica, Peru, on 7 April, 2012. According to Peruvians authorities, nine miners trapped since Thursday in a collapsed mine are being supplied with sports drinks, soup and food while police, firefighters and other workers work to free them.— INTERNET

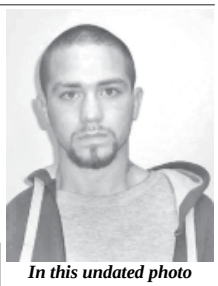
A man prepares a traditional wedding garland at a shop in Quetta on 10 April, 2012. — INTERNET

Wash man on the run finds time to update Facebook

SEATTLE, 11 April — He's on the lam, but Travis A Nicolaysen still had time to update his Facebook page. The 26-year-old has eluded authorities since two foot chases Wednesday and a dragnet that included a police dog tracking him through a Port Angeles neighbourhood. The dog came up only with a blue bandanna he had been wearing.

His first day on the run, one friend posted to his account: "Cops all over you." Nicolaysen responded the next day with: "ya got away thanks bro." A post from another friend told him to be careful. Another urged him to surrender and set a better example for his children. "You're not getting any younger and you're looking at a lot of time," the friend writes. A picture on the Facebook page shows Nicolaysen with two toddlers.

Nicolaysen has been convicted of five felonies, including domestic violence, burglary and theft of a firearm, police said. He is wanted by the Washington state Department of Corrections for failing to check in with his community corrections officer since January. He's also accused of assaulting his girlfriend on 28 March, police said. Better make that his ex-girlfriend. In a post Saturday, Nicolaysen changed his relationship status to single, the *Peninsula Daily News* reported.—*Internet*



In this undated photo taken by the Washington state Department of Corrections and provided by the Port Angeles Police Department, Travis A Nicolaysen is seen. INTERNET

Gas production in Azerbaijan to reach 50 bln cubic meters by 2025

BAKU, 11 April — The volume of gas production in Azerbaijan will reach 50 billion cubic meters per year by the end of 2025, President of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan (Socar) Rovnag Abdullaev said here Tuesday at the opening of a business forum on Oil Gas Processing.

According to Socar president, total gas production in Azerbaijan is projected to grow to 30 billion cubic meters per year by 2015 and reach 50 billion cubic meters per year by the end of 2025.

Growth in domestic natural gas production will increase the importance of Azerbaijan in ensuring regional and European energy security. With natural gas imports in Europe projected to be 70 percent by 2020, the role of Azerbaijan in ensuring Europe's energy security will increase even more, he said.

Abdullaev also said that Azerbaijan plans to start construction works on a new oil gas processing and petrochemical complex in the first quarter of 2013.

Xinhua

This undated artist's rendering provided by Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architect & Paul Murdoch Architects, shows a proposed design for Constitution Gardens, one of three overused and neglected areas of the National Mall in Washington, which architects and designers have been competing for the chance to renew.— INTERNET

N Korea space official: All prep done for launch

PYONGYANG, 11 April — North Korean space officials say all assembly and preparations for this week's satellite launch have been completed. Space officials said during a rare news conference attended by foreign journalists Tuesday in Pyongyang that the launch would go ahead as planned as part of birthday commemorations for late President Kim Il Sung.

Internet

Titanic's first-class menu recreated in Hong Kong

A waiter pours white wine into a glass to demonstrate the Hullett House hotel's recreation of the Titanic's last meal to mark the disaster's 100th anniversary in Hong Kong. The diners will be served by waiters dressed in uniforms like those on the Titanic and eat off fine bone china plates as used on board.— INTERNET

HONG KONG, 11 April — The Titanic was more than just the most advanced ship of its time. It was the paragon of turn-of-the-century style and luxury, when languid meals, dinner suits and fine china were de rigueur. Like the steel and steam engines that made the liner an engineering wonder, the Titanic's more perishable finery now lies 12,400 feet (3,780 metres) down in the darkness of the North Atlantic.

But some of it will be brought back to life, including a bottle of champagne salvaged from the wreck, when the Hullett House hotel in Hong Kong recreates the Titanic's last meal to mark the disaster's 100th anniversary on Saturday. Eight diners will pay HK$15,000 ($1,930) each for the 10-course banquet based on the original menu, executive chef Philippe Orrico told *AFP*. The highlight will be a bottle of Heidsieck & Co Monopole Gout Americain vintage 1907, brought up from the frigid depths in pristine condition in 1998 and purchased by the hotel for more than $11,000.

"One day, I was researching different kinds of (historical) menus we could use, and I found the menu of the Titanic," Orrico said. "The menu was saved by someone in first class. This year, we thought it would be interesting and funny to recreate the menu because it's 100 years since the sinking of the boat." The meal begins with oysters in vodka sauce, followed by a consommé Olga made with scallops, slow-cooked poached salmon, sautéed chicken and lamb with mint sauce, punch romaine — served as a palette cleanser — then finishing with a Waldorf pudding with ice cream.— *Internet*

BAA March traffic boosted by emerging market growth

LONDON, 11 April — Traffic at airports operated by BAA rose by 4 percent in March, compared with the same month in 2011, helped by Easter being earlier this year and strong growth on routes to emerging markets. BAA, which is Britain's main airport operator and majority owned by Spanish infrastructure group Ferrovial, on Wednesday said 8.6 million passengers travelled through its airports last month.

