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Thursday, 24 May, 2012

Indian Prime Minister and wife to pay a State visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—At the invitation of U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, His Excellency Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Republic of India and wife Shrimati Gursharan Kaur will pay a State visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the near future.—MNA

Our Three Main National Causes

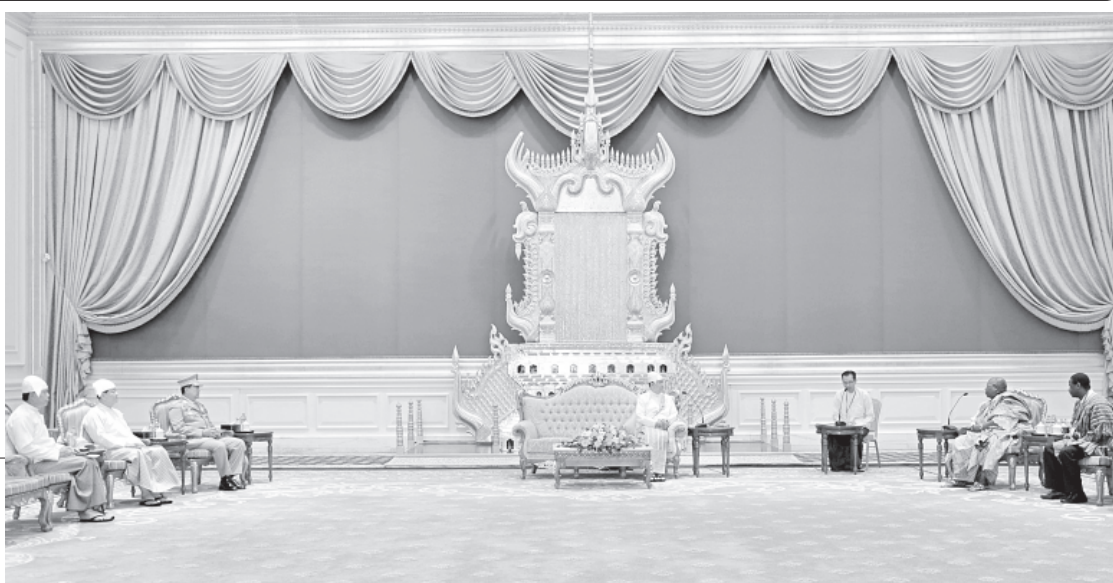
- * Non-disintegration of the Union
- * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
- * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Ambassador of Republic of Ghana

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—H.E Mr Daniel Kwasi Abodakpi, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Ghana to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace here at 10 am today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister at President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Aye Thaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

President U Thein Sein receives Ghanaian Ambassador Mr Daniel Kwasi Abodakpi.—MNA



President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Ambassador of Slovak Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—H.E Mr Vladimir Halgas, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace here at 10.30 am today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister at President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Aye Thaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

President U Thein Sein and Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Myanmar Mr Vladimir Halgas pose for a documentary photo.

MNA



Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (23-5-2012)

Kyaikmaraw	(6.29) inches
Paung	(3.82) inches
Chaungzon	(3.70) inches
Mawlamyine	(3.34) inches
Mudon	(2.83) inches
Mogok	(1.77) inches

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 24 May, 2012

Role of parents and teachers in ensuring better future for children

Education is the foundation of improving society as it enables people to develop their critical thinking and analysis skills in order to solve problems rationally. Education also prepares countries and individuals to compete more effectively in the technology-driven global marketplace.

While education is readily available to a significant segment of the population, some are still deprived of the opportunity of an education, which seriously inhibits their ability to make a better life for themselves and their families.

When people are educated they become stronger because they are more confident and independent. This strength will move them to do great things and the country, as a whole will enjoy greater prosperity.

In the knowledge age, many parents are eager to see what future holds for their child. And the worries of a parent would never end no matter how old their child becomes. In the eyes of parents, their child will always be that small cuddly baby that was meant to be doted upon at all times.

Once parents are aware of their child's potential, they can begin to hone the hidden skills with the proper activities designed to build upon whatever it is that their child has a propensity for. As a child used to spend his formative years in school, there is a growing acceptance that the role of teachers who are the guide of the child becomes crucial.

Since the teachers are the ones who are in control of a child's destiny as a driving force in the education sector, they are to try their best to become a role model while in pursuit of the national education promotion programmes which could be driven by skills, knowledge and better management.

Preparatory meeting for MOH-UNFPA Country Programme (2012-2015) held

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Preparatory Meeting for MOH-UNFPA Country Programme (2012-2015), jointly organized by Ministry of Health and UNFPA, was held at Sky Palace Hotel here this morning, with an address by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin. After that, UNFPA resident representative Mr Mohamed

Abdel-Ahad explained UNFPA Third Programme of assistance and the meeting came to an end.

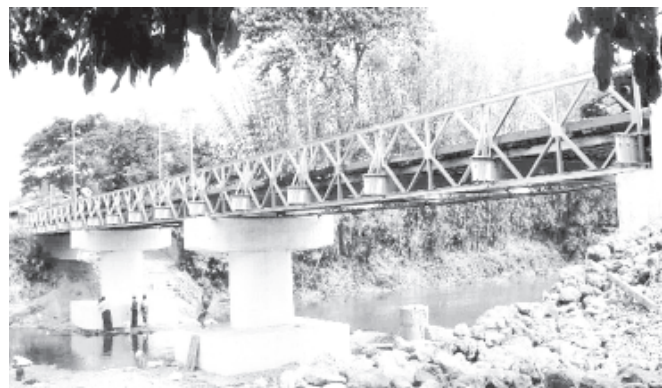
The meeting was resumed at 10 am. Assistant resident representative Daw Hla Hla Aye discussed programme management, coordination and M & E; deputy director (Maternal and Child) Dr Theingi Myint,

overview of RH programme; project officer Dr Ni Ni Khaing, overview of HIV programme; operations manager, LOU and Accountability (Financial rules and regulations, FACE, NEX

Audit); and Dr Thwe Thwe Win, work plan monitoring tool. And they also held discussions on FACE from procedures, reporting and liquidation and procurement procedures.—MNA

Self-reliant concrete steel trust bridge in Mohnyin to open soon

MOHNYIN, 23 May—The wooden bridges crossing over Nanyin Creek that runs in the centre of Mohnyin in Kachin has frequently lost on account of river flooding. With the assistance of Kachin State government, the local people have constructed the concrete steel trust bridge in November, 2011 by themselves. Now the bridge is finished with the length of 150 feet, 14 feet wide and it can withstand 13 tons of loads. It costs K130 million and the Kachin State Chief Minister will attend the opening ceremony of the bridge, said Bridge Construction Committee Chairman U Thein Maung to The New Light of Myanmar Mohnyin correspondent.—NLM(001)



The photo shows the self-reliant concrete steel trust bridge in Mohnyin. NLM(001)

ATR aircraft for domestic flights

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received Sales Director of ATR Mr Francois Leneveu of France at his office at 9 am today.

In meeting with the Director of ATR, the Union Minister said that Myanmar's Air Industry has improved 23% compared with the previous year and the international flights have spread their wings into Myanmar, as well as new flights schedules have increased. The Union Minister also said he wants to know ATR flights for domestic flights on account of increasing new flight schedule. Mr Francois Leneveu explained ATR flights being used all over the

world, prices, receiving orders, time to order new planes and conditions of ATR-600 Series constructed better than ATR-500 Series.

Among domestic flights, state-owned Myanmar Airways and private-owned Air Bagan have ATR FLEET each one and the rest four domestic flights only depends on ATR. ATR flights currently used in Myanmar are the greatest numbers and as the world ATR flights have been used more than 1500 so far and type of TURBO PROP.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Win Shein and responsible persons.

MNA

Chief of Armed Forces Training receives

Commandant of National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI)

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—A delegation led by Commandant of National Defence Studies Institute (NDSI) of the Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters General Padetgarn Jansaewoke paid a call on Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Yar Pyae at Bayintnaung Avenue in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Also present at the call were Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Brig-Gen Ko Ko Khaing, Commander-in-Chief Office (Army) Col Myint Thein and senior military officers and Thai military attaché to Myanmar and officials.

At the call, both sides held discussion on promoting of military training between the two Tatmadaws.—MNA

TEIN3 Workshop aims to develop research and education network in Myanmar

YANGON, 23 May—A TEIN3 Workshop "Connecting Our Research And Education Community To the World" was held at the Park Royal Hotel here today with the aim of promoting the TEIN3 research and education network (REN) in Myanmar.

The workshop, one of the series of three TEIN3 workshops held from May 23 to 28 in Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos, was organized by the University of Computer Studies, Yangon, (UCSY) and DANTE under the aegis of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Myanmar and of the European Commission.

Speaking in his keynote address at the opening ceremony of the workshop, Dr Ko Ko Oo, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology, expressed his views that the workshop would provide knowledge, experience and information to develop the REN in Myanmar, to benefit the strong cooperation with



Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo addresses at Welcome to the TEIN3 Workshop.—MNA

NRENs in the region, and to ensure the future integration of the Myanmar REN into TEIN3.

During the one-day workshop, stakeholders involved in research and education network in three countries discussed how to develop the national research and education network (NREN) in Myanmar and to benefit from a strong cooperation with NRENs in the region and to ensure the future integration of the Myanmar NREN into TEIN3 and officials from Myanmar education and research institutions discussed promising applications which could take the greatest benefit of the potential of a NREN in Myanmar.

Around 100 participants comprising officials from the Myanmar education and research institutions and ICT experts attended the workshop.

The workshop was also opened with keynote speeches by Mads Korn, Attaché, Delegation of the European Union to Thailand/Myanmar and Byung Kyu Kim, Executive Officer, TEIN Cooperation Centre and Dr Nilar Thein, Rector of the University of Computer Studies (Yangon).

NLM

UMFCCI's disaster risk reduction talks on 2 June

YANGON, 23 May—Under aegis of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Myanmar Geosciences Society, Retired Professor Patron of MGS Dr U Thein and Retired Director of United Nations Children Fund Dr Daw Yin Yin Nwe give talks on disaster risk reduction and prevention and rehabilitation at UMFCCI Office on 2 June. The talks are open to anyone who are interested.

MNA



A man walks past Faisal Business Centre in Kabul on 17 May, 2012. —REUTERS

Afghans back Chicago deal, warn West to keep promises

KABUL, 23 May—People in Afghanistan were surprisingly optimistic on Tuesday about NATO's plan to pull combat troops out of their war-ravaged nation by the end of 2014, but warned Western leaders to stick to aid and security promises.

A Chicago summit meeting of the 28-member bloc, attended also by Afghan President Hamid Karzai and other world leaders, endorsed an exit strategy on Monday that calls for handing control of Afghanistan to its own security forces by the middle of next year.

But it left unanswered questions about how to prevent a slide into chaos and a Taliban resurgence after the pullout. Despite the sense of combat fatigue in Chicago and frustration that nearly 11 years of military engagement had failed to defeat Taliban Islamists, Afghans were

surprisingly upbeat. They said the agreement showed Western nations would not abandon their nation after a decade-long war and a massive aid and reconstruction effort.

"I don't think foreign nations will leave us as easily as they say. The international community has spent billions of dollars here now," said university student Tawab, speaking to Reuters at a park near a mosque in central Kabul.

"The conference has decided that some foreign forces will stay in Afghanistan, so it's like back-up support."

Housing prices in Kabul have jumped 15 percent since US President Barack Obama, who declared on Monday that the 10-year war was "effectively over," visited Kabul to sign a long-term security deal with Karzai on 2 May.

Reuters

UN chief called for greater access to medicines for women, children

UNITED NATIONS, 23 May—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday praised the work of a United Nations commission on improving access to life-saving medicines for women and children, while stressing that much remains to be done.

