Established 1914

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XX, Number 17 | 2nd Waning of Kason 1374 ME | Monday, 7 May, 2012

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.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann leaves for Germany, Belgium

YANGON, 6 May—A Myanmar delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann left here by air for Federal Republic of Germany and Belgium this morning at the invitation of Brussels-based European Parliament Speaker Mr Martin Shultz under Hann Siedel programme to observe and pay goodwill visits to assemblies in Germany and Belgium.

The delegation was seen off by Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye, Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, chairmen, secretaries and members of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw committees, the speaker and deputy speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw, the German ambassador to Myanmar and officials at Yangon International Airport.

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Projects and Financial Development Committee U Soe Tha, Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Economic and Trade Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein, Chairman of Investment and Industrial Development Committee U Htay Myint, Secretary of National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee Daw Dwe Bu, Member of Bill Committee Daw Nan Wah Nu and officials accompanied the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker as delegation members.—*MNA*

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann being seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Deputy-Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa and officials as he departs for Federal Republic of Germany and Belgium. MNA

Union A&I Minister inspects dredging of Bago River

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing yesterday inspected dredging of Bago River in Bago Township by heavy machinery.

He instructed the staff there to inform the Marine Administration Department of the Ministry of Transport and the region government of the annual conservation of Bago River although Irrigation Department assumed the responsibility momentarily.

The Union Minister cordially greeted local farmers and presented Palethwe rice.

He viewed right canal of Khabaung Dam and tributaries and 95 days old thriving Palethwe paddy plantation in Ottwin Township. He called for disseminating technology to farmers who will put 30000 acres of rain-fed field in Bago Region under Palethwe paddy, saying the cultivation of Palethwe paddy would bring about development of the region which has over 3 million farmlands and dams and reservoirs.

MNA

Silt from Bago River being dredged by machinery for proper flow of the river.—MNA

MYA NANDAR AND MYANMAR THINGYAN

PAGE 7

Scientists use airship to look for meteorites

Peter Jenniskens, right, the NASA scientist in charge of a group of researchers searching for pieces of a meteorite, walk to the zeppelin, Eureka, at McClellan Air Park in Sacramento, Calif, on 3 May, 2012.—INTERNET

PAGE 4

Sebastian Coe, chairman of LOCOG presses the button with nine-year-old Niamh Clarke-Willis (L2 F) to officially open the Olympic Stadium during day two of the BUCS VISA Athletics Championships 2012 LOCOG Test Event for London 2012.

PAGE 11

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 7 May, 2012

Change with climate change

Embracing change is an important behavior as change is inevitable. It seems obvious that since the climate is changing we have to change as well.

Scientific evidence of climate change is increasing. Many private and public initiatives have made climate change a well-known topic for action. However, the level of awareness is not yet high enough, and the need for decisive action is not yet thoroughly recognized.

Climate is a common good, crucial to all of us and to future generation. What we can see so far is that the interests of nations regarding climate change are not aligned.

Climate oriented-technologies are improving the status of private enterprise. Some examples are the automatic industry offering cars with lighter weight and engines that can run on biofuel, plug-in electric cars and even fuel-cell vehicles; the chemical industry reviewing production process to save significant amount of energy; the construction industry promoting affordable green buildings. And we should push for energy replacement wherever possible, intensifying our demands for solar-, wind-, and water-generated power.

One decisive form of action to achieve long-term impact on climate change is education. All schools from primary to universities should teach climate science. As individuals we should also constantly learn about environmental protection, health and safety impact and new technologies becoming available.

Climate change requires action. It offers business opportunities. So, we have to embrace that change without hesitation.

(OIAC-2) Boarding & Private School (Nay Pyi Taw) commissioned into service

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May— Our Inspiration Academic Center (OIAC-2) Boarding& Private School (Nay Pyi Taw) has been opened at No. 28 on the corner between 1st and 6th Streets in Dekkhinathiri Township here this morning, with an address of Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan.

At the opening event, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Than Aung and U Kan Chun, Director-General U Khin Maung Zaw of the Ministry of Electric Power-2, Chairman of Original Group Wunna Kyaw Htin Si Thu U Tha Htay and Patron of OIAC-2 actor Shar Nyo cut the ribbon and Union Minister U Tint Hsan pressed the button to put it into service.

Under the guideline of the experienced teachers, those students from six to 11 in their grades can pursue their education at the now-opened private school, a two-storey building constructed at the place (7.19 acres).—*MNA*

Yangon Region government gets two ambulances

YANGON, 6 May— Pine Forest Co of the Republic of Korea made a donation of ambulance to Yangon Region government at the office of Yangon Region government here this afternoon, in the presence of Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw, Deputy Speaker and region ministers, departmental heads, donors and organization members.

Administration Director of Pine Forest Co Mr. Park Chung Ho presented the purpose of the donation and handed the related documents over Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein.

The Region Chief Minister expressed words of thanks and paid a close attention to the two Hyndai Starex ambulances.—*MNA*

Pine Forest Co of the Republic of Korea makes donation of ambulance to Yangon Region government.— MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister waters Bo tree

YANGON, 6 May—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win on yesterday afternoon attended the 62nd ceremony to pour water at Bo tree at Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago.

The congregation took the Five Precepts from Ovadaçariya of Pagoda Board of Trustees Koethein Monastery Sayadaw.

Next, the Chief Minister and party went round the pagoda and poured water at Bo tree.—*MNA*

Rakhine State Chief Minister attends Fire Brigade Day ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May— The 66th Anniversary Fire Brigade Day was observed at Sittway Fire Station in Sittway on yesterday morning.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin awarded Kyaukpyu Township Fire Station for sanitation.

State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Aung Kyaw Min presented certificates of honour to fire brigade members who participated in the parade company representing Myanmar Fire Brigade.

The State Chief Minister and party viewed rescue equipment in fighting fire.

At the office of the Rakhine State Superintending Engineer, the State Chief Minister delivered an address at the coordination meeting on Building, Airport, Road and Bridge works.—*MNA*

Chinese acrobatic troupe shows their performances in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May— The Chinese acrobatic troupe staged their performance at the National Theatre in Aungmyethazan Township in Mandalay at 7:00 pm yesterday.

Among the acrobatic enthusiastic spectators were Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and wife, Region level organization members and their wives, Mandalay-based Consul General Mr. Yu Boren of the People's Republic of China, Consul General Dr. Madan Mohan Sethi of the Republic of India.

The Chinese troupe performed various kinds of their skills in acrobatics.

After their performances had been done, the Chinese acrobatic troupe accepted the baskets of flowers in honour of them, given by the Chief Minister of Mandalay Region and Chinese Consul General, and they posted for a documentary photo.

MNA

The Chinese acrobatic troupe provide entertainment at National Theatre in Aungmyethazan Township in Mandalay.—MNA

Water pours at Bo tree on Fullmoon Day of Kason

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—The water pouring ceremony at Bo tree was held at Lawka Manaung Hsutaungpyae Pagoda in Myitkyina on yesterday afternoon.

Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, the chief justice of Kachin State High Court, the state ministers and those present participated in the water pouring ceremony.

MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for Cambodia

YANGON, 6 May—A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu left here by air this morning to observe progress of education sector in Cambodia.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by directors-general and officials of the Ministry of Education.

The Deputy Minister was accompanied by Director-General U Bo Win of the Education Planning ad Training Department and party.—*MNA*

UNIFORM GIVEN: ***A ceremony to provide uniforms to staff members was held at the office of General Administration Department in Hline Township on 5 May. Township Administrator U Myat Soe hands over uniforms to staff members.***

MYANMA ALIN

Booby-trapped military vehicle goes off in Syria's capital, no casualties

DAMASCUS, 6 May— Two explosive devices planted under a military pickup truck went off in swift succession in the heart of Syria's capital of Damascus on Saturday, leaving property damage but no casualties, reports and witnesses said. The blast took place in al-Khuja popular market for leather bags when a pickup truck rigged with two explosive devices blew up, witnesses told *Xinhua*. A military institution is near the blast scene, but no damages were seen at the buildings. Details from officials investigating the incident are still forthcoming. Several bombings were heard in the early hours of Saturday in several areas, local media reported without details.

Reports of minor explosions, kidnappings and killings have grabbed the headlines of the Syrian media lately. Policemen have been repeatedly tipped off by residents in different parts of Damascus about discovering explosive devices attached underneath their cars. Syria has witnessed a nearly 13-month-old unrest, which the government blames on foreign conspiracy and armed groups.— *Xinhua*

The detonated military truck is seen at al-Thawra Street in Damascus, Syria, on 5 May, 2012. Two explosive devices planted under a military pickup truck went off in swift succession in the heart of Syria's capital of Damascus Saturday, leaving property damage but no casualties, reports and witnesses said.— XINHUA

Four killed, six injured in attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 May— Four people were killed and six others injured in separate bomb and gunfire attacks in central and northern Iraq, the police said on Saturday. In Iraq's northern Province of Kirkuk, a member of the government-backed Awakening Council group was killed and another injured when a roadside bomb went off near their car in al-Rashad town near the city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad, a provincial police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. The Awakening Council group, also known as Sons of Iraq movement or Sahwa, consists of mostly former anti-US Sunni insurgent militant groups, who turned their rifles to fight al-Qaeda network after Sahwa's leaders became dismayed by al-Qaeda's brutality and religious zealotry in the country. In Iraq's western Province of Anbar, a civilian was killed and another wounded when a sticky bomb attached to their car exploded in the morning in the city of Haditha, some 200 km west of Baghdad, a provincial police source said.

In a separate incident, an Iraqi army officer was killed when a sticky bomb attached to his car detonated late on Friday night in Baghdad's western district of Yarmouk, an Interior Ministry source anonymously told *Xinhua.*

Xinhua

Ten Yemeni soldiers injured by al-Qaeda mortar shells

ADEN, 6 May — Militants of the al-Qaeda terrorist group fired three mortar shells on a base of the Yemeni army forces in the southern province of Abyan on Saturday, injuring at least 10 soldiers, a military official said. The rockets landed on a battalion of the 201st Armored Brigade on the outskirts of Zinjibar, the provincial capital of Abyan, seriously injuring at least 10 soldiers, the local military official told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

"All of the projectiles were fired from the an al-Qaeda-held mountain near the Bajdar neighbourhood in Zinjibar's suburbs where army troops stationed since two weeks," the official said. "Two high-ranking army officers visited the military base shortly before the rocket attack to inspect the operations against the al-Qaeda group in Zinjibar front," he added. A spokesperson of the al-Qaeda confirmed to *Xinhua* the attack, saying that "we would not stop firing mortar shells and launching overnight attacks on the positions of the puppet army."

Meanwhile, a government official told *Xinhua* anonymously that fighters jets of the air forces have been waging intensified air strikes on Saturday against the al-Qaeda group in Abyan. "Up to eight terrorists were killed in Saturday's air raids near the Lauder town," the official said, adding that "air bombing on the al-Qaeda militants will continue during the upcoming hours. " During a graduation ceremony for military officers on Saturday, Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi pledged to continue the fight against al-Qaeda terrorists and unify the divided army.

Taking advantage of the one-year-long political conflicts in Yemen, the resurgent al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), locally known as Ansar al-Sharia (Partisans of Islamic Law), has taken control of several cities and swathes across the country's restive southern provinces. The AQAP, mainly entrenching itself in Yemen's southern provinces of Abyan and Shabwa, is on the terrorist list of the United States, which considers it as an increasing threat to its national security.

Xinhua

Four Taleban commanders among 16 surrender in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 6 May — Pakistani officials said that 16 Taleban militants including four commanders on Saturday surrendered before the local authorities in a tribal region and renounced violence. The militants, who were part of the Tehrik-e-Taleban Pakistan (TTP) and had been involved in terror activities in Kurram tribal region, gave up their weapons to the political administration in the presence of media persons in the area.

Four commanders Abdullah, Muhammad Rasham, Walid and Rafiqullah were among those surrendered, who also confessed that they had been involved in crimes against local people and fought against the security forces, local administrator, Shahab Ali Shah said. The militants, whose faces were covered, told correspondents in the town of Parachinar that they belong to local tribes and have now abandoned armed activities against the security forces and the pro-government tribal elders.

"We have shun over all past activities and now ready to stand with the people and the security forces," a militant, seeking anonymity, told reporters. "We also want to start our new life because we had indulged forcefully when the TTP militants started their activities in Kurram Agency. We were forced to cooperate and work with them but now we have realized that they are killing own people and not doing Jehad rather it is bloodshed of the innocent people," the militant said.—*Xinhua*

Two bombs explode on Damascus highway

Two blasts occur in one day, six killed.
INTERNET

DAMASCUS, 6 May — Two bombs detonated on a central Damascus highway on Saturday, destroying nine cars, residents said, in a further sign that rebels fighting to topple President Bashar al-Assad are shifting tactics towards homemade explosives. There were no immediate reports of casualties from the blasts from bombs planted under cars on al-Thawra Street, the latest blow to last month's crumbling UN-backed truce.

Fifty out of a planned total of 300 United Nations observers are now in Syria to monitor the ceasefire declared on 12 April, but their presence has not halted the violence in a 14-month-old revolt that began with peaceful pro-democracy protests. Deadly blasts have shaken major cities as insurgents seek to even the odds between their outgunned forces and the tanks, artillery and helicopters in Assad's military arsenal. On 30 April, explosions blew the fronts off buildings in the northern town of Idlib, where state TV reported nine people killed and 100 wounded, including security personnel.

