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President U Thein Sein felicitates Argentinian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Madam Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, President of the Republic of Argentina, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25th May, 2012.—MNA

True patriotism

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

No backsliding in Myanmar's reforms Political reform without economic reform cannot bring success to political system

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann visits European countries

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Pyithu Hluttaw delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann arrived here back by air yesterday evening after paying goodwill visits to European countries. At the invitation of President of European Union Parliament Mr Martin Schulz and parliaments of EU member countries.

During the tours, the delegation had discussions with heads of parliaments, foreign affairs ministers and international development ministers and exchanged views. Myanmar ambassadors from respective countries also attended the meetings.

On 10 May, the delegation met President of EU Parliament Mr Martin Schulz at EU Parliament Building in Brussels of Belgium and EU Council Chairman Mr Herman Van Rompuy at EU Council Office Building.

On 11 May, Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann met Chairman of EU Commission Mr Jose Manuel Barroso at EU Parliament Building and head of EU Foreign Affairs and Security Ms Catherine Ashton at EU Building.

The delegation held talks on "Myanmar One Year after the Elections" in Brussels, and diplomats, journalists, researchers and interested persons attended it.

Myanmar delegation held a discussion with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of Belgium Mr Dider Reynders and with Flemish State Chief Minister (Minister-President) Mr Kris Peeters.

The delegation also met with the MPs led by Chairman of EU ASEAN countries Parliamentary Committee Dr Werner Lagen, MEP at EU Parliament Building.

On 9 May, Myanmar delegation also held a discussion with President of the Bundestag Dr Norbert Lammert of Germany in Berlin. After that, they exchanged gifts and Myanmar delegation visited German Parliament Building.

On 8 May, the delegation met with Chairman of Parliament Economic Cooperation and Development Committee Ms Dagmar Wöhrle and party at German



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party meet Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of Belgium Mr Dider Reynders.—MNA

Parliament Building. On arrival at Munich of Germany on 6 May, the delegation was welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador to German U Tin Win and officials from Bavarian State Parliament and Hans Seidel Foundation (HSF).

On 7 May, the delegation met with Chairman of Bavarian State Parliament Mrs Barbara Stamm in Munich and attended a lunch hosted by the Parliament Chairman.

On 8 May, they met with Dr Guido Westerwelle, Foreign Affairs Minister of Germany and Minister at Ministers' Office Mr Eckart Von Kladden.

On 9 May, the delegation met with Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Mr Dirk Niebel.

On 8 May, they held discussions with Parliamentary State Secretary of Ministry of Transport and Urban Development and Parliamentary State Secretary Mr Peter Hintz of the Ministry of Economic and Technology Development.

On 11 May, Myanmar delegation left Brussel of Belgium for Paris of France, and was welcomed at France by Myanmar Ambassador to France U Kyaw Swa Min and Embassy staff.

On arrival at France Parliament on 12 May, head of Cooperation Department of France Parliament Director General Mr Duluc explained the facts about the parliament, and they visited France Parliament. After that, they left for Zurich through Geneva of Switzerland and arrived at Oslo of Norway.

On arrival at Norway Parliament Building on 14 May, they were welcomed by Vice-Chairman of Norway Parliament Ms Marit Nybakk and party. Afterwards, they visited opening of regular session of Norway Parliament. At the session, Norway Parliament announced the reconization of Myanmar delegation's visit and looked around the Building.

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The gold earring decorated with molded ibexes, or wild goats, found in northern Israel and dated to 1,100 BC.

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Sue Hunter, the National Aquarium's director of animal programmes and marine mammals, examines a resident dolphin.

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A girl points to a Qantas Airbus 330-300 aircraft on the tarmac of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila on 31 October, 2011.

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PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 25 May, 2012

Healthy living

When we are free from illnesses, diseases, or injuries, we take our health for granted. And when we become sick we start to recognize the value of the absence of ailments and understand the importance of health and fitness. The soundness of our physical and mental health is linked with our satisfaction with our own life. So we need to find a way that leads us to pursue a happy and contented life.

But that alone is not enough. People need healthy foods and exercise to stay fit and active as non-communicable diseases related to unhealthy lifestyles and unbalanced diets, which are also called lifestyle diseases are on the rise. Concerning the problem the Health Department and NGOs are launching awareness campaigns that help people choose the correct healthy food from among the many alternatives.

Generally, decreased physical activity or normal aging causes reduced muscle mass leading to a high prevalence of obesity a host to terrible diseases such as diabetes, dyslipidemia and hypertension, which are the major risk factors for cardiovascular disorder. Here resistance exercise training and subsequent increase in muscle mass can reduce the said multiple cardiovascular disease risk factors. In fact, beneficial effects on maintaining health and prevention of chronic diseases of the resistance training have been recognized in many countries.

Environmental health is another issue that has a major impact on our health. Environment includes the physical, chemical, biological, and social features that surround us every day and things like air, water, and soil that are natural to us in our environment. It covers the assessment and control of these environmental factors that can potentially affect human health. So, to ensure health and happiness, we also need to address this issue and create health-friendly environments.

Dy Home Affairs Minister meets Chairman of Korea Development Company and Adviser of Saenurs ruling party

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Chairman of Korea Myanmar Development Company and Adviser Mr Lee Young Soo of Ruling Saenurs Party Central Committee and party called on Chairman of Myanmar Passports Issuance Committee Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint at the latter's office on this morning.

Both sides had a cordial discussion on bilateral economic cooperation and security tasks for passport.

The meeting was also attended by the Director-General of General Administration Department, the Director-General of Bureau of Special Investigation, the Deputy Chief of Myanmar Police Force, responsible persons from Myanmar Passports Issuance Committee.—MNA

Director Mr Nguyen Chu Nhac and party from Vietnam (VOV) enjoy playing of State's symphony orchestra.—MNA

Union Foreign Minister felicitates Argentinian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 25 May—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Hector Timerman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Argentina, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Argentina which falls on 25 May, 2012.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee meets with Hluttaw representatives, national race representatives of Rakhine State

YANGON, 24 May—Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee met with Hluttaw representatives, national race representatives of Rakhine State at the State Hluttaw hall in Sittway, Rakhine State this morning.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Committee U Thein Zaw and committee members, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and state ministers, Hluttaw representatives, national race representatives, those from political parties and others.

Chairman of the Committee U Thein Zaw made a speech on the occasion. Next, State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and State Hluttaw Speaker U Htein Lin delivered addresses followed by a general round of discussions.



Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee U Thein Zaw meeting with Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee and Rakhine Hluttaw representatives and national races representatives—MNA

Vietnamese delegation visits MRTV

YANGON, 24 May—A Vietnamese delegation led by Director Mr Nguyen Chu Nhac of Radio the Voice of Vietnam (VOV), arrives in Yangon at the invitation of Myanmar Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information, paid homage

to Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

On arrival at MRTV on Pyay road, Director U Myint Aung of MRTV-4

explained MRTV broadcasting. Then, the delegation enjoyed the playing of State's symphony orchestra and Myanmar orchestra.

MNA



MYANMAR GAZETTE

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Department
(a) U Tun Hla Aung	Director-General General Administration Department
(b) U Kyaw Myint Hlaing	Ministry of Home Affairs Director-General Irrigation Department Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
(c) U Hauk Do Hswan	Director-General Political Department
(d) U Aung Zaw Win	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director-General Directorate of Hotels and Tourism Ministry of Hotels and Tourism

2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Deputy Director-General U Aung Naing Oo of Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and members of Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee made clarifications and the meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the chairman of the Committee.

MNA

Detailed, "engaged" Iran nuclear talks go to second day

BAGHDAD, 24 May—Talks between Iran and world powers to defuse a dispute about Iran's nuclear goals go into a second day on Thursday with Washington cautiously hopeful of progress towards an agreed framework for addressing concerns that Tehran wants to build an atom bomb.

"I believe we have the beginning of a negotiation,"

meeting would continue into a second day on Thursday.

The discussions, watched closely by global oil markets as well as by Iran's arch-enemy Israel, are aimed at exploring ways to settle a long-standing dispute about a nuclear energy programme the West suspects is aimed at nuclear bomb research. Tehran has long stated the programme is strictly for

two sides could not even agree on an agenda, with each largely repeating known positions and Tehran refusing any dialogue on changes to its nuclear path.

But international energy markets remain nervous, unsettled by extended Western sanctions imposed on Iran's crude exports and the specter of a Middle East conflict arising from possible Israeli strikes against Iran's nuclear installations.

Speaking after the first day of discussions, the senior US official said the meeting revealed a "fair amount of disagreement" but also areas of common ground.

"But still we have to come to closure ... about what are the next appropriate steps."

The overall goal of the six countries jointly negotiating with Tehran is an Iranian agreement to curb uranium enrichment in a transparent, verifiable way to ensure it is for peaceful purposes only. Iran's priority is to secure an end to sanctions isolating the country and damaging its economy.

The senior US official later confirmed that the six powers had also put specific measures to lessen sanctions pressure on the table in the discussions as part of a possible confidence-building package, but declined to elaborate.

Reuters



Iraq's Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari (R) walks with European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton before their meeting in Baghdad on 23 May, 2012. —REUTERS

a senior US official said of the discussions, which opened on Wednesday in the Iraqi Capital, Baghdad, in a renewed effort at diplomacy that will seek to ease decades of ingrained mistrust.

"We have got engaged ... we have had detailed discussions" for a potential further round of talks, the official said, adding the

peaceful purposes.

Both sides—Iran on the one hand and the United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany on the other—have been publicly upbeat about the scope for an outline deal following a 15-month diplomatic freeze and exploratory talks in Istanbul last month.

In previous meetings, the

Bud nears hurricane off Mexico's Pacific coast

MEXICO CITY, 24 May—Tropical storm Bud is close to becoming a hurricane off Mexico's southwestern Pacific coast, where the government has issued a storm warning, the National Hurricane Centre said on Wednesday.

Located about 410 miles southwest of the major Pacific port of Manzanillo, Bud is moving northward at around 6 mph (9 km/h) with maximum sustained winds reaching almost 70 mph (110 km/h) and stronger gusts, the Miami-based centre said.