"Last week, the UN issued an important report indicating that, over the past 20 years, the number of women who die from complications during pregnancy has decreased by nearly half," Ban said in remarks at the opening of the UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children. "This is cause for celebration—it is a tribute to the hard work of so many people and

partners." Thereport, "Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010," reflects that the annual number of women dying from birth related complications dropped from more than 543,000 to 287,000, a 47 percent decline.

However, the UN chief pointed out that every day, 800 women, and more than 20,000 children die from preventable causes; every two minutes, a woman dies at what should have been a joyful moment. "And millions of women are unable to choose if, when and how many children they would like to have because they lack access to modern contraception—this tells me we are still not doing enough," he added.

Xinhua

Azerbaijan not to join any military coalition including NATO

BAKU, 23 May—Azerbaijan is not going to join any military coalition for the time being, spokesman for the country's Foreign Ministry Elman Abdullayev told local media here on Tuesday.

According to Abdullayev, Azerbaijan has joined the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and will not join any military block.

"Currently Azerbaijan is loyal to its independent policy and it is not going to join any military block, including NATO. At the same time Azerbaijan pursues the course of integration into the Euro-Atlantic Institutions. Membership and integration are rather different things," he explained.

Last year, commenting on Azerbaijan's integration into NAM, the country's Foreign Ministry spokesman Elxan Poluxov said that the decision to join NAM does not contradict Baku's European integration ambitions, which have always been limited in scope.

Addressing the meeting of heads of state and government on Afghanistan on Monday in Chicago, Azeri President Ilham Aliyev said "Azerbaijan will continue its peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan until the end of 2014 and beyond, if it's necessary." "Since the early years Azerbaijan has made every effort to ensure peace and security in Afghanistan," said the Azeri leader.—Xinhua



Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney addresses supporters during a rally in Manchester, New Hampshire on 24 April, 2012.—REUTERS

Romney wins Kentucky primary, leads in Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK, 23 May—Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney won his party's primary in Kentucky on Tuesday and took a commanding lead in Arkansas, as he got closer to clinching the GOP nomination, official tallies showed. The largely ceremonial victory by Romney came as the Democratic primaries saw President Barack Obama lose some voters to a mostly unknown candidate in Arkansas and the ballot option "uncommitted" in Kentucky, in an apparent sign of voter dissatisfaction with Obama in those conservative Southern states.

Romney had 69 percent of the vote with 40 of 75 Arkansas counties reporting. He was trailed by Texas congressman Ron Paul and former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum, each with 13

percent, returns from the Secretary of State's Office showed. In Kentucky, Romney polled 67 percent with all but one of 120 counties reporting. Paul had 13 percent and Santorum 9 percent of the vote, results from the Kentucky State Board of Elections showed.

Paul has stopped actively campaigning. Santorum has suspended his campaign and endorsed Romney. Romney has all but secured the Republican presidential nomination, winning 989 delegates, not including the Arkansas and Kentucky primaries, according to Real Clear Politics. His next closest rival Santorum had 259. A candidate needs 1,144 delegates to win the nomination. There are 45 delegates at stake in Kentucky and 36 in Arkansas, but neither is a winner-take-all state.—Reuters

US Air jet diverts after passenger claims to have "device"

WASHINGTON, 23 May—A passenger who claimed to have a surgically implanted device prompted a US Airways jetliner to divert to Maine on Tuesday in a security scare that followed a recently foiled bomb plot targeting US-bound aircraft, government officials said.

Flight 787, from Paris to Charlotte, North Carolina, with 188 people aboard, landed safely around noon EDT in Bangor trailed by two F-15 fighter escorts that scrambled to intercept the Boeing 767 as it approached the coast, authorities said.



The passenger jet's crew reported that the cockpit was secure before landing in light rain and taxiing to an isolated area away from the airport

terminal, according to a recording of air traffic control communication with the plane. The woman passenger, described as a

A US Airways flight from Paris to Charlotte, North Carolina that was diverted to Bangor International Airport after reports of a passenger showing "suspicious behavior" takes off after landing safely earlier in the day in Bangor, Maine on 22 May, 2012.—REUTERS

French citizen born in Cameroon, was removed from the aircraft and was questioned by Customs and Border Protection and taken into custody by the FBI, officials said.—Reuters

Small bomb found in Argentina ahead of Uribe visit

BUENOS AIRES, 23 May—Argentine police on Tuesday defused an explosive device hidden in a theater where former Colombian President Alvaro Uribe was scheduled to speak, raising suspicions that left-wing Colombian rebels may have been involved.

Uribe, who cracked down on drug-running guerrillas during his two terms as president, was due to appear at a leadership conference on Wednesday at the Gran Rex theater in downtown Buenos Aires. The bomb would have been detonated at about 4 pm local time on Wednesday, in the area of the theater where Uribe was to attend a reception following his speech.

"It was a simple device but strong enough to cause the death of people nearby," federal judge Norberto Oyarbide, who is in charge of the investigation, told reporters on Tuesday after the device was found by theater maintenance employees.

He said the conference will go on as scheduled.

The theater was evacuated and surrounded by police while the bomb was deactivated and the building searched.—Reuters



Correction
Please read "... on 20 May, 2012." instead of "... on 20 May, 2011." in "correction" appeared on page 3 of this daily issued on 23 May, 2012.—ED
Argentine Federal policemen stand in front of Gran Rex theater where former Colombian President Alvaro Uribe was scheduled to attend a conference the next day, in Buenos Aires on 22 May, 2012.—REUTERS

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Apple's iPhone powers digital guitar

SAN FRANCISCO, 23 May—A California company says its iPhone-powered digital guitar will make it easy for anybody to play music, regardless of experience.

Users can dock their iPhone to the gTar, made by Incident Technologies, open a song in the gTar phone app, and the appropriate frets on the guitar light up to guide your fingers in playing the song, CNET.com reported on Monday.

Incident Technologies call the gTar "the first guitar that anybody can play."

The guitar offers different modes, including a beginner's setup that requires the user to only pluck the right string to have the right note play without have to press down on the string at the correct fret location, to a medium setting where the user learns to do so.

Both modes utilize a feature called SmartPlay, which automatically mutes incorrect notes the user plays.

Hard mode turns off SmartPlay and only illuminates the frets associated with playing a song, while free play lets the



user play the gTar as a conventional guitar.

"The great thing about the gTar is that it lets people have a hands-on immersive experience in music, even if they've never picked up anything like this before, or never even thought about playing music," Incident Technologies founder Idan Beck said.

Internet

Dino fossil sold in controversial auction

NEW YORK, 23 May—A tyrannosaur skeleton has sold for \$1 million despite efforts to halt its auction by Mongolia, which alleges it may have been taken illegally from the country.

Heritage Auctions of Dallas sold the Tyrannosaurus bataar specimen in an auction in New York on Sunday to an anonymous bidder on the condition that the sale receive court approval, Fox News reported.

A temporary restraining order sought to prevent the sale of the skeleton, with court documents contending the specimen originated in Mongolia and that the export of fossils from that country is illegal under the country's law.

During the auction, a handful of Mongolians protested outside the venue.

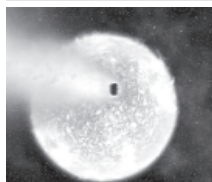
"We want this dinosaur to go back to Mongolia where it belongs, that is the sole purpose of this," said Bolorsetseg Minjin, a



Mongolian paleontologist and director of the Institute for the Study of Mongolian Dinosaurs, who was among those protesting.

Heritage Auctions said specimen entered the United States legally, and that "the consignors warranted in writing to Heritage that they hold clear title to the fossils."

Heritage Auctions has not identified the seller or the buyer.—Internet



Artists' impression of "vanishing" planet.
INTERNET

CAMBRIDGE, 23 May—US scientists say a possible planet 1,500 light-years from Earth is apparently evaporating from the heat of its star, trailing debris like a comet's tail.

The tiny exoplanet, not

Distant planet may be vanishing into dust

much larger than Mercury, may completely disintegrate within 100 million years, a blink of an eye in cosmic terms, researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and NASA said.

The researchers found the dusty planet circles its parent star every 15 hours — one of the shortest planet orbits ever observed — and said such a short orbit must be very close to the star, suggesting the planet could be heated to a temperature of about 3,600 degrees Fahrenheit. Rocky material at the surface of the planet could

melt and evaporate at such high temperatures, giving off both gas and dust into space to form the cloud trailing the planet.

"We think this dust is made up of submicron-sized particles," physics Professor Saul Rappaport said on Friday in an MIT release.

"It would be like looking through a Los Angeles smog," astronomers using the Kepler satellite typically identify exoplanets by looking for regular dips in a star's brightness as a planet crosses in front of it, but in the case of the star dubbed KIC

12557548, they found its light dropped by different intensities every 15 hours.

That suggested something was blocking the star regularly but by varying degrees, they said, and theorized the varying intensities of light were caused by a somewhat amorphous, shape-shifting body. "I'm not sure how we came to this epiphany," Rappaport said. "But it had to be something that was fundamentally changing. It was not a solid body, but rather, dust coming off the planet."—Internet

Astronomers find galactic 'supercluster'

MONTREAL, 23 May—Astronomers using a European space observatory say they've discovered a giant, galaxy-packed cosmic filament ablaze with billions of new stars.

The filament imaged by the European Space Agency's Herschel Space Observatory connects two clusters of galaxies that, along with a third, will eventually come together as one of the largest galaxy superclusters in the universe, the astronomers said.

The glowing galactic

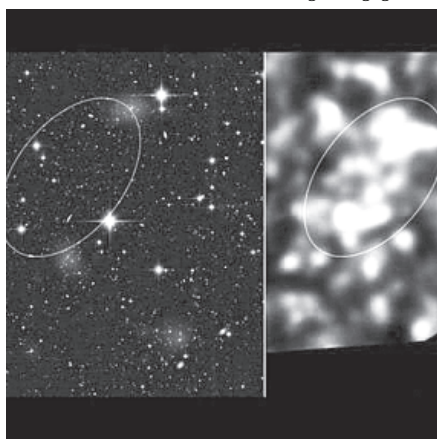
filament offers a unique opportunity to explore how galaxies evolve and merge to form superclusters, they said.

"We are excited about this filament, because we think the intense star formation we see in its galaxies is related to the consolidation of the surrounding supercluster," astrophysicist Kristen Coppin at McGill University in Canada said.

The intergalactic filament, containing hundreds of galaxies, spans 8 million light-years and links two of the three clusters that make up a supercluster known as RCS2319, a distant object whose light has taken more than seven billion years to reach us.

"This luminous bridge of star formation gives us a snapshot of how the evolution of cosmic structure on very large scales affects the evolution of the individual galaxies trapped within it," study co-author Jim Geach said in a McGill release.

Galaxies in the filament are cranking out the equivalent of about 1,000 solar masses (the mass of our sun) of new stars per year, astronomers said, whereas our Milky Way galaxy is producing about one solar mass-worth of new stars per year.—Internet



The Herschel Space Observatory has discovered a giant, galaxy-packed filament ablaze with billions of new stars.
INTERNET

Mystery behind rising sea levels unlocked

LONDON, 23 May—Researchers have identified the gap, which could be an important missing piece of the puzzle in estimates for past and current sea-level changes and for projections of future rises. Global sea levels rose by an average of 1.8mm per year from 1961-2003, according to data from tide gauges.

But the main question is how much of this can be pinned to global warming.

In its landmark 2007 report, the UN's Nobel-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) ascribed 1.1mm per year to thermal expansion of the oceans—water expands when it is heated—and to melt water from glaciers, icecaps and the Greenland and Antarctica icecaps.

That left 0.7mm per year unaccounted for, a mystery that left a number of scientists wondering if the data were correct or if there were some source that had eluded everyone.

A team led by Yabu Kohkai of the University of Tokyo insist that the answer lies in water that is extracted from underground aquifers,

and rivers and lakes for human development but is never replenished.