Three days earlier, a suicide bomber killed nine, including security men, at a Damascus mosque, the Interior Ministry said. An Islamist group calling itself the Support Front for the People of the Levant claimed responsibility for that bombing and for an 24 April attack on the Iranian cultural consulate in Damascus. Iran is one of Syria's closest allies. Assad has long argued that he is combating foreign-backed "armed terrorist groups" rather than a popular uprising. Syrian officials say rebels have killed more than 2,600 soldiers and police. The United Nations estimates that the security forces have killed more than 9,000 people since the rebellion began.— *Reuters*

File photo shows the Map Ta Phut industrial estate in Rayong in 2010.
INTERNET

13 killed in Thai factory explosions, fire

BANGKOK, 6 May—At least 13 people were killed by explosions and fire Saturday afternoon in an industrial park of east Thailand's Rayong Province, Thai media reported. About 95 people were injured and sent to hospital, English newspaper The Nation reported in messages sent to subscribers.

The blaze started at around 3:30 pm after explosions hit a factory in Map Taphut Industrial Estate, according to earlier reports. Rayong Governor Senee Jittakasem ordered evacuations of people and workers nearby. The factory is far from living quarters.

MNA/Xinhua

Singing room fire kills nine, injures 25 in S Korea

SEOUL, 6 May—Nine people were killed and 25 others injured in a fire at a singing room in South Korea's southern port city of Busan, local authorities said Sunday.

The fire took place at around 8:55 pm local time Saturday. According to local police, the fire broke out in a singing room located in the third floor of a six-story building in downtown city, and the heavy smoke immediately spread to the whole floor. Dozens of people fled outside or to the top of the building when the fire started and were rescued later. However, 9 people failed to escape and were killed in the fire.

Among the dead there are three Sri Lankans. Most of the victims are young people in their 20s or 30s, who died of inhaling toxic gases.

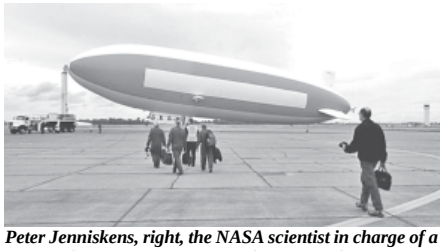
Authorities suspect a gas explosion may have caused the fire, but are making an further investigation to determine the cause of the fire.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Scientists use airship to look for meteorites

SACRAMENTO, (Calif), 6 May—A group of scientists took to the skies in a slow-moving airship on Thursday in search of meteorites that rained over California's gold country last month.

It's the latest hunt for extraterrestrial fragments from the 22 April explosion that was witnessed over a swath of Northern California and Nevada.



Peter Jenniskens, right, the NASA scientist in charge of a group of researchers searching for pieces of a meteorite, walk to the zeppelin, Eureka, at McClellan Air Park in Sacramento, Calif, on 3 May, 2012.—INTERNET

Treasure hunters have swarmed the Sierra Nevada foothills over the past two weeks, snatching up pieces of meteorites. Most of the recovered space rocks have been tiny, with the largest weighing in at 19 grams, or the weight of one AA battery.

Researchers from NASA and the nonprofit SETI Institute in Mountain View, Calif, were on the lookout for larger fragments. After a brief weather delay, they took off from a Sacramento airfield aboard an airship outfitted with sensors and cameras.

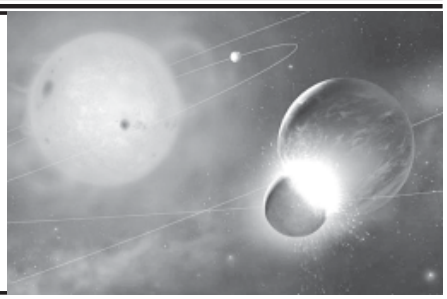
From the air, scientists scoured the terrain for places where sizable meteorites might have scattered. The survey took them over the area where James W Marshall first discovered gold in California in 1848. Once they pinpoint possible impact sites, they plan to follow up with a search party.

"Only small pieces have been found. There has to be big pieces out there," SETI Institute meteor astronomer Peter Jenniskens said before the trip. "We're just hoping to collect more meteorites for research."

Days after the approximately 154,300-pound meteor plunged through Earth's atmosphere with a loud sonic boom that was heard from Sacramento to Las Vegas, Jenniskens organized a team and found a 4-gram meteorite in the parking lot of a park.

NASA estimated the minivan-sized meteor released energy equal to one-third the explosive power of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima during World War II. An event this size occurs once a year usually over unpopulated areas.

Initial inspection of rock fragments indicates this type of meteorite is among the oldest, dating to the solar system's birth 4 billion to 5 billion years ago.—*Internet*



The host star is running out of hydrogen in the core, swells up, and its surface becomes cooler. It is also losing mass, which causes the planets to move further out. The perturbation of the orbits may lead to collisions that will generate large amounts of rocky debris. INTERNET

Were distant destroyed worlds Earth-like?

WARWICK, (England), 6 May—Dust from destroyed planets that once orbited dwarf stars suggests the shattered worlds were similar in composition to Earth, British astrophysicists say.

University of Warwick scientists using the Hubble Space Telescope to study the chemical composition of the atmospheres of white dwarf stars found the most frequently occurring elements in the dust around four white dwarfs observed were oxygen, magnesium, iron and silicon — the four elements that make up roughly 93 percent of the Earth.

"What we are seeing today in these white dwarfs several hundred light years away could well be a snapshot of the very distant future of the Earth," Warwick astrophysicist Boris Gansicke said in a university release Thursday.

"As stars like our sun reach the end of their life, they expand to become red giants when the nuclear fuel in their cores is depleted," he said.

The orbits of the planets could become destabilized by this, he said, causing collisions that could shatter entire worlds, leaving fragments and dust around the star with chemical composition mirroring that of the destroyed planets.

One of the white dwarf stars studied stood out from the rest owing to the relative overabundance of the elements iron, nickel and sulphur in the dust surrounding it, researchers said.

"It is entirely feasible that in [white dwarf star] PG0843+516 we see the accretion of such fragments made from the core material of what was once a terrestrial exoplanet."—*Internet*

Mars rover sees evidence of ancient water

STONY BROOK, 6 May—NASA's Mars rover Opportunity has found evidence of water flows at an ancient impact crater that could have been conducive to life, US researchers say.

The latest discovery by the surprisingly long-lived Opportunity was made at the rim of the Endeavour Crater, a large ancient impact crater on Mars measuring 14 miles in diameter, researchers said.

"The rover discovered evidence for low temperature liquid water and environments that would be conducive for life," said Scott M McLennan, a geochemistry professor at Stony Brook University in New York and a member of the team that published a paper on the findings on Friday.

Opportunity, one of two exploration rovers that landed on Mars eight years ago for what was planned as a three-month mission, reached Endeavour Crater last August after driving for three years from another Martian crater, Victoria.

Opportunity found elevated levels of zinc in some of the rocks at the rim of the crater, suggesting a hydrothermal system — warm water — had been running through the rocks at one time. "If we found this on Earth there would be no question that you could find evidence of life," McLennan said in a university release.—*Internet*

A Martian dust twister is shown tearing across the planet in this photo by NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter on 16 February, 2012, just released. The twister rises up more than a half mile high in the Amazonis Planitia region of northern Mars. The dust devil is 100 feet wide. Dust devils occur on both Earth and Mars.—INTERNET

Iceman mummy yields oldest blood seen

BOLZANO, (Italy), 6 May—Researchers studying a 5,300-year-old body found frozen in the Italian Alps in 1991 say they found red blood cells around his wounds, the oldest ever seen.

Hikers discovered "Oetzi the Iceman" with an arrow buried in his back, and researchers had already determined he died from his wounds.

The frozen body is remarkably preserved, and scientists writing in the Journal of the Royal Society say that preservation extends to the bleeding that occurred before his death, the BBC reported on Wednesday.

Blood cells degrade quickly, and earlier searches for blood within the frozen body showed no signs of blood cells, researchers said.

Albert Zink and colleagues at the Eurac Institute for Mummies and the Iceman in Bolzano, Italy, have now used a technique known as atomic force microscopy to examine thin slices of tissue taken from an area around the arrow wound and discovered structures with the tell-tale "doughnut" shape of red blood cells.

They are by far the oldest red blood cells ever observed, researchers said.

Internet

Boeing spacecraft parachute test a success

ALAMO, (Nev), 6 May—Boeing completed a parachute test in Nevada for its new spacecraft, which would transport crews to and from the *International Space Station,* NASA said.

A helicopter lifted the Crew Space Transportation spacecraft on Wednesday about 10,000 feet above the Delamar Dry Lake Bed near Alamo, Nev, and dropped the capsule. A two-parachute sequence deployed, and the capsule dropped smoothly to the ground, cushioned by six inflated air bags, a release from NASA said on Thursday.

"Boeing's parachute demonstrations are a clear sign NASA is moving in the right direction of enabling the American aerospace transportation industry to flourish under this partnership," NASA's Commercial Crew Program Manager Ed Mango said. "The investments we're making now are enabling this new path forward of getting our crews to (low-Earth orbit) and potentially the space station as soon as possible."

The capsule is designed to work with a variety of expendable rockets, Boeing said in a release on Thursday.

"This second parachute drop test validates Boeing's innovative system architecture and deployment plan," said John Mulholland, vice president and program manager, Boeing Commercial Programmes. "Boeing's completion of this milestone reaffirms our commitment to provide safe, reliable and affordable crewed access to space."—*Internet*

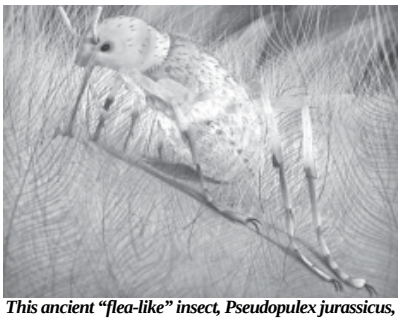
Ancient fleas plagued ancient dinosaurs

CORVALLIS, 6 May—No creature is safe from fleas, not even dinosaurs that had to endure the bites of giant flea-like insects 165 million years ago, a US zoologist says.

George Poinar Jr, a zoology professor at Oregon State University who wrote a commentary on the find of fossils of the giant insects by Chinese scientists, said they were probably 10 times the size of a flea you might find on the family dog. "These were insects much larger than modern fleas and from the size of their proboscis we can tell they would have been mean," he said.

Poinar's commentary appeared in the same issue of Current Biology that reported the Chinese discovery.

"You wouldn't talk much about the good old days if you got bit by this insect," Poinar said in an OSU release on Tuesday. "It would have felt about like a hypodermic needle going in — a flea shot, if not a flu shot. We can be thankful our modern fleas are not nearly this big." The soft-bodied, flea-like insects found in fossil form in Inner Mongolia may be the evolutionary ancestors of modern fleas but are more likely a separate and now extinct lineage, he said.



This ancient "flea-like" insect, Pseudopulex jurassicus, lived 165 million years ago. It used a long proboscis to feed on the blood of dinosaurs, with a bite that would have been unusually painful.—INTERNET

"These are really well-preserved fossils that give us another glimpse of life into the really distant past, the Cretaceous and Jurassic," Poinar said.—*Internet*

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Android, Samsung hold off Apple in US mobile space

WASHINGTON, 6 May—Google's Android system has grabbed more than 50 percent of the US smartphone market, while Samsung cemented its leadership as the top device maker, a survey showed on Tuesday. Even though Apple's hot iPhone is surging, it has not dented the lead of the Android system and the South Korean manufacturer, according to a quarterly survey from research firm comScore.

The Android system snagged 51 percent of the operating system market in the three months ending in March, up from 47.3 percent in the prior quarter, comScore said.

Apple's operating system had 30.7 percent of the market, up from 29.6 percent. The biggest loser was BlackBerry, which saw its platform share fall to 12.3 percent from 16 percent.

Microsoft's share also slipped to 3.9 percent from 4.7 percent and Symbian held steady at 1.4 percent.

The survey found more than 106 million people in the US owned smartphones during the three months ending in March, up nine percent from December. Samsung remained the top maker of mobile devices including smartphones, with 26 percent of the US market, from 25.3 percent three months earlier. Second was fellow Korean LG with 19.3 percent, down 0.7 points, and Apple was third with 14.6 percent, up from 12.4 percent and overtaking Motorola.

A separate report earlier this year concluded worldwide shipments of smartphones soared 54.7 percent in the final three months of 2011 from the same period a year earlier, with Apple leading the space. An IDC report found smartphone makers shipped 157.8 million units in the fourth quarter of 2011.

Apple had a 23.5 percent share of the global smartphone market, followed by Samsung and Nokia with 22.8 percent and 12.4 percent respectively. Android and iPhone smartphones accounted for slightly more than 90 percent of US smartphone sales in the fourth quarter of 2011, industry-tracker NPD Group reported earlier this year.—*Internet*

***The Galaxy Nexus smarthphone is displayed at the Samsung booth at the 2012 International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.*—INTERNET**

Costa Crociere gets new ship, new rules

VENICE, (Italy), 6 May—Costa Crociere christened a new flagship in Italy Saturday as officials of the luxury cruise company announced changes in procedures meant to improve safety.

The launching of the Costa Fascinosa in Venice came less than four months after the deadly foundering of the US-British company's Costa Concordia off an Italian island. The 13 Jan maritime mishap left 32 passengers and crew members dead or missing, and the captain remains under house arrest while awaiting trial.

"The delivery of the Costa Fascinosa is an important stepping stone on our company's road to recovery ...," Costa Chairman Pier Luigi Foschii said without mentioning the Concordia by name.

Foschii said "after the recent incident" and despite the downturn in the economy, "Costa has bounced back and booking volumes are back to the same levels recorded this time last year," *The Miami Herald* reported.

Seven safety measures were announced for Costa's 15-ship fleet, including a more collaborative decision-making process to encourage all staff on the bridge to "think out loud" as navigational decisions are made, the newspaper said.

Costa Crociere is part of the Carnival Corp. & PLC cruise network.

Internet

Garlic beats antibiotics in quelling food-borne illness

WASHINGTON, 6 May—Researchers have isolated a compound in garlic that is a 100 times more potent than popular antibiotics in combating Campylobacter bacteria, one of the commonest causes of intestinal illness.