Bud should become a hurricane on Thursday and start weakening by Friday, the centre said. Tropical storm conditions are expected to reach the coast by late Friday, it added.

Mexico's government has issued a tropical storm watch along the coast from Punta San Telmo to La Fortuna, the NHC said.

Reuters

EU urges Greece to stay in euro, plans for possible exit



A Greek flag flies behind a statue to European unity outside the European Parliament in Brussels ahead of an EU informal heads of state summit on 22 May, 2012. —REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 24 May—European Union leaders, advised by senior officials to prepare contingency plans in case Greece decides to quit the single currency, urged the country to stay the course on austerity and complete the reforms demanded under its bailout programme.

After nearly six hours of talks held during an informal dinner, leaders said they were committed to Greece remaining in the euro zone, but it had to stick to its side of

the bargain too, a commitment that will mean a heavy cost for Greeks.

"We want Greece to stay in the euro, but we insist that Greece sticks to commitments that it has agreed to," German Chancellor Angela Merkel told reporters after a Wednesday evening summit in Brussels dragged long into the night.

Three officials told Reuters the instruction to have plans in place for a Greek exit was agreed on Monday



Investigators work the scene where a wildfire started south of Gardnerville, on 22 May, 2012. The fast-moving blaze near the Nevada-California line destroyed at least two homes on Tuesday as it forced evacuations and sent up huge plumes of black smoke, witnesses said. —INTERNET

US drone strike kills 10 in northwest Pakistan

MIRANSHAH, 24 May—A US drone strike on suspected Islamist militants in northwest Pakistan killed 10 people on Thursday, Pakistani intelligence officials said, an attack likely to raise tensions in a standoff with Washington over NATO supply routes to Afghanistan.

The pilotless drone aircraft attacked a compound in a village in North Waziristan, a day after a similar attack killed four suspected militants in the same region.

"The drone fired two missiles at the compound. We believe it was being used by militants," one of the Pakistani officials said.

The United States has been urging Pakistan to mount an offensive in North Waziristan to pursue members of the Haqqani militant network, one of Washington's most feared foes in neighbouring Afghanistan.

That looks more unlikely than ever, as a result of a crisis in relations between Washington and Islamabad

over a range of issues. The United States has been pushing Pakistan to re-open supply routes to NATO forces in Afghanistan in difficult talks that show no signs of a breakthrough any time soon.

Pakistan closed the routes, which are seen as vital to the planned withdrawal of most foreign troops from Afghanistan before the end of 2014, in protest against last November's killing of 24 Pakistani soldiers in a NATO air attack along the Afghan border. —Reuters

Five killed, 29 injured in attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 May—A total of five people were killed, including three Lebanese Shiite pilgrims, and 29 others injured in separate gunfire and bomb attacks in eastern and central Iraq on Wednesday, the police said.

The deadliest attack occurred in Iraq's western province of Anbar when a roadside bomb struck a bus carrying Lebanese Shiite

pilgrims in the provincial capital city of Ramadi, some 110 km west of Baghdad, killing three pilgrims and wounding seven others, a source from Anbar's operations command told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The bus came from the Syrian border in western Iraq and headed to the Shiite holy sites in central the country,

the source said.

In Iraq's eastern province of Diyala, gunmen with their assault rifles opened fire against a bus carrying construction workers in an area located some 90 km of Baghdad, killing two workers aboard and injuring six others, a provincial police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Xinhua

Nuclear sub catches fire in Maine Naval shipyard

BOSTON, 24 May—Fire broke out on Wednesday evening on a US Navy nuclear-powered submarine docked at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Maine, injuring four firefighters, officials said.

The cause of the fire is not yet known, but the vessel's nuclear reactor was not involved. There were no weapons aboard the sub, which is at the shipyard for system upgrades and maintenance. The fire started in the "forward compartment" of the USS Miami, an attack submarine docked at the Kittery, Maine, shipyard shortly before 6 pm.

Firefighters were still

battling the blaze after 10 pm, with equipment brought in from as far away as Boston's Logan International Airport, about 60 miles away.

"The ship's reactor was not operating at the time and was not affected," shipyard spokeswoman Tami Remick said by telephone from Kittery. All nonessential personnel on the submarine were ordered to evacuate when the blaze was reported.

Local media said black smoke was visible in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The naval shipyard is located on Seavey Island just over the New Hampshire-Maine border. —Reuters

A fire burns on a nuclear submarine at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, on 23 May, 2012. Fire crews responded Wednesday to the USS Miami SSN 755 at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard but the cause of the fire has not yet been identified. —REUTERS



Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Sue Hunter, the National Aquarium's director of animal programmes and marine mammals, examines a resident dolphin.
INTERNET



BALTIMORE, 24 May—A study has found higher levels of toxic mercury in dolphins downwind of power plants than in captive dolphins, US researchers say.

High mercury levels found in wild dolphins

Scientists from The Johns Hopkins University and The National Aquarium said they compared levels of the chemical in captive

lower in the captive animals compared to wild dolphins tested off the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of Florida, a state that is in the path of mercury-laden fumes from power plants, they reported on Monday.

Since the research was a small, pilot study, researchers cautioned against drawing wide-ranging conclusions.

"This is just one snapshot, one puzzle piece," said Edward Bouwer, chair of the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering at Johns Hopkins.

"What we'd like to do now is repeat this project with aquariums in other parts of the world.

The goal is to get a clearer comparison of mercury-related health risks facing dolphins both in captivity and in the wild."

The captive dolphins in

the study were fed smaller fish from North Atlantic waters where mercury pollution is less prevalent, researchers said.

"The aquarium dolphins were fed a consistent level of small fish—capelin and herring—that were caught in North Atlantic waters off Newfoundland and New England," Johns Hopkins environmental scientist Yongseok Hong said. "Lower levels of mercury are expected in these waters, compared to the waters off Florida."

In December, after the study was conducted, the US Environmental Protection Agency adopted strict standards aimed at reducing the release of toxic air pollution from coal- and oil-fired power plants, a key source of mercury contamination in sea water.

Internet

Ancient jewelry found at Israel site

TEL AVIV, 24 May—A gold earring in a collection of ancient jewelry unearthed in northern Israel suggests the hoard could have Egyptian origins, archaeologists say.

The gold and silver jewelry was hidden inside a vessel found in the Jezreel Valley and dated to around 1100 BC, Tel Aviv University reported on Monday. At least some of the pieces could have originated in nearby Egypt.

Tel Aviv researcher Eran Arie said, as some of the materials and designs are consistent with Egyptian designs from the same period.

The vessel, found in the remains of a private home in the ancient Canaanite city-state of Tel Megiddo, was probably not the jewelry's normal storage place, researchers said.



The gold earring decorated with molded ibexes, or wild goats, found in northern Israel and dated to 1,100 BC.—INTERNET

"It's clear that people tried to hide the collection, and for some reason they were unable to come back to pick it up," David Ussishkin said.

The find was dated to just after the end of Egyptian rule in the 12th century BC, Arie said, suggest either the jewelry was left behind in the Egyptian withdrawal or the people who owned the jewelry were influenced by Egyptian culture.

A connection with Israel would not be surprising, archaeologists said, because interactions between Egypt and Megiddo are known to have taken place during both the Bronze Age and the Iron Age. The gold earring decorated with molded ibexes, or wild goats, is the most interesting piece, they said. "For unique items, we work to find parallels to help place the items in their correct cultural and chronological settings, but in this case we still haven't found anything," they said.

Internet

Google names new Motorola Mobility CEO

NEW YORK, 24 May—Google Inc completed its \$12.5 billion purchase of Motorola Mobility Holdings Inc and named a new chief executive for the cellphone maker, who vowed to focus on "fewer, bigger bets."

Google, which made the deal to gain access to Motorola's vast trove of technology patents, said on Tuesday that Motorola Chief Executive Sanjay Jha has stepped down and has been succeeded by Dennis Woodside, former president of Google's Americas region.

Woodside oversaw planning for the Motorola integration, according to Google.

Jha will be retained to help manage a transition period.

The deal closing came just days after the companies won approval for the acquisition from the Chinese government.

European and US regulators approved the deal in February.

To gain approval in China, Google said the company promised to keep its Android mobile phone software open and free for at least five years and agreed to charge fair and reasonable fees for technology licenses.

Motorola spokeswoman Jennifer Erickson said Woodside's "fewer, bigger

bets" would mean a simpler strategy: Fewer but bigger phone launches for Motorola Mobility, which will be an independent subsidiary of Google.

Woodside hired a slew of outside executives to run the company, including Vanessa Wittman, former chief financial officer of Marsh & McLennan Cos Inc (MMC N), as CFO of Motorola Mobility.

Mark Randall, the former supply chain vice president at Kindlemaker Amazon.com Inc (AMZN O), was appointed as the mobile unit's new head of supply chain.

The company will retain



People attend a press announcement at Google's headquarters in New York, on 21 May, 2012.
REUTERS

some Motorola executives, including Iqbal Arshad as head of product development,

and Dan Moloney as head of the set-top box business.

Reuters

Faster memory chips can store more data

LONDON, 24 May—A new form of super-fast computer memory can offer more storage capacity than current technology such as flash memory in USB sticks, British scientists say.

The new memory is known as Resistive RAM (or 'ReRAM') based on materials, most often oxides of metals, whose electrical resistance changes when a voltage is applied and can then "remember" this change even when the power is turned off, researchers at University College London reported.

"Our ReRAM memory chips need just a thousandth of the energy and are around a hundred times faster than standard Flash memory chips," Tony Kenyon of the university's electronic and electrical engineering



A photo of the University College London ReRAM device.—INTERNET

department said.

The researchers said they've developed a novel structure composed of silicon oxide that performs the switch in resistance much more efficiently.

Unlike other silicon oxide chips currently in development, they said, their chip does not require a

vacuum to work, making it potentially cheaper and more durable.

"The fact that the device can operate in ambient conditions and has a continuously variable resistance opens up a huge range of potential applications," Kenyon said.