The water ultimately makes it to the ocean through rivers and evaporation in the soil, they note.

Groundwater extraction is the main constituent of additions that account for the mystery gap, according to their paper, which is based on computer modelling.

"Together, unsustainable groundwater use, artificial reservoir water impounding, climate-driven change in terrestrial water storage and the loss of water from closed basins have contributed a sea-level rise of 0.77mm per year between 1961 and 2003, about 42pc of the observed sea-level rise," it said. The probe seeks to fill one of the knowledge gaps in the complex science of climate change.

Researchers admitted to many unknowns about how the oceans respond to warming, and one of them is sea-level rise, an important question for hundreds of millions of coastal dwellers.

Just a tiny rise, if repeated year on year, can eventually have a dramatic impact in

locations that are vulnerable to storm surges or the influx of salt water into aquifers or coastal fields. In its 2007 Fourth Assessment Report, the IPCC said the oceans would rise by between 18 and 59cm by the century's end. But this estimate did not factor in melt water from the mighty Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets.

A study published last year by the Oslo-based Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Project (AMAP) said sea levels would rise, on current melting trends, by 90cm to 1.6m by 2100. The study has been published in the journal *Nature Geoscience*.

Internet

New packaging makes edible flowers easier

CHICAGO, 23 May—A new storage technique makes it possible for edible flowers to maintain a higher quality, making them available to more cooks, US researchers said.

Flowers have a large surface-area-to-volume ratio and many delicately attached parts making them susceptible to petal loosening, discoloration and wilting, the

researchers said. Compared with other kinds of flowers, edible flowers are even more vulnerable to post-harvest quality loss than cut flowers, because their stems are cut very short and they are stored without additional water supply.

Currently, edible flowers are often packed in clam shell containers and must be used

within two to five days of harvest, which requires air transportation to reach most regions. The study, published in the *Journal of Food Science*, compared a new controlled release technology along with modified atmosphere packaging to the packing technique that is currently being used. For example, freshly harvested

carrots and snapdragons were packaged in trays with a 1-MVP strip — a synthetic plant growth regulator — sealed with a gas permeable film and stored at 41 degrees Fahrenheit had significantly reduced dehydration and maintained higher overall quality compared to flowers packaged commercially in plastic clam shell containers, the researchers said.

Internet

HONOUR TO HONOUR DUE

BY BA THAN

A warm in-house function and fete of the Information Ministry was held in the Kandawgyi Palace at Kandawgyi Lake on the evening of Monday the 14th May 2012. The occasion was to honour the intellectuals, literati and artistes from the world of letters; from entertainment world of movies, videos, classical dramas and plays, songs and singers who had contributed voluntarily towards the ongoing multi-faceted functions, activities and entertainment of the Information Ministry in the years 2010 and 2011.

The ceremony was attended by the Honourable Union Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan, Chief Minister for Yangon Region U Myint Swe, dignitaries, the intellectuals, artistes, specially invited guests and senior officials from the Departments and Enterprises under the Ministry. In delivering felicitations for the gathering the Honourable Minister spoke most glowingly of the contributions extended by these intellectuals for furtherance of the cultural and literary heritage and in doing so had sustained and nurtured their blossoming in full stature to the pinnacles of achievement. These voluntary endeavours were borne out selflessly and in zest by one and all, some oldies, in spite of creeping old age, doddering, feeble in body but still virile in mind, exchanging each other's shortcomings (pains in back, knees and joints, hard of hearing, dimming eye sights, forgetfulness) with mirth and laughter, joining the fun of the moment. Tokens in remembrance, gratitude and respect were presented to 152 doyen personalities, followed by sumptuous buffet dinner and entertainment by the artistes of the Fine Arts bevy of lithe and comely dancers.

After enjoying good food, I took a stroll outside the Karaweik Hall along the corridor as the beautiful night scene captivated me. The concrete golden mythical bird was perched on the bank, with the dark water of the Lake reflecting the glitter of night lights. Light breeze ruffled my hair. In such contemplative mood my memory raced

back a thousand years along heritage trajectory to the Bagan Era bloom of literature, culture, fine arts etc. It was said that the Baganites talked in verses and riddles manifested in high literacy. Most literary works: prose, drama, and verse were based in the Buddhist teachings, scriptures and jatakas, and also touched on nature and social environment, sights and scenes. Such high literacy was propagated by monastic training and instruction through many significant dynasties witnessing literary talent of unmatched quality both among the scholar monks and laymen. I had taken Optional Myanmar in my inter combination for two years at Mandalay University (1947-49), and was enthralled by such gems of Myanmar literary contributions equal to none. Famous names magnificently decked the heritage halls of fame where modern puny replicas could never be matched. Ashin Maha Silavamsa, Ashin Maha Rathasara, the famous four scholar monks prophesized by the growth of four pay trees, Wungyi Padetharaja the rural Myanmar poet as Wordsworth was an English one. Then comes versatile dramatist U Ponnya, Myanmar Shakespeare, Myanmar soldier poet Myawady Mingyi U Sa, Prince poet Nat Shin Naung and forlorn princess Hlaing Hteik Khaung Tin. These accomplished scholars shone with infinite dedication to their selfless literary endeavours to leave fitting legacies for future generations yet unborn. Successive powerful and benevolent Myanmar kings rendered royal patronage, fitting honours and citations that a hundred flowers may bloom.

The momentum of literary mainstream continued but with dimmed luster during the British Occupation Period. However there was a fresh literary wind with the introduction of Myanmar translation of epic English classics and the famous Arabian Nights among many others. And there was the new literary movement Khitsan Sarpay pioneered by the new elite University Graduates, with enduring fame.

The first formally designated Writer's Day Sarsotaw Nay was held on 1st Waxing Day of Nattaw 1306 (15th

November 1944). It will now be 69 years since its inception this Sarsotaw Day—2013. After Independence, Sarpay Beikman was formed with the slogan 'to dispel darkness and bring light.' Literary competitions were organized to nurture new talent. Aspiring writers and poets endeavoured to sharpen their talents by competing and prizes were given as incentive. Following that came the need to read and select the most deserving, selflessly, competently, with righteous dedication without bias or favour. Thus the role of the scholars, intellectuals rendering their wealth of experience voluntarily in the selection process were mobilized and respectfully honoured.

Such voluntary dedication was not confined to scrutiny and selection of published books and manuscripts. More in-depth works of research, collections and compilations were undertaken by these doyen scholars. The wide range of such tasks included compilation of literary references, compilation of dictionaries, research into documents of archival and heritage value, research paper presentation on forums and conferences, preparation of fact books, books on the state of the nation, annual literary and position reports etc.

The present occasion was one of such felicitations. It was indeed the heritage of our forefathers and it is the bounden duty of the successors all those concerned that be, to propagate and perpetuate this hallowed literary and cultural tradition deservedly. Maybe just a few were honoured with respect and gratitude. And there remains many, yet unknown, unacknowledged, unhonoured and unsung. But these intellectuals rendered their accumulative knowledge, experience expertise not for favour or pelf, but for the joy of doing so. And by itself they already had their rewards, the piti of contributing to society. What I have written now as a memorable contribution is just brushing the tip of the iceberg or the hydrofoil approach. There are many who can do much more and I encourage them to do so.

Myanmar UCSB delegation observes CSOs and Universities of PRC

YANGON, 23 May—The Myanmar delegation led by Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board (UCSB) paid a study visit to the Civil Service Organizations and Universities of the People's Republic of China from 16 to 23 May.

The UCSB Chairman accompanied by Consul General U Myint Swe of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Nanning attended the Welcoming Ceremony to the 60th Anniversary of the Guangxi University for Nationalities chaired by Mr Zhong Hai Qing, Secretary of the Party Committee of Guangxi University for Nationalities at Yong Jiang Hotel Multifunctional Hall on 17 May.

The UCSB Chairman and party paid a visit to Mr Jiang Ming Hong, Director-General of the Human Resources Department and authorities in Nanning City. They exchanged views on matters of enhancing bilateral relations and mutually beneficial cooperation.

The UCSB Chairman and party attended the



Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board U Kyaw Thu receives Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Mr Ma Biao.

MNA

Celebration Ceremony of the 60th Anniversary of Guangxi University for Nationalities chaired by Mr Ma Biao, Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Mr Zhong Hai Qing, Secretary of the Party Committee of Guangxi University for Nationalities at the University Sport Stadium on 18 May.

Afterwards, the UCSB Chairman and party paid a

courtesy call on Mr Ma Biao, Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region at the International Education College and held friendly discussion matters of enhancing bilateral relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries. In the afternoon, they observed the background history and the training programmes of the Guangxi

University of Nationalities. The Myanmar delegation visited Guilin City and Yang Shou City of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

The Myanmar delegation together with Assistant Director U Zaw Htet Naing of the Civil Service Affairs Department arrived back in Yangon by air from Kunming this morning.—MNA

Kayin State Chief Minister undertakes regional development tasks in Kyar-in-Seikkyl Township

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min met local people at monastery in Ahanangwin Village, Kyar-in-Seikkyl Township on 14 May. He donated Sky Net TV re-transmitter and books and publications there. On 15 May, he looked around Payathonesu. After that he attended rainy season tree-planting ceremony in People's Hospital and distributed saplings. The Region Chief Minister, region ministers and officials grew plants there.

In meeting with the local people, townselders and social organizations from Payathonesu, the Region chief minister presented three sets of Sky Net TV re-transmitters.

Afterwards, he attended handing over ceremony of National Scrutinizing Card at the Sub-township General Administration Department, and then donated one set of Sky Net TV re-transmitter to the Sub-township Information and Public Relations Department and books and publications to library.

The chief minister visited footwear factory and Aungtharaphu garment factory in Payathonesu. After that, he paid homage to the Presiding Sayadaw of Dhammayayon Parahitta Monastery and donated one set of Sky Net TV re-transmitter, rice, onion and bags of gram for the students.

MNA

Myanmar-Thai economic discussion on 28 May

YANGON, 23 May—A discussion between Republic of the Union of Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Thai entrepreneurs, will be held at Inya Lake Hotel on 28 May. The 76 Thai entrepreneurs from 50 companies are led by Senior Executive Investment Advisor Mrs Hirunya Suchinai of Office of The Board of Investment (BOI) of Thailand. Myanmar entrepreneurs wishing to participate in discussion may register at UMFCICI (ph-214344-49 and Ext:121 and 122).—MNA



WRITERS ASSOCIATION FORMED: Executive members of Pabedan Township Writers Association were elected on 13 May.—KYEMON



CASH DONATED: Daw Kyi Kyi Nyunt residing on Khayay road, Ward 5, Hline Township, Yangon, donated K 0.5 million to U Hla Tun Hospice Cancer Foundation through assistant administrator U Ohn Myint and treasurer Daw Yin Yin Swe.—KYEMON



CASH DONATED: Monywa Saya Moe family of North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region donated K 5 million to be used in construction of ordination hall in Myatheindan monastery in Bilin Township, Thaton district, Mon State through construction board members U Khin Zaw, U Chit Tin Pe and U Ohn Myint on 20 May.—KYEMON



CASH DONATED: Executive Committee Chairman U Kyaw Shein (Retd Lt-Col) of Hninzigon Home for the aged accepted K 0.5 million donated by Retd Ambassador U Ko Ko Gyi and wife Daw Yin Yin Mya residing on Thiri road, Parami Yeiktha, Yankin Township, Yangon Region, to mark 63rd Anniversary of their wedding marriage.

HOME FOR THE AGED

Pyin-nya-nyan library opens in Kayan Township

KAYAN, 23 May—A ceremony to open Pyin-nya-nyan self-reliant library in Naunglan village in Naunglan village-tract in Kayan Township, Yangon South District, was held on 17 May. At the ceremony, Township administrator U Tin Myint, Township Information and Public Relations Department staff

officer Daw Ei Zar Hlaing and village administrator U Saw Min Ko formally opened it.