Some 2.4 million Americans alone are affected by Campylobacter every year, according to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, with symptoms including diarrhoea, cramping, abdominal pain and fever.

"This work is very exciting to me because it shows that this compound (diallyl sulphide) has the potential to reduce disease-causing bacteria in the environment and in our food supply," says Xiaonan Lu, postdoctoral researcher at the Washington State University, who led the study.

Lu and colleagues looked at the ability of the garlic compound, diallyl sulphide, to kill the bacteria when it is protected by a slimy biofilm that makes it 1,000 times more resistant to antibiotics, the *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy* reports.

They found the compound can easily penetrate the protective biofilm and kill bacterial cells by combining with a sulphur-containing enzyme, changing the enzyme's function and effectively shutting down cell metabolism, according to a Washington statement.

The researchers found that diallyl sulphide was as much as 100 times effective than much of the antibiotics erythromycin and ciprofloxacin and would often work in a fraction of the time.

"This is the first step in developing or thinking about new intervention strategies. Campylobacter is simply the most common bacterial cause of food-borne illness in the United States and probably the world," says Michael Konkel, study co-author who has been researching Campylobacter jejuni for 25 years.

Previously, Lu and colleagues found that diallyl sulphide effectively kills important foodborne pathogens, such as listeria monocytogenes and Escherichia coli O157:H7.

Internet

Canton fair closes with drop in export transactions

GUANGZHOU, 6 May—The spring session of the biannual Canton Fair, or the 111th China Import and Export Fair, closed on Saturday, with export transactions decreased for the first time since 2009. The value of export deals dropped by 2.3 percent year-on-year to 36.03 billion US dollars, or down 4.8 percent than the figure at the autumn session of the fair, said Liu Jianjun, spokesman with the fair.

This is the first volume decrease since the spring of 2009 as economic crisis hit the world from 2008, according to Liu.

Debt crisis from European Union countries and tough job market in the United States were among the factors that have caused the decrease, he said.

"Although we have seen sharp export deal increase in new markets, such as in Brazil, Russia, India, South Africa and other African countries, it cannot make up for the huge shortfall from European and American markets," said Liu.

The purchasers attending the fair reached 210,000, setting a new record since the fair's debut in 1957.—*Xinhua*

Low testosterone raises risk of diabetes

LONDON, 6 May—Men with low levels of testosterone could be at greater risk of developing diabetes, a study has said.

Researchers from the University of Edinburgh found low testosterone levels are linked to a resistance to insulin, the hormone that controls blood sugar levels.

Testosterone is present throughout the body and low levels are associated with increased obesity, a known risk factor for developing type 2 diabetes, *Daily Mail* reported.

But scientists said the study provides evidence of increased risk "even when body mass is not affected".

Kerry McInnes, from the university's endocrinology unit, said: "We know that men with low testosterone levels are more likely to become obese and as a result, develop diabetes.

"This study shows that low testosterone is a risk factor for diabetes no matter how much a person weighs. As men age their testosterone levels lower."—*Internet*

An insulin injection pen sits on a kitchen counter, Friday 2 March, 2012.
INTERNET

Singapore, Brazil to boost economic ties

SINGAPORE, 6 May—Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry (MTI) Lim Hng Kiang, who will visit Brazil 7-10 May, said that he is confident that Brazil's economy will continue to offer vast opportunities that Singapore businesses should seize.

"Today, there are already more than 50 Singapore companies operating in Brazil and I would like to encourage more to actively pursue the opportunities in all sectors, especially oil and gas, infrastructure and e-government.

Conversely, Brazilian companies that are looking to take advantage of Asia's growth could use Singapore as a gateway to the regional market," the Press release by MTI quoted Lim as saying on Saturday.

He said: "I am therefore happy to note that we are continually strengthening bilateral trade and investment ties between our two countries."

During the visit, Lim meet Brazil's Minister for Development, Industry and Foreign Trade Fernando Pimentel to advance discussions on economic cooperation between the two countries.

The Ministers will discuss ways to tap the growing business opportunities in both countries.

Emphasising that Singapore remains highly committed to enhancing economic collaboration with Brazil, Lim will also be meeting with other senior officials, including the Governor of Rio de Janeiro Srgio Cabral and senior representatives from prominent Brazilian companies.

He will also visit Singapore companies in Brazil, including Keppel FELS Brasil's BrasFELS shipyard in Angra dos Reis. Keppel FELS Brasil is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Keppel Offshore and Marine.

Brazil is one of Singapore's top trading partners in Latin America. In 2011, bilateral trade amounted to 3.35 billion US dollars, an 11 percent increase over the previous year.

The number of Singapore-based companies with interests in Brazil is growing, in sectors spanning oil and gas, ports and shipping, freight and logistics, commodities, aerospace, consumer electronics and information and communications technology.

Xinhua

Fight against terrorism requires further global, regional cooperation: India

UNITED NATIONS, 6 May — Hardeep Singh Puri, the permanent representative of India to the UN, said here on Friday that to fight the continuing threat of terrorism, the "most serious challenge" to world peace and security today, nations must work together at regional and international levels. Puri's statement came as he spoke at a UN Security Council meeting on the "threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts."

At the meeting, Puri said that in the view of India, the " visible landscape of international terrorism has vastly changed" throughout the years. He said that in the process of globalization, terrorists have found new methods to spread their ideologies and carry out attacks, including through the use of cyberspace and connections with transnational organized crime. He warned that there is also a "growing risk" that weapons of mass destruction could fall into the hands of terrorists.

"An effective counter-terrorism strategy, therefore, requires greater international and regional cooperation than the international community has so far been able to achieve," Puri said. "International cooperation and concerted action against terrorists and their sponsors, including the complete dismantling of terrorist safe havens, sanctuaries, training grounds and financial and ideological support structures, are the critical imperatives to defeat this scourge." The government of India, Puri said, "fully supports" all efforts to strengthen cooperation in the fight against terrorists, and encourages the UN and the 15-member Security Council to help with such collaborations.

"While the Security Council has remained steadfast in its fight against international terrorism, it must enhance further the level of international cooperation to counter this threat decisively," he said. "We encourage the subsidiary bodies of the Council with counter-terrorism mandates to continue to enhance their ongoing dialogue with member states, donors and beneficiaries on the facilitation of technical assistance for capacity-building, at the national, sub-regional, and regional levels." He also noted that India welcomes the initiative of UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-moon for member states to consider creating the position of a UN Counter-Terrorism Coordinator.— *Xinhua*

Local people work at the suicide blast site in northwest Pakistan's Bajaur Agency on 4 May, 2012. **XINHUA**

Hong Kong warns mainlanders over emergency births

HONG KONG, 6 May — Hong Kong warned expectant mothers from mainland China against rushing to emergency wards without prior bookings, saying they were putting their babies' lives at risk. The Hospital Authority (HA) said there were 116 cases of "non-local mothers" going to emergency departments (AEDs) in the southern city last month, of which only 39 had bookings for maternity services. The warning comes as the former British colony of seven million people struggles to cope with demand for maternity services from mainland women, tens of thousands of whom come to the southern city every year to give birth.

The government has imposed quotes and toughened border controls amid protests from local women about shortages of beds and rising costs of maternity care. "The HA reiterated and appealed to the non-local expectant mothers that it is a high-risk behaviour to rush to AEDs at the last minute to deliver, posing risk to both the mother and the baby," it said in a statement. Emergency wards lack standard staffing and facilities as well as antenatal records, and were not equipped to deal with complicated cases, it said. "Even in public hospitals with obstetric services, their service capacity will be filled by previously booked cases, leaving little room for non-booked cases," it added.

"The HA appeals to non-local expectant mothers to make proper and appropriate delivery arrangements for the well-being of both themselves and their babies." Hong Kong's next leader, chief executive-elect Leung Chun-ying, has said he will ban pregnant mainlanders whose husbands are not from Hong Kong from giving birth in local hospitals next year. He has also said the children of such women will not be guaranteed residency rights as they have been in the past.— *Internet*

Dubai plans underwater hotel made of submerged discs, not that it should surprise you

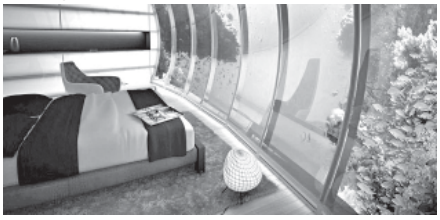
Rest your head 10 meters below the ocean waves.
INTERNET

DUBAI, 6 May — To say that the city of Dubai — located in the United Arab Emirates — is a playground for the wealthy would be a gross understatement. The urban wonderland is home to some of the most extravagant displays of affluence on Earth, so a new hotel popping up wouldn't normally make headlines. But when the hotel will send guests to rooms located 10 meters below the sea, well, that changes things.

Apparently bored with the blasé above-ground digs available all over the city, a Deep Ocean Technology is making your submarine dreams a reality with "Discus," a resort for people who prefer look at some lush ocean life over a crowded cityscape. When construction is completed, Discus will feature a large, above-water disc — complete with a helipad, of course — where visitors can enjoy food, drink, and any other pleasure money can buy. Then, when night falls, guests can retreat down to the massive underwater portion of the resort where the extravagant suites reside.

Rooms will feature floor-to-ceiling views of underwater splendor, and the wealthy tourists who can afford a room will be treated not only to aquatic plants and animals, but also the calming quiet of being 10 meters below the hustle and bustle of oceanside life. The Discus project doesn't have a firm completion date yet, but knowing that it's located in Dubai is enough to tell us that we probably can't afford it anyway.

Internet



Discus underwater hotel.— **INTERNET**

NYC 911 system troubled by delays, errors

NEW YORK, 6 May — New York City administration released on Friday a 911 system report, saying the system is beset by delays and errors that could leave callers without help for crucial seconds in an emergency.

The 133-page document, prepared by outside consultants hired by the city, found that 911 emergency call operators waste time repeating questions and use inconsistent questioning procedures.

It also found that the 911 system sends some responders to the wrong address and slows fire and medical dispatchers' efforts to give instructions to callers. "Statistical information provided to City Hall management to demonstrate the success of the (Unified Call Taking) project contained errors and does not provide a clear picture of the effectiveness of UCT related business processes," wrote the report.

The consultants called on the city in the report to change its approach and begin the response-time clock earlier. In March, the city's comptroller issued an audit criticizing the city for its handling of the entire emergency call system project, which includes the ongoing creation of a second back-up centre. The comptroller said the project was 1 billion US dollars over-budget and seven years behind schedule.

Xinhua

590 school cafes punished over unsafe food

BEIJING, 6 May — A total of 600 school cafeterias have been given administrative penalties during China's latest inspection tour of such facilities, and more than 20,000 have been ordered to eliminate potential food safety hazards, according to a food watchdog statement released on Friday. Although the punishments were not specified, Chinese administrative penalties usually involve fines and revocations of licenses.

As of the end of March, 130,000 school cafeterias across China had been overhauled during a joint inspection launched by the State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) and the Ministry of Education, according to the SFDA statement.The two organs will conduct a new wave of inspections from May to the end of June, in a bid to prevent food poisoning in the warmer months and examine the implementation of the government order on ensuring food safety.

A series of food poisoning cases have been reported by schools in the past month, raising fears among Chinese students and parents. Schools are required to increase students' awareness of food safety, and relevant departments are urged to strict supervision, the statement said.—*Xinhua*

144 Armenians injured as balloons explode

YEREVAN, 6 May — Clusters of balloons exploded on Friday during a political rally in the central square of Armenia's capital, injuring at least 144 people, authorities said.

The Emergencies Ministry said 104 of them had to be hospitalized with burns after the explosion in Yerevan, which it said was caused by a smoker who lit a cigarette near the balloons.

Health Minister Artyom Pushkian said no one had life-threatening injuries. The balloons were supposed to be flown at a Republican Party rally that drew tens of thousands ahead of Sunday's parliamentary vote in the former Soviet republic. Despite the accident, Armenian President Serge Sarkisian addressed the rally with a speech.

The Republican Party dominates the parliament of this impoverished Caucasus nation that borders Turkey.— *Internet*

A view shows the explosion of gas-filled balloons during a campaign rally in the central Republic Square in Yerevan, on 4 May, 2012.— **INTERNET**

MYA NANDAR AND MYANMAR THINGYAN

By *Ba Than*

Myanmars by tradition reckon the years, months and days by the lunar calendar, and Tagu marks the Thingyan festival which washes out the old year and heralds the new year the next day after King Saccra's return to the celestial abode of awaiting four queens, so anxious that the earthly nymphs of Thingyan might not send him back, or that he wished not return. The fitting time for this article was last week. It will take the author a full year to await the next Thingyan to see in print. Wishing readers to enjoy Mya Nandar the theme song, Myoma Nyein the composer, Myoma music and the Silver Swan, the author with apology hereby presents the endearing spirit of mirth and hilarity. Traditionally the commencement of Thingyan and the advent of the New Year was calculated by a team of most learned astrologers of the realm, appointed by the Myanmar kings of the royal court, and later after Independence by the State and publicly notified through the news media. Correspondingly Thingyan falls more or less between 13 to 17April by the Gregorian calendar.

Myanmar Thingyan usually lasts for three to four days followed by 'Day One' of the New Year. It is the most endearing custom here to wash away the old year with cool refreshing water, so one emerges clean as the New Year is ushered in, to bring good fortune love, peace and joy to one and all. As I have said, Myanmar Thingyan is the most hilarious, boisterous and enjoyable festival in which all can freely participate, and there is no bar to colour, race or creed, subject of course to good conduct, etiquette morality, patience and forgiveness, thus paying tribute to the unique and memorable occasion.