The company said 5.7 million passengers passed through London Heathrow - Europe's busiest airport - last month, 6.9 percent up on last March. "That increase means Heathrow saw more than 70 million passengers over a twelve month period for the first time," BAA Chief Executive Colin Matthews said in a statement. "Traffic from Heathrow to the BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) countries saw growth compared with March last year, with an increase of 62.3 percent in traffic to and from Brazil." BAA said Heathrow's performance was particularly notable for the 4.2 percentage point increase in load factor — how full planes leaving the airport are — to 73.4 percent compared to March last year. The increase was also helped by Easter being earlier this year, with a substantial proportion of pre-Easter traffic falling in March rather than in April last year.

Reuters

Cameron in Indonesia to finalise Airbus deal

Prime Minister David Cameron arrived Wednesday in Indonesia, where he will finalise a $2.5 billion deal between Garuda and Airbus as the European plane maker looks to tap the growing economy.— INTERNET

JAKARTA, 11 April — David Cameron arrived on Wednesday in Indonesia, where he will finalise a $2.5 billion deal between Garuda and Airbus as the European plane maker looks to tap the growing economy. The trip is the latest leg of Cameron's trade mission around Asia, along with a posse of businessmen, as he looks to offset sluggish growth at home and in the troubled European economy.

"The $2.5 billion deal for 11 *A330-300* planes will be signed later today at the presidential palace," Garuda President Emirsyah Satar told *AFP*. Indonesia's presidential spokesman Teuku Faizasyah told *AFP* the deal with the airline, which is majority owned by the state, would be the "highlight" of Cameron's visit. The agreement is the second inside a year between the two after Garuda ordered 25 medium-range *A320 Airbus* planes for a catalogue price of $2.18 billion.

The latest deal will be a boost to Garuda as it embarks on an expansion drive less than two years after the EU lifted a ban on the airline operating in European airspace over safety fears. It will also be more than welcome for Airbus, which has only secured firm orders for 90 planes in the first quarter of 2012, compared with more than 400 for US rival Boeing.

Cameron will also likely push military sales, after Britain banned defence exports to Indonesia in 1999 following accusations that British-made Hawk fighters were used in counter-insurgency attacks in East Timor, then an Indonesian Province.— *Internet*

Delhi helmet law takes deadly toll on women

A woman rides on the back of a motorbike in Delhi on 10 April, 2012. About 133,938 people or 366 a day died on India's roads in 2010, according to the National Crime Records Bureau, more than any other country. INTERNET

NEW DELHI, 11 April — Priya Mahindroo, 25, zips through New Delhi traffic on the back of a motorbike every day to get to work. While the law mandates a helmet for her male driver, as a woman she can legally go without. Campaigners are becoming increasingly vocal about the consequences of this anomaly which results in dozens of lives needlessly lost each year as well as thousands of serious injuries that wreck families and burden hospitals.

Others see it as a sad reflection on patriarchal Indian values: that women are men's inferiors, their lives simply worth less in a country with a culture of celebrating sons over daughters. For women such as Mahindroo, however, the considerations are mostly aesthetic and unless she is forced to wear a helmet by law, she'll continue to ride some of the world's most dangerous streets with her head unprotected. "It ruins my hair," she told *AFP* in New Delhi as she arrived for work at her newspaper's office in the busy central area of the city. "I don't wear a helmet because I feel really hot and suffocated inside so I don't really think about the safety."

India's federal Motor Vehicles Act of 1988 stated that every person driving or riding a two-wheeler had to wear a helmet, but this sparked an uproar from the Sikh community which raised religious objections. Sikh men were later exempted, largely because of the religious demand for them to wear turbans.

The local New Delhi government decided it was impossible to tell a Sikh woman from a non-Sikh and so made helmets optional for all female motorcycle riders. About 133,938 people or 366 a day died on India's roads in 2010, according to the National Crime Records Bureau, more than any other country.

Internet

Power firms to inform clients of best tariffs

LONDON, 11 April — Britain's main energy suppliers from autumn will regularly inform customers about the best available tariffs to enable households to better meet their specific needs, the government said on Wednesday. The commitments secured by the government will mean that the big six energy companies — EDF, E ON, British Gas, Scottish and Southern Energy, Scottish Power and RWE nPower — will write to customers every year to specifically tell them what the best tariff is for them and how to get it, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said on Wednesday in London.

"As of this autumn, your supplier will have to contact you with the best tariff for your needs. And if you call them, they'll have to offer you the best deal too," Clegg said, adding that energy companies had also confirmed a commitment to simplify tariffs. The government said that vulnerable customers who are assisted by the Warm Home Discount scheme would be contacted twice a year.