After that, officials accepted books and publication donated by Myanmar Library Foundation (MLF), the Township administrator, the Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, and Township IPRD. It was built with the contribution of K 0.5 million by MLF and K 0.4 million by local people.

Township IPRD

DISTRICT NEWS



CASH AND KIND PROVIDED TO FIRE VICTIMS: Fire victims of 19 ward in Hlaingthaya Township are accommodated at makeshift rescue camp in Basic Education Primary School No.32. On 5 May, the Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative and members of social development committee gave encouragement to them and donated blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen utensils and cash.—KYEMON



TALKS GIVEN: Police inspector Than Win of Hline Township Police Station gave talks on reducing crimes, at 12 Ward in Hline Township on 17 May.—MYANMA ALIN



Export earnings of fishery sector reaches over 78 million USD

YANGON, 23 May—Exports earnings of marine products from 1 April to 20 May, have reached 78.451 million USD, according to Fishery Department. Earnings of marine products export through normal trade channels amount to 45.13 million USD. Exports through border trade camps are Muse (8.07 million USD), Myawady (1.51 million USD), Kawthoung (4.50 million USD), Sittway (0.41 million USD), Myeik (18.04 million USD) and Maungdaw (0.76 million USD). This year budget for export earnings of the marine products is 700 million USD like previous year. Export earnings of crabs and eels that cover in this budget are increased to 38 million USD for crabs and 30 million USD for eels, said officials from FIQC branch of Fishery Department, at regular meeting of meat and fishery entrepreneurs, on 22 May.—Kyemon



Maw Naychi library opens in Muse Township

MUSE, 23 May—A ceremony to open Maw Naychi library in Homon ward of Muse, Shan State (North), was held on 20 May. It was attended by Muse District administrator U Moe Hein, Township administrator U Mya Han, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Sai Boe Aung, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Sai Win Maung, State Hluttaw representative U Kein Mai, departmental officials and donors. At the ceremony, the Muse District administrator delivered a speech. Books and publications were donated through officials. Afterwards, the district administrator, the Pyithu Hluttaw representative and Chairman of library construction U Myint Soe opened the library.

Myanma Alin

KBZ Bank, SMBC Bank ink MoU on technical cooperation

YANGON, 23 May—As part of Japan-Myanmar Cooperation Programme, a signing ceremony of technical cooperation between Kanbawza Bank Ltd and SMBC Bank of Japan was held at Chatrium Hotel on 21 May. It was attended by Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Maung Maung Win, Chairman of KBZ Bank Ltd U Aung Ko Win, Director Daw Nan Kham Hlaing and officials, Deputy President Mr Hihoshi Minoura and officials of SMBC Bank. At the ceremony, Mr Hihoshi

Minoura and Managing Director U Nyo Myint of International Banking Services of Kanbawza Bank Ltd delivered speeches.

After that, Managing Director U Than Cho of Kanbawza Bank Ltd and Mr

Hihoshi Minoura inked and exchanged MoU on technical cooperation. Director Daw Nan Kham Hlaing and Mr Hihoshi Minoura exchanged gifts.

The MoU signing is implemented as it was

discussed during Myanmar President's goodwill visit to Japan. The main purpose of it is to have constant cooperation between two countries. And SMBC Bank also helps development of Kanbawza Bank's corporate governance, marketing and human resource management.—Kyemon



Union Transport Minister meets Keppel Group Chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received delegation led by Chairman Mr Lee Bong Yang of Singapore-based Keppel Group at the ministry here this morning.

The chairman and party discussed matters related to investment in hotels, transportation,

commodity storage, civil engineering, seafood, cold storage and building ships. The Union Minister said master plan is being drafted to establish logistic stations along Ayeyawady River which could joint Logistic Supply China Network. He also invited investments in ports, special economic zones and deep sea ports.

Keppel Group, which is managing Sedona Hotels in Yangon and Mandalay, has established their businesses in Myanmar since 1993. The conglomerate is operating offshore oil rigs, dockyards, construction sites, electricity and natural gas industries and logistics with above 37000 staff in 30 countries.—MNA



Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung receives Chairman Mr Lee Bong Yang of Keppel Group and party.—MNA

Mandalay Region Chief Minister addresses meeting for effective reforms in regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint addressed the coordination meeting for effective reforms in regional development tasks at the hall of General Administration Department of the region on 18 May.

The region chief minister said the government is making plans for bringing about people-centered development in second phase of reform strategy. Effective

plans have to be laid for improving livelihood of the people and creating job opportunities as well as in the administration sector.

He also highlighted the need to manage international aid, loans and investment as capital, technology and human resources are required for reform process. He also called on private sector, social and economic associations for cooperating with the region

government in fulfilling socio-economic needs of individuals, alleviating poverty and development human resources.

The region ministers, district deputy commissioners and region level departmental officials discussed matters related to regional development tasks.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks by the chief minister.—MNA

Application for registration as political party submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Shan Nationalities League for Democracy today submitted the application for registration as political party as Union Election

Commission is scrutinizing and passing the applications for registration as political parties.

MNA

Kawa Creek-crossing bridge opened in Kyaikhto Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Kawa Creek Bridge linking Sittoung village and villages on the other bank in Kyaikhto Township, Mon State was commissioned into service yesterday morning, attended by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint.

Donor Second Secretary of Japanese Embassy Mr Nakaya Go explained how much he hoped

the bridge would contribute. Then, the director-general of Religious Affairs Department explained purpose of the establishment of Sasana Nugaha Association and the contribution of the association in bridge construction.

Next, State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyin Pe, the second secretary of the Japanese Embassy and the director-general formally opened the

bridge. The state chief minister unveiled the signboard of the bridge and inspected the bridge.

The bridge is of RC type with steel truss whose length is 260 feet and width 8 feet. Construction of the bridge which cost over K 100 million started in 2009 and could be finally inaugurated on 22 May 2012.

MNA

Union A&I Minister receives Indian, Dutch Ambassadors



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing receives Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri at the ministry here this morning.

They discussed

matters related to development of agricultural sector, construction of A Care Centre for research purpose as a technical cooperation between the two countries and establishment of Rice Bio Park.

The Union

Minister also received Ambassador of the Netherlands to Myanmar Mr Johannes Andries this afternoon and discussed matters related to cooperation in agricultural sector and investment.

MNA

National Sanitation Week launched in Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—National Sanitation Week (2012) was launched at Town Hall of Myitkyina in Kachin State yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, State Hluttaw Speaker U Rawan Jon, the

chief justice of the state high court, state ministers, the attorney-general of the state, the advocate-general of the state, Secretary U Min Chit Oo of the state government, departmental heads, members of social organizations, and trainees of education college and nursing training school.

The state chief minister delivered an opening address and Head of State Health Department Dr Myint Oo presented facts and figures of sanitation tasks in Kachin State.

The state chief minister and those present at the ceremony then viewed round the booths.—MNA

Myanmar, Vietnam to cooperate in banking sector

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein received Counsellor Tran Phuoc Anh

and party of Vietnamese Embassy, at his office here this morning. At the call, they had a cordial discussion on cooperation between

banks of Myanmar and Vietnam and investments of Vietnamese entrepreneurs in Myanmar.

MNA



Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein holds talk with Counsellor Tran Phuoc Anh of Vietnamese Embassy and party.—MNA

Union Information and Culture Minister organizes novitiation ceremony in Pale Tsp



Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win and congregation receive Five Precepts at the novitiation ceremony of 108 children.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—The novitiation ceremony organized by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win for a total of 108 needy children from wards and villages of Pale Township, Sagaing Region took place ward at Sasana Beikman in Parami Ward of Pale yesterday morning.

Present at the novitiation ceremony were Union Minister U Kyaw

Hasn and wife, the Sagaing Region Hluttaw Speaker and wife, the deputy speaker, region Hluttaw representatives, departmental personnel, senior citizens and dwellers of Pale Township.

First, the Union Minister, wife and guests offered meals to monks and novices. Then, the congregation led by the Union Minister and wife took the Five Precepts from Nibban SeikU Sayadaw of

Kanpauk Village of Pale Township Member of State Sangha Central Working Committee Agga Maha Kamahtanaçariya Bhaddanta Visuta, heard religious verses from monks and presented offertories to them.

The congregation then heard sermons from Sayadaw Agga Maha Kamahtanaçariya Bhaddanta Visuta and shared merits gained. The ceremony then came to an end with three times recitation of Namotassa.

After the ceremony, the Union Minister and wife, and guests presented offertories to the novices. A total of 108 children of needy people who have financial difficulties to put their children under Sangha's Order on their own from Pale (South) Ward, Pale (North) Ward, and Letpukan, Alebon, Inmahti, Tane, Thaytayar, Myagon, Legan, Mintaingpin, Ywatha (Leingon), Aima, Kanpauk, Nyaunggon, Ngapyawtaw (South), Kyokyao, Thaedaw

and other villages in Pale Township of Sagaing Region joined the novicehood in the novitiation ceremony which was held with traditional customs such as Shainlaung procession, entertainment, offering of morning meals to monks, feast to the guests and novices' asking novicehood from senior monks.

MNA

Union Minister receives foreign guests

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan received delegation led by Director Ms Samantha Fok of IDA International Pte Ltd and delegation led by Chairperson Ms Kay Kuok Oon Kwong of Shangri-La Co Ltd separately at his office here today.

The delegation of IDA International Pte Ltd discussed matters related to smooth entry of foreign visitors, reservation of hotel rooms and willingness of the company to cooperate in other services.

The Union Minister said the ministry has laid down four policies for tourism development and made

arrangements for allowing hotels with foreign direct investment, upgrading hotels, transporting foreign tourists and issuing on arrival visas and e-visas.

The delegation of Shangri-La Co Ltd said upgrading Traders Hotel at the cost of US\$ 36 million will be completed by August 2013; remaining land

leasing fee would be paid to the government in line with the regulations; the company will open a hospitality training school in Myanmar and is willing to invest in Myeik Archipelago.

The Union Minister guaranteed rendering of necessary assistances by the ministry.

Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister U Htay Aung, the director-general, the managing director, the deputy director-general and officials.

MNA



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan receives Chairperson Ms Kay Kuok Oon Kwong of Shangri-La Co Ltd and party.—MNA

Public notice for Remonstrance

1. Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, headquartered at No. 26, Pyay Road, 9th Mile, No. 5 Ward, Mayangon Township, Yangon Region, applied for registration as a political party on 23-5-2012 in accord with Political Parties Registration Law Section 5. In applying for its registration, the party has submitted its name, flag and logo to be



The flag of Shan Nationalities League for Democracy

used as mentioned under.

2. It is hereby announced in accord with Political Parties Registration Rule 14 (d) that those wish to remonstrate with the Union Election Commission about the party name, flag and logo may do so with firm evidence within seven days from the date of the announcement.



The logo of Shan Nationalities League for Democracy

Union Election Commission

Aye Mya Thaya new village opened in Kunchangon Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe attended the opening of Aye Mya Thaya new village in Kalauktaya Village-tract in Kunchangon Township together with Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, region ministers, and departmental personnel yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, the region minister said that under the supervision of the region government, the UN-Habitat and ADRA Myanmar constructed 431 houses for survivors of Nargis cyclone beginning 17 January, 2012 and the construction was finally completed, and so the new village was opened. UN-Habitat and ADRA Myanmar had also dug wells and constructed kitchens for the victims. System Engineering Co Ltd would set up education and health facilities and give small loans to them.

Personnel of the organizations and governmental officials explained construction of houses in the village and follow-up measures. The region chief minister and personnel then viewed the houses and village nursery and planted wind-breaking trees along the main street of the village.

The UN-Habitat donated 131 houses, 431 toilets, eight wells, and other accessories and the ADRA Myanmar 300 houses.