Verily Thingyan is a festival with socio-religious overtones. For the elders it is time to introspect, and take stock of events of the outgoing year. The three or four days of Thingyan are meritoriously spent by visiting the monasteries, by giving charity and by practising meditation. The courteous and respectable act, in good tradition is to sprinkle Thanakha scented water, put in a silver bowl with Eugenia leaves, harbinger of auspiciousness. But for the young and vivacious it is a different story. It is virtually a three-day carnival of unbridled spree: dancing, singing, joking, water-throwing (many times sadistically) and matchmaking as the Thingyan bug takes hold. Every year pandals are built for dancing, singing, and water throwing. Motorised floats are created with conceivable ingenuity, for the revellers to move from pandal to pandal. Every pandal or float is manned by a bevy of comely damsels and boisterous youths, who sing and dance to the lively Thingyan songs to the accompanying music, both modern and classical.

Nowhere is this Thingyan carnival more significant and heart-warming than in Mandalay, the capital city of the Myanmar kings, and now centre of Myanmar art and culture. Such intrinsic legacies of literature, fine arts, social mores, custom and traditions are still preserved and sustained to this day, Mandalay Thingyan therefore manifests itself as having a distinct *Anyar* identity and style. When a decorated float stops at the pandal, the whole troupe of sprightly damsels come down from the pandal and dance around the float to the jaunty beat of music both from the float and from the pandal. When the singing and dancing are over, there comes the throwing of water mingled with verbal interchange. Then the float moves on to another pandal and the scenario is repeated on and on for the three joyous days. The revelry is continued at night. The pandals are brightly lit. The girls present themselves in their best attire, and the dances and songs echo till the wee hours of the night. There is no water throwing at night and so the revellers as well as the spectators can enjoy the spirit of Thingyan with all its finery, and ecstasy.

Most prominent among the floats is the Silver Swan, the insignia of the Myoma musical troupe. It was founded by the then prominent youths of Mandalay (Dahdan U Thant, U Aye Maung among many others), who were intent to inject fresh winds with emphasis on wind instruments and traditional drums into slow moving classical renditions. It was a resounding success, so much so that mention of Mandalay, and Myoma troupe will not be complete without Myoma Nyein, the famous composer, himself a musician. He had created beautiful Thingyan songs,and many of them became eternal hits. A born genius, the words he garlanded are simply ecstatic, tunes vibrant and scintillating, choreography mesmerizing.

One of his compositions: '*Mya Nandar*' has now become a Thingyan theme song. The scenario centres on the Myoma troupe and its Silver Swan float, the lovely Thingyan girls, the enchanting Mya Nandar lake and the Mandalay Hill, all beautifully interacting to create a hypnotizing effect. So popular is Mya Nandar that it has stretched its musical wings not only to the four corners of Myanmar, but also beyond its borders. It will not be an overstatement if I say that where there is a Myanmar anywhere in the world, you will hear the melodic strains of Mya Nandar especially at Thingyan. In fact the true title is '*Mann Taung Yeik Kho*' meaning 'seeking refuge in the shade of Mandalay Hill', but it is more commonly known by the shorter and easily memorisable 'Mya Nandar'. Myoma Nyein, when alive would scarce have imagined that his song would receive such global acclaim. He would be very pleased indeed. Allow me, as complement the propitious Thingyan 2012, to present '*Mya Nandar*' in the original Myanmar language and a free translation in English to enable our esteemed friends to join in the chorus, here in Myanmar or in the Myanmar communities around the globe.

MYA NANDAR

Oh my sprightly smiling sister
May I say that you are born
From the same mother as Myoma.

Smoothing your bouffant locks
How chic you look
If I may truly say so
Colourful is your dress
Colourful is your dress
Comparable to the rising new moon;
Or to a single blossoming flower.
By your simple grace and glamour
Myoma is enraptured.

When the sun's rays cast shadows over
Serene Mya Nandar Lake;
Let us seek refuge, my youthful lass
Under the shade of Mandalay Hill.
How magnificent is the scenery;
In this auspicious Thingyan eve
'Tis indeed a good omen'

Slim, shapely, lithe and lovely
Glowing like flowers in full bloom
How beautiful you are, The one and only that I adore

Your Myoma float is now here,
So welcome us with open arms,
We all love you as own sisters.

Are you hale and hearty, my dear ones?
Oh, well and good.

Come drench us with cool water,
Hi.. we will also shower you too.
The new year is now coming/

Will you come with us, dear ones?
You will never be idle or bored,
But be merry all the more.

Ye winsome damsels, with
The silver swan floating gracefully
We, your brothers, here we come!

Cho: Mya Nandar .....omen!

Pathein Association holds Annual General Meeting

YANGON, 6 May—The 91st Annual General Meeting of Pathein Township Association (Yangon) was held at Ayeyawady Region Dhammayon at 21/43C on Kyardawya Road in Myoma Ward of Bahan Township on 25 March morning.

Chairman of the association U Soe Han Lin made a speech. At the ceremony, respects were paid to 94 older persons of the association, prize awarded to 13 outstanding students and one winner of Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

Later, executives and members of the association donated K 4,948,000 to the fund of the association.

Kyemon

DISTRICT NEWS

Fire breaks out in Aungmyethazan Township

MANDALAY, 6 May—A fire broke out at the house of Ma Waing (a) Yin Yin Aung, 38 of No 13 block in Dawnabwa Brick Factory Ward in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay at 10.10 pm on 29 April.

The fire started from candle light that burnt 15 houses.

Over 240 members of fire brigade put out the fire with the use of 52 fire engines and died out it at 11.30 pm.

Action was taken against Ma Waing at No 1 Police Station under Pa-95/2012 of Section 285.

Ba Oo

Myanmar Writers Association Organizing Committee meets for third time

YANGON, 6 May—The third coordination meeting of Organizing Committee for Myanmar Writers Association took place at the hall of Writers and Journalists Association on Merchant Street in Yangon on 25 April.

Present at the coordination meeting were by Patron of the Organizing Committee U Tin Hlaing (Ledwinthar Saw Chit), Chairman U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lanmadaw) and member writers.

They discussed organizing the Myanmar Writers Association Conference, formation of Township Writers Association and suggestions for the organizational rules.

Soe Thiha

Recruitment of blood donors explained

YESAGYO, 6 May—A ceremony to recruit blood donors was held at the hall of People's Hospital in Yesagyo Township of Pakokku District on 25 April morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Zaw Soe made a speech. Head of Township Health Department Dr Nay Win explained the donation of blood. Next, leader of Pakokku District HIV/AIDS Control Group of Health Department Dr Maung Htwe explained importance of recruiting blood donor with free from HIV virus and disciplines for blood donors.

Ei Mon Swe-Yesagyo

Htidaw-hoisting ceremony of TheindawU Pagoda in Pyawbwe held

***Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung hoists Shwe Htidaw atop TheindawU Pagoda.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—A Htidaw-hoisting ceremony of TheindawU Pagoda kept in the precint of TheindawU Monastery in Bheindhaka Village, Kontha Village-tract, Pyawbwe Township, Mandalay Region, was held in conjunction with a consecration ceremony yesterday. Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and wife, district and township level officials and local people hoisted the golden umbrella and Ngatmyatnadaw atop the pagoda.

Next, the Union Minister climbed the upper terrace of the pagoda and offered the diamond orb. Then, Sayadaws and members of the Sangha consecrated the pagoda.

After the ceremony, the Union Minister and wife and family and donors offered day's meal to the members of the Sangha.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister attended the Kason water-pouring ceremony held on the Maha Bawdi Platform in Shwenayungphu Village, Shwenyaungphu Village-tract and poured water on the Bo tree. He also attended the Kason-water pouring ceremony held in Theingon Model Village in Yamethin Township.— *MNA*

Union Cooperatives and L&F Minister receives President of Myanmar Region of CP Livestock

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint received Mr Phichet Sivasri (President of Myanmar Region) of Myanmar CP Livestock Co Ltd at the ministry, here, this morning.

They discussed development of cow breeding, undertaking of development for livestock breeding zones through cooperative system, control of animal diseases, distribution of quality pedigrees and improvement of technology.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Cooperatives U Than Tun, departmental heads of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and officials.—*MNA*

Taninthayi Region Chief Minister attends celebration of Fire Brigade Day

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May — Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko attended the Htidaw hoisting ceremony of ancient Shwephonepwint Yun Pagoda in Kanaingda Village, Dawei yesterday morning.

He attended a ceremony to mark the 66th Anniversary Fire Brigade Day, watched skill demonstration of Fire Brigade members and presented awards to outstanding Auxiliary Fire Brigade members and fire stations which won station beautifying prizes.

Then, the chief minister attended the Kason water-pouring ceremony of Lawkamarazein in Dawei, presented offertories to Sayadaws and members of the Sangha and poured water on the Bo tree.

MNA

Fire Brigade Day observed in Pathein

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May— The 66th Anniversary Fire Brigade Day was observed at Koethein Sports Ground in Pathein of Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning, with an address by Region Minister for Social Affairs U San Maung.

Members of the fire brigade demonstrated their skills. The region minister presented K 500,000 and officials prizes to outstanding fire brigade members.

A similar ceremony was held at the hall of Gangaw Township General Administration Department in Magway Region yesterday morning.

After delivering an address, Township Administrator U Hla Win Aung presented prizes to two members of Auxiliary Fire Brigade.

Head of Township Fire Services Department U Kam Do Lyan demonstrated use of chemical fire extinguisher.

MNA

363 culprits arrested in 278 drug-related cases

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—A total of 278 drug-related cases were exposed across the nation in April. The seizures were 171.5777 kilos of opium in 37 cases, 1.0744 kilos of heroin in 82 cases, 0.5886 kilos of opium oil solid in five cases, 4.3182 kilos of low-grade opium in 11 cases, 4.015 kilos of marijuana in 10 cases, 186,178 tablets of stimulant in 110 cases, 32.2839 kilos of opium speciosa in 12 cases, 0.03 litre of opium liquid in one case, 0.0022 kilo of Ice, 0.0185 kilo of stimulant powder in two coses , nine litres of stimulant liquid in one case, five kilos of morphine in one case, 10 kilos of Caffeine in one case, 860 tablets of diazepam in one case, 0.575 kilos of chemical powder, 0.655 kilo of chemical liquid, three cases of failure to register and other two cases.

Actions were taken against 363 persons—294 men and 69 women—in 278 cases under law.

MNA

Sagaing Region Chief Minister views regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May— Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye on 2 May morning held a meeting with locals from Lakyetkyon, Mukhatwan, Nyaunghla villages after inspecting sitting in Kintat main canal near Saipyin Village, extension work of earthen embankment on Myayeik-Saipyin Road and progress of generation of hydropower with self-reliant efforts in Konkyi Village.

After that, the Region Chief Minister attended the opening of "Pyinnyagonyaung" library in Namya Village, where he pressed the button to open and donated publications and Sky Net receivers and videos.

On 3 May morning, he urged the officials of Myoma Market in KhinU to keep its greening and development. Then, he inspected Myanma Railway concrete sleeper plant there, and roadwork being carried out on YeU-KhinU Road after presenting cash assistance for medical fund at the People's Hospital.

He was present at the openings of "Thuta Yaungchi" library, a concrete bridge and archway of Thayetkon model village and looked into roads in the village and the village administrator's office and the village's library.

The Region Chief Minister viewed Thagaya-Myothit-Kankyikon-Shweyamin-Theintaw-Shwebo-YeU Road in KhinU Township and progress of laying gravels on Shwebo-YeU Road and the construction site of the concrete bridge No (1/17) near Milepost No.16.

He greeted the superintendent and faculty members and locals at the Agricultural Institute (Shwebo) in Nyaungbinkyisu Village and locals in Panyan Village in Shwebo Township.—*MNA*

Artesian wells turn yellow…

(From page 16)

and could give 3000 gallons of water an hour. Originally, it was designated to irrigate 12-acre farmland. Thanks to the capacity of wells and enthusiasm of local farmers, the irrigation area has apparently widen with per acre yield and cultivation capacity increased.

The abundance of underground water and less dependency on rain help the farmers extend their cultivation category and do farming round the year. Local farmers are enjoying benefits of higher socio-economic status, reduced land degradation and access to potable water. Because of favourable geographical conditions, artesian wells are success in the region.

As groundwater recharge and groundwater discharge have been put into curious consideration for sustainable development, the project is an environmentally sustainable one.

Thanks to the artesian wells, the once yellow plain in summer have been turned into greener one.

*****

Translation; HKA

Myanma Alin; 2-5-2012

Natural artesian well successfully sunk in Pyawbwe-Phayangahsu region.

Plan to realize child-centred academic system

MANDALAY, 6 May—With the aim of approaching the students to train them for their improvement, the Ministry of Education planned to implement the child-centerd academic system.

In the past, the teacher-centred academic system declined the own creativities. That is why, the ministry changed the academic system in line with the international education system.—*Kyemon*

World Veterinary Day observed in Hlegu

YANGON, 6 May—An educative talk on resistance of micro-organism in commemoration of the World Veterinary Day 2012 was held at the office of Hlegu Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department on 28 April.

It was attended by ward and village administrators, departmental personnel, veterinary staff, breeders and feedstuff sellers.

Head of Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr May Win Shwe talked about prevention against resistance of micro-organisms, Deputy Head of Department Dr Saw Tha Taw resistance of anti-biotic vaccines in veterinary works, Deputy Head of Department Dr Wah Wah Ohn resistance of anti-biotic medicines in poultry farming.

Later, pamphlets were distributed to the attendees.

Township LBVD

Survey experiences of children recounted

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—A ceremony to recount experiences in survey of children supervised by Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Save the Children Myanmar was held at Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone at 9.30 am on 3 May morning.

It was attended by the director of Social Welfare Department and officials, Country Director Mr Kelland Stevenson of Save the Children Myanmar, children of the survey team.—*Myo Hset Aung*

Basic fire fighting course kicks off in Tatkon

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—The basic fire fighting course No 2/2012 was opened at the hall of the Township Fire Services Department in Tatkon of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 27 April afternoon.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Aye Lu delivered an address.

Altogether 50 trainees from wards and villages in the township are attending the two-week course.