Internet

Pollution-hunting robot fish take to the sea

LONDON, 24 May—Robot "fish" developed by European scientists to improve pollution monitoring moved from the lab to the sea in a test at the northern Spanish port of Gijon on Tuesday.

The developers hope the new technology, which reduces the time it takes to detect a pollutant from weeks to seconds, will sell to port authorities, water companies, aquariums and anyone with an interest in monitoring water quality.

It could also have spin-offs for cleaning up oil spills, underwater security, diver monitoring or search and rescue at sea, they said.

The fish, which are 1.5 metres (5 feet) long and

currently cost 20,000 pounds each, are designed to swim like real fish and are fitted with sensors to pick up pollutants leaking from ships or undersea pipelines.

They swim independently, co-ordinate with each other, and transmit their readings back to a shore station up to a kilometre away.

"Chemical sensors fitted to the fish permit real-time, in-situ analysis, rather than the current method of sample collection and dispatch to a shore based laboratory," said Luke Speller, a scientist at British consultancy BMT Group who led the project.

The fish can avoid obstacles, communicate with each other, map where they are and know how to return to

base when their eight-hour battery life is running low, their makers say.

After the tests this week, the team will look at modifications needed to move the fish into commercial production, which they expect to reduce the cost of each unit.

The development project was part-funded by the EU and drew on expertise from the University of Essex and the University of Strathclyde in Britain, Ireland's Tyndall National Institute and Thales Safare, a unit of Europe's largest defence electronics group, Thales (TCFP.PA), which was responsible for the communication technology.

Reuters

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Health Tip: Comforting baby's pain

When your baby is in pain — be it from things like a circumcision, vaccine or incoming tooth — parents can take steps to soothe, comfort and ease the pain as much as possible.

The University of Michigan Health System offers these suggestions:

- * Cuddle your baby, and try to have skin-to-skin contact.
- * Distract your baby by singing, cuddling, talking or moving.
- * Nurse your baby if you are breast-feeding.
- * If you aren't nursing, dip a pacifier in a sugar/water solution, but never honey.
- * Ask your doctor about administering a pain-relieving medication designed for infants.—Internet



A diabetic patient displays her insulin supplies and blood sugar level-testing device in downtown Los Angeles, on 30 July, 2007. The percentage of US teenagers with "pre-diabetes" or full-blown type 2 diabetes has more than doubled in recent years — though obesity and other heart risk factors have held steady, government researchers reported on Monday.—REUTERS

Scientists identify molecule that flicks on immune system

SINGAPORE, 24 May—Researchers have identified the molecular 'switch' that directly triggers the body's first line of defence against pathogens, more accurately known as the body's "innate immunity".

They found that this molecule — called Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK), when switched on, activates the production of interferons, a potent class of virus killers that enables the body to fight deadly dengue and flu viruses.

While there are anti-viral drugs to treat flu, the high rates of mutation that

characterise flu virus have made it difficult to treat with one universal drug or vaccine, according to a statement of Bioprocessing Technology Institute (BTI), under the Agency of Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), Singapore.

As for dengue, there are currently no clinically approved vaccines or cures either. This discovery of BTK's role as a critical 'switch' that boosts the body's anti-viral response, paves the way for developing anti-viral drugs that target the BTK 'switch' to fight infectious diseases.



Viruses.—INTERNET

"We are very excited because this is the first time that the link between BTK and its critical role in the immediate anti-viral responses of the immune system, triggered in response to invading viruses like Dengue, is definitively demonstrated," said Koon-Guan Lee, study co-author

from BTI.

Kong-Peng Lam, professor and acting executive director of BTI, said: "This study adds new insights to the understanding of how the body's innate immunity is triggered to create an effective immune response."

Internet

Folic acid reduces some childhood cancers

WASHINGTON, 24 May—Fortifying food with folic acid may cut down the incidence of the most common type of kidney cancer and a type of brain tumour in children, says a new study.

Folic acid fortification reduced the incidence of Wilms' tumour, a type of kidney cancer, and primitive neuroectodermal tumours (PNET), a type of brain cancer, both of which affect children.

"Our study is the largest

to date to show that folic acid fortification may also lower the incidence of certain types of childhood cancer in the United States," said Kimberly J Johnson, assistant professor at the Brown School, Washington University, St Louis, the journal *Paediatrics* reports.

The study examined the incidence of childhood cancer pre- and post-mandated folic acid fortification. "We found that Wilms' tumour rates increased from 1986 to 1997 and decreased thereafter, which coincides exactly with folic acid fortification,"

Johnson says, according to a Washington statement.

"PNET rates increased from 1986 to 1993 and decreased thereafter. This change in the trend does not coincide exactly with folic acid fortification, but does coincide nicely with the 1992 recommendation for women of child-bearing age to consume 400 micrograms of folic acid daily."

Study authors used the 1986-2008 data from the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Programme (SEER), which has collected information on cancer cases

in various areas of the US since 1973. The study involved 8,829 children, from birth to age four, diagnosed with cancer.

"Declines in Wilms' tumours and PNETs in children were detected by multiple analyses of the data," Johnson says. "Importantly, the reduced rates of Wilms' tumours also were found in a smaller study conducted in Ontario, Canada, that was published in 2011. Julie A Ross, professor and director of the Division of Paediatric Epidemiology & Clinical Research in the Department of Paediatrics at the University of Minnesota, co-authored the study.—Internet

Vodafone cuts sales target on weak European markets

LONDON, 24 May—Vodafone (VODL) cut a medium-term sales growth target on Tuesday as customers in southern Europe slashed spending and regulators upped the pressure on the world's largest mobile operator. The company took impairment charges of 4 billion pounds relating to its businesses in Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece.

Vodafone posted full-year results in line with forecasts and said it expected growth in adjusted operating profit in 2013 as strength in emerging markets and Germany and Turkey offset a slump in spending in Spain and Italy. But with trading in the two big southern European markets showing few signs of improving and regulatory and foreign exchange pressures due to continue, Vodafone said it now expected organic service revenue growth in 2013 to be slightly below its previous medium-term target range of 1-4 percent.

Group organic service revenue for the 2012 financial year from the provision of ongoing services to customers was up 1.5 percent, with Europe down 1.1 percent

and Africa, Middle East and Asia Pacific up 8 percent.

The British-based group is the latest in a long line of major companies to be hit by government austerity measures being imposed across Europe, where consumers facing tax rises, inflation and muted wage growth are under pressure to cut spending.

A reluctance to spend on discretionary goods, particularly in Italy, Spain and Greece, has hit Europe's biggest retailer Carrefour, drinks group Diageo and electricals retailer Kesa among others in recent weeks.

In the telecoms sector specifically, rivals have also struggled, with net profit at Spain's Telefonica halved in

the first quarter due to torrid conditions in Italy and Spain.

"Our focus on the key growth areas of data, emerging markets and enterprise is positioning us well in a difficult macroeconomic environment," Chief Executive Vittorio Colao said.

Group revenue was up 1.2 percent to 46.4 billion pounds, in line with forecasts, but core earnings slipped 1.3 percent due to the tough trading and increasing regulatory pressure. "Given larger regulatory reductions than previously envisaged, we now expect organic service revenue growth in the 2013 financial year to be slightly below our previous medium term guidance range," the group said.—Reuters



A Japanese woman passes Vodafone's logo in Tokyo on 17 March, 2006.—INTERNET

Australia's Qantas to split business into two



A girl points to a Qantas Airbus 330-300 aircraft on the tarmac of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila on 31 October, 2011.—REUTERS

SYDNEY, 24 May—Australia's top airline, Qantas Airways, said on Tuesday its international and domestic business will be managed as separate businesses with their own chief executive with earnings to be reported separately from 1 July.

Qantas said in a stock exchange filing that the changes were part of a five-year turnaround plan aimed at shrinking costs and getting the loss making international operations into profit.

"Qantas International, a great airline with a rich history, is loss-making and does not deliver sustainable returns," Chief Executive

Alan Joyce said.

"However, we are committed to turning it around through the five-year strategy we announced last year, based on flying to global gateways, deeper alliances, smart investment in product and disciplined capital management."

Weak demand and high fuel prices are taking a toll on airline profits pushing airlines across the world to cut costs and delay capital expenditure.

The business separation comes as Joyce struggles to find a partner to float an Asian premium airline to take advantage of lower costs with

some analyst saying Qantas has given up that option for now. In March it ended talks with Malaysian Airlines.

Qantas, which is emerging from a bruising dispute with unions, on Monday said it planned to cut 500 jobs on top a similar number flagged in February to save up to A\$100 million annually.

It is consolidating engineering, maintenance and ground operation function and also plans to sell some catering centres. It has also cut A\$900 million in capital expenditure.

Qantas named Simon Hickey, CEO for its frequent flyer programme as CEO of Qantas International and Lyell Strambi, group executive for airline operations, as CEO for domestic operations.

Qantas announced an underlying profit before tax of A\$552 million in the 2010/11 financial year, while the international business lost more than A\$200 million.

Reuters

US firm creates text-controlled 'robotic barista' coffee maker



The machine can print onto the coffee's froth.
INTERNET

LONDON, 24 May—A US company has developed a coffee machine that can simply be controlled by sending text messages.

Seattle-based Zipwhip's Textpresso can send and receive messages, allowing coffee drinkers to text their order directly to the machine to pick up later.

The machine can also

add personalised messages onto the coffee's froth, with the help of edible ink.

The company has no plans to mass-produce the machine, but it is making available the instructions and source code. "You heard right," the BBC quoted the company writing in its blog.

"We've got a robotic barista in the house," the blog read. Zipwhip, a cloud text messaging service, said they had produced the machine as way of highlighting the abilities of its wider business.

"We've had a lot of people each from all over the world wanting to distribute this thing," John Lauer, the company's chief executive said. "We have been prepping the open source plans—and we are going to

launch those. People could do modifications, that would be really thrilling for us," he said. The machine itself is a standard coffee maker manufactured by Jura.

Instead of a human operator, the machine is activated using a specially programmed Arduino microcontroller. Arduino is an open-source platform used for prototyping interactive electronics.

Zipwhip were able to write computer code to interpret the instructions sent in through text message. The system made use of Zipwhip's own Android mobile app.