MNA

and importing oil and related products. The Union Minister and officials discussed conditions and procedures for making investment in the sector.

MNA

Union Energy Minister receives Vice President of Shell Eastern Petroleum Ltd

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay received delegation led by Vice President Mr Ton Ten Have of Shell Eastern Petroleum Ltd, a Singapore-based arm of Shell international petroleum company, at the ministry here this morning. Shell Company acquired potentials for exploring oil and gas in offshore oil rigs in Myanmar

U-5 pediatric centre opened at Mitta Sanye Clinic of MMCWA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—U-5 children health care centre was opened at Mitta Sanye Clinic in the compound of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Office here yesterday, attended by the President and CEC members of the MMCWA, personnel from Health Department, pediatricians and gynecologists from 1000-bed Nay Pyi Taw People's Hospital, and chairpersons and members of MMCWOs and guests.

MMCWA President Dr Mon Mon Aung delivered an opening speech followed by educative talks on health care for children under five years by specialists and officials of the Health Department.

CEC members and guests then looked round the clinic and rendered health care to the U-5 children.

MNA

Union F & R Minister meets MDRI, President's economic advisor, economists

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun received MDRI, economic advisor to the President Dr U Myint and economists Professor Paul Collier and Dr Robert F. Conrad, at his office here this afternoon.

The meeting focused on monetary sector and budget,

new tax policy, investment opportunities and challenges, rural development and poverty alleviation and social security.

It was also attended by Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein, managing directors, directors-general and

officials from departments and enterprises under the ministry.

The guests also had a detailed discussion with teams led by Director-General Dr Lin Aung of Budget Department and Director-General U Myat Maw of Internal Revenue Department.—MNA



Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun receives MDRI, economic advisor to the President Dr U Myint and economists Professor Paul Collier and Dr Robert F. Conrad.—MNA

Union Minister receives Netherland, Chinese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun received Bangkok-based Netherland Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Johannes Andries Boer at the ministry here this afternoon.

They discussed matters related to cooperation in development of forestry

sector between the two countries.

The Union Minister also received delegation led by Mr Du Shixin of Sunshine Kaidi New Energy Group Company Limited of China earlier this morning. The meeting focused on establishment of plantations in place of spoiled forests and production of bio fuel and natural fertilizers.—MNA

Distribution of electricity with new generators

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Electricity is being supplied with new generators in addition to current running generators to the places where there is power shortages so as to ensure supply of drinking water and distribution of electricity at night.

The distribution of electricity is being carried out with 11 generators (3895 KVA) in Yangon; 20 generators (6315 KVA) in Mandalay; five generators (735 KVA) in Pyay and two generators (200 KVA) in Monywa. In addition, six (2 MW) generators from Caterpillar Co., Ltd are in order and they will arrive within one week.

Arrangements are being made for arrival of six diesel-fired generators (1 MW) from Singapore within one week and two gas turbines (25 MW) from General Electric Co., Ltd as quickly as possible.—MNA

Iran to keep lower grade uranium enrichment, says expert

TEHERAN, 23 May—Iran will maintain lower grade enrichment activities though it is likely to agree to suspend its 20-percent uranium enrichment during Wednesday's nuclear talks with the world's major powers, an Iranian expert has said.

If the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and P5+1 countries, namely, the five permanent members of the UN security Council plus Germany, agree that Iran has the right to enrich uranium up to 3.5 percent for

civilian use, Iran will likely give up production of 20 percent enriched uranium.

"That is a kind of solution (to Iran's nuclear programme)," Dr Sadeq Zibakalam, a professor of political science with Teheran University, said in an interview with Xinhua on Tuesday.

If Iran agrees to suspend production of 20 percent enriched uranium, it will definitely ask for lifting some Western sanctions in return, Zibakalam said. "Of course,

Iran would say what about the sanctions? Now what about something in return?" said the Iranian scholar.

After the previous round of nuclear talks between Iran and the P5+1 in Istanbul of Turkey on 14 April, with both sides describing the talks as positive, Iranian officials have incessantly urged Western countries to lift some sanctions against Teheran before or during the following round of nuclear talks on Wednesday.

Xinhua

India to assist bordering regions in infrastructural development



Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay holds talks with Indian Ambassador Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri paid a call on Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay at the latter's office here this morning.

Their discussions focused on signing of MoU on implementation of 25 USD-million-worth projects for such socio-economic infrastructural development works as road and bridge construction, education and health care services, small-scale hydropower projects

and solar power generation in Naga Self-Administered Zone, and Chin State and Rakhine State, the north-western regions of Myanmar which are sharing border with India. The project will last for five years with provision of five million USD in each year.—MNA

Union NPED Minister calls for careful planning



Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing speaking to heads of Planning Departments from regions and states.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—yesterday. Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing met heads of Planning Department at his office

The Union Minister urged the heads of Planning Department to follow the instructions of region/state government and the union

ministry in doing plans and to coordinate with the planning committees at different levels and give advice to them.

MNA

220 endangered rhinos killed in South Africa since beginning of 2012

JOHANNESBURG, 23 May—At least 220 endangered rhinos have been lost to the poachers for their horns in South Africa since the beginning of this year, a government department said on Tuesday. Among the slaughtered rhinos, 207 were killed in the famous Kruger National Park in the northeastern province of Limpopo, and the reserves in the central northern province

of the North West and the southeastern province of KwaZulu-Natal, said the Department of Environmental Affairs.

In 2011, a total of 448 rhinos were killed in South Africa, compared to 333 in 2010.

Conservationists have warned the rhino in South Africa is facing their worst poaching crisis in decades. If the killing trend continues at

this rate, it is expected that at least 500 rhinos will be illegally slaughtered by the end of 2012. "The department, our provinces and public entities view this illegal killing of our national treasure in a very serious light, and will continue to prioritize our fight against this crime with other law enforcement agencies," said the department spokesperson Albi Modise.—Xinhua



COLLECTIVE BLOOD DONATION: The 66th Fire Brigade Day Commemorative collective blood donation was held at Mandalay Region Fire Services Department on 1 May.—TUN HLA AUNG (MDY)



FIRE BRIGADE DAY OBSERVED: The 66th Fire Brigade Day was observed at Aungmyay Mandala sport ground in Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay on 5 May. Mandalay Region Minister for Planning U Aung Zan on enjoyed demonstration of fire drill.

TUN HLA AUNG (MDY)

DISTRICT NEWS



CASH DONATED: Joint secretary -2 Dr Gyo Gyo San of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association donated cash thorough parton of Rakhine State MCWA Daw Nu Nu Zan, at discussion between MMCWA and Rakhine State MCWA on 20 May.—MNA



PHOE YAZAR LIBRARY OPENED: Opening of Phoe Yazar library was held in Paleku village in Yebyu Township in Dawei District, Taninthayi Region on 22 May.—MNA

Reconstruction of Sedawgyi dam complete



MANDALAY, 22 May—Reconstruction of Sedawgyi dam and channels in Mandalay Region has been carried out soon.

The works started in December 2011 and ended in March 2012. Before being renovated, it had to face difficulties in supply of irrigation water and take too much time. It is supplying irrigation waters to 73927 acres of farmlands in Mattaya, Patheingyi, Mandalay and Amarapura Townships and drinking water. It was reconstructed with the State's finds.—THIHA KO KO (MDY)



Talks on cooperatives knowledge given in North Okkalapa Township

YANGON, 23 May—Talks on current cooperatives knowledge, organized by North Okkalapa Township Cooperatives Ltd, was held at Township Cooperatives Ltd on 14 May. Assistant director U Aung Min of Yangon Region Cooperatives Department, Chairman of Yangon Region Cooperatives Ltd U Myint Naing and Chairman of Township Cooperatives Ltd U Tin Win gave talks on cooperatives activities.—Township Cooperatives

Cooperatives Agriculture and Livestock Course opens in Ayeyawady Region

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Opening of Cooperatives Agriculture and Livestock course (1/2012-2013), jointly conducted by Ayeyawady Region Cooperatives Department and Cooperatives Syndicate, was held at Ayeyawady Region cooperatives training school on 14 May. The Ayeyawady Region Minister for Planning and Economy delivered a speech on the occasion. It was attended by the assistant director of Region Cooperatives

Department and staff officers, Chairman and directors of Region Cooperatives Syndicate Federation,

principal of cooperatives training school and course instructors and 52 trainees from 26 townships in the Region.

Cooperatives Department



Emergency Ambulance Foundation to be set up

YANGON, 23 May—With the aim of recuing lives of emergency patients, Emergency Ambulance Foundation will be set up in coming July this year, according to Myanmar Medical Association.

“Wellwishers from home and abroad donated ambulances needed for the Foundation. Systematic trainings are being given to health staff,” said Dr Tha Htet Aung of MMA. Wellwishers have been requested to donate necessary machines.

The Foundation will offer 24/7 services without taking profit. The service charge is a minimum of K 20000, based on distances and treatment.

KHIN YADANA



OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR DONATED: To mark the opening of Orange Super Market in Tawin Center in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, Chief accountant of Creation (Myanmar) Co., Ltd donated one oxygen concentrator to Yangon Children's Hospital through Medical Superintendent Dr Than Htaik and professor/dean professor Dr Saw Win on 17 May.—MNA



BOOKS AND CASH DONATED: A ceremony to donate books and cash to Linyaungchi library in Chaungsalan village, Shwepyisoe village-tract, Kawthoung Township, was held on 13 May.—Township IPRD



Photo taken on 22 May, 2012 shows the landslide site on the No 319 national highway beside the Wulingshan Tunnel in Chongqing, southwest China. The rainstorm-triggered landslide, which happened at around 11:00 am, resulted in an accumulation of more than 10,000 cubic metres of earth and stone and cut off traffic from Qianjiang District to Pengshui County in Chongqing, said Zhou Xinguo, deputy director of the district's transportation commission. —XINHUA

Cuba's tourist arrivals hit record high

HAVANA, 23 May—Tourist arrivals in Cuba hit an unexpected record in the first four months this year, the Cuban National Statistic Bureau (NBS) said on Tuesday.

The number of visitors to the Caribbean island country reached 1.24 million in the first four months of this year, up 5.2 percent over the same period in 2011, the bureau said, adding that the record figure produced a 12-percent increase in revenue.

In April alone, Cuba received 288,523 tourists, 13,122 more than the same month in 2011, the NBS said.

Canada remains the biggest source of tourists, followed by France, Argentina, Germany, Russia and Mexico.

Expecting tourism to serve as an engine of growth to help the development of other social and economic projects, the Cuban government aims at receiving 3 million tourists in 2012.

Xinhua



A newly constructed home is seen for sale in Joplin, Missouri on 16 May, 2012.—REUTERS

Japan's April trade deficit expands to 6.5 b USD

TOKYO, 23 May—Japan's trade deficit in April hit 520 billion yen (about 6.5 billion US dollars) amid expanding demand for oil and gas imports, a government report said on Wednesday.

The deficit figure was the biggest for the recording month since the government data was collected in 1979. The value of imports for April surged 8.0 percent from a year earlier to 6,087 billion yen, while exports climbed 7.9 percent to 5,567 billion yen, according to the report released by the Finance Ministry.

The world's third largest economy had recorded the worst trade deficit in the fiscal year 2011 which ended in March due to rising imports of oil and gas after the 11 March disasters last year.

The devastating earthquake and tsunami that hit northeastern Japan last year not only caused disruptions in the supply chain of auto parts but also triggered a nuclear crisis that led to suspension of reactors. Currently, all of the nation's 50 commercial reactors are off-line, leading to a power shortage across the country.

The appreciation of the yen was also cited by the government as a factor for the rising deficit.

While Japan's imports grew, its exports also showed strong momentum. The nation's exports marked the second straight month of climb thanks to the shipments to the United States and the Middle East, the ministry said.