Myanma Alin

Ginger, turmeric from Koekway, Taungkya regions become export products

Ginger and turmeric produced from Koekway and Taungkya village of Pinlaung Township are high demand of foreign countries. So, merchants purchase ginger and turmeric from Koekway and Taungkya villages in competitiveness, said merchant Daw Than Than Aye (Pyinmana).

"Any person may visit our Koekway and Taungkya hilly village from Pyinmana along 20 miles and three furlongs long route through Kintha junction, south of Tatkon Township. In Koekway Village, local Kayin national races are engaged in cultivation of ginger, turmeric and banana. We purchase higher prices fro goods than that of previous year. This year, the products are exported, so merchants buy the products at higher prices. Last year, one viss of turmeric could be purchased at K 1200 for special item. This year, wet turmeric is sold at K 1500 per viss. Despite spending higher amount of money, the products cannot get good prices in Yangon," she said.

This year, ginger and turmeric from hilly regions east of Nay Pyi Taw become export items in Bangladesh. In Myanmar, local people in Kalaw, Aungpan and Taunggyi are engaged in cultivation of ginger and turmeric as main business to use them as materials in the making traditional medicines. Moreover, these products are used as essential spicy materials in cooking fish meals.

By Min Min Latt

Self-reliant concrete commissioned into service

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 6 May—A ceremony to inaugurate the self-reliant Mya Marlar concrete road was held in Myoma Ward 10 of Mawlamyinegyun in Ayeyawady Region on 20 April morning.

On the occasion, Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw representative U Myint Aung, wellwisher U Ko Ko Oo-Daw Wah Wah Oo (Kyun Shwewah Sawmill) and wellwisher U Myo Kyaw formally opened the concrete road.

The newly-opened concrete road is 668 feet long built at a cost of K 3.2 million contributed by wellwishers and local people.

Myanma Alin

Over 260 people fall into storm victims in Maubin Township

YANGON, 6 May—In the strong winds and heavy rains, thirty huts and one small rice mill collapsed in five village of Ngagyikayat Village-tract in Maubin Township of Ayeyawady Region at 5.45 pm on 30 April.

According to the follow-up news, a total of 62 huts from three village-tracts collapsed in the strong winds on 1 May and it lost K 1.86 million. Roofs of one monastery were damaged and it lost K 30,000.

At present, 269 people from 62 households fell into storm victims.

Member of Maubin Township Fire Services Department and 30 members of Auxiliary Fire Brigade provided necessary assistance to the storm victims. The Ayeyawady Region government and Township Red Cross Brigade donated six pyis of rice each to storm victim households. Moreover, Township Health Department gave health care services to them.

Htet Khaing-Sangyoung

DISTRICT NEWS

Blazed transformer substituted with new equipment in time in Pazundaung Township

YANGON, 6 May—Transformer from power station in Pazundaung Township was blazed, but it was put out in time. The damage parts of transformer could be substituted with new ones in time to be able to supply electricity.

A fire broke out at a 66-33 KV transformer of Thida sub-power station on Nanthaphyu Road in Ward 3 of Pazundaung Township due to overheat at tab changer box at 8.37 pm on 2 May.

Members of fire brigade put out the fire in time and died out it at 9.25 pm.

In the incident, 66-33 KV transformer was destroyed in the fire. In consequence, power cut out in its power feeding areas namely Kyauktada, Pabedan, Botahtaung, Pazundaung, Mingala Taungnyunt and Tamway townships. Thus, officials of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board and Thida Sub-power Station substituted the damaged equipment with new ones for supplying electricity regularly.

According to the report of the technicians, the root causes of outbreak of fire was based on 30-year old transformer and its overheat shock. In the incident, insulator burst out from the transformer and it caused spraying of fuel to break out the fire.—*Kyemon*

Farmland laws, vacant and virgin lands law clarified

YANGON, 6 May—A ceremony to make clarification on farmland law and vacant, fallow and virgin land management law 2002 was held at the hall of Settlement and Land Records Department in Hmawby Township of Yangon Region on 2 May afternoon.

Head of Yangon Region Settlement and Land Records Department U Zaw Min and Head of Yangon North District SLRD U Htay Lwin explained matters related to the laws.—*Myanma Alin*

Dredging creek in Hsipaw hail Fire Brigade Day

HSIPAW, 6 May—In honour of the 66th Anniversary Fire Brigade Day, the Myole creek was dredged for proper flow of water and for sufficient supply water in fire preventive measures in Hsipaw of Shan State (North) on 28 April morning.

The task was participated by members of Fire Brigade and Myanmar Police Force, departmental personnel and farmers.

The dredging tasks was supervised by Township Administrator U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Kyaw Nyunt Hlaing, Executive Officer of Township Development Affairs Committee U Thein Htaik Oo, Head of Township Fire Services Department U Ko Ko Oo and officials.

They fulfilled the requirements of works.

Myanma Alin

China, Japan, ROK agree to enhance cultural cooperation

SHANGHAI, 6 May — The cultural ministers of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK) signed a joint action plan in Shanghai on Saturday to boost cultural cooperation between the three countries.

According to the Shanghai Action Plan (2012-2014), the three parties will step up cooperation in protecting cultural heritage and conduct more exchanges between their respective cultural industries. Minister of Culture Cai Wu said China, Japan and the ROK have always sought common ground and preserved their differences in cultural matters.

"Culture is exerting great power, as the economy in northeast Asia becomes more integrated into the world economy," Cai said, adding that many problems can be readily solved through the deepening of cultural cooperation.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the normalization of China-Japan diplomatic relations, as well as the 20th anniversary of the forging of China-ROK diplomatic ties. China and Japan, and China and the ROK have planned a series of events to boost their ties.

Hinaro Hirofumi, Japan's minister of education, culture, sports, science and technology, said the Shanghai Action Plan is a "very workable document," and the three sides have reached consensus on the importance and value of culture. Choe Kwang Shik, the ROK's minister of culture,sports and tourism, used a quote taken from Confucius ("a gentleman gets along with others, but does not necessarily agree with them") to describe the three countries' cultural exchanges. He said the three countries have a long way to go in regards to boosting cooperation in their cultural industries. — *Xinhua*

Chinese dancers perform in Istanbul of Turkey, on 5 May, 2012. The Shanghai Song and Dance Ensemble and Shanghai Oriental Youth Dancing Group gave performances as one of the activities held during the Year of Chinese Culture in Turkey. —XINHUA

FBI investigating Arizona Neo-Nazi before shooting

PHOENIX, 6 May — The neo-Nazi founder of an anti-immigrant border militia was already the subject of an FBI domestic terrorism probe before he went on a shooting rampage and killed four people, officials and news reports said on Saturday. *The Arizona Republic* newspaper said federal agents seized numerous computers and munitions from the Phoenix valley home where white supremacist Jason Todd "JT" Ready is believed to have killed his girlfriend and three others on Wednesday following a domestic dispute, before shooting himself.

After the shooting, the FBI contacted local police in Gilbert and asked for their agents to be involved in the investigation, James Turgal, special agent in charge of the FBI's Phoenix office, told the newspaper.

The FBI's domestic-terrorism investigation dated to when Ready was a member of the neo-Nazi National Socialist Movement and continued into his activities with the US Border Guard border-vigilante group, the newspaper reported.

The probe was based on tips of criminal activity that Turgal declined to specify, but was unrelated to the shooting rampage on Wednesday, the newspaper reported. Manuel Johnson, a spokesman for the FBI's Phoenix field office, confirmed to Reuters that Ready, was the subject of a federal domestic terrorism investigation prior to his death. But he declined to provide further details "due to the ongoing investigation."

After the shooting, authorities retrieved two handguns and a shotgun from the crime scene, as well as live military grenades that were removed by an Air Force bomb disposal team. Ready, 39, founded the US Border Guard group, a private-citizen militia in Arizona that advocated deadly force to stop illegal immigration over the border from Mexico.

Reuters

Minuteman Project volunteer Jason Todd "JT" Ready uses binoculars to scan for potential illegal immigrants while along the US/Mexico border west of Douglas, Arizona in this 3 April, 2005 file photo. INTERNET

20 arrested for making gutter oil widely sold in China

HANGZHOU, 6 May — A 20-member criminal gang that turned a profit by manufacturing and selling "gutter oil" has been busted in east China's Zhejiang province, a local procuratorate said.

The Wucheng district procuratorate in the city of Jinhua said Saturday that it has ratified the gang members' arrests after police evidence showed that the gang, led by Li Weijian and his wife Xu Xiaoqing, had used kitchen waste and discarded animal fat to illegally produce and sell cooking oil since 2005.

Prosecutors said in 2011 alone, the gang pocketed over 10 million yuan (1.6 million U.S. dollars) from the illegal business.

The gang sold the oil to cooking oil wholesalers and food processing plants in Shanghai, Chongqing and Jiangsu province.

The Ministry of Public Security said in April that it has stepped up a crackdown on underground workshops that produce gutter oil.

The oil has been deemed unsafe for consumption, as it may contain carcinogenic substances.

Xinhua

Cuba to conduct anti-disaster drill

HAVANA, 6 May— Cuban authorities are preparing to conduct a nationwide anti-disaster drill aimed at taking stock of existing measures and heightening disaster awareness among the population, officials said on Saturday.

The May 19-20 drill, the 26th of its kind and code-named Meteoro 2012, will help to train people how to respond in case of such disasters as hurricanes, earthquakes, drought, forest fires and exotic diseases, officials said.

The exercise aims to raise the country's disaster preparedness and review the measures set for state agencies and institutions to cope with natural and industrial disasters, said Colonel Miguel Angel Puig, chief of the Operations Department of Cuba's National Civil Defence.

Puig said the drill would be focused on reassessing the measures to protect human lives and key economic targets in case of different kinds of disasters. The maneuvers will also include assessing the evacuation processes of the population in areas susceptible to quakes or tsunamis, he said.— *Xinhua*

Keep off beaches, Peru warns after mass pelican deaths

LIMA, 6 May — Peru's government declared a health alert along its northern coastline on Saturday and urged residents and tourists alike to stay away from long stretches of beach, as it investigates the unexplained deaths of hundreds of dolphins and pelicans.

At least 1,200 birds, mostly pelicans, washed up dead along a stretch of Peru's northern Pacific coastline in recent weeks, health officials said, after an estimated 800 dolphins died in the same area in recent months.

The Health Ministry recommended staying away from beaches, though stopped short of a ban, and called on health officials to use gloves, masks and other protective gear when collecting dead birds.

The peak tourism season around Lima's beaches is over, though many surfers are still venturing into the waters near the capital.

The Agriculture Ministry said preliminary tests on some dead pelicans pointed to malnourishment. Oscar Dominguez, head of the ministry's health department, said experts had ruled out bird flu. "The Health Ministry ... calls on the population to abstain from going to the beaches until the health alert is lifted," the ministry said in a statement posted on its website, along with a photograph of a dead pelican. The ministry said officials had so far checked 18 beaches in and around Lima for dead birds, but gave no details on any findings. A mass pelican death along Peru's northern coast in 1997 was blamed at the time on a shortage of feeder anchovies due to the El Nino phenomenon.— *Reuters*

Dead pelicans are displayed by conservationists at Reventazon beach, close to the Illescas peninsula in Piura on 27 April, 2012.— INTERNET

Two prison officials killed by gunmen in northern Nigeria

MAIDUGURI, 6 May — Two personnel of the Nigeria Prison Service were killed in the restive northeastern state of Borno by gunmen believed to be members of the Boko Haram sect, police said on Friday.

The gunmen attacked a police station and a nearby prison in Kunshi town, a small community 120 km away from Maiduguri, the state capital.

State police spokesperson Samuel Tizhe told *Xinhua* that the gunmen first attacked a police station in Banki town, but were repelled by the police.

"Five hours later, the gunmen went and attacked a nearby prison in Kumshi town, killing two prison warders and setting free all the inmates," he added.

The spokesperson said the police arrested 23 suspects in connection with the attacks.

Xinhua

Death toll from Kenya flash floods rises to 50

NAIROBI, 6 May—Death toll from Kenya's flash floods ravaging several parts of Kenya have so far killed at least 50 people and displaced thousands of others in the east African nation, a humanitarian agency said on Saturday. The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) spokesperson Nelly Muluka said four people were swept away by flood waters near Rongai on Friday night. The relief agency said the number of flash flood fatalities will still continue to rise due to heavy rains that have led to flash floods in several parts of the country.

"At least 50 people have lost their lives as a result of the flooding since March. Four people were swept away by flood waters near Rongai on the night of 4 May. Their bodies were found on top of the Rimpa bridge in Rongai on Saturday morning," Muluka said. According to Muluka, on another case on the same night, one man drowned in Acacia River and two others in River Kwekwe in Kiserian, about 40 kilometers south of Nairobi. "The latter were in a car and their retrieval is underway. In Ruai, a family has been marooned since last night following heavy rains that caused floods near Clayworks next to Mebri, Thika," she said.

The relief agency said efforts to rescue them have been hampered by rising water levels of up to about 1.5 metres. In the same area, 10 households were affected with water up to the knee level flowing into their houses and destroying property. "The main challenge to rescue efforts is accessibility and high water levels. Meanwhile major flooding has been reported in Athi River at Kwanzomo and Mangeli informal settlements and property worth lots of money destroyed," she said.

Xinhua

Sebastian Coe (R2 F), chairman of LOCOG presses the button with nine-year-old Niamh Clarke-Willis (L2 F) to officially open the Olympic Stadium during day two of the BUCS VISA Athletics Championships 2012 LOCOG Test Event for London 2012 at the Olympic Stadium on 5 May, 2012 in London. Around 40,000 members of the public witnessed the opening and a laser light show.— XINHUA

Pakistan condemns US drone attack

ISLAMABAD, 6 May—Pakistan has condemned in the strongest terms the US drone attacks in North Waziristan on Saturday morning, which killed at least 10 people, the Foreign Ministry said."Pakistan has consistently maintained that these illegal attacks are a violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and are in contravention of international law," a Foreign Ministry statement said."It is our considered view that the strategic disadvantages of such attacks far outweigh their tactical advantages, and are therefore, totally counter-productive," the Pakistani Foreign Ministry said.