Clegg also said the government was working with consumer groups to make it easier for people to club together and switch suppliers. "Consumers will be able to use their collective purchasing power to bring down bills," he said. With over 120 different energy tariffs on offer, seven out of 10 customers are currently not on the best tariff for them, according to the government.— *Reuters*

Photo illustration of an old railway line in the Simpson Desert, Australia. A 51-year-old mother said Wednesday she felt "fantastic" but tired after becoming the first woman to run across Australia's Simpson Desert, enduring searing temperatures on the 660 kilometre journey.— INTERNET

Australian mum completes in 660km outback run

SYDNEY, 11 April — A 51-year-old mother said Wednesday she felt "fantastic" but tired after becoming the first woman to run across Australia's Simpson Desert, enduring searing temperatures on the 660 kilometre journey. Intensive care nurse Jane Trumper had attempted the 410-mile run last year, only to be stopped at 352 kilometres (220 miles) by bushfires. Trumper said the relentless desert heat had been difficult on the run which began at the geographical centre of Australia in the Northern Territory, detoured through South Australia and ended in Birdsville, southwest Queensland.

"It was 45 degrees (Celsius, 113 degrees Fahrenheit) on the first day and I really had doubts about whether I would absolutely get this thing done," she told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. "No female has ever done it, so I think that was in the back of my mind that it would be good to do something that no one has ever done." Sydney-based Trumper had to run 750 kilometres in total because of a detour caused by recent heavy rains. According to her blog, she completed the run on Tuesday after 10 days. The ultramarathon runner, who was raising money for a Sydney children's hospital charity, said she was happy with how she felt after the run.

"It was the heat, the flies and the last couple of days I had a headwind, so the running was very, very slow," Trumper told the ABC. "I actually feel fantastic. I am a bit croaky, with all the dust from the last couple of days, with the wind. "My calves are tight, there's a couple of blisters on my feet — but pretty good really." Trumper was accompanied by two vehicles, with two supporters in each, on the journey during which she knew she would be facing snakes and extreme heat.

Internet

British man allegedly fathered up to 600 children through sperm bank donations

New DNA tests suggest the owner of a British fertility clinic may have fathered as many as 600 children, while keeping his donations a secret. And in an even stranger twist, one of his newly discovered offspring says the man's belief in eugenics may have been behind the decision.

Barry Stevens standing next to a photo of Bertold Wiesner.

The Telegraph reports that Bertold Wiesner and his wife operated a fertility clinic in the 1940s and were responsible for helping more than 1,500 families conceive. Two of the children conceived through clinic donations, Barry Stevens and David Gollancz, took part in DNA testing that revealed both were conceived using Wiesner's sperm. "Using standard figures for the number of live births which result, including allowances for twins and miscarriages, I estimate that he is responsible for between 300 and 600 children," Gollancz told the paper.

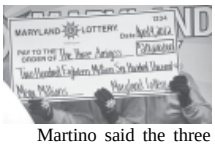
Eighteen people conceived through the clinic between 1943 and 1962 were tested, with about two-thirds of them matching Wiesner's DNA. However, it's nearly impossible to determine exactly how many of the 1,500 children came directly from Wiesner, since his wife Mary Barton reportedly destroyed the records from the clinic.

Shoeless people walk on the street during One Day Without Shoes event in Toronto, Canada, on 10 April, 2012.

Three Baltimore school employees split Mega Millions jackpot

Two Maryland public school teachers and a school administrator have claimed the second of three Mega Millions jackpot tickets, according to officials. The self-described "Three Amigos" say they plan to purchase new homes, start children's college funds and organize trips to Europe. Their winning was one of three jackpot tickets sold for the record-breaking $656 million jackpot awarded on 30 March.

"If it can't be you, these people are precisely the people you would want to see win," said Maryland Lottery director Stephen Martino. The three winners have chosen to remain anonymous but did allow the lottery officials to reveal some details about them. All three reportedly currently work multiple jobs just to pay their monthly bills. Even with their newfound fortunes, all three told Martino that they would keep their jobs at the school. "One said 'I can't give up on my kids,'" he said.



Martino said the three winners did indulge in a laugh over Marlinde Wilson, who has infamously claimed to have purchased the winning ticket and stashed it inside a Baltimore-area McDonald's. Wilson has reportedly retracted her story. The three actual winners purchased 60 tickets at the 7-Eleven store where Mega Millions officials say the winner was purchased. Each of the three winners will received a lump sum of $35 million after taxes.

Simpsons creator Matt Groening spills Springfield secret

The creator of the iconic cartoon sitcom The Simpsons has finally revealed the inspiration behind the show's fictional town of Springfield. Matt Groening told *Smithsonian* magazine he based the town on Springfield, Oregon, but since it is such a common US place name he knew many would think it was their own Springfield. The Springfield question is one of the best-kept secrets in TV history.

The Simpsons is the longest-running show in the US, on air for since 1989. Characters in the show have often joked about hiding Springfield's real location. "In anticipation of the success of the show, I thought: 'This will be cool, everyone will think it's their Springfield.' And they do," Mr Groening said. There are thought to be at least 34 towns or cities called Springfield in the US.

Mr Groening also said he was inspired by the TV show Father Knows Best, which was set in a place called Springfield. But the Springfield in Oregon is just 100 miles (160km) south of Portland, the city where Mr Groening grew up.