Exports to the United States surged 42.9 percent to 959 billion yen, while the figure for China, Japan's biggest trading partner, contracted 7.1 percent to 995 billion yen.

Xinhua

Supply bottlenecks: in India, they're no small potatoes

NEW DELHI, 23 May—Buried in recent monthly data for wholesale prices in India, the wild gyrations of a humble vegetable tell the tale of an economy trapped in inflation by its own rigidities.

Back in December, after a bumper harvest of potatoes, furious farmers dumped tonnes of their crop on roads in protest over a crash in prices: four months later, the annual wholesale inflation rate of the potato is galloping at 53 percent.

In street markets and on the handcarts of vegetable hawkers, the rise has been even steeper, a shock for millions of Indians who lay their tables each day with curries made of onions,

tomatoes, lentils and "aloo", or potatoes.

"We used to buy whatever vegetables we liked, but now we always have to check the prices," says Maninder Kaur, shopping with her family at a market in Jalandhar, in the northwestern state of Punjab, where a kilogramme (2.2 lb) of potatoes that cost 4-5 rupees (8-10 US cents) at the beginning of the year is now up to four times more expensive.

Meanwhile, onions are selling for about a fifth of the price they were at the end of last year and the price of tomatoes rose 33 percent in April alone.

Such erratic prices for

perishable goods are routine in India, partly because the majority of farms depend on the variable monsoon for rains. However, they are also due to inadequate cold storage facilities and transport bottlenecks—that together cause up to 40 percent of the country's food

harvests to rot before they get to market—and a primitive distribution network in which many layers of middlemen take cuts, forcing prices higher.—Reuters

An employee works on a french fries making machine inside its plant in Sultanpura village, north from the western Indian City of Ahmedabad on 26 April, 2012.—REUTERS



Home resales rise, boding well for economy

WASHINGTON, 23 May—The pace of sales for existing homes in April rose to its fastest in nearly two years

of 4.62 million units last month, the National Association of Realtors said on Tuesday.

Housing has been one of the economy's weakest links as it recovers from the 2007-09 recession, but many economists think the sector will actually add to economic growth in 2012 for the first time since 2005.

The report on April resales supports that view and helps to dampen fears the recovery was stagnating after a report earlier this month showed tepid job growth in April.

"We're still a ways from looking at an encouraging picture of the US economy, though when it comes to housing, every little bit helps," said Camilla Sutton, a currency strategist at Scotia Capital in Toronto.

Reuters

US officials hail launch of first commercial spacecraft to space station

WASHINGTON, 23 May—High-ranking US officials on Tuesday hailed the launch of the unmanned Dragon capsule to the International Space Station, which initiated the first flight of a commercial spacecraft to the orbiting outpost.

Atop California-based company SpaceX' own Falcon 9 rocket, the Dragon capsule rocketed into the sky from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida.

Charles Bolden, administrator of US space agency NASA, told reporters at Cape Canaveral that Tuesday's launch ushers in a new era of space flight for both the space agency and the United States.

"We're now back on the brink of a new future, a future that embraces the innovation the private sector brings to the table," Bolden said. "The significance of this day cannot be overstated."

The launch is an important step for NASA and the United States, which currently has no means of independently reaching space. NASA relies on the Russian space agency to ferry US astronauts to orbit.

"What's really important is not control, as much as it is the fact that the United States will once again be in the lead, will be providing our own vehicles to take our own astronauts and cargo to the International Space Station," Bolden said. "It's fine to rely on partners, but that's not where the greatest nation in the world wants to be."

Xinhua

and a falloff in foreclosures helped cause an unexpected jump in prices, hopeful signs for the country's economic recovery.

Home resales increased 3.4 percent to an annual rate

A man runs at a shootout site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 22 May, 2012. At least 11 people were killed and 35 others injured in different firing incidents in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi on Tuesday, reported local Urdu TV channel ARY.

XINHUA



Venezuela's Chavez reappears, leads cabinet meeting

CARACAS, 23 May—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez reappeared on Tuesday in a live television broadcast, the first time he has been seen in public view since returning from cancer treatment in Cuba almost two weeks ago.

Chavez spoke in a strong

voice and did not appear tired during the broadcast, which lasted more than two hours. He made no reference to his health, of which few details are known.

The socialist leader's uncharacteristic disappearances have become longer and more frequent this year. They have fueled speculation his condition has worsened and may complicate a re-election bid in October.

Chavez, 57, cracked jokes with government ministers during Tuesday's broadcast and repeated his plans to register his candidacy for the 7 October election next month as set out by the country's electoral commission.

"The defeat that we're going to deal to the opposition

will be unprecedented," Chavez said.

"It's part of our challenge to move to a new phase," he said, adding that his government would strive for annual economic growth of 8 percent and single-digit inflation if elected for another six-year term.

Consumer prices rose 27.6 percent in the South American country last year, one of the world's highest rates.

It was only Chavez's third appearance in public since mid-April. He called state television twice in recent days but Tuesday's speech was his first in public since he returned from Cuba after completing radiotherapy sessions on 11 May.

Reuters

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US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (centre R) shakes hands with Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari before a bi-lateral meeting at the NATO summit in Chicago on 20 May, 2012.

REUTERS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (304)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (304) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-5-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (115N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (115N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-5-2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Tenders are invited by the Department of Health, Central Medical Stores Depot for the supply of medical goods and medical equipment.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, No.57, Sakawa Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, commencing from (29.5.2012).

Tenders Closing Date

(1) Medical Equipment -(25.6.2012) (2:00 pm)
 Tender sent by telex, telegraph, Fax, e-mail or mil will not be accepted. For detail information please contact the Deputy Director (Medical Stores).

Phone No. 371284, 372362, 371969.

Central Medical Stores Depot
 Department of Health

Zardari may face friction over supply routes at NATO summit

CHICAGO, 23 May—Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari arrived in Chicago on Saturday for a NATO summit to what could be a chilly reception if a hoped-for deal allowing trucks to again supply alliance troops in Afghanistan fails to

materialize. While Western officials sought to portray Zardari's presence as a sign of improving NATO-Pakistan ties, possible friction at the meeting underscores the challenges NATO countries face as they struggle to ensure a stable future for Afghanistan after Western troops withdraw. Western leaders, who sometimes differ in their visions for the best way to end the war, speak with one voice when they describe

Ministry of Information
Invitation for open tender of
News and Periodicals Enterprise
to purchase Ink and Printing Materials

- Ink and Printing Materials will be purchased for News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information-

(1)	Web Offset Ink (Black)	25000 Kgs
(2)	Sheetfed Offset Ink (Black)	2500 Kgs
(3)	P.S Negative Plate (889 x 586 x 0.3)mm	2000 Shits
(4)	P.S Negative Plate (889 x 609 x 0.3)mm	1000 Shits
(5)	P.S Negative Developer	200 Liters
(6)	Wipe On Aluminium Plate (650 x 550 x 0.24)mm	4000 Shits
(7)	Coating A+B Set	200 Sets
(8)	Ortho Film (Sheet) (22" x 32") 50 Shit/Box	240 Boxes
(9)	Film Developer	1200 Liters
(10)	Film Fixer	600 Liters
(11)	A3 Toner Hp Laser Jet 5000N	60 Boxes
(12)	Gum Arabic	450 Liters
(13)	Web Offset Ink (Cyan)	5000 Kgs
(14)	Web Offset Ink (Magenta)	5000 Kgs
(15)	Web Offset Ink (Yellow)	5000 Kgs
(16)	CTP Machine (Kodak)	
	(a) Thermal Plate (889 x 609 x 0.30)mm	7800 Shits
	(b) Developer	300 Liters
(17)	CTP Machine (Fuji)	
	(a) Thermal Plate (889 x 609 x 0.30)mm	7800 Shits
	(b) Developer	150 Liters
	(c) Replenisher	300 Liters
	(d) Gum	150 Liters

2. Application forms of open tenders and detailed may be taken out from following address, from 09:30 hr to 16:00 hr from (25-5-2012) to (7-6-2012) daily.

3. The open tenders are to be submitted to Office No.7, Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, in the presence of the members of the tender committee from 09:30 hr to 16:30hr on (8-6-2012). The tenders, later than the designated date, will not be considered.

Procurement Committee
Ministry of Information
Office No. (7), Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: 067-412327, 067-412323

Obama warns of euro zone threat, welcomes growth focus

CAMP DAVID, 23 May—President Barack Obama, wrapping up the G8 summit he hosted at Camp David, welcomed Europe's focus on rekindling growth and warned the crisis in the euro zone was dangerous for the world.

Obama, whose re-election chances in November depend heavily on the US economy continuing to shake off recession, said there was now "an emerging consensus" that Europe ought to invest in job-creating infrastructure and other programmes at the same time as it tackles its deficits and debt.

"As all the leaders here today agreed, growth and jobs must be our top priority. A stable, growing European economy is in everybody's best interests, including

America's," he said. "Put simply, if a company is forced to cut back in Paris and Madrid, that might mean less business for manufacturers in Pittsburgh or Milwaukee."

Obama said his fellow G8 leaders from Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and Canada recognized the painful sacrifices that people in Greece were enduring as a result of that country's economic pressures.

While acknowledging there was still "a lot of work to do," he said the United States remained confident that Europe has the capacity to meet its economic challenges.

"The direction the debate has taken recently should give us confidence," Obama said.

Reuters



US President Barack Obama.—REUTERS

Passenger traffic at Singapore airport in April up 12.7 pct

SINGAPORE, 23 May—The passenger traffic at Singapore's Changi Airport, one of the world's busiest airports, grew by 12.7 percent year on year in April to 4.21 million, Changi Airport Group said on Tuesday.

The aircraft movements grew by 8.8 percent to 26,400 movements. The passenger traffic improved year on year across all regions. Among its key markets, China, India and Japan registered the strongest growth. It is now the most connected airport to China and India from Southeast Asia.

The cargo volumes fell by 4.9 percent year on year to 148,200 tons, reflecting the current downturn faced by most export markets.

Xinhua

Inside world's most expensive home

India's richest family has released photos of what is believed the world's most expensive house, a 27-story behemoth worth more than \$1 billion. Mukesh Ambani, who Forbes magazine estimates is worth more than \$22 billion, released details about the interior of the home which includes marble floors, a multi-story garage, a large library, helipads, a spa and a Hindu temple, CNN reported.

Ambani's wife, Nita, told Vanity Fair magazine for a June issue her family decided to release details about the home because "there have been exaggerated reports in the media about it."

The Mumbai home, dubbed Antilia after a mythical island, also includes a ballroom, a theater and

several terraced gardens.

"We made our home right at the top because we wanted the sunlight ... so it's an elevated house on top of a garden," Nita Ambani said.

She said the family moved into the home in September.



A California woman picked up rocks on a beach that later ignited inside her pocket.

Scientists in California said they are stumped as to why a handful of rocks a woman collected at the beach ignited in her pocket.

Larry Overman, a professor of chemistry at the University of California-Irvine, said he and his colleagues are stumped by the igniting rocks, despite the "phosphorus substance"

found on two of the stones by the Orange County Health Care Agency, the *Los Angeles Times* reported Friday.

The rocks caught fire in the pocket of a 43-year-old San Clemente woman after they were found on San Onofre State Beach by her children during the weekend.

She remained hospitalized Friday with second-

and third-degree burns.

"It's pretty implausible," Overman said.

"I can't think of a scenario of chemicals on the beach that would have the properties that are described."

Tricia Landquist, a spokeswoman for the healthcare agency, said the rocks have been sent to a state lab for further testing.

Man pulls woman from subway tracks

A New York man who jumped onto the subway tracks to rescue an unconscious woman said he hopes his children remember their lessons about train safety.