"The build was completed with lots of head-scratching and weekend work," the company said.

It has posted the code used to control the Arduino—written in the Java programming language—on its blog. The machine has proved popular with both technology and coffee lovers. Local blog SeattleCoffeeGear called it the "hardest working robot in the business".

Lauer said that he was delighted with the response, but was not looking to take the idea much further.

"Hey, if Starbucks want to come and buy the company for that machine... well, it just wouldn't make sense!" he said. "We'll let someone else do it. If someone takes the open-source plan and starts a business around making these, it just means more users of our software," he added.

Internet



File illustration photo shows the silhouette of a passenger aircraft.
INTERNET

'Bomb' threat forces plane back to Australia

SYDNEY, 24 May—Emergency crews raced to Melbourne Airport on Wednesday when a packed passenger plane was forced to return after a soft drink can with the word "bomb" scribbled on it was found onboard, police said.

The Australian Federal Police was called in and at least 15 fire trucks were on stand-by as the *Air Mauritius Airbus A340*, carrying close to 200 people, touched down at an isolated part of the airport.

The plane, which was bound for Mauritius, had left Melbourne as scheduled but about an hour into the flight the captain was made aware that a suspicious object had been found.

"The object was a soft drink can with the word 'bomb' written on it," Victoria Police said in a statement.

"The plane returned to Melbourne and landed

safely... with all relevant agencies being activated in response to the matter."

Police said no threats were received in relation to the object and they were still trying to ascertain who first noticed the item and how it came to be on board.

The plane, which was carrying more than 180 passengers and nine crew, was being inspected by the explosives squad and all baggage would also be screened, police added.

No one has been arrested and Melbourne Airport is operating as normal.

Air Mauritius said the captain decided to turn Flight *Mk943* back to Melbourne "following the discovery of a suspicious item on board".

"Air Mauritius wishes to reiterate that the safety of passengers and crew are its top-most priority at all times," the airline added in a statement.—*Internet*

Al Qaeda video calling for cyber attacks against Western nations alarms US

WASHINGTON, 24 May—A new al-Qaeda video calling on followers to carry out cyber attacks on Western targets has alarmed American lawmakers.

Senators Susan Collins and Joe Lieberman, who are part of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, said that they first learned about the al-Qaeda video last week in a meeting with Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano.

"This tape is really alarming. It's essentially instructing anybody who's sympathetic with al-Qaeda's ideology to engage in cyberattacks, and the tape is telling them how easy it is to do so," Fox News quoted Collins as saying.

The six-minute video instructs al-Qaeda followers that the US is vulnerable to cyber attacks in the same way as airlines were vulnerable in 2001 before the 11 September attacks.

"The video calls on Muslims with expertise in this domain to target the websites and information systems of big companies and government agencies," Lieberman said.

"Al-Qaeda and al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula are focused on cyber warfare because it can be carried out, if you have somebody smart enough, at very little expense," Lieberman added.

The senators said the Homeland Security Department took action against 100,000 cyber incidents in 2011. They said that there was a five-fold increase in the number of attacks aimed at industrial control systems.

"There has been a huge increase in the number of cyber attacks against our country in the last two years. It would be naive for us to think that al-Qaeda is not responsible for at least some of those attacks," Collins said.

Without getting into classified information, Lieberman confirmed that there has been a spike in cyber intrusions, which is believed to originate from Iran.—*Internet*



Visitors play a game during the G2E Asia gaming expo in Macau on 23 May, 2012.—INTERNET

Passenger in jetliner scare sent to France

BANGOR, 24 May — A French woman who was removed from a flight from Paris to Charlotte, NC, in Bangor, Maine, will not be held in the United States, prosecutors said.

Lucie Zeeko Merigot, 41, spent a night in the Penobscot County Jail after she was arrested at Bangor airport on Tuesday, CNN reported. US Attorney Thomas Delahanty said on Wednesday the FBI interviewed flight crew on US Airways *Flight 787* and other passengers and decided to return her to France.

Merigot told flight attendants doctors had implanted some sort of device in her that she could not control. She was examined in Maine and no surgical scars were found.—*Internet*

South Korea to expand missile arsenal

SEOUL, 24 May—South Korea plans to significantly expand its missile arsenal over the next 5 years in response to threats from North Korea.

A South Korean military official says Defence Minister Kim Kwan-jin reported the 2.1-billion dollar plan to President Lee Myung-bak.

The plan entails deployment of hundreds of new cruise and ballistic

missiles, including the Hyunmu, the country's newest cruise missile with a range of 500 to 1,500 kilometres that was unveiled last month. A Defence Ministry spokesperson said on Tuesday that South Korea must increase its missile capability to counter mounting threats from the North.

South Korea has been

working to reinforce its missile strength since North Korea last month failed to launch what the country claimed was a satellite-carrying rocket but was believed to be a long-range ballistic missile.

Calls are growing in South Korea to extend the ballistic missile range limit set at 300 kilometres in an agreement with the United States.—*NHK*

US urges Iran allow IAEA monitors at all locations

TOKYO, 24 May—A US State Department spokesperson has urged Iran to provide the International Atomic Energy Agency with access to all the locations it asks to inspect.

Victoria Nuland spoke to reporters on Tuesday about the agreement reached between IAEA chief Yukiya Amano and Iran on ways to verify the country's claim that it is not developing nuclear weapons.

Nuland said the United States is looking for implementation of the deal. She urged Iran to provide access to all locations, documents and personnel that the IAEA requires.

Nuland stressed that the United States wants to see concrete steps from Iran on its uranium enrichment activity during its upcoming talks with 6 countries.

She said that if Iran actually takes steps, the US might be able to respond, suggesting an easing of sanctions.—*NHK*



An owner of a cheese factory in San Giovanni in Persiceto looks at toppled shelves, following a strong earthquake in northeast Italy.—INTERNET

Beatles' backward Abbey Road photo fetches \$25,000

TOKYO, 24 May—A rare photograph showing the Beatles walking the "wrong way" across Abbey Road has sold for more than 25,000 dollars at auction in London. This is double the estimate.

The initial offering price was around 9,500 dollars at the auction on Tuesday.

But the bidding topped 25,000 dollars only one minute later.

The signature cover photo of the band's 1969 album "Abbey Road" shows the Fab Four walking from left to right.

But the picture auctioned on Tuesday shows them

walking the opposite way.

It also shows Paul McCartney, who is barefoot in the cover photo, wearing sandals.

The photo is one of 6 taken during a 10-minute photo session more than 40 years ago.

NHK



CASH DONATED: U Aung Than and Daw Tin Tin Aye Family residing on Shwethitsar road, No.13 ward in Yankin Township, Yangon, donated K 1 million to Jivatadhana Sangha hospital (Yangon) through the executive member of Hospital administration.—MNA



RESPECTS PAID TO THE ELDERS: The 46th respect-paying ceremony was held at Township administrator office in Pyigyikyathayay East Ward in Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay, on 17 April.

TUN HLA AUNG (MDY)



FIRE PREVENTIVE MEASURES INSPECTED: Staff officer U Tun Tun Soe and party of Fire Services Department inspected preventive measures against fire at houses, restaurants, workshops and factories in No.12 Ward in Pyin-Oo-Lwin Township, Mandalay Region on 17 April.

TUN HLA AUNG (MDY)

DISTRICT NEWS

BOOKS DONATED: Chairman of Muse Township Writers Association U Ohn Maung and party donated 200 books to Maw Naychi library through Vice-Chairman of Library Committee U Than Lwin and committee members, in Muse Township on 22 May.—MYANMA ALIN



Following the mood of today SOE TINT

Some people say, "Those who don't understand history will repeat the mistakes of the past". But it is not always true. There has not always been firm evidence that people have made smart decisions based on their knowledge of the past. The present is what is important. People, weather and politics can change and determine what happens.

People can change. People may have hated each other for years, but that doesn't mean they will continue to hate each other. For instance, there are many countries in the world which are cooperating now although they might have once antagonized each other. No doubt, if we had looked at the past, we would have believed this to be impossible. But people change.

The weather can change. Farmers plant certain crops because these crops have always grown well in their fields. However, there can be a long drought. The crops that grew well in the past will die. So the farmers need to try a drought-resistant crop. Provided that we had looked at the past, we wouldn't have changed our crop. Weather changes.

Similarly, politics

can change. If politicians looked only at the past, they would always do the same thing. Even the United States, the world's great democracy, used to have discrimination against races, women and sexual orientation. On the whole, the American people now are interested in human rights and the government protects these rights.

Today's Myanmar has changed remarkably. Its leaders as well as politicians have changed. In retrospect, the country lagged behind others in all aspects due to different ideologies, racism and isms. We could not have changed our political system. Despite the fact that successive governments tried to practise genuine democracy which people think has been the best and most suitable political system on Earth, Myanmar failed to do so because of inability to seek common ground among national ethnic groups.

Since taking office, the democratically-elected government led by President U Thein Sein has been conducting a series of changes and reforms. Among those changes and reforms are granting amnesty four times for prisoners, including those serving jail terms for their



strong convictions, making peace with almost all of national ethnic armed groups, easing strict laws and rules and drafting laws in line with democratic practices. As a result, today's Myanmar has seen a sign of progress in all sectors within a short period of time.

The economic sanctions and restrictions the US and some Western countries imposed against Myanmar are being suspended or lifted. We could have now normalized bilateral relations with the US and the whole global community is eyeing economic cooperation with Myanmar, blessed with rich natural resources. Moreover, international

assistance and inward investment are beginning to flow into the country. Therefore, Myanmar will surely have a very bright future with its people enjoying progress and prosperity.

All in all, these fruitful results are coming from the changes our nation and the government have made. If they had looked at the past only and remained unchanged, Myanmar wouldn't have reached a status of today.

As a rule, it is important to follow the mood of today. It doesn't help us to think about the past. People, the weather and politics can change in any direction, good or bad. We should be aware of this.

Writers association formed in Pazundaung Township

YANGON, 24 May—A ceremony to form writers association in Pazundaung Township, was held at Pyinnyabeikman library of Township Information and Public Relations Department on 6 May.