News Album

Jessica Alba, others, mark National Poetry Month

***Jessica Alba is among the celebrities who will be heard reciting poetry this month on Disney Channel and Disney Junior as part of its "A Poem Is ..." series in connection with National Poetry Month. —* INTERNET**

LOS ANGELES, 11 April — Jessica Alba is adding her voice to National Poetry Month, helping to lure children into the art form. Alba is among more than a dozen celebrity parents whose poetry readings are airing on the Disney and Disney Junior channels this month. Readings by Viola Davis, Caroline Kennedy, Liev Schreiber and Katie Holmes also are featured in "A Poem Is ....", a short-form series that sets verse to classic Disney animation.

Langston Hughes, Mary Ann Hoberman and May Swenson are among the writers whose work is included. Alba, who has two daughters, chose a Mexican folk song, "De Colores" ("Of Colours"), which reflects her Hispanic heritage. Her segment will air at 11:55 am EDT Monday and at 6:55 am EDT 29 April, on the Disney Channel, and will play at various times on Disney Junior. Joining poetry and imagery is "just a really great way to introduce kids to poetry," including those too young to read, Alba said.

Internet

***The show is based on Disney's successful 1994 animated feature.—* INTERNET**

The Lion King named 'highest-grossing show' on Broadway

LONDON, 11 April — Hit musical adaptation The Lion King has become the highest earning show in Broadway history, according to figures released by its producers Disney. The musical has earned $853.8 million (£536.7 million) since opening in 1997. Its closest rival,

The Phantom of the Opera, has made $853.1m (£536.3m). Andrew Lloyd Webber's show has been running in New York since 1988. The Lion King's success has been due in part to higher ticket prices and the fact it plays in a larger theatre. The show, based on Disney's 1994 animated film, surged ahead of the longer-running production over the Easter weekend.

The Lion King took more than $2m (£1.26m) over Easter, while its rival made $1.2m (£755,000). The Broadway League, the national trade association for the Broadway theatre industry, has slightly different figures. According to its data, the Disney show's total has topped $854m while Phantom remains on $853m.

Internet

Rima goes for an image makeover

MUMBAI, 11 April — Actor Rima Kallingal has long been anointed as the 'modern' face of Malayalam cinema. Most of her initial films had her in the bubbly and bold kind of roles. But the actor seems to have been vying for a change in her image, of late Or take a look at her recent roles. In Indian Rupee, she is a doctor who is madly in love with the film's hero, a small time real estate broker.

In Nidra, she played a suffering wife of a mentally disturbed person. Now, she has taken up one of the greatest challenges in her career yet playing the lead in a female oriented theme in 22 Female Kottayam. "Yes, it is a female oriented theme and the story moves ahead tracing the journey of my character. It is a huge responsibility, of course and I have tried my best to live up to the huge expectation levels," says Rima.—*Internet*

Another star is shown the door on 'Dancing'

LOS ANGELES, 11 April — Sherri Shepherd is typically full of laughs on "Dancing With the Stars," but on the latest episode, it was tears instead. "The View" co-host was dismissed from the ABC competition on Tuesday. Judges' scores are combined with viewer votes to determine who is ousted each week. Shepherd's eyes filled with tears when she learned she was among the lowest scorers. She said dancing on the show was a dream, and she urged viewers to tackle their fears the way she did "because it's so amazing on the other side."

Returning to compete on next week's Latin-themed episode will be actors Jaleel White, Roshon Fegan, William Levy and Melissa Gilbert; singers Gladys Knight, Gavin DeGraw and Katherine Jenkins; TV personality Maria Menounos; and football star Donald Driver.— *Internet*

***In this 9 April, 2012 photo released by ABC, TV personality Sherri Shepherd and her partner Val Chmerkovskiy perform on the celebrity dance competition series "Dancing with the Stars," in Los Angeles.—* INTERNET**

Rima Kallingal

Mayamohini collects Rs 90 lakh at the box office

MUMBAI, 11 April — Mayamohini, directed by Jose Thomas and starring Dileep, Baburaj and Biju Menon in the lead is undoubtedly one of the biggest hits that the Malayalam film industry has had since a long time. Dileep's Mayamohini started with a massive opening and collected Rs. 90 lakh on the opening day at the box office on Saturday. Mayamohini opened in 70 screens and got a huge response from the public.

Considering that all of the previous films by superstars Mammootty and Mohanlal were disasters at the box office, Dileep starrer Mayamohini will turn out to be a major money spinner as far as the Malayalam film industry is concerned.

What's more, after seeing the huge response of the audience, many theatres increased their number of shows. Though the makers of Mayamohini did not do much of promotion, word of mouth helped the film collect rs. 90 lakh on the first day of its release. . Mayamohini is the first of the few films to release during the Vishu season.— *Internet*

***Mayamohini collects Rs 90 lakh at the box office.* INTERNET**

Milan edge Chievo to go back to the top

MILAN, 11 April — AC Milan went back to the top of Serie A, for 24 hours at least, with a hard fought 1-0 victory at Chievo in rainy Verona on Tuesday. Milan bounced straight back from Saturday's 2-1 defeat at home to Fiorentina despite being ravaged by injury and suspensions — they had 14 players missing. Ghana midfielder Sulley Muntari scored the only goal of the game early on as Milan moved two points clear of Juventus. The Old Lady of Turin can retake the lead if they beat Lazio on Wednesday.