Greg Wetzel, 40, who jumped onto the tracks at 12:45 pm on 19 May at the West 72nd Street subway station and hoisted a woman back up to the platform about 60 seconds before a train arrived, said he hopes his children, boys ages 6 and 7 and a 4-year-old girl, didn't get the wrong idea from his actions, the *New York Daily News* reported.

"I guess it's mildly ironic — to do the exact opposite of what I'm preaching," said Wetzel, who said he has repeatedly spoken to his kids about subway safety.

"The lesson, I guess, is they saw first-hand what happened," he said. "That should give them a healthy fear of the platform."

Wetzel brushed aside any allegations of heroism on his part.

"It was just the right thing to do," he said. "If you see someone on the tracks, it's hard not to do something."

Florida TV host Frank Cairo charged with grand theft

A Spanish-language television anchor in Florida was charged with grand theft for allegedly stealing a set of chairs and a carpet from a neighbour.

TV Azteca host Frank Cairo, 48, whose real name is Ivan Valdes, was charged with grand theft in Doral alongside friend Jorge Acuna Arias, 47, The *Miami Herald* reported.

Doral police said surveillance video depicts Valdes and Arias taking a set of chairs and a carpet from the apartment and Police Chief Rick Gomez said Valdes "admitted" to the April incident, saying Arias entered the apartment and took the items because he thought it had been abandoned.

Police said the owners of the apartment, located in the Captiva complex in Doral, live in Mexico and only use the apartment part-time.

Valdes said the surveillance video does not show the whole truth of the incident.

"I make half-a-million dollars and don't need to be stealing," he said.

News Album

Chris Hemsworth still waiting for Stewart apology!

LONDON, 23 May — Australian actor Chris Hemsworth has joked that he is "still waiting for an apology" from actress Kristen Stewart after she punched him on the nose.

The 28-year-old was accidentally punched on the



Actress Kristen Stewart



Australian actor Chris Hemsworth

nose by his co-star while filming "Snow White and the Huntsman".

"I got my nose busted by Kristen. It's been months and months and I'm still waiting for an apology. We reached for the same muffin and I learned my lesson, I won't be doing that again," contactmusic.com quoted Hemsworth as saying.

Internet

Leonardo DiCaprio to lease out Malibu home

LONDON, 23 May — Actor Leonardo DiCaprio is renting out one of his three Malibu estates for USD 150,000 per month. Expected tenants can lease the property for six months or less. However, the potential residents can hire the place out for USD 75,000

per month if they are interested in staying any longer than half a year, reports contactmusic.com.

The luxurious beach home on Malibu Colony Road was originally purchased in October 2002 for USD 6 million. Spread over 2,633 square feet, the home features seven bedrooms, six bathrooms and a gym. Also the property is divided into a four-bedroom main house, with an additional two-bedroom detached guest home. — Internet



Actor Leonardo DiCaprio

Taylor Swift to honour late soldier in new album

LONDON, 23 May — Singer Taylor Swift will wear the dog tags of a soldier killed in Afghanistan in her next music video.

The 22-year-old decided to honour US soldier Sergeant Wade Wilson, who was killed earlier this month, after his friend sent her video message about the country music fan, reports bangshowbiz.com.

Colleague Corporal Josh Marreel requested Taylor to publicly acknowledge the 22-year-old who was assigned to the second Battalion, fifth

Marine Regiment at Camp Pendleton.

"This is a shout out to the one and only Taylor Swift. I know you have no idea who I am, but this video isn't about me. This is about my good buddy, Sergeant Wade D Wilson, who was killed in action on Friday, 11 May, 2012, in Afghanistan.

Anybody that knew Willy knew that he worshipped you," Marreel said in the video clip.

"He even slept with a poster of you in between our beds in Afghanistan. This guy was my best friend.

I know a lot of people get on here and ask celebrities to go to dances with them ... All I'm asking is for you to think about him," he added.

After sending them flowers, Taylor spoke to Wade's family on the phone informing them that she wanted to wear his tags in the video to accompany her next single.

She also sent a note which read: "Wade, thank you for loving my music. I won't forget it, and I will never forget you. All my love, Taylor Swift."

Internet



Singer Taylor Swift

Jimmy Buffett brings the party back home

NEW ORLEANS, 23 May — Singer-songwriter Jimmy Buffett says opening a Margaritaville Casino and Restaurant in Biloxi, Miss, has special meaning for him.

"Biloxi was the first place I ever made a dollar professionally," Buffett said on Sunday in New Orleans.



Singer-songwriter Jimmy Buffett

The 65-year-old Mississippi native has 26 albums, three No 1 New York Times best-selling books and developed the Margaritaville Cafe and Cheeseburger in Paradise restaurant chain.

"Actually growing up down there, it's a big part of my family history and musical history," Buffett said.

"And then you throw in a couple of hurricanes and an oil spill ... I care enough about this place to have wanted to do something to help recover from those things, and that's how [the casino] came about."

Buffett said the waterfront complex, which opens on Tuesday, will feature special indigenous touches, including memorabilia.

The singer hits the road with his Coral Reefer Band on 30 May. He plans to record a new album this fall.

Internet

Queen Latifah to host daytime talk show

CULVER CITY, 23 May — US actress and recording star Queen Latifah is to serve as host of a syndicated daytime talk show to debut in the fall of 2013, its producers said.

Corin Nelson is to be executive producer of the program from Flavor Unit Entertainment, Overbrook Entertainment and Sony Pictures Television.

"Given Queen Latifah's profile, stature and accomplishments, it was vital for us to find someone who

complemented such a tremendous talent to helm this show," Holly Jacobs, executive vice president of US reality and syndicated programming for Sony Pictures Television, said in a statement on Monday.

"We knew the diversity

Actress and singer Queen Latifah performs at the 2010 BET Awards in Los Angeles on 27 June, 2010.

INTERNET



of Corin's experience in daytime and late night, her collaborative spirit, tremendous creative chops and passion for the medium made her a perfect match.

"Queen Latifah is that rare combination of a multi-talented performer and one of the warmest, most genuine women I've ever met.

This show is the perfect platform to showcase her tremendous range of talents and unique ability to connect with and entertain people," said Nelson.

Internet

Bayern beat Dutch in badly-timed friendly



Bayern Munich's Luiz Gustavo (R) fights for the ball with Netherlands's Siem de Jong during a friendly soccer match in Munich on 22 May, 2012. —REUTERS

BERLIN, 23 May—Stricken Bayern Munich managed to beat Netherlands 3-2 in an badly-timed friendly on Tuesday, played less than 72 hours after their traumatic Champions League final defeat at the hands of Chelsea.

A 33,000 crowd watched the match at the Allianz Arena, where Bayern suffered their penalty shootout defeat against the English Premier League side on Saturday.

Both teams fielded mainly second-string line-ups while goalkeeper Joerg Butt,

defender Breno and forward Ivica Olic all made their final appearances for Bayern.

The match was organized to compensate the Bavarians after their Dutch winger Arjen Robben aggravated an injury playing for the Netherlands at the 2010 World Cup.

Bayern complained angrily at the time that Robben should not have played and he missed several months of the following season.

But the timing of the match could not have turned out worse for Bayern, coming hot on the heels of Saturday's defeat. Robben, who missed a penalty in extra-time on Saturday, came on as a second-half substitute for the Dutch and some boos were aimed at him from the Bayern fans. —Reuters

Spain arrives in Austria for pre-Euro training

SCHRUNS, 23 May—World and European champions Spain arrived late Tuesday in Schruns, western Austria, for a week-long training camp ahead of next month's defence of their European title in Poland and Ukraine.

The team around coach Vicente Del Bosque was greeted by a dozen fans under drizzling rain as it arrived at its hotel in the mountain resort, where it will stay until 29 May.

During this time, the reigning European and world champions will play a friendly match against Serbia on 26 May in St Gallen, Switzerland, with another following on 30 May in Bern against South Korea.

Several training sessions in Austria will meanwhile be open to the public.

La Roja, which already trained in Schruns ahead of its World Cup triumph in 2010, is seen as one of the favourites at Euro 2012 which runs from 8 June to 1 July.

Currently ranked number one in the world by FIFA, it will be hoping to become the first nation to win three

international competitions in a row if it can lift the European trophy again after winning in Vienna in 2008.

Spain will face Italy, Ireland and Croatia in group C, with its first match against the Azzurri on 10 June in Gdansk, Poland.

Internet



Spanish football team member Adrian Lopez arrives in Schruns, prior to the start of a week long training camp ahead of the Euro 2012 football championship held in Ukraine and Poland. —INTERNET

Drogba's China talks on track: report

SHANGHAI, 23 May—Shanghai Shenhua's talks with Didier Drogba are continuing "just as planned", a report said Wednesday, raising expectations the striker will move to China after announcing his departure from Chelsea.

Shenhua, bankrolled by colourful video-game mogul Zhu Jun, signed Drogba's ex-Chelsea team-mate Nicolas Anelka in December and they have been in talks with the Ivory Coast international since at least January.

"As of now, Shenhua's negotiations with Drogba are continuing just as planned," Zhu told the *Oriental Sports Daily*. Drogba, 34, revealed he was quitting English Premiership giants Chelsea on Tuesday, just days after his match-winning performance in the Champions League final against Bayern Munich.

Drogba scored a late equaliser as well as the

decisive spot-kick in the penalty shoot-out. Since joining Chelsea from Marseille in 2004, he has tallied 157 goals in 341 appearances, helping the club win 10 trophies.

"It has been a very difficult decision for me to make and I am very proud of what we have achieved, but the time is right for a new

challenge for me," he told Chelsea's website.

Drogba would be the latest star signing for China's increasingly big-spending Super League, after World Cup-winning coach Marcello Lippi joined Guangzhou Evergrande last week.

But Anelka's move has not been without its problems.



Shanghai Shenhua's talks with Didier Drogba, seen here in 2010, are continuing "just as planned", a report said Wednesday, raising expectations the striker will move to China after announcing his departure from Chelsea. —INTERNET

Pistorius, Dibaba enter New York meet

NEW YORK, 23 May—South African Oscar Pistorius, trying to become the first double amputee to compete in the Olympics, and reigning 5,000m Olympic women's champion Tirunesh Dibaba of Ethiopia will race in the Diamond League meet next month in New York, organizers announced on Tuesday. Pistorius, the 25-year-old "Blade Runner" who uses carbon fibre prosthetic running blades, bettered the Olympics qualifying mark of 45.30 seconds this year with a time of 45.20 at a meet in Pretoria.

He must run 45.25 again at an international event before 30 June to realize his

dream of becoming the first amputee to compete against able-bodied athletes at the quadrennial multi-sport showcase.

Pistorius hopes to make it happen at the Adidas Grand Prix on 9 June. "Last year at the Adidas Grand Prix, I had a great experience on the way to my first World Championships," Pistorius said. "This year, I know the Icahn Stadium fans will put everything they've got behind my quest to compete in the Olympics."

Dibaba, who also won 10,000m Olympic gold at Beijing, is a seven time world champion and the 5,000m world record holder.

But Dibaba, 26, missed all of last year with an injury. She has won her two prior starts this year but needs to impress her homeland's Olympic selectors.

Internet



South Africa's Oscar Pistorius, pictured in action in Manchester, will race in the Diamond League meet next month in New York, organizers announced on Tuesday. —INTERNET

Jose Mourinho extends contract with Real Madrid

MADRID, 23 May—Real Madrid announced this Tuesday that they have extended the contract of coach Jose Mourinho by a further two years. The news will end rumors about Mourinho's future after he had been linked with possible moves to Manchester City and even a return to his former club, Chelsea, in recent weeks.

The 49-year-old's previous deal was due to expire at the end of June 2014 and he will now remain at Real Madrid until the end of June 2016. Mourinho joined Real Madrid in the summer of 2010, shortly after leading Inter Milan to the Champions League title. He

took Madrid to the Copa del Rey in 2011, defeating bitter rivals FC Barcelona in the final and this season his side won the BBVA Primera Liga title, amassing 100 points in the process. So far Madrid's main objective of lifting a 10th Champions League title has evaded Mourinho and that will almost certainly be the club's main objective for the 2012-13 season.