At the ceremony, chairperson U Khin Aung (Reporter Khin Aung) delivered an address. After that, U Nyi Nyi Aung (Nyi

Nyi Aung) was elected as chairman and U Than Tun (Thiha Ayeyawady) as secretary.—MNA

Collective blood donation of Myittamon group held

KAUNGGAON, 24 May—To mark the 8th Anniversary of Myittamon blood donor group from Kaunggaon, Patheingyi District, Ayeyawady Region, fourth collective blood donation was made by a group led by U Hlaing Myo Swe at National Blood Centre in Yangon People's Hospital on 13 May.

The group comprising about 1500 was formed in 2004 and has donated 4500 bags of blood during so far.

Myanma Alin

Fire drill demonstrated in Magway Region

MAGWAY, 24 May—Assistant Director U Tin Min of Magway Region Fire Services Department, head of District Fire Services Department U Myint Naing Tun and Township Fire Services Department staff officer U Ye Nyunt, demonstrated the use of fire extinguishers and fire drill, at (Man) Thanpayakan oil refinery of Petrol Chemical plant in Upper Minhla Township, Thayat District, Magway Region on 15 May.

Fire Services Department

Relief aids provided to victims in Pindaya Township

PINDAYA, 24 May—A strong wind hit wards and villages in Danu Self-Administered Zone in Pindaya Township on 26 April.

A ceremony to donate cash to the victims by Shan State Government and relief aids by the Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement was held, at the Zone on 21 May.

Chairman of Danu Self-Administered Zone U Htoo Ko Ko and secretary U Soe Naing handed over cash and relief aids to the victims. A victim spoke words of thanks.

Myanma Alin

Take Fire Preventive Measures

No backsliding in Myanmar's...

(from page 1)

After that, they met President of the Storting of Norway Parliament Mr Dag Terje Andersen and a team led by Chairman of Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of Norway Parliament Ms Ine M. Eriksen Sreide.

On 16 May, they met Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway Mr Jonas Gahr Store and Minister for International Development of Norway Mr Heikki Holmas.

On that day, Thura U Shwe Mann and party visited Norway Parliamentary Committees Office and attended a briefing on the role of Norwegian Auditor General and a briefing on the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. At 5 pm, Thura U Shwe Mann met Chairman of Peace and Human Rights Oslo Centre Mr Kjell Magne Bondevik.

At 9.30 am on 17 May, the delegation of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives led by Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann attended the celebration of National Day of Norway and Constitution Day.

Included in the visit of Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann were Pyithu Hluttaw representatives U Nyan Swe Win, U Khin Maung Yi (a) U Khaing Maung Yi, U Saw Thein Aung, U Ngon Maung, Daw Mi Myint Thein, Daw Khin Saw Wai, Dr Myo Aung and U Thein Swe and commission member U

building and met Secretary General of the Danish Parliament Mr Carsten-U-Larsen.

Then, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker met Minister of Danish Development and Cooperation Mr Christian Friis Bach at the building of Danish Foreign Affairs Ministry.

As Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann was meeting with the dignitaries while in European countries, they said that they were satisfied with Myanmar political developments; that they would continue to encourage and help with the political reforms; that they expected release of more political prisoners and would render assistance for the efforts for national race affairs and internal peace process; they praised the leadership of the President and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker in their political reform process; that they expressed concerns over continued efforts as changes and reforms were far faster than expected and there might be challenges; and that anyhow they would provide assistance.

In response, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said Myanmar would have no backsliding with its changes and reforms and even since the time of previous government, all-out decision had been made to build up a developed country with multi-party democracy and market economy in the interests of the nation and the people.

Nowadays, the entire national people believed democracy was the sole road towards national prosperity. It can be seen that peaceful and developed countries around the



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shaking hands with Ms. Catherine Ashton.—MNA

Myanmar and European countries and global countries had been in decline. It was regrettable that there were not even normal relations. Taking those lessons, it was required to target for cooperation on the ground of mutual interests from normal relations. Reforms in Myanmar had gone some distance, but it still needed to go in parallel with economic reforms. It was noticed that political reform, without the support of economic reform, alone could not make the political system a success. So, it was required to take actions in consideration of overall conditions such as politics, economy and socio-economic status. Myanmar possessed a geopolitically strategic position and was blessed with rich natural resources. So, there were great potentials for investment and special opportunities for promotion of commerce and trading, just suitable for profit-sharing cooperation. In so doing, the parliament played an important role and thus it had been focused on rapid emergence of laws appropriate with modern time and enforcement of such laws in legislation, the main obligation of the parliament. They also discussed exchange of visits, study tours and experiences for high quality of parliaments.

The parliamentary delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann paid a call on President of Hans Seidel Foundation (HSF) Professor Dr. h. c. mult. Hans Zehmtair and Vice-President Mr Stephen Schneider of Siemens AG CO on 3 May in their visit in Germany.

Chairmen and members of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees accompanying the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker in his visit met personnel of Standard Charter Bank in London on 18 May, businessmen from Confederation of Danish Industry of Denmark on 22 May. They also went to Amata City Industrial Estate in Thailand on their way back to discuss matters related to establishment of industrial zone.

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Planning and Financial Development Committee U Soe Tha, Chairman of International relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Economic and Commercial Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein, Chairman of Investment and Industrial Development Committee U Htay Myint, National Races Affairs and Internal Peacemaking Committee Secretary Daw Dwe Bu, member of Bill Committee Daw Nan Wah Nu and personnel also arrived back here together with Speaker.—MNA



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets Danish parliament speaker Mr. Mogens Lykketoft.—MNA

Than Tun, who arrived in Norway later.

At 3 pm on 18 May, the delegation called on Speaker of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom Mr John Bercow and party. They also met Minister for State DFID Mr Alan Duncan and Minister of State Lord Howell separately. Then, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and party met Adviser to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Mrs Kate Joseph on No.10 Downing Street and looked round in the parliamentary building of United Kingdom.

Thura U Shwe Mann while in London cordially met with members of Myanmar Association, some Myanmar citizens living in the UK at the residence of the Myanmar Ambassador.

At 10 am on 21 May, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and delegation members met Speaker of the Danish Parliament Mr Mogens Lykketoft and party at the parliamentary building in Copenhagen. They looked round in the parliamentary

world today were practicing democracy with their own styles. Myanmar also had introduced an appropriate system in accord with its historical background, culture, environment, and national characteristics. The government was well aware that the road would be paved with thorns and the goal was not within easy reach. However, no matter what, the government would move forward in the interests of the nation and its people. In serving the interests of own nation and people, democracy, human rights, peace and stability were the aspirations of each global nation, which should be acknowledged by the rest of the global family offering constructive support and assistance. It was indeed an honour to see and hear support for and appraisal of the efforts of the government. The country and its people would join hands with the international community for regional stability, security and global peace. Previously, the relations between

Dy NPED Minister attends 68th ESCAP meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw arrived back from Bangkok by air yesterday after attending the 68th Session of the Commission of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held in United Nations Convention Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand from 21 to 23 May, 2012.

The Deputy Minister delivered a country statement as the policy issue for the Asia-Pacific region at the Ministerial Segment meeting in the afternoon session of 22 May, 2012.

The Ministerial Segment was preceded by the Senior Official's Segment

which was held on 19 May to consider the substantive and management issues and draft resolution of social development, economic integration and disaster management which was submitted by member countries. The Ministerial Segment adopted the report of the Commission which contains sustainable development and Pacific island developing countries: preparation for Rio+20 and beyond, substantive issues such as macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and inclusive development, Trade investment, Transport, Environment and development, Disaster risk reduction, Social Development and Statistics and Management issues of report on evaluation activities of ESCAP during the biennium 2010-2011, programme

changes for the biennium 2012-2013 and date, venue and theme topic for the sixtieth session of the Commission (2013).

During attending the Ministerial Segment, the Deputy Minister met separately with Dr Noeleen Hayzer, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP and H.E Mr Joe Nakano, Parliamentary Vice-Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan on 21 and 22 May respectively and exchanged views on matters concerning promotion of bilateral relations, and further cooperation with Myanmar and UNESCAP. Deputy Minister had a meeting with ESCAP on Statistical Capacity Development. Deputy Minister stressed that the priority needs of his Ministry are to update National Accounts-related economic statistics and build technical capacity at various levels of

administration. And then, Deputy Minister had also a meeting with ESCAP on Sustainable Urban Development. ESCAP expressed that ESCAP is exploring the opportunities to provide the technical assistance to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the area of sustainable urban development, and in particular on solid waste management. Regional Manager and officers of UNDP in Bangkok called on Deputy Minister and discussed the matters of rural development and poverty reduction and providing the technical assistance.

The Deputy Minister attended Ministerial Roundtable on "Growing Together: Economic Integration for an Inclusive and Sustainable Asia-Pacific Century" and High Level Panel on "Steering inclusive development amidst global turbulence and volatility".—MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister, Singaporean guest discuss investment opportunities

YANGON, 24 May—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win held a discussion with Kerry Group Limited Vice Chairman Mr George Yeo of Singapore at the region government office on 22 May on the opportunities for investment in Bago Region.

MNA



Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win holds discussion with Kerry Group Limited Vice Chairman Mr George Yeo of Singapore.—MNA

Ministry of Sports opens Judo coaches/referees training course

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—A ceremony to open Judo coaches/referees training courses took place at the training hall of Nay Pyi Taw Sports Training Centre this morning with an address by Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan.

Union Minister U Tint Hsan in his address said that the chance of ensuring success in the international sports not depends only on solely efforts of the athletes but also depends on ability of managers and coaches, sports techniques and well-

qualified local referees. He added that in the early 1969, Myanmar gained achievements in the international sports contests but the success waned after 1969 with the scarcity of international level coaches and referees. Therefore, the Ministry of Sports in cooperation with the respective sports federations has been opening sports courses in different sports sectors, and it has already four coaches/referees training courses. And the Union Minister stressed the need for

trainees to try to become international level coaches and referees.