But after the victory Milan coach Massimiliano Allegri vented his anger at the media for their criticisms of his team over the last 10 days. "Many people were delighted we fell to Fiorentina but we've got back up," he told Sky Sport. "We knew that tonight if we lost or failed to win we could be out of the title race. "Even when we were four points clear there was a media campaign waiting for us to lose but you still need to wait for our funeral.

"What disappoints me is that we're fighting with Juve and it seems as if they're doing amazing things and we're messing up. "The numbers say something else: that we're not less than Juve." It was a far from vintage Milan performance as Chievo bossed the game but showing the true form of champions they managed to nick the three points despite not playing well.— *Internet*

AC Milan's forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic (L) jumps over Chievo's midfielder Alberto Paloschi during their Italian Serie A football match at the Bentegodi Stadium in Verona. **INTERNET**

Jones dedicates Liverpool win to tragic son

LONDON, 11 April — Brad Jones dedicated Liverpool's 3-2 win at Blackburn to his son Luca, who died of leukaemia five months ago, after the Australian keeper endured a bitter-sweet Premier League debut for Kenny Dalglish's side on Tuesday. Jones, third in the pecking order of keepers at Anfield, had only made two senior cup appearances for the club before he was unexpectedly called into action in Liverpool's last game before Saturday's FA Cup semi-final with Everton at Wembley.

Brazilian stopper Alexander Doni was shown a straight red card for bringing down Junior Hoilett and will now miss Liverpool's big game at the weekend. It leaves 30-year-old Jones in line to face Everton as first-choice Pepe Reina is still serving a ban for getting sent off in a 2-0 defeat at Newcastle on 1 April.

Jones pointed to the heavens after saving a penalty from former Middlesbrough team-mate Yakubu just seconds after he went on as a substitute on a night of high drama at Blackburn. The keeper, whose partner Dani gave birth to a baby boy Nico Luca Jones last week, said: "It has been a difficult 18 months with my son passing away. "That was for him and for the Liverpool fans, who have been brilliant."

Internet

Liverpool's Australian goalkeeper Brad Jones (C) saves a penalty from Blackburn Rovers' Nigerian forward Yakubu (L) during the English Premier League football match between Blackburn Rovers and Liverpool at Ewood Park, Blackburn. **— INTERNET**

Bubba shows a new way to win Masters

AUGUSTA, 11 April — Bubba Watson is the Masters champion and a guy worth watching, whether that means spending money on a ticket or time in front of the TV. He keeps life simple, hits outrageously difficult shots and makes golf look fun. What's not to like about that?

CBS Sports said its overnight rating from the final round of the Masters, which Watson won in a playoff over Louis Oosthuizen, drew an 8.1. That was down from the 10.4 the previous year when eight players — including Tiger Woods — had a share of the lead at some point and Charl Schwartzel won it with four birdies at the end.

Theories abound on the television audience. It was Easter Sunday, which typically brings lower ratings. Woods wasn't around — he tied for 40th for his worst finish in a major except for the three times he missed the cut. And to a broader audience, Watson didn't have much of a Q-rating unless someone happened to see some of his crazy videos or they just liked hearing his name.

That should change The winning shot for Watson, which instantly became part of Augusta National lore, was a gap wedge that he hooked out of the woods, around the trees and onto an elevated green that set up an easy par on the second playoff hole. He referred to it as a "crazy" shot and "pretty easy." For him, it was both. Watson has been doing that stuff for years.— *Internet*

Bubba Watson hits out of the rough off the 10th hole during the fourth round of the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga. **INTERNET**

Murray dreams of Wimbledon double

LONDON, 11 April — Andy Murray is dreaming of a unique double this year by claiming a first Wimbledon title followed by an Olympic gold medal at the same venue just a few weeks later. The world number four said Tuesday he is building his summer programme around a twin assault on Wimbledon and the Olympics, which will be staged at the All England Club during the London games.

Andy Murray is dreaming of a unique double this year by claiming a first Wimbledon title followed by an Olympic gold medal at the same venue just a few weeks later. **INTERNET**

"This summer coming up is going to be huge. Wimbledon and the Olympics would be two of my major goals," said Murray, who played at the 2008 Beijing games. "The Olympics is different. The feeling you have on the court is completely different, you feel like you are playing for other people, for your country. "A lot of times when you are on the tour you are playing for yourself and the guys you work with. "When I played in Beijing, I didn't play well but it was one of the best experiences I have had as an athlete, being around all the top athletes in the world," added Murray, who regards the Olympics as a de facto fifth Grand Slam.

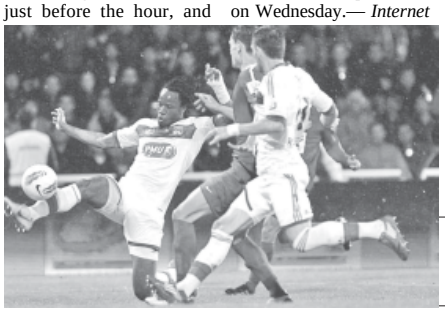
"Tennis at the Olympics has become a big deal. Everybody plays it now whereas 10-15 years ago people were skipping the Olympics," he said.—*Internet*

Lyon cruise into French Cup final

LYON, 11 April — Lyon reached the French Cup final after ending the run of third-tier Gazelec Ajaccio with a 4-0 win in the semi-final in Corsica on Tuesday. Gazelec — the third division high-fliers who had previously knocked out Ligue 1 clubs Toulouse and Montpellier — were handicapped by the early sending-off of Anthony Colinet but they gave as good as they got in the first half in a match played at the home of their top-flight neighbours AC Ajaccio.