The Foreign Ministry says that the issue of American drone strikes will be taken up with the US authorities through diplomatic channels both in Islamabad and Washington. Security officials said the US spy aircraft fired two missiles on a house at the Darai Nashtar area in North Waziristan early Saturday morning. The area is just three kilometres from Afghanistan.The house was completely destroyed in the strike. Locals said that four US drones were seen flying over the area before and after the attack, which was the third strike in the same region in nearly two months.

Rescue work was delayed due to fear of further strikes by the US drones, residents said. Security sources said that suspected militants had been using the house for several months. They said those killed belonged to the local Taleban group. They also said that several foreign militants were also staying in the compound at the time of the strike.Saturday's US drone strike was 12th this year. Data shows that nearly 93 people have been killed in USstrikes in 2012.

Internet

Three killed in gun battle in northeast Nigerian city

MAIDUGURI, 6 May — Three civilians were killed while two other people wounded following a gun battle between soldiers and members of the dreaded militants in the Nigerian northeast city of Maiduguri, military authority said on Saturday. The three civilians were shot when the military troops deployed to the area by the Nigerian Federal Government engaged the Boko Haram Islamic sect at a wedding ceremony in the metropolis.

Spokesman of the military-led Joint Task Force (JTF) Col Sagir Musa told *Xinhua* in Maiduguri that the task force received credible information that two Boko Haram members in the wanted list of the Task Force sneaked into Maiduguri to attend a wedding of one of their own in Sabon Layi, Gwange within the metropolis. Consequently, at about 8:35, the Task Force mounted surveillance about 200 meters away from the wedding venue. The militants opened fire sporadically on the surveillance team, he said.

The spokesman said the development led to death of three civilians, with two wounded persons from the fire of the militants, adding that a total of eight of the Boko Haram suspects including one of the wanted kingpins of the sect were arrested at the area few hours after the face off. Arms recovered, according to JTF, include one AK 47 rifle and 20 rounds of ammunition and a vehicle used by the sect.—*Xinhua*

Russia identifies suspects of twin blasts in North Caucasus

MOSCOW, 6 May — Police have identified the perpetrators of two deadly blasts in Russia's restive North Caucasus republic of Dagestan that killed at least 13 people and injured more than 100, Dagestani President Magomedsalam Magomedov said on Saturday. "The suicide bombers have been preliminarily identified as a brother and a sister surnamed Aliyev," Magomedov said. Detailed reports about the terrorists and their accomplices would be released soon, he said. The Russian Emergency Situations Ministry said Saturday that all the victims in the blasts have been identified. The first explosion took place on Thursday near a police post in Makhachkala, capital of Dagestan. And the second one happened about half an hour later, when rescuers, police officers and firefighters were carrying out relief work at the scene.—*Xinhua*

Two contestants present on the catwalk during a show of the Shanghai competition zone of the 62nd Miss World China Pageant in Jingdezhen, east China's Jiangxi Province,on 5 May, 2012. Twenty-five contestants took part in the catwalk show here on Saturday. — XINHUA

Two Belgians arrested in Yemen for links to al-Qaeda

SANAA, 6 May — Two Belgians were arrested in Yemen for links to al-Qaeda when they were about to leave the Arab country last month, a Yemeni human rights watchdog said on Saturday. The two Belgian nationals, Ibrahim Bali and Ezaldain Tahiry, were arrested on 13 April by Yemeni intelligence service at Sanaa International Airport when they were about to leave Yemen, the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedom said in a statement. "The weeks-long arrest of the two Belgians is against the Yemeni law and we call the Yemeni public prosecution to interfere into the case and allow the defendants to face a fair trial, or release them if there were approved not guilty," it said. Like many other foreigners, the Belgians were in Yemen to study the Arabic language, according to the statement. The Yemeni interior ministry declined to comment and the intelligence agency could not immediately be reached for comment.—*Xinhua*

Two bodies found in MS during search for mom, girls

JACKSON, 6 May — Two bodies have been found in Mississippi during the search for a missing Tennessee woman and her three children, but the identities are not known, authorities said on Saturday. The bodies were found on late Friday night or early Saturday morning in a residence associated with the man charged with abducting Jo Ann Bain and her children, FBI spokesman Joel Siskovic said. The spokesman said authorities on the scene were not able to positively identify the bodies. He would not say if the bodies were children. The missing girls are 8-year-old Kyliyah Bain, 12-year-old Alexandria and 14-year-old Adrienne. They were last seen 27 April in Hardeman County, Tenn. The woman's husband reported her missing and her car was found abandoned. Adam Mayes, 35, is charged in Tennessee with abducting all four, but authorities are still trying to determine if Jo Ann Bain went with Mayes willingly. He was last seen Tuesday in Guntown, Miss. He's been described as a family friend.

The FBI and US Marshals Service are offering a reward of up to $50,000 for information that leads to the location of the missing victims and the arrest of Mayes. Siskovic said the bodies were found in a residence, but it wasn't clear if it was a house, mobile home or apartment. He also wasn't sure if the residence belonged to Mayes or an acquaintance of his. Siskovic said the bodies were found in Guntown, north of Tupelo. Lee County coroner Carolyn Green said the bodies were found outside Guntown in Union County.—*Internet*

This combo image made of undated photos provided by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety shows, clockwise from top left, Jo Ann Bain and her daughters, Adrienne, 14, Kyliyah 8, and Alexandria,12.

INTERNET

Fox renames movie in wake of Trayvon Martin death

LOS ANGELES, 6 May — Movie studio 20th Century Fox on Friday changed the title of upcoming summer comedy "Neighbourhood Watch" starring Ben Stiller to distance the film from the racially-charged shooting death of unarmed black teenager Trayvon Martin.

Fox said the title was changed to "The Watch," and the studio also launched a new promotional trailer for the film about suburban dads hunting beings from another world.

"As the subject matter of this alien invasion comedy bears no relation whatsoever to the recent tragic events in Florida, the studio altered the title to avoid any accidental or unintended impression that it might," the movie studio said in a statement. Fox in March removed from theaters posters showing a shadowy figure and a teaser trailer for "Neighbourhood Watch" following the national uproar over Martin's death in Florida at the hands of neighbourhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman.

Zimmerman was not initially charged because of a Florida law that allows people to use deadly force if they feel their life is in danger.

However, he was subsequently arrested and charged with second-degree murder and is now awaiting trial. Along with Stiller, "The Watch" stars Vince Vaughn and Jonah Hill and will be released in US movie theaters on 27 July.—*Reuters*

(L – R) Jonah Hill, Ben Stiller, Richard Ayoade and Vince Vaughn in a scene from "Neighborhood Watch".—REUTERS

Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper (L) and Minister of National Defence Peter MacKay (R) arrive for the unveiling ceremony of the Royal Canadian Navy Monument in Ottawa, on 3 May, 2012. The monument pays homage to the hundreds of thousands of Canadian sailors who served during the Navy's first 100 years. — XINHUA

2,500 students perform to mark Youth Day

BEIJING, 6 May — About 2,500 college students from more than 100 universities performed in an evening gala on Friday to mark China's Youth Day. Li Changchun, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, watched the performance with students in Beijing.

The urged young people to study the keynote speech given by President Hu Jintao at the ceremony to mark the 90th founding anniversary of the Communist Youth League of China. He expressed hope they would cherish the chances provided by the country's development and devote themselves to the country's drive of reform, opening-up and modernization. The gala included music, dance and dramas developed and performed by college students.—*Xinhua*

Switzerland to send unarmed military observers to Syria

GENEVA, 6 May — The Federal Council of Switzerland has decided to send up to eight unarmed military observers to participate in the United Nations mission to monitor the ceasefire and the peace plan in Syria, the government said on Friday.

On the basis of the Military Act and of a new resolution by the UN Security Council and an enquiry from the UN, the Federal Council has now decided to participate in the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS), said a statement from the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

Swiss Federal Council decided on 18 April that the country would participate in this operation in the form of an initial detachment. The military observer who is currently part of the initial detachment will be transferred to the UNSMIS, according to the statement.

Xinhua

Serbia, Bosnia agree to regulate international river navigation

BELGRADE, 6 April — Serbia and neighbouring Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) on Friday in Belgrade signed an agreement to regulate international river navigation on the Sava and Drina Rivers. Bosnian Minister of Communications and Transport, Damir Hadzic, and Serbian Minister for Infrastrucure and Energy, Milutin Mrkojnic, signed a technical agreement which provides for rehabilitation and modernization of navigation on international inland waters.

The River Sava flows from west to east, largely defining the border between Croatia and BiH, before reaching the Danube in Belgrade.

The River Drina flows south to north along the border between Serbia and BiH. The European Union has approved 5.5 million euros (7.2 milllion US dollars) for demining and environmental studies for the stretch of the River Sava from Belgrade to Brcko, BiH. The repair and maintenance of navigation on the Sava River requires the cooperation of Croatia, Serbia and BiH.— *Xinhua*

Photo taken on 21 April , 2012 shows the tulips in Keukenhof, Lisse, the Netherlands. Keukenhof is the international showcase of Dutch horticulture with an emphasis on bulb flowers. — XINHUA

UK's largest warship sails up Thames River

BEIJING, 6 May — Britain's largest warship has sailed up the Thames River, as part of security pre-parations for the 2012 London Olympic Games. The 38-metre wide HMS Ocean, berthed at Greenwich in east London ahead of the major security exercise dubbed Olympic Guardian.

UK Defence Secretary Philip Hammond visited the warship and addressed some of the crew members on-board. He said he hoped foreign visitors would be reassured by the significant military presence. The sailing of HMS Ocean marks the final phase of Olympic Guardian, which started earlier this week in Weymouth and in the airspace over the capital. The ship will focus on air security over the weekend, with river operations taking place between Tuesday and Thursday next week.— *Xinhua*

Leftist rebel leader tagged in foiled attack in S Philippines captured

DAVAO CITY, 6 May — Philippine police said Friday it had captured a top leftist rebel leader allegedly involved in the failed attack against a police station in southern Philippines.

Teddy Dumandan Bager, 47, propaganda unit team leader of the New People's Army's North-eastern Mindanao Regional Committee, was arrested by soldiers and policemen inside his alleged hideout in Diatagon village, Lianga town, Surigao del Sur at around 3 am on Wednesday, according to Superintendent Martin Gamba, spokesperson of the Caraga police regional office.

According to Gamba, Bager has a pending case before a regional trial court in Surigao del Sur for the foiled attempt by a band of NPA rebels whom he led to storm and overrun the police station in nearby Lianga town on 28 April, 2011.

That attack was repulsed by policemen and soldiers.

Recovered from the suspect were a fragmentation grenade, several electronic devices, cellular phones and more than 9, 700 pesos (225 USdollars).

Gamba said the rebel leader was detained at the Lianga police station. The 4,000-strong NPA, armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, is fighting a 43-year leftist insurgency in 60 Philippine provinces.

Xinhua

Royal Navy helicopters carrier HMS Ocean docks at Greenwich, the Thames River in London, Britain, as part of London 2012 Olympic preparation security exercise, on 4 May, 2012. —XINHUA

News Album

Girl, 6, saves choking classmate

A 6-year-old California girl who rescued a classmate who was choking on a piece of apple said she learned the Heimlich maneuver from watching television.

Elspeth Mar, a student at Caroline Wenzel Elementary School in Sacramento, performed the Heimlich on friend Aniyah Rigmaiden in the cafeteria of the school and the girls did not inform teachers until they had finished their lunch, The Sacramento Bee reported.

Mar and Anthony Roy Jr, a classmate who first noticed Rigmaiden choking, were honored in a school ceremony declaring them "Heroes of the Day."

Principal Judy Montgomery said she was impressed with Mar's actions.

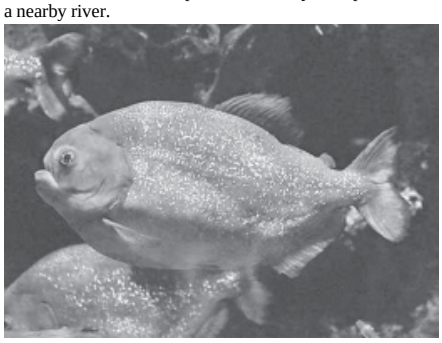
"It was so matter-of-fact," she said. "She got up, got the apple out of the little girl's throat and then just sat back down. That is how it should be.

"But I was blown away at how a first-grader could handle something like that so seamlessly. Usually, I would expect them to yell, 'Hey, help! Someone's choking,'" Montgomery said.

Mar said she learned how to perform the Heimlich from Disney channel series "ANT Farm."

Piranhas found in Japan river

Officials in a Japanese town have banned children from a local stream after three piranhas recently were pulled from a nearby river.



A piranha

Administrators in Atsugi, Kanagawa prefecture, said two of the meat-eating fish were pulled Saturday from the Zenmyo River and a third was caught Monday, *Kyodo* news reported. The officials said each of the fish was about 4 inches long.

Unusual town names on the decline

A North Carolina historian said US towns with unusual names, such as Grubville, Mo, and Battiest, Okla, are slowly disappearing.

Mike Hill of the North Carolina Office of Archives and History said the unusual town names, which were often given by settlers as a jok, are being replaced with more commonplace names dreamed up by developers to drum up interest in real estate, USA Today reported.

"For the most part," Hill said, "we stopped making good new place names a long time ago."

USA Today said the US Postal Service is seeking to close post offices in small towns, many of which bear unusual names such as Beetown, Wis, and Dwarf, Ky, as their populations dropped between the Census counts of 2000 and 2010, while the overall US population increased 10 percent.

I looked like moron: Justin Timberlake

Singer Justin Timberlake

Los Angeles, 6 May—Singer Justin Timberlake admits he looked like a moron during his days with pop group N Sync, especially with their attire.