Afterwards, the Union Minister discussed with delegation members who were there for field trips on matters related to sending of coaches to People's Republic of China to undergo training for successful holding of XXVII SEA Games, undergoing event-wise joint training and provision of technological aids for opening and closing of the SEA Games.

MNA

Liuzho City Mayor meets UMFCCI Vice-President

YANGON, 24 May—Mr Zheng Junkang, Mayor of Liuzho City in Quanzhou Region in China and party met Vice-President U Aung Lwin, Joint Secretary-General U Myint Soe and

CEC of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at the Federation here, on 21 May.

They discussed produc-

ing vehicle parts and heavy agricultural machineries, chemical fertilizer and steel industries and bilateral cooperation in trade and investment between the two countries.—MNA



Chiefs of Police Force from ASEAN countries who have attended the 32nd Conference of the ASEAN Chiefs of Police (ASEANPOL) hosted by Myanmar meet journalists at Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone.—MNA

Union Transport Minister meets Chairman of Japan-based Nisshin Transportation Co.



Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung receives a delegation led by Chairman Mr. Susumu Koshimizu of Japan-based Nisshin Transportation Co Ltd.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received a delegation led by Chairman Mr. Susumu Koshimizu of Japan-based Nisshin Transportation Co Ltd, at his office, here, this afternoon.

At the call, Nisshin Transportation Co Ltd had a discussion on potentials to make investments in public transportation and freight transportation services in Myanmar, establishment of a freight forwarder services

company in cooperation with organizations or private companies in Myanmar.

With respect to the discussions, the Union Minister said that contracts could be signed with Myanma Airways on civil aviation, Inland Water Transport on marine administration, Myanma Port Authority on construction of jetty. Besides, the Union Minister invited them to invest in deep-sea ports in

Dawei, Kyaukpyu and Thilawa including special economic zones.

The 2011-passenger rate has increased about 1.5 million in locals and 1.4 million in foreigners in Myanmar, and there are over 300 state-owned vehicles and private-owned 30000 ones running in marine administration. But no shipping line has been run yet, that is now finding its investor.

MNA

Chiefs of ASEAN Police Force meet journalists

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Chiefs of Police Force from ASEAN countries who have attended the 32nd Conference of the ASEAN Chiefs of Police (ASEANPOL) hosted by Myanmar met journalists at Theingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone here this morning.

Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, chiefs of police force from ASEAN fellows, journalists from local news agencies and personnel were present at the meeting.

The MPF Chief informed the discussions about such transnational crimes at the conference as drug smuggling, terrorism, arms dealing, trafficking in persons, maritime fraud, commercial crimes, cyber crime, fake travelling documents, progress in electronic-ASEAN Database System, mutual assistance in criminal matters and capacity building of members of ASEAN police forces, and exchange of personnel.

MNA

Union Commerce Minister receives Representative of MITSUI & Co., Ltd

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received Representative of MITSUI & Co., Ltd (Yangon Office) Mr Nagai and party at his office, here, this morning.

They held a discussion on potentials of trade and investment in wider scale between Myanmar and MITSUI & Co., Ltd.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint San, the Director-General of Directorate of Trade, the Director-General of Border Trade Department, the Managing Director of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading and responsible persons.

MNA

Tobacco Kills

UMFCCI officials meet Ambassador of Spain



YANGON, 24 May—Vice-Presidents of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Zaw Min Win, U Aung Lwin, U Tun Aung and Dr Maung Maung Lay, received Ambassador Mr Ignacio Sagaz of Thailand-based

Spain Embassy and deputy director-general Mr Eduardo Euda of North America, Asia and Pacific Region of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain, at UMFCCI office on 10 May.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on promoting cooperation of

trade and investments, financial rules and regulations, renewable energy sector, investment opportunities in cooperation of industrial zones and special economic zones and development of small- and medium businesses.

UMFCCI

YaungchiU library opens in Bilin Township

BILIN, 24 May—A ceremony to open YaungchiU library in Daukyat village, Daukyat village-tract, Bilin Township, Mon State, was held at the library on 17 May. Staff officer of Thaton District Information and

Public Relations Department Daw Khin Saw Lin, village administrator U Tun Aung, library committee chairman U Khin Maung Than formally opened it. After that, donation of books and publication for library was held. The village

administrator handed over a library fund of K 150,000 set up by local people to the library committee chairman. It was built with the contribution of State's fund of K 1 million and 1.3 million by local people.

Township IPRD



Stakes driven for construction of schools in Muse

MUSE, 24 May—A ceremony to donate cash and drive stakes for construction of schools in Zay Ward, Muse, Muse District, Shan State (North), was held on 22 May.

At the ceremony, District Administrator U Moe Hein delivered a speech. After that, signing of school committee and 90 Construction Company was held. The District administrator, the Township administrator, the Hluttaw representatives and the school construction committee members drove the stakes. It will be built at a cost of K over 440 million. Those who want to make donation may contact the school head BEHS (branch) (Ph-082-52747), Chairman of School Board of Trustee Committee U Aye Myint (ph-09-47318864), Secretary U Myat Zin (ph-09-5230002) and U Phone Kyaw.—Myanma Alin



Tour guide licenses to be renewed

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Directorate of Hotels and Tourism of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism will cancel tour guide licenses with the terms of over three years. Those who are holding these licenses are to renew their licenses at respective branches not later than 30 June.—MNA



CAPACITY BUILDING COURSE OPENED: Staff officer U Thein Naing Gywe of Township Forest Department gave talks on environmental conservation and global warming, at capacity building course for village administrators and clerks, at DaikU Township on 19 May.—TOWNSHIP IPRD

CASH DONATED: Chairman of Jivatadhana Sangha Hospital (Yangon) U Maung Maung accepted K 10,080,000 by U Kyaw Myint and wife Daw Win Myint (Royal Pansay Co., Ltd/ Kho Lon Lishaw Co., Ltd) residing at No.1126, Zawtika-1 street, 16/4 ward, Thingangyun Township, Yangon.—MYANMA ALIN



Extempore talks and essay competitions held in Magway

MAGWAY, 24 May—To mark International Cooperatives Year, university/college level extempore talks and essay competitions, were held at Magway Education College, No.1 Basic Education High School, at Magway on 20 May. It was attended by officials, directors and staff from Cooperatives Departments of Magway Region, Township, Cooperatives Ltd, Township Cooperatives, teachers and students.

Assistant director U Kyaw Moe Tint of Magway Region Cooperatives Ltd and deputy principal Daw Khin Moe Kyi of Education College delivered speeches on the occasion.—Myanma Alin

Refresher course for drivers and bus conductors on 25 May

YANGON, 24 May—A refresher course No. 5 for drivers and bus conductors will be opened on 25 May, according to the press conference of All Buses Lines Supervisory Committee (Central). "The committee is placing more emphasis on road safety in Yangon Region and also cultivates and promotes skills of drivers and conductors," said an official from the committee. On 13 May, basic course No. 7/2012 for drivers and bus conductors was conducted. The committee also gave educative talks on development of drivers and bus conductors. The one-day course covers traffic rules, causes of accident and knowledge about CNG.

Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)

Yamethin sees thriving groundnuts, beans

YAMETHIN, 24 May—Recent rain helps farmers in villages of Yamethin Township supply water for growing groundnuts and beans. Farmers can easily carry out the cultivation when they get irrigation water if necessary

Seminar on innovative LPG/CNG engine control application on automobiles engines on 27 May

YANGON, 24 May—A seminar on innovative LPG/CNG Engine Control Application on automobiles engines, organized by Automobile Engineering Technical Division of Myanmar Engineering Society (MES), will be held at MES building in Hline University Campus in Hline Township, here, on 27 May. Mr Paolo Tubetti (R & D Applications Manager, LALDIRENZA Spa) will give talks. For more information, contact MES (ph-01-519854 and 519673-6).

MNA



CASH DONATED: U Mya Thein family of Twantay Township donated K 0.2 million for the medical fund of Mebagonyay Home for the aged through administrator U Maung Yi.—MYANMA ALIN

DISTRICT NEWS

ICT development course for heads of middle schools opens

YANGON, 24 May—A ceremony to conclude ICT development course No. 3/2012 for heads of middle schools, was held at No. 3 Basic Education Department on 22 May.

At the ceremony, on behalf of the director-general, director U Myo Myint Kyaw (Admin/Finance) delivered a concluding speech and presented certificates.—MNA



preparations are made. The regions that have heavy rains mainly grow groundnuts and beans.—Kyemon

HP to lay off 27,000, profit slides 31 percent

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 May—Hewlett Packard Co plans to lay off roughly 27,000 employees or about 8 percent of its workforce over the next couple of years to jumpstart growth and save up to \$3.5 billion annually, sending its shares 11 percent higher.

The company said the layoffs would be made mainly through early retirement and would generate annual savings of \$3 billion to \$3.5 billion as it exits fiscal year

2014, when the layoffs are expected to complete.

The world's No 1 personal computer maker, which employs more than 300,000 people globally, also said on Wednesday that it had a 31 percent decline in second-quarter profit and a 3 percent decline in revenue, compared with a year ago.

The results, however, were better than Wall Street expectations.

Layoffs "adversely impact people's lives, but in

this case, they are absolutely critical to the long-term health of the company," Chief Executive Meg Whitman said. "This is broad based," she said in an interview. "By design, it will touch all of HP."

Whitman said a third of the layoffs would be in the United States. The company will take a pretax charge of \$1.7 billion in fiscal 2012 related to the layoffs.

Whitman plans to boost spending on research and development, especially in printing and PCs, with the savings from the cost cuts.

Sterne Agee analyst Shaw Wu said the quarter was surprisingly strong for HP, which had missed its own forecast most quarters in the last 18 months and prior to Whitman taking over as CEO.

"Everyone expected a miss, given what Dell said," Wu said. "It looks like HP is regaining its footing."

Dell shares on Wednesday plunged 17 percent following weaker than expected results

and a disappointing revenue forecast spurred fears that global tech spending is weakening faster than anticipated.

HP itself has been trying to move past the internal upheaval that marked 2011, including the departure of two chief executives.

Whitman, a veteran Silicon Valley executive who took the top job last September, has been trying to turn the company around.