However, Alexandre Lacazette gave OL the lead just before the hour, and skipper Lisandro Lopez doubled their advantage soon after. Substitute Clement Grenier scored within seconds of coming on before Bafetimbi Gomis netted his 23rd goal of the season to wrap up the win.

Lyon can now look forward to a second trip to the Stade de France for the final at the end of this month - they also have a League Cup final against Marseille to prepare for on Saturday. Rennes take on third-tier Quevilly - who put Marseille out in the previous round - in the second French Cup semi-final on Wednesday.— *Internet*



Lyon's Bakary Kone (L) vies with GFCO Ajaccio's Loic Dufau during the French Cup football match GFCO Ajaccio vs Lyon in the Francois Coty stadium in Ajaccio, Corsica. **— INTERNET**

International Sports

Barcelona's Chilean forward Alexis Sanchez (R) celebrates next to Barcelona's midfielder Xavi Hernandez after scoring during the Spanish league football match FC Barcelona vs Getafe CF at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona. **— INTERNET**

Barcelona pile pressure on Real with Getafe romp

BARCELONA, 11 April — Defending champions Barcelona upped the pressure on leaders Real Madrid on Tuesday as they moved to within a point of their bitter rivals after a 4-0 thumping of Getafe. Two goals from Alexis Sanchez, one from Pedro Rodriguez and Lionel Messi's 39th in the league this season gave Barca a 10th consecutive league victory after another near perfect performance by the Catalans.

In the 22nd minute the home crowd chanted the name of Eric Abidal, the French international who on Tuesday underwent a liver transplant, in recognition of the number 22 shirt he wears as part of Barca's squad. Real can restore their four point advantage if they beat Atletico Madrid on Wednesday—they have not lost to their city rivals since 1999.

The clash between Barca and Madrid on 21st April in the Camp Nou has become increasingly important as the Catalans have reduced the gap on Madrid from 10 points to only one in less than a month. Barcelona dominated Getafe throughout, controlling possession with their usual passing game and goalkeeper Victor Valdes summed up the situation on the final whistle. "Our work is done here, lets wait and see what Madrid do tomorrow night in their game," he said. However coach Pep Guardiola was cautious about talking about his team's title chances.— *Internet*

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(12-4-12 09:30 am ~ 13-4-12 09:30 am) MST

- News
- Rakhine Traditional Water Festival (Nantha Grinding Celebration)
- Thingyan Songs & Dances
- News
- The more you see, The more you learn (Episode-I)
- News
- Thingyan Songs & Dances
- News
- Regional Children's Forum
- News
- History And Mystery Behind The Caves
- News
- Music Gallery
- News
- Chanmyay Yeiktha Meditation Centre (Hmawbi)
- News
- Sapphire Sea…. Emerald Trees….and Adventurous Journey
- Early Myanmar & Its Global Connections (Part-1)
- Myanmar Movie "Happy Birthday"

MYANMAR TV

(12-4-2012) (Thursday)