"There were many moments in my teenage years where I succumbed to, um, the weirdness of the group I was in," showbizspy.com quoted Timberlake as saying.

"And in trying to conform — we're marionettes — I ended up looking like a moron," he added.

The-31-year-old feels many modern men are over reliant on grooming products. "I don't like when I see guys do too much hair gel. I don't mean Pauly D, because that's basically performance art. But when you use enough hair gel that your hair becomes a sculpture — and you wanted it to look that way? It's just weird," he said.—*Internet*

Justin Bieber's musical tribute to mother

Los Angeles, 6 May—Singer Justin Bieber wants to make this Mother's Day special for his mom Patti Mallette. So he has penned a song for her and plans to release it on the occasion on 13 May.

The song will be a part of his next album "Believe".

"I wrote a song for my mom. But I'm going to put it out on Mother's Day," aceshowbiz.com quoted Bieber as saying.

"It's about the struggles, I say in the song. She had me at like the age I am now. It's about just the struggles she went through and how brave she was, and I think the world needed to know that," he added.

Internet

Singer Justin Bieber

Actress Angelina Jolie

Actress Helena Bonham Carter

Helena Bonham Carter lazy to wed

London, 6 May —Actress Helena Bonham Carter says she and director Tim Burton have never married because they are too lazy but this does not mean they are not serious.

The couple has been together for 11 years and have children eight-year-old Billy and four-year-old Nell.

They live in adjoining houses because they need space from one another, though the actress insists this does not mean their relationship was not serious.

"We are not married, actually. Not through any kind of. Through laziness, really. Our houses are married. It is very good to have. You definitely need your space," femalefirst.co.uk quoted her as saying.—*Internet*

Scarlett Johansson mastered Russian in two days

Los Angeles, 6 May—Actress Scarlett Johansson had just two days to get a grip on Russian language for her role in "The Avengers", and says a translator came to her rescue.

"I had two days, so I had to learn it phonetically. I knew what I was saying but I had to be able to pronounce it and breathe some life into the lines so that it didn't sound like I was repeating some Berlitz (language learning) tape," dailystar.co.uk quoted her as saying.

"We hired this great Russian translator, and she worked with the dialogue coach.

Actress Scarlett Johansson

She was really expressive, which helped, so my mouth found the words in a way that didn't just sound like I was a parrot," she said.

Internet

Angelina Jolie to gain weight for wedding

London, 6 May—Actress Angelina Jolie, who is set to tie the knot this summer with her partner of seven years, Brad Pitt, reportedly wants to gain 10 pounds before her D-day.

The slim and svelte actress wants some curves to fill out her dress, reports dailystar.co.uk.

The couple has reportedly asked British chef Jamie Oliver to give her recipes for hearty yet healthy meals. "Angelina has decided she would like a more shapely figure when she weds Brad and is hoping to gain 10 pounds. Brad and Angelina have asked Jamie to suggest some recipe ideas for them," said a source.

Pitt is also keen that Jolie puts on some pounds as he prefers her curvier figure. "Brad would love her to have curves like she did when they met on 2004 movie 'Mr and Mrs Smith'.

Jamie has been to Brad and Angelina's home numerous times. They have a similar sense of humour and are all down to earth," the source said.

Internet

Late singer Michael Jackson'

MJ's picture on Pepsi campaign

Los Angeles, 6 May—Late singer Michael Jackson's image will be used to front a new advertising campaign for Pepsi. The soft drinks firm has agreed a deal with the singer's estate to use his image in a new global marketing push.

Consumers in the US and China will be the first to see the campaign. It will be pushed out in varying forms to around 25 countries throughout the year, reports aceshowbiz.com.

The initial push, supplemented by a TV advertisement will see the company release collectable blue cans bearing an image of the late King of Pop.

Customers will be able to scan codes on the cans with their phones to download remixed tracks from Jakcson's album "Bad", which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year.

Internet

Jude Law prefers buying classic items

London, 6 May—Actor Jude Law is a wise shopper, who likes to invest in classic items that last long and can even be passed on to his kids.

"I love the idea of durability, that you can buy a classic, beautifully-made suit or leather bag that will last for years," contactmusic.com quoted the 39-year-old Law as saying.

"I like to keep things that I know I can pass on to my children. I've still got the tuxedo I wore to my first ever Oscars ceremony so I can give it to my son," he added. Law says he underwent a complete wardrobe makeover and even grew a moustache for his role in the "Sherlock Holmes" movies. He sported facial hair for his role as Dr John Watson in the movie, and admits his different look did not suit his regular wardrobe. So, he tried out several different outfits.

Actor Jude Law

"My style changes with roles. Having a moustache and sideburns as Watson in the 'Sherlock Holmes' films forced me to try new clothes. Jeans and a leather jacket didn't look so good anymore, so I bought a corduroy jacket and big snuggly jumpers. Suddenly, they looked cool," he said.—*Internet*

PSG eye Ligue 1 top spot as tension hits Montpellier

PARIS, 6 May — In a French title race full of twists and turns Paris Saint-Germain will go back to the top of the table if they can beat Valenciennes on Sunday before current leaders Montpellier play on Monday. Just days ago, PSG looked to have kissed their hopes of a first Ligue 1 crown since 1994 goodbye after slipping five points behind Montpellier in the wake of a 2-1 defeat at Lille.

But then Montpellier were held to a 2-2 home draw by Evian-Thonon-Gaillard on Tuesday after missing a stoppage-time penalty before PSG beat Saint-Etienne 2-0 to close the gap back to three points. Carlo Ancelotti's side now go to Valenciennes looking to record back-to-back league wins for the first time in two months, although the northern side have proven difficult to beat at their Stade du Hainaut home this season and will not make life easy for the men from the capital as they chase the win that will seal their survival.

PSG's goal difference is inferior to that of Montpellier by one, but they have scored three more goals and will therefore go back to the summit, for 24 hours at least, with a win. Paris' Italian international goalkeeper Salvatore Sirigu admits he has been through all the emotions this week but now has his sights set on top spot again. "After the defeat at Lille I was sad and down but I never said the title was lost," he said.

Internet

Paris Saint-Germain's Javier Pastore (R) speaks with referee during their French Ligue 1 match against Saint-Etienne, on 2 May, at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris. PSG will go back to the top of the table if they can beat Valenciennes on Sunday before current leaders Montpellier play on Monday,— INTERNET

Huck draws with Afolabi to keep WBO belt

ERFURT, 6 May — German cruiserweight Marco Huck retained his WBO title against British challenger Ola Afolabi by the narrowest of margins, a draw by majority decision on Saturday. In a rematch of Huck's first defence of the title he won from Victor Emilio Ramirez in 2009, Afolabi had the better of the opening rounds. "I was tired early on, but I'm a fighter and I fought," Huck said. "Thankfully it was just enough in the end."

He was left with a bloody nose at the end of the third, when his trainer urged him to "do something" if he wanted to defend his belt.The defending champ recovered and delivered a flurry of punches from both sides to leave Afolabi in real trouble just before the end of the ninth."I give Marco a a lot of credit," Afolabi said. "I thought he was tired around round six, but he just kept coming until round 12."

Both fighters gave everything in the final round, when exhaustion prevented either from delivering the telling blow with Afolabi, in particular, wobbling but doing just enough to hang on.Judges Paul Thomas of Britain and Ingo Barrabas of Germany scored it 114-114, while Nelson Vazquez of Puerto Rico awarded it 115-113 in favour of the defending champion. Huck was back at cruiserweight after losing to Alexander Povetkin for the WBA heavyweight belt in February. His record was 34-2-1 (25 KOs), while the Los Angeles-based Afolabi was 19-2-4 (9 KOs).—*Internet*

Marco Huck of Germany, right, lands a punch to Britain's Ola Afolabi, left, during the WBO Cruiserweight Championship title bout in Erfurt, Germany, on 5 May, 2012. Huck retained his title.— INTERNET

Messi scores four to send Guardiola off with victory

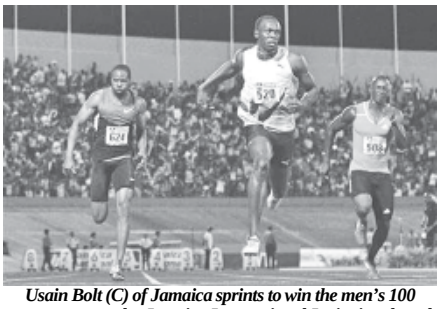
BARCELONA, 6 May — Lionel Messi scored four times to take his season tally to an unprecedented 72 goals and give Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola a 4-0 win over crosstown rival Espanyol in his last home game at Camp Nou on Saturday. Messi's scoring display was a fitting farewell for the coach who helped the Argentina forward become the world's best player and forged Barcelona into one of the best teams to have played soccer.

After scoring his Spanish league-record 50th goal, Messi went to the sideline to embrace Guardiola, who is leaving after 13 titles in four seasons. The only other player to have scored 70 goals in a first-division season was Archie Stark of Bethlehem Steel in the American Soccer League in 1924-25. Real Madrid, which clinched the league title in the last round, won 2-1 at Granada thanks to Cristiano Ronaldo's 45th league goal and David Cortes' own goal in stoppage time.

"Life has given me this gift during the past five years of being able to live with these players and enjoy this spectacle," Guardiola told the packed stands following his 97th win in 118 home games. "I have been the privileged one, to feel so loved and admired during all these years. Many thanks to all, above all to those who I have worked with every day." Guardiola will coach Barcelona's last league game at Real Betis before having a chance at a 14th piece of silverware in the Copa del Rey final against Athletic Bilbao. Guardiola's assistant Tito Vilanova will then take over.— *Internet*

FC Barcelon's coach Pep Guardiola, left, embraces Lionel Messi, from Argentina, after scores during a Spanish La Liga soccer match at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain, on 5 May, 2012. INTERNET

Bolt speeds to year's fastest 100 metres



Usain Bolt (C) of Jamaica sprints to win the men's 100 metres event at the Jamaica International Invitational track and field meet in Kingston, on 5 May, 2012.—REUTERS

KINGSTON, 6 May — Jamaican Olympic champion Usain Bolt held his nerve after two false starts by competitors and powered to the year's fastest 100 metres at the Jamaica International Invitational on Saturday.

The 100 and 200 metres world record holder clocked a dazzling 9.82 seconds in his first individual race of 2012, exploding from the blocks to take control at 40 metres. "It's a good start, I would say," said Bolt, who erased the previous season-leading time of 9.90 by his training partner and world champion Yohan Blake three weeks ago.

"I feel better than last year, so I'm definitely happy with myself," Bolt added. "I don't think my execution was perfect, but I think for my first race it was good."

Michael Frater, a member of Jamaica's world record 4x100 metres relay team, finished a distant second in exactly 10 seconds. Bolt was disqualified from last year's 100 final at the world championships because of a false start, but was not perturbed by the delays.

"A couple of false starts will throw you off, but I stayed focused and went out there and executed as best as possible, so I'm just happy with myself," he said. Although pleased with the last 50 meters of the race, the lanky sprinter, who owns world records of 9.58 seconds in the 100 and 19.19 in the 200, said he must continue to work on the first phase of the shorter race.

Reuters

Alvarez defends title with decision over Mosley

LAS VEGAS, 6 May — Rising Mexican star Canelo Alvarez landed the heavier punches and more of them on Saturday night, defending his 154-pound title with a lopsided decision win over an aging Shane Mosley. Alvarez shook off a cut over his left eye from a head butt in the third round and dominated the fight, landing big punches to the body and occasional uppercuts to the head. He won all rounds but one on two scorecards, and all but two on the third. It was the fourth defence for Alvarez of his 154-pound title, and Mosley gave it his best.

But at the age of 40 he simply didn't have the reflexes or strength to be competitive against the 21-year-old champion.Two judges scored it 119-109, while a third had it 118-108. The fight was on the Floyd Mayweather Jr-Miguel Cotto undercard. "It was a great experience," Alvarez said. "I felt really good and I want to thank Shane for giving me the experience." Mosley hasn't won a fight in three years, losing five of his last seven. Mosley was trying to resurrect his fading career after losses to both Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao, but he came into the ring a decided underdog against Alvarez, who is considered one of the top young fighters in the sport.

"His defence is very good. He's really fast, and he can go a long way," Mosley said. "When the kids start to beat you up, it might be time to start promoting." Mosley, whose pro career dates back to 1993, moved forward the entire fight and tried to keep Alvarez off balance with flurries.

He took punishment throughout and appeared hurt by shots to the body in the eighth round.

But Mosley (46-8-1) never went down and was still fighting hard in the 12th round, though by then the fight had already been decided. "I didn't expect him to be that fast or that good," Mosley said. Alvarez, who remained unbeaten in 41 fights, said he tried to knock Mosley down every round, but was never able. Mosley has never been stopped in a fight. —*Internet*

Canelo Alvarez, left, lands a punch against Shane Mosley in the first round during a WBC super welterweight title fight, on 5 May, 2012, in Las Vegas.— INTERNET

Simpson emerges with lead at Quail Hollow

CHARLOTTE, 6 May — For someone playing so close to his house, Webb Simpson has been on edge all week. The home crowd. Two rounds with Tiger Woods. His name atop the leaderboard at Quail Hollow alongside Rory McIlroy and so many others late Saturday afternoon. It has caused him to try extra hard to block everything out except the shot in front of him.

So far, it has worked better than he imagined. Simpson broke out of a five-way tie for the lead with a 12-foot birdie putt on the 17th hole, and a 3-under 69 gave him a one-shot lead over Ryan Moore and DA. Points going into the final round of the Wells Fargo Championship.