Reuters



A United States Navy's helicopter flies over the Hudson River during the 25th Fleet Week in New York, on 23 May, 2012. The annual Fleet Week was opened on Wednesday, with over 20 fleets from 13 countries attending the fleet march.—XINHUA



HP logo is seen outside Hewlett-Packard Belgian headquarters in Diegem in this January 2010 file photo.—REUTERS

India postpones sea trials of Russia-made aircraft carrier

NEW DELHI, 24 May—India has postponed till the beginning of June sea trials of Admiral Gorshkov aircraft carrier, which is being overhauled for the Indian Navy in Russia, local media reported.

The vessel was originally scheduled to sail for trials in the White Sea and the Barents Sea on 25 May.

"The start of the sea trials has been moved to the beginning of June," *The Times of India* quoted a spokesperson for the Sevmareshipyard in northern Russia where the ship is being refurbished as saying.

The purchase of the Soviet-built Admiral Gorshkov was agreed in 2005

but delivery to India has been long delayed. The cost of refurbishing the aircraft carrier, to be renamed *INS Vikramaditya*, has since gone up from 947 million US dollars to over 2 billion US dollars, the newspaper said.

Admiral Gorshkov's delivery to the Indian Navy is slated for December 2012.

Xinhua

China factory data signals weak first-half growth

BEIJING, 24 May—China's factories took a hit in May as export orders fell sharply, a private sector survey showed on Thursday, suggesting surprise weakness in April's hard economic data persists even as policymakers seek to shore up growth.

The HSBC Flash Purchasing Managers Index, the earliest indicator of China's industrial activity, retreated to 48.7 in May from a final reading of 49.3 in April. It marked the seventh consecutive month that the HSBC PMI has been below

50, indicating contraction.

A sub-index measuring output rose to a seven-month high, following a rebound in new orders in April. But other figures in May's figures were less rosy.

The new orders sub-index fell in May, reflecting an even sharper fall in the new export orders sub-index to 47.8 from April's final figure of 50.2 — pushing it back to within a whisker of March's 47.7 — data from Markit Economics Research, which publishes the index, showed.

Unexpectedly weak economic data for April released earlier this month was followed quickly by the central bank's third cut since November in the amount of cash that banks must keep in reserve, to allow more credit to flow into the economy.

This week Beijing has signaled its biggest push since joining the World Trade Organization to boost private investment into areas previously reserved for the state sector, like rail, hospitals and energy transmission.

It also intends to fast-track infrastructure investment to combat the slowdown, state media reported.

"Policymakers have been and will step up easing efforts to stabilize growth, as indicated by a slew of measures to boost liquidity, public housing and infrastructure investment and consumption," HSBC's chief economist Qu Hongbin, wrote in a statement accompanying the PMI release.—Reuters



An employee looks at an assembly line at a Ford manufacturing plant in Chongqing municipality on 20 April, 2012.—REUTERS

UN agency launches new online resource for global south cooperation, sustainable development

UNITED NATIONS, 24 May—The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) launched an online initiative here Wednesday to help stakeholders involved in South-South Cooperation and sustainable development share and access information and expertise. The UNEP South-South Cooperation Exchange Mechanism was launched during the 17th session of the UN High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation. Its objectives and features were showcased at a Press conference here that featured UNEP officials.

Amina Mohamed, deputy executive director of UNEP, told reporters that the new exchange mechanism "has the

potential to not only raise awareness about current environmental South-South programmes that are currently underway across the globe, it also has the potential for facilitating and expanding south-south and triangular programmes." According to UNEP, the exchange mechanism is the first online portal of its kind and includes alerts regarding current events in south-south cooperation and the environment, a collection of case studies, contact details for south-south cooperation partners, and a set of interactive tools, among other features. Mohamed explained that south-south cooperation has been developing for decades.—Xinhua

Shareholders sue Facebook, NYSE comes calling

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 May—The fallout from Facebook Inc's messy initial public offering widened on Wednesday as shareholders sued the social network and its bankers while a trading firm revealed a massive loss on the shares and threatened to seek "remedies."

The Nasdaq stock exchange also came under further pressure as a source close to the situation told Reuters that NYSE Euronext had opened discussions with Facebook about a potential

stock listing there. Nasdaq also faces litigation from angry investors.

Facebook's listing, envisioned as a crowning moment for an eight-year-old company that has become a business and cultural phenomenon, has instead turned into a legal and public relations fiasco for the company and its lead underwriter, Morgan Stanley.

Serious trading glitches interfered with the stock's opening on Friday, and subsequent revelations by



In this photo illustration, a Facebook logo on a computer screen is seen through glasses held by a woman in Bern on 19 May, 2012.—REUTERS

Reuters that analysts had quietly reduced their revenue forecasts prior to the IPO have led to accusations of selective disclosure of material information. The shares closed at \$32 on Wednesday, 15 percent below the IPO price.

A lawsuit filed on Wednesday seeking class-action status alleged that defendants — including

Facebook, its Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg, Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs Group Inc and JPMorgan Chase & Co — concealed "a severe and pronounced reduction" in revenue growth forecasts resulting from greater use of Facebook's app or website through mobile devices.

Reuters

Singapore's second cruise terminal to welcome first ship

SINGAPORE, 24 May—Singapore's second cruise terminal is set to welcome its first ship on 26 May, the operator of the terminal said on Tuesday.

The 138,000-ton *Voyager of the Seas* will dock for the first time in Singapore on the day at the new terminal. With a capacity of 3,840 passengers and 1,176 crew, it is the largest ever to homeport in Singapore.

The 28,000-square-meter terminal, which is built at a cost of 500 million Singapore dollars (400 million US dollars) and operated by the SATS-Creuters Cruise Services, will effectively double Singapore's berth capacity.

The terminal has the capability to dock ships of up to 220,000 gross register tonnage (GRT) and measuring up to 360 metres in length with a hull draft of up to 11.5 metres. It also has a spacious arrival and departure hall comprising 80 check-in

counters and up to 40 immigration counters, as well as a large ground transportation area, which allow the handling of up to 6,800 passengers at any one time. Currently, the cruise terminal is open only to cruise liners, passengers and authorized personnel. The official opening is expected later.

Melvin Vu, chief executive officer of the SATS-Creuters Cruise Services, said the company will be trying to have passengers disembark from their ships and leave the terminal swiftly to continue on with their holiday itinerary, as cruise terminals are built to cater to large numbers of passengers in a short period of time.

"The opening of the Marina Bay Cruise Centre Singapore marks a momentous development for the cruise industry in Singapore and we look forward to receiving guests from all over the world," he said.

Xinhua

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

1. 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 Shts |
| (4) | P.S Negative Plate (889 x 609 x 0.3)mm | 1000 Shts |
| (5) | P.S Negative Developer | 200 Liters |
| (6) | Wipe On Aluminium Plate (650 x 550 x 0.24)mm | 4000 Shts |
| (7) | Coating A+B Set | 200 Sets |
| (8) | Ortho Film (Sheet) (22" x 32") 50 Sht/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 Shts |
| | (b) Developer | 300 Liters |
| (17) | CTP Machine (Fuji) | |
| | (a) Thermal Plate (889 x 609 x 0.30)mm | 7800 Shts |
| | (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**

TRADE MARK CAUTION
HISAMITSU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., INC., a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of Japan, of 408, Tashiro Daikan-machi, Tosu, Saga, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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Reg. No. 3443/2012

in respect of "Class 05: Pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations; sanitary preparations for medical purposes; dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin; fungicides, herbicides".

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

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for **HISAMITSU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., INC.**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
makthinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 25 May 2012

A female airline security worker receives training in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 22 May, 2012.—XINHUA



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GRANDE FORTUNA VOY NO (2)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GRANDE FORTUNA VOY NO (2) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN-CAR LINER S'PORE
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PHILIP VOY NO (019)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHILIP VOY NO (019) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.5.2012 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Sales of e-books on the rise in Britain

LONDON, 24 May — E-books will account for about 25 percent of book sales in England by 2014, the managing director of the country's largest book chain said.

James Daunt of the Waterstones book chain said one in 10 books sold today is an e-book, that is likely to increase to one in four in two years' time, *The Daily Telegraph* reported on Wednesday.

Daunt's remarks came as Waterstones announced it is partnering with online retailer Amazon to sell its Kindle e-readers in its stores. Industry figures show British

consumers spent nearly \$400 million on e-books in 2011, up from \$275 million the year before, while sales of paperback books have dropped significantly.

The deal between Britain's largest book chain and one of the world's biggest Web sites has independent booksellers expressing grave concern about their future.

Roger Hickman, owner of the Mole & Haggis bookshop in Devon, said a growing concentration of power between Waterstones and Amazon will lead to fewer people patronizing small traditional bookshops.—Internet

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER TENDER NO(1) (ES) A.M.D (2012-2013)

1. Open Tender are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, for the supply of the following stores (in Myanmar Kyats.)

LOT: No	Description	Quantity
1.	Assorted Ball Bearing	8 Items
2.	Implement Discs & Spare Parts	9 Items
3.	Plunger & Barrel, Delivery Valve, Nozzle	10 Items
4.	ZWE Tractors Spare Parts	17 Items

2. Tender Closing date: 31-5-2012, 16:00 hrs

3. Tender documents are available at Equipment & Stores Branch of Agricultural Mechanization Department (Head Office), AMD office No. 50, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours from (25-5-2012). Only Tenders Purchased from AMD will be accepted.

4. For more details, Contact; 067-431243

**Director General
Agricultural Mechanization Department**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DELIGHT VOY NO (158)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELIGHT VOY NO (158) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.5.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS Invitation of Open Tenders

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following item in Myanmar Kyat:-

Tender No	Description	Qty
07/MaMa/(CME)	Upper Seat (2 Seater) for Upper	400-Set
2012-2013	Class Passenger Coaches(Foreign Made)	
Closing Date/Time-29.6.2012 (Friday)(12:00)Hours		

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 25.5.2012 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-294352, 95-1-291994

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways
Yangon



**Wu Bangguo (R), chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress (NPC), meets with Laurent Mosar, president of the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg, in Luxembourg, on 22 May, 2012.
XINHUA**

Harry Potter fans get rid of unwanted owls

British bird sanctuaries said they are filling up with owls as Harry Potter-inspired pet owners get tired of the birds. Pam Toothill, of the Owlcenter in Corwen, Wales, said she had only six of the birds prior to the release of the first Harry Potter film, but the number has since grown to 100 owls, *The Mirror* reported.