Meanwhile next season will see Madrid's main rivals, FC Barcelona, perhaps suffer a period of adjustment as Tito Vilanova takes on the difficult task of replacing Pep Guardiola, who is leaving after four seasons in charge. —Xinhua

the Tour of Asturias in April.

"We knew that this was an ideal stage to lead a breakthrough," he said.

"There were several of us in the team who tried and it was me who had the luck and



Spanish cyclist Jon Izagirre of Euskaltel competes in the last kilometers of the 16th stage of the Tour of Italy. Izagirre's solo break paid off as the Euskaltel rider won the 16th stage of the Tour of Italy here on Tuesday. —INTERNET

the success to be in the right breakaway group. I am happy, no I would say I am very happy. "It's my second success for the team but my first at this level. "I am from a cycling family. My father was a professional, my brother (Gorka) was also in this team. —Internet

International Sports



Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho, seen here in April 2012. —INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL****(24-5-12 09:30 am ~ 25-5-12 09:30 am) MST**

- * News
- * Rapid Ageing A Caring Future
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Arts who can create colourful images
- * News
- * A Ceremony to recognize as Son-in-Law
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (SIBA)" (Part - II)
- * News
- * Youth & Language "What is she talking about?"
- * News
- * Travelling to Shan Plateau (Pindaya Natural Cave)
- * Myanmar Movie "The Magician's Flower"

MYANMAR TV**(24-5-2012)(Thursday)****7:00 am**

1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am

3. Nice & Sweet Song

8:20 am

4. Dance Variety

8:30 am

5. Teleplay (Health)

4:05 pm

6. Cute Little Dancer

4:20 pm

7. Myanmar Radio and Television by State Traditional Orchestra

4:35 pm

8. Musical Programme

4:45 pm

9. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Years (Myanmar)

5:05 pm

10. Science and Environment

5:35 pm

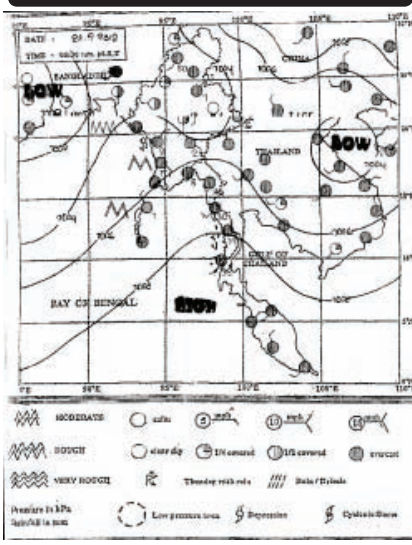
11. Songs Programme

6:35 pm

12. Approaching Science Discovery World

8:00 pm

13. News
14. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**Weather forecast for 24th May, 2012**

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	36/97	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
2	Kayah	31/88	23/73	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
3	Kayah	28/82	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
4	Chin	26/79	14/57	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
5	Upper Saggim	39/102	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
6	Lower Saggim	40/104	25/84	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
7	Imphal	32/90	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
8	Bagu	36/97	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(80%)
9	Magway	40/104	25/84	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
10	Mandalay	39/102	28/82	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
11	Mon	32/90	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
12	Yangon	35/95	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
13	Rakhine	34/93	27/81	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
14	Southern Shan	27/81	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
15	Northern Shan	35/95	20/68	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
17	Ayeyarwady	36/97	26/79	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(80%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	39/102	27/81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	35/95	23/73	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	39/102	28/82	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Saggim Region, Chin and Kayah States, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Upper Saggim and Mandalay Regions, scattered in Magway, Bagu and Ayeyarwady Regions, Rakhine State, fairly widespread in Kachin and Mon States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with locally heavy falls in Mon State. Day temperatures were (5°C) above May average temperatures in Upper Saggim Region and Chin States, (3°C) above May average temperatures in Magway Region, (4°C) below May average temperatures in Kayah State and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chittha (45°C), Gangaw (45°C), Nyang On, Kalewa and Kalay (42°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaikmaw (6.28) inches, Yangon (3.82) inches, Chingon (3.70) inches, Mandalay (3.34) inches, Mawla (2.83) inches and Mawla (1.77) inches.

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

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of thundery activities in the Deltaic Area.

First cut awaits 2020 Olympic host hopefuls

GENEVA, 23 May—The choice of host city for the 2020 Olympics is still 15 months away, but a shortlist is due to be announced on Wednesday from declared candidates Baku, Doha, Istanbul, Tokyo and Madrid. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) at this early stage in the competition only looks at the cities' abilities to host a major sporting event, ranking their transportation and other infrastructure and the challenges they face to ramp up in time for the event.

Tokyo are the only one of the candidates to have hosted the event and seen widely as the early front runners, while Istanbul were seen as the dark horses until a spanner was thrown into the works when Turkey also announced they were bidding for the 2020 European

football championship. IOC President Jacques Rogge told AFP in an interview earlier this month that IOC rules state that a Games host country cannot hold another major sports event in the same year.

"Initially they will be judged on their technical capacity on 23 May in Quebec City," said the 70-year-old Belgian.

"In other words their potential to host the Games. "On 7 September next year in Buenos Aires, if Istanbul is elected we will respectfully ask them not to host the European Championships.

"Ultimately, it will be for the government (in Ankara) to make their mind up but I would say the election would be conditional on not organizing another competition."



Handout photo from the Tokyo 2020 bid committee shows (R-L) Japanese Olympic Committee President Tsunekazu Takeda, Paralympian swimmer Mayumi Narita, designer Ai Shimamine, wrestling champion Kaori Icho and Tokyo 2020 CEO Masato Mizuno in 2011.—INTERNET

Of the other candidates Doha failed to even make the short list last time and the subsequent furore after Qatar was awarded the 2022 World Cup has according to some made IOC members reluctant to suffer the same Press as FIFA did. Baku also failed to

make the short list last time but say they have learnt from their mistakes this time round.

"This is an excellent bid, really carefully prepared to avoid the mistakes on the previous bid," Sports Minister Azad Rahimov told AFP on Tuesday.—Internet

Ukraine plans Euro crowd control, prostitution a problem

An aerial view shows the Metalist Stadium in Kharkiv on 21 May, 2012. REUTERS

KIEV, 23 May—Ukraine will use fighters and helicopters to guard its air space and put security and health services on full alert during the European soccer championship, but officials said on Tuesday they could do little to stem a likely flood of prostitutes.

The country's top

security and defence official, Andriy Klyuev, told security chiefs that the world would judge Ukraine by how it dealt with the security challenges posed by the month-long Euro-2012 tournament in June.

The leadership of President Viktor Yanukovich is under fire over the

jailing of former prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko for abuse of office in what Western governments say is a politically-motivated prosecution. Several Western politicians have said they will stay away from Euro-2012 matches in protest.

The former Soviet republic, co-host of Euro-2012 with Poland, expects about one million fans for the 16 matches to be played in four Ukrainian cities - the biggest single influx of foreign visitors since it became independent 20 years ago.

Ukraine says it will have about 23,000 police on duty for the tournament which

opens in Poland on 8 June and climaxes with the final in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev on 1 July.

Anti-terrorism measures include having 10 surface-to-air missile units on standby. Four air fighters and two military helicopters will be deployed to protect air space over the host cities, the Defence Ministry said.

"We will be permanently monitoring the air space of the match cities. All security and emergency institutions and services will be on 24-hour duty from the beginning of June. Medical services and the emergencies ministry will be on heightened alert," said Klyuev, who is secretary of Ukraine's security and defence council.—Reuters

Two Nigerian women arrested for drug trafficking

LAGOS, 23 May—Two Nigerian women suspected to be drug traffickers were arrested in southwestern Lagos State, the West African country's anti-drug police, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), said on Tuesday. Spokesperson of the agency Mitchell Ofoyeju told reporters that the suspects ages 24 and 25 were arrested at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), Lagos.

It said one of the suspects, who claimed to be a hairstylist, was caught with 1 kg of methamphetamine hidden in her inner wear.

The other suspect, according to the spokesperson, is a London-based fashion designer, who was found in possession of 3 kg of cocaine concealed inside chocolate packs.

"One of the suspects was detected with the support and cooperation of the

Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) personnel," he said, adding that she was trying to take a local flight to Abuja to connect another flight to Malaysia.

He said the lady packed 750 grams of methamphetamine in her inner wear, while 250 grams were also ingested by her.

According to him, the suspects claimed during interrogation that they were lured into the drug deal, with the promise of a mouth-watering sum of money.

Methamphetamine, a very addictive stimulant that is closely related to amphetamine, is long lasting and toxic to dopamine nerve terminals in the central nervous system.

It is a white, odorless, bitter-tasting powder taken orally or by snorting or injecting.

Xinhua

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Ambassador of Kingdom of Netherlands

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Mr Johannes Andries Boer, the newly accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar,

at the Presidential Palace here at 11.00 today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General of U Aye Thaw of the Protocol Department.—MNA

Myanmar goodwill delegation arrives back

YANGON, 23 May—A Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann arrived back here by air this evening after paying goodwill visits to Germany, Belgium, Norway, England and Denmark.

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Yangon Region Hluttaw speaker, deputy speaker and chairmen, secretaries and members of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Committee and Commission, the German

Ambassador to Myanmar, director-general of Hluttaw Office and officials.

The delegation members comprising Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Planning and Financial Development Committee U Soe Tha, Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myit Oo, Chairman of Economic and Trade Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein, Chairman of Investment and Industry Development Committee U Htay Myint, Secretary of National Races Affairs and Internal Peace Making Committee Daw Dwe Bu and member of Bill Committee Daw Nan Nu Wah and officials, also came back.

MNA



Mr Johannes Andries Boer, the newly accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Myanmar, presents his credentials to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein.—MNA



The Myanmar delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann being welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa and Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein after paying goodwill visits to Germany, Belgium, Norway, England and Denmark.—MNA

Pachakalo BEHS (branch) gets new building

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—A ceremony to hand over a new school building, jointly built by Japanese NGO Nippon Foundation and local people under the assistance of Border Areas and National Races Development Department of the Ministry of Border Affairs to the Education Department took place at Pachakalo Village Basic Education High School (Branch) in Nathan Village-tract, Hsihseng Township, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone in Shan State (South) yesterday.

Officials of ministries concerned and responsible persons from Nippon Foundation officially opened the new school building and spoke on the occasion.

The Nippon Foundation set up a fund of K 4.5 million for regional development works. The school building is a one story brick building with CI sheet roofing measuring 90x30 feet and cost over 52.9 million contributed by the Nippon foundation and local people.

MNA

Union Information and Culture Minister organizes novitiation ceremony in Pale Tsp

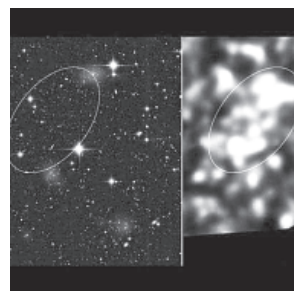


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Self-reliant concrete steel trust bridge in Mohnyin to open soon



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Astronomers find galactic 'supercluster'

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Drogba's China talks on track: report



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Private schools running granted

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Running of private schools will be allowed as of 2012-2013 Academic Year. Those who want to open private schools and work as private teachers in line with the private school registration laws and regulations, are to take application forms at offices of respective Region and State education officers offices and apply there not later than 12 June.—MNA

Significant Day Temperatures (23-5-2012)

Chauk	(45°C)
Gangaw	(43°C)
NyaungU	(42°C)
Kalewa	(42°C)
Kalay	(42°C)