"It seems like when guys on this level do get nervous, it seems like every time they focus a little better, they just tighten up their thoughts a lot better," Simpson said. "Seems like when I'm more nervous, for the most part, I play better. It's not a good thing when we get comfortable out there because you start getting lazy and losing focus on your target." This is no time to relax.—*Internet*

Webb Simpson reacts after making a birdie putt on the third hole during the third round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, NC, on 5 May, 2012. INTERNET

International Sports

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(7-5-12 09:30 am ~ 8-5-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Beauty of Ngwe Saung & Lovers' Island
* Better Products for a Cleaner Environment
* News
* Music Programme
* News
* Yu Suk Dance of Chin National
* News
* 12 Sign ascendants in May 2012
* Sketches in the Dream
* News
* Sweet Memories in Pyin Oo Lwin
* News
* Culture Stage
* News
* As a White Candle
* News
* 100% Myanmar
* Myanmar Movie "Twin Brothers In Different Lives"

MYANMAR TV

(7-5-2012) (Monday)

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

7:45 am
2. Nice & Sweet Song

8:10 am
3. Teleplay (Health)

8:35 am
4. Song Of National Races

4:00 pm
5. Martial Song

4:15 pm
6. Dance Variety

4:55 pm
7. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:00 pm
8. Myanmar Language

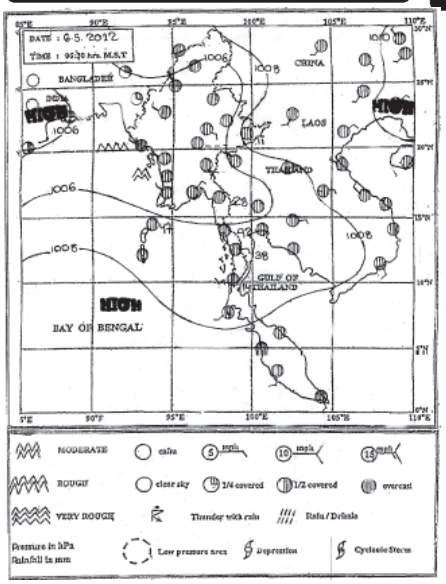
7:00 pm
9. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
10. News
11. World's Stars
12. TV Drama Series
13. India Drama Series

BO TREES WATERED: ***Damsels from Tayoksu, Zeedaw and Ponna villages pouring water at Bo tree in precinct of Tayoksu Taikkgaung Pariyatti Monastery in Singaing in commemoration of the Fullmoon Day of Kason.*—MYANMA ALIN**

OFFICE OPENED: ***A ceremony to open administrative office was held in Thayettabin Village of Mingla Township on 1 May. Township Administrator U Tin Yi, Village Administrator U Aung Myint and village elder U Tin Oo formally open the office.***
DISTRICT IPRD

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 7th May, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	39/102	23/73	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
2	Kayah	32/90	21/70	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
3	Kayin	35/95	24/75	Likelihood of fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
4	Chin	24/75	10/50	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
5	Upper Sagaing	38/100	22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
6	Lower Sagaing	42/108	27/81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
7	Tanintharyi	30/86	24/75	Likelihood of widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
8	Bago	31/88	24/75	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
9	Magway	40/104	28/82	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	27/81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
11	Mon	33/91	26/79	Likelihood of widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
12	Yangon	33/91	25/77	Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers	(60%)
13	Rakhine	34/93	23/73	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
14	Southern Shan	25/77	19/66	Likelihood of fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
15	Northern Shan	36/97	21/70	Likelihood of fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	21/70	Likelihood of fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(60%)
17	Ayeyawady	33/91	27/81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	36/97	25/77	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	33/91	25/77	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	27/81	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 Tanintharyi Region, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Shan State, scattered in Bago and Yangon Regions, isolated in Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady Regions, Chin and Rakhine States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States with Regionally heavyfalls in Tanintharyi Region and Mon State. Day temperatures were (4°C) above May average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region, Chin State, (5°C) above May average temperatures in Kachin and Northern Shan States and (4°C) below May average temperatures in Tanintharyi Region and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (44°C), Monywa and Minbu (42°C) each, Myingyan and NyaungOo (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Longlon (4.61) inches, Dawei (3.90) inches, Kyeikkhame (3.31) inches, Yay (3.07) inches, Myawady (2.83) inches, Minesat (1.93) inches and Cocogyun (1.85) inches.				
Bay Inference	Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Southwest Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.				
State of the Sea	Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Tanintharyi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (30) to (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar water.				
Outlook for sub-sequent two days	Continuation of likelihood of rain or thundershowers in the Eastern Myanmar areas.				

Bolton blow chance to boost survival bid

LONDON, 6 May—Bolton Wanderers are in severe danger of being relegated from the Premier League after blowing a two-goal lead in a dramatic 2-2 draw against West Bromwich Albion on Sunday.

Owen Coyle's side looked on course to climb out of the bottom three after Martin Petrov's penalty was followed by a Billy Jones own goal to leave Wanderers firmly in control at the Reebok Stadium.

But Chris Brunt reduced the deficit with 15 minutes remaining and James Morrison netted a stoppage-time equaliser.

To make matters worse for Coyle's men, news soon filtered through from west London that relegation rivals Queens Park Rangers had beaten Stoke City with a late goal.

That agonising combination of results leaves Bolton two points adrift of safety with a trip to Stoke to come on the final weekend of the season next Sunday.

There is still hope for Bolton, however. If they win at the Britannia Stadium, then a QPR loss at Manchester City or two defeats for Wigan Athletic in their remaining fixtures would secure their Premier League status for another season.

While Bolton worry over their future, Albion coach Roy Hodgson could take heart from his players' spirited fightback in what was his final away game before taking over as England manager.

Internet

Martin Petrov gives Bolton the lead.
INTERNET

Spurs kept outside top three by Villa draw

LONDON, 6 May—Tenman Tottenham Hotspur spurned the chance to go third in the Premier League on Sunday after a 1-1 draw at Aston Villa, for whom a point all but assured their top-flight survival.

Ciaran Clark gave the hosts the lead at Villa Park via a deflected first-half opener and their cause was aided further still when Spurs were reduced to 10 men when Danny Rose was sent off for a challenge on Alan Hutton.

***Aston Villa defender Eric Lichaj (right) vies with Tottenham Hotspur striker Emmanuel Adebayor during the Premier League match at Villa Park in Birmingham.*—INTERNET**

Harry Redknapp's team soon responded, though, via Emmanuel Adebayor's penalty, yet they were unable to force a winner, meaning they remain a point adrift of North London rivals Arsenal in fourth place going into next weekend's final round of fixtures.

It leaves their Champions League prospects hanging in the balance, with fifth-placed Newcastle still just a point behind. Chelsea, meanwhile, could yet snatch the final spot for Europe's elite competition that would normally go to the team finishing fourth if they beat Bayern Munich in this season's final.

Alex McLeish's Villa team are now three points clear of 18th-placed Bolton Wanderers and have a 17-goal advantage over the Trotters, making them virtually safe.—*Internet*

In-form Everton held by relegated Wolves

LONDON, 6 May—Everton extended their unbeaten run to eight league games on Sunday but had to settle for a point in a goalless draw away to already-relegated Wolverhampton Wanderers.

The Toffees had the better of the chances at Molineux and only a dubious offside flag prevented Nikica Jelavic from registering the opener in the first half, while Denis Stracqualursi had a goal disallowed after the break.

Everton have not lost a Premier League match since their 3-0 defeat to Liverpool in the Merseyside derby almost two months ago but this point keeps them in seventh place in the table and leaves them on course to finish above their neighbours for the first time since 2005.—*Internet*

Everton boss David Moyes lets rip.
INTERNET

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.

Toure brace strengthens Man City's grip on title

LONDON, 6 May—Manchester City moved to within touching distance of a first English league title in 44 years after Yaya Toure scored twice in a 2-0 win at Newcastle on Sunday.

Victory left leaders City three points ahead of Manchester United and put the pressure on the reigning champions ahead of their home match against Swansea later in the day, with just one round of fixtures left after Sunday's matches.

It also meant, importantly, they had a goal difference advantage of plus 10 over their cross-town rivals.

Ivory Coast midfielder Toure opened the scoring in the 70th minute when he struck a curling shot from the edge of the box that had too much on it for Newcastle keeper Tim Krul.

City, last crowned champions of England in 1968, wasted several more chances to put the result beyond doubt before Toure, with Newcastle pressing for an equaliser, finished off a counter-attack a minute from full-time.

Roberto Mancini's men are at home to struggling Queens Park Rangers a week on Sunday when United travel to Sunderland. Defeat left Newcastle in fifth place — just outside the top four spot they need to have a chance of Champions League qualification.—*Internet*

***Man City midfielder Toure celebrates after scoring in his side's 2-0 victory over Newcastle United at the Sports Direct Arena in Newcastle.—*INTERNET**

Results on Sunday, 6 May, 2012

Newcastle U.	*0 - 2*	*Manchester C.*
Aston Villa	*1 - 1*	*Tottenham H.*
Bolton W.	*2 - 2*	*West Bromwich A.*
Fulham	*2 - 1*	*Sunderland*
QPR	*1 - 0*	*Stoke C.*
Wolve	*0 - 0*	*Everton*
Man Utd	*2-0*	*Swansea City*

Kason water-pouring ceremony held in Theingon Village of Yamethin Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—Kason water-pouring ceremony was held in Theingon Model Village in Yamethin Township, Yamethin District, Mandalay Region, yesterday.

The Kason water-pouring ceremony, which was held by 1500 people from 13 wards of the village, has been yearly held as a gesture of preserving the fine tradition.

MNA

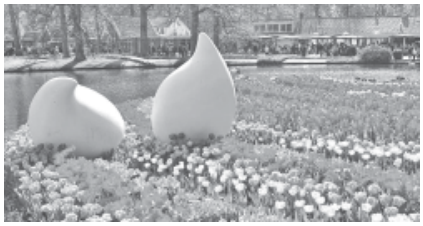
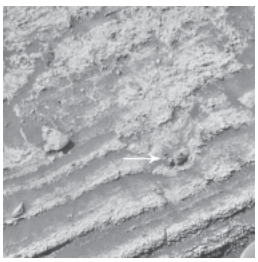


Photo taken on 21 April , 2012 shows the tulips in Keukenhof, Lisse, the Netherlands. Keukenhof is the international showcase of Dutch horticulture with an emphasis on bulb flowers.

PAGE 12

Ancient volcanic blast provides more evidence of water on early Mars

SCIENCE DAILY, 6 May—The atmosphere of Mars is less than 1 percent the density of Earth's. It's one of the reasons liquid water covers much of our planet but cannot exist on the Red Planet. As more research points toward the possibility of water on early Mars, scientists have increased their studies on the density of its atmosphere billions of years ago. It's not an easy task. In fact, it's very difficult to even determine Earth's atmospheric pressure from the same time frame.



Georgia Tech Assistant Professor Josef Dufek is attempting to learn more about the past atmospheric conditions by analyzing two unlikely sources: ancient volcanic eruptions and surface observations by the Mars rover Spirit. His new findings, published by the journal Geophy-sical Research Letters, provide more evidence that early Mars was saturated with water and that its atmosphere was considerably thicker, at least 20 times more dense, than it is today.

"Atmospheric pressure has likely played a role in developing almost all Mars' surface features," said Dufek, an instructor in the School Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. "The planet's climate, the physical state of water on its surface and the potential for life are all influenced by atmospheric conditions."

Dufek's first research tool was a rock fragment propelled into the Martian atmosphere during a volcanic eruption roughly 3.5 billion years ago. The deposit landed in the volcanic sediment, created a divot (or bomb sag), eventually solidified and remains in the same location today. Dufek's next tool was the Mars rover. In 2007, Spirit landed at that site, known as Home Plate, and took a closer look at the imbedded fragment. Dufek and his collaborators at the University of California-Berkeley received enough data to determine the size, depth and shape of the bomb sag.—*Internet*

Alin Saytaman Library opened in Indaw Township

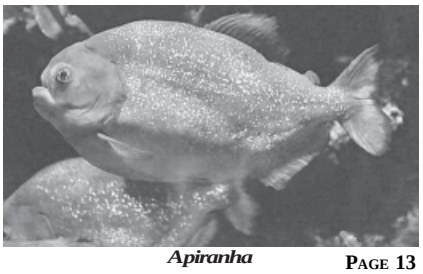
NAY PYI TAW, 6 May—A ceremony to open Alin Saytaman Library was held in Thithlataw Village of Tagundaing Village-tract in Indaw Township of Katha District on 5 May morning.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Naing Htay and Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Kyaw Soe formally opened the library.—*MNA*

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (6-5-2012)

Pyu	**(3.50) inches**
Cocogyun	**(3.26) inches**
Zaungtu	**(2.83) inches**
Theinzayat	**(1.09) inches**
Myeik	**(1.96) inches**

Piranhas found in Japan river



Apiranha

PAGE 13

Huck draws with Afolabi to keep WBO belt

Marco Huck of Germany, right, lands a punch to Britain's Ola Afolabi, left, during the WBO Cruiserweight Championship title bout in Erfurt, Germany, on 5 May, 2012. Huck retained his title.

PAGE 14

Artesian wells turn yellow plain to greener one

***Article:* Tin Htway (MNA); *Photos:* Ko Htway**

Photo shows thriving chilli plantation irrigated by artesian wells.

Pyawbwe-Phayangahsu area in Pyawbwe Township of Yamethin District in Mandalay Region lies in arid zone at the core of Myanmar and was under the curse of draught and scarcity of water recourses for years, disabling the farmlands of the region in drought periods. The region ranges from Pyawbwe to Phayangahsu village on the road from Pyawbwe to Taunggyi.

Under the directive of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Water Resources Utilization Department studied the area and set to sink 100 artesian wells as the department found it blessed with underground water resources.

Using five machineries, geologists, engineers and staff of Underground Water Resources Division sunk 50 artesian wells in the first installment in 2009-2010 fiscal year and the remaining 50 wells in 2010-2011 FY. The 23rd July, 2011, is the day the project accomplished its mission.

The three fourths of the well are natural artesian wells

(See Page 8)