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

7:50 am
2. Nice and Sweet Song

8:30 am
3. Dance of Thingyan Festival

8:40 am
4. International News

4:00 pm
5. Martial Song

4:10 pm
6. Dance of Thingyan Festival

4:50 pm
7. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

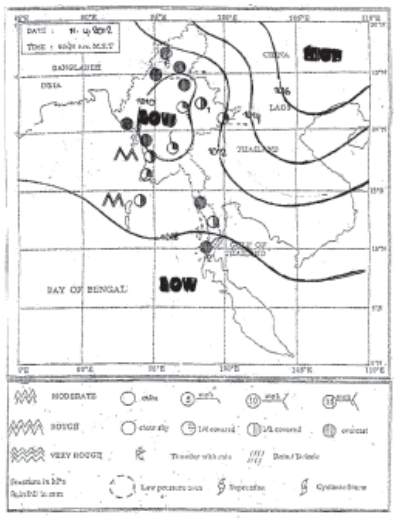
5:20 pm
8. Science and Environment

6:20 pm
9. Dance of Thingyan Festival

7:00 pm
10. Approaching Science Dicovery World

8:00 pm
11. News
12. Myanmar Movie

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 12th April, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F) Maximum	Minimum	For Tomorrow Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	32/90	21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
2	Kayah	31/88	17/63	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
3	Kayin	39/102	23/73	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
4	Chin	20/68	10/50	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
5	Upper Sagaing	31/88	20/68	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
6	Lower Sagaing	38/100	18/64	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
7	Tanintharyi	36/97	24/75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
8	Bago	36/97	25/77	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
9	Magway	39/102	24/75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
11	Mon	37/99	24/75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
12	Yangon	38/100	25/77	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
13	Rakhine	33/91	22/72	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
14	Southern Shan	25/77	13/55	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
15	Northern Shan	30/86	16/61	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
16	Eastern Shan	32/90	17/63	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
17	Ayeyawady	35/95	24/75	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	38/100	21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	38/100	25/77	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Lower Sagaing Region,widespread in Upper Sagain Region, scattered in Mandalay Region, Chin, Mon and Rakhine States and isolated in Magway, Bago, and Tanintharyi Regions, Kachin and Kaayin States and weather have been partly cloudy in the remaining Region and stage. Day temperature were (3°C) to (4°C) below April average temperatures in Lower Sagain and Mandalay Regions, Kayah States, and about April average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures was (0.43) inch, (0.40) inch each.
Bay Inference	Weather is partly cloudy in Central Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Squalls with modernte 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 sub-sequent two days	Continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Upper Myanmar areas.

Literary talks held for development of libraries

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April— With the aim of developing village libraries, Wetlet Township Information and Public Relations Department and Township Writers and Journalists Association jointly organized the literary talks under the supervision of Township General Administration Department at Toe Tet Yay Library in Htonbo Village of Shabwe Village-tract in Wetlet Township at 7 pm on 22 March. At first, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Nan Myint explained durability and development of the libraries and raising reading habits.

After that, writer Saya Than Win (SLRD) gave talks with the title "to the reader", writer Saya Zwe Ni, the title "library" and writer Saya Yogi Toe Aung with the title "loving-kindness and literature".—*Township IPRD*

REPAVED ROAD INAUGURATED:
A ceremony to commission Market Shortcut repaved road into service was held at the road in Bokpyin on 25 March. Township Administrator U Nyunt Tin and Executive Officer U Thet Tun San of Township Development Affairs Committee formally open the repaved road.
MYANMA ALIN

Indonesia says only small tsunami waves hit Sumatra after quakes

JAKARTA, 11 April— Small tsunami waves of around one meter hit the western coast of Indonesia's Sumatra island on Wednesday after a series of major earthquakes, though the country's disaster agency said it was still assessing whether there were any deaths or damage.

The agency expects the worst impact to have been on Simeulue island off Sumatra and forecasts further small aftershocks in the country's westernmost region, but it has lifted its tsunami alert for an area which was devastated by a tsunami in 2004.

Reuters

Acehnese men ride on a motorized pedicab as they evacuate to higher ground after a strong earthquake was felt in Banda Aceh, Aceh province, Sumatra island, Indonesia on 11 April, 2012.
REUTERS

Hailstorms leave three dead, 25 injured in China

NANCHANG, 11 April— Hailstorms have battered parts of eastern and southwestern China, leaving three people dead and 25 others injured, local authorities said Wednesday.

In East China's Jiangxi province, hailstorms struck some areas from Tuesday morning to Wednesday morning, resulting in the deaths of three people and affecting the livelihood of 170,000 rural residents, a spokesman with the Jiangxi Provincial Department of Civil Affairs said.

Storms have also forced the evacuation of more than 700 people, destroyed about 2,700 hectares of crops and damaged more than 900 houses, the spokesman added.

In southwestern Guizhou province, hailstorms hit 47 villages in Taijiang county Tuesday night, leaving 25 residents injured, including two severely injured, a county government spokesman said.

The hailstones were as large as 3.5 cm in diameter and weighed 18 grams on average, the spokesman said.

Power supplies and telecommunications networks have also been disrupted, he said.

Local authorities have dispatched teams to oversee relief operations in those areas, according to the spokesman.

MNA/Xinhua

Liverpool recall keeper, Dalglish dismisses crisis talk

LONDON, 11 April— Liverpool will recall youngster Peter Gulacsi from a loan spell at Hull City to help them cope with a goalkeeping shortage ahead of Saturday's FA Cup semi-final against Everton.

Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish will have to field third-choice Brad Jones in the all-Merseyside clash at Wembley Stadium because both of his senior keepers are suspended.

But he dismissed talk of a crisis following the 3-2 win at Blackburn Rovers on Tuesday. "We don't have a problem going in with any players, no problem whatsoever," he told reporters.

Kulacsi, a 21-year-old Hungarian who joined Liverpool five years ago but has never made a first team appearance, has spent time on loan at Hereford United, Tranmere Rovers and Hull.

"Goalkeeper Peter Gulacsi is set to be recalled from his loan spell with the Tigers by parent club Liverpool," Hull said on their official Twitter feed on Wednesday.

Liverpool's first choice keeper Spaniard Pepe Reina is suspended after being sent off at Newcastle United in a Premier League game on 1 April.

Back-up Alexander Doni, who made his long-awaited debut against Aston Villa on Saturday, is banned after the Brazilian was shown a red card at Blackburn.

Reuters

■ ■ ■

Ghana's Andre Ayew (R) is challenged by Hungary's goalkeeper Peter Gulacsi during their FIFA U-20 World Cup semi-finals match in Cairo on 13 Oct, 2009.
REUTERS

Sagaing Region peace-making group holds peace talks with NSCN (K)

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—At the peace invitation of the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, armed national races groups have been holding peace talks with the government, at respective regions.

Under the arrangement of Union level peace-making group, a five-member peace-making group led by Leader of Sagaing Region Peace-making group, Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Kyi Naing and a seven-member Naga armed group NSCN (K) led by Leader of Peace-making group Y Wantin Naga made peace talks, at Station Hall, Khamti of Sagaing Region on 9 April.

At the talks, delegates from both sides had a cordial discussion on peace-making matters. Both sides signed a five-point preliminary agreement in the presence of Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, and exchanged the document.

The five-point preliminary agreements reached at the talks are:—

(1) To stop fighting between the Tatmadaw and NSCN (K) as of 9 April, 2012.
(2) To open liaison office of NSCN (K) at Khamti agreed by both sides for discussions, liaison and talks.
(3) To make prior coordination for travelling with arms beyond the places agreed by both sides during the ceasefire
(4) To allow NSCN (K) to travel freely in the country without arms during the period of ceasefire.
(5) To hold continued discussions between the peace-making group of Union government and NSCN (K) peace-making group for peace and stability and development of Naga region, at both side-agreed place and time.

Sagaing Region peace-making group and Naga armed group-NSCN (K) pose for documentary photo after peace talks.—MNA

After the meeting, the Region Chief Minister presented gifts to members of NSCN (K) peace-making group. After that, both sides presented gifts each other and took documentary photo taken.—*MNA*

Prizes awarded in kite beauty, kite contest

YANGON, 11 April—Under the supervision of Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports, the prize presentation of the 8th Myanmar traditional kite beauty and kite contest organized by Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation was held at the football ground of Kyaikkasan Grounds in Tamway Township 8 April afternoon.

Officials presented awards to referees and first, second and third prizes and cash awards to winners.

General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik gave the first prize in kite contest to 555 Ko Myo and party (South Okkalapa), the second prize to Shweminthagyi (Kyimyindine) and third prize to Rainbow (South Okkalapa). He presented championship shield to the first prize winner.

MNA

Strong earthquake jolts outside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—A very strong earthquake of magnitude 8.7 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Off the west coast of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia) about 1100 miles south of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 15 hr 12 min 02 sec MST today, according to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—*MNA*

Tsunami warning lifted

NAY PYI TAW, 11 April—A massive 8.7 magnitude earthquake hit the north of Sumatra Island, Indonesia (outside of Myanmar), about 1100 miles south of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory, at 3 hrs 12 min:02 second today.

The magnitude of earthquake may cause Tsunami waves. Other Tsunami monitoring centers have issued the warnings that Tsunami could hit Myanmar coastal regions. But, Tsunami waves did not reach the Myanmar coast within the estimated time. So, Tsunami warnings are lifted, Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.

MNA

Preparations made for enjoying Mandalay Maha Thingyan Festival

PAGE 8

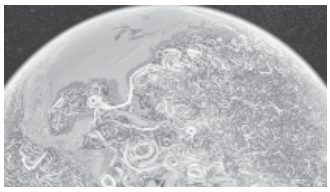
Rima goes for an image makeover

PAGE 13

Barcelona pile pressure on Real with Getafe romp

PAGE 14

NASA views our perpetual ocean



SCIENCE DAILY, 11 April—The swirling flows of tens of thousands of ocean currents were captured in this scientific visualization created by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

"There is also a 20-minute long tour, which shows these global surface currents in more detail," says Horace Mitchell, the lead of the visualization studio. "We also released a three-minute version on our NASA Visualization Explorer iPad app."

Both the 20-minute and 3-minute versions are available in high definition here: http://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/goto?3827

The visualization covers the period June 2005 to December 2007 and is based on a synthesis of a numerical model with observational data, created by a NASA project called Estimating the Circulation and Climate of the Ocean, or ECCO for short. ECCO is a joint project between the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. ECCO uses advanced mathematical tools to combine observations with the MIT numerical ocean model to obtain realistic descriptions of how ocean circulation evolves over time.

These model-data syntheses are among the largest computations of their kind ever undertaken. They are made possible by high-end computing resources provided by NASA's Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, Calif.

Internet

Rudisha plans only three races before London Games

LONDON, 11 April—Kenya's 800 metres world record holder David Rudisha plans to run no more than three races before the London Olympics, starting with the opening Diamond League meeting in Doha next month. Rudisha is favourite to add the Olympic title to his world crown won in Daegu last year, However, he told reporters on Wednesday his style of running from the front made it difficult to sustain his form.

"It's hard to maintain and always to win races especially with my way of running," the 23-year-old said in a conference call from his training base in Iten, Kenya.

David Rudisha of Kenya

"I know it's going to be tough and that's why I want to race in Doha and see how it goes and from there I can discuss and see if I want to try another one.

"But probably I don't think I can do more than three (races) before the Olympics," added Rudisha, who started as a 400 metres runner before switching to the two-lap race and has not discounted running the relay in London.

"I think I can do that," he said when asked about taking part in the 4x400 metres. The London Olympics, which open on July 27, will the first Games for Rudisha after he missed out on Beijing four years ago when he suffered an injury before the Kenyan trials.

His father Daniel won silver at the 1968 Mexico City Games as part of Kenya's 4x400 metres relay team and Rudisha is keen to add to the family's Olympic medal haul.

Reuters