"People saw Harry's owl in the movies and thought how cute and cuddly they looked. Now they are bored and fed-up with all the work involved looking after an owl," Toothill said.

Kim Olson, owner of the Sanctuary Wildlife Care Centre in Ulgham, England, said many people have been illegally releasing their pet owls into the wild.

Inspired by the Harry Potter series, fans have been buying owls as pets.

"When people saw Harry Potter loads of them wanted an owl. They've kept them in their shed or garage for a bit and now they've got bored and they hand them in to us," she said. "It's illegal to release an owl into the wild because they would take over from the native wild owls, but obviously a lot of people have ignored that law."

Harry Potter author JK Rowling has asked her fans to do the proper research before deciding to obtain an owl as a pet. "If anybody has been influenced by my books to think an owl would be happiest shut in a small cage and kept in a house, I would like to take this opportunity to say as forcefully as I can, 'You are wrong,'" she said.



An Expedition 30 crew member aboard the International Space Station took this nighttime photograph of much of the Atlantic coast of the United States on 6 February, 2012. A former high school math teacher who became an astronaut arrived at the International Space Station on his 45th birthday.

Former teacher turns 45 in space

A Florida high school teacher who became an astronaut said arriving at the *International Space Station* was the perfect gift for his birthday.

Joe Acaba, a former teacher at Melbourne High School in Florida, arrived at the ISS aboard a Russian Soyuz spacecraft, which was his 45th birthday, *Florida*

Today reported.

"This is the perfect gift," Acaba said. "Dreams are coming true every day up here."

Kirk Shireman, deputy manager of NASA's *International Space Station* programme office, said the agency was happy to help Acaba have a happy birthday.

"Some people get cake and candles, and he gets the whole space station," he said.

Acaba, who became the first person of Puerto Rican heritage to visit space during a March 2009 shuttle mission, is scheduled for a four-month tour of duty alongside Russian cosmonauts Gennady Padalka and Sergei Revin.

They are scheduled to return to Earth on 17 Sept.

News Album

Helicopter ride for birthday girl, age 99

Georgene Barto, about to turn 99 and saying "I've been waiting a long time for this," got her birthday wish: a helicopter ride. The 30-minute ride, which began with the helicopter hovering a few feet off the tarmac at Beaver County Airport, near Pittsburgh so Barto could wave to family and friends, toured over Ohio River and the town of Conway, where she lived for most of her life, before returning, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported.

"It was wonderful! It was beautiful! I am so glad I did it. Thank you to everyone," Barto said after the flight. She will be 99 years old on 29 May, the newspaper said. The flight was

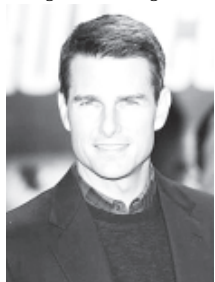
part of the Second Wind Dreams programme at the facility where she has lived for four years, Elmcroft of Chippewa Senior Living Community.

Residents are asked for a wish to be fulfilled, Elmcroft public relations director Melissa Chambers said, and after fishing trips and golf outings had been arranged for other residents, a helicopter ride was a surprise, and a first. Ron Spiker of Spiker Helicopters in nearby Zelienople, Pa, agreed to provide the trip at no cost, and after the adventure, the birthday honoree returned home for celebratory ice cream, the newspaper said.

Cruise, Baldwin sing on 'Rock of Ages' soundtrack

LOS ANGELES, 24 May—The soundtrack to the Hollywood movie musical "Rock of Ages," featuring Tom Cruise and Alec Baldwin singing 1980s anthems, is set for release next month.

WaterTower Music said those who pre-order the set through iTunes will get a free



American actor Tom Cruise attends the premiere of "Mission: Impossible Ghost Protocol" at BFI Imax in London on 13 December, 2011.—INTERNET

"Paradise City." He also duets with Akerman on Foreigner's "I Want to Know What Love Is" and with Hough on The Scorpions' "Rock You Like a Hurricane."

The soundtrack also features a medley of Night Ranger's "Sister Christian," David Lee Roth's "Just Like Paradise," and Poison's "Nothin' But a Good Time," which features Hough, Boneta, Brand and Baldwin.

Also included on the soundtrack are mash-ups of 1980s hits like Foreigner's "Juke Box Hero"/Joan Jett's "I Love Rock 'N Roll"; Extreme's "More Than Words/Warrant's "Heaven"; Pat Benatar's "Shadows of the Night"/Quarterflash's "Harden My Heart"; and Starship's "We Built This City" woven into Twisted Sister's "We're Not Gonna Take It," all performed by the film's cast.—*Internet*

download of Cruise singing "Pour Some Sugar on Me."

Starring Cruise, Baldwin, Julianne Hough, Diego Boneta, Russell Brand, Paul Giamatti, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Malin Akerman and Mary J Blige, the film and its soundtrack are set for release on 5 June.

In the film, Cruise plays "larger-than-life, arena-rocking champ 'Stacee Jaxx,'" a synopsis said.

He sings Bon Jovi's "Wanted Dead or Alive," Def Leppard's "Pour Some Sugar On Me" and Guns 'N Roses

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie



LONDON, 24 May—Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie seem too busy to walk down the aisle as the actor has admitted that they have no plans for a summer wedding.

While speaking at the

'No date' set for wedding to Angelina Jolie, says Brad Pitt

Pitt as saying.

"It's something that makes sense to us," he said, while explaining the long awaited engagement, which they finally announced in April. The 48-year-old, who has been dubbed "Bradzilla" with regard to the wedding, has been reportedly nitpicking over details like helipads for guests to land on, a performance by Irish rockers U2 and Chinese fireworks.

However, there isn't any organizing for the couple to do as they have two full time wedding planners to make

the magic happen.

"They're just putting off the inevitable," a source said.

"They could very easily leave it all in the capable hands of a professional planner but instead, they're letting it fall further into the distant future," the source added. The couple, both in favour of same sex marriage, has previously said that they don't plan to marry until gay marriage is universally recognized. "We're still hoping that we can figure out marriage equality in the States before that date," Pitt said.

Internet

Kids are more important than movie: Megan Fox

LOS ANGELES, 24 May—Actress Megan Fox thinks having children is good for ones career in Hollywood.

The 25-year-old is reported to be expecting her first child with husband Brian Austin Green.

"I feel kids are so much

more important than any movie.

They are so much more important than that..." showbizspy.com quoted her as saying. "As a woman, you are limited. You have so many years and you have an expiration date, and once you

are over 40 it becomes very difficult to work in the industry in the same way.

I feel like a lot of actresses feel pressure to work as much as they can while they are still in their 20s and early 30s. I don't have that fear," she said.

Internet



Actress Megan Fox

Gabriel Byrne to star in TV's 'Vikings'

NEW YORK, 24 May — Irish actor Gabriel Byrne is to star in the History channel's first scripted drama series, "Vikings."

Byrne is best known for his work in TV's "In Treatment," as well as the films "Vanity Fair," "The Usual Suspects," "Millers Crossing," "Stigmata" and "Little Women."

He will play 8th century ruler Earl Haraldson in "Vikings," set to premiere in 2013, the History channel's president and general



Irish actor Gabriel Byrne

manager, Nancy Dubuc, said on Monday.

The show will chronicle "the extraordinary and ferocious world of the mighty Norsemen who raided, traded and explored during medieval times," a synopsis said.

Co-starring George Blagden, the series will be filmed at Ashford Studios, a newly built facility in Ireland. All post-production, visual effects, sound design and music composition will take place in Canada.—*Internet*

Katy Perry single again

LOS ANGELES, 24 May—Singer Katy Perry is single again. She separated from husband Russell Brand in December after 14 months of marriage and has now split from beau Rob Ackroyd.

Katy and Rob decided to part ways because she felt their respective work commitments

gave less time to spend with each other.

The main reason she split with Russell was because she ended up spending much of her time on tour. "She said dating Rob felt like being with Russell all over again," showbizspy.com quoted a source as saying.

"It's a shame as they both liked each other but Katy wants to be able to have a relationship with someone she isn't constantly having to work out what time zone they're in," the source added.—*Internet*



Singer Katy Perry

Bayern midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger (2nd L) embraces teammate and Dutch midfielder Arjen Robben after the friendly between Bayern and the Netherlands in Munich, southern Germany, on May 22. Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk has strongly criticised the "scandalous" treatment of Robben during the Oranje's friendly against his club Bayern.

INTERNET



Van Marwijk blasts 'scandalous' Robben treatment

AMSTERDAM, 24 May—Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk has strongly criticised the "scandalous" treatment in Germany of Arjen Robben during the Oranje's friendly match against his club Bayern Munich.

"It's scandalous the way in which Arjen was treated on Tuesday in Munich. Arjen was really down about it but I hope that he will emerge stronger from the experience," van Marwijk told the Dutch news agency ANP.

Robben, who missed an extra-time penalty in the Champions League final against Chelsea on Saturday when the score was 1-1, was repeatedly booed by a section

of the 33,000 fans who came to see the match. Dutch teammates, including former Bayern star Mark van Bommel, agreed that Robben was unfairly treated.

"It's shocking what happened to Arjen. And no club officials seemed to want to do anything about it. If I were him, I be asking myself whether I still want to play for the club," said van Bommel. Dutch playmaker Wesley Sneijder even told ANP that Robben "could join Inter Milan whenever he likes". Robben, however, only recently extended his contract at Bayern until 2015.

Bayern later apologised for Robben's treatment, saying it viewed the fans'

behaviour "with astonishment, irritation and disappointment". "No one has the right to whistle at our players," said club president Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.

Robben, like his Bayern teammates and the fans, was "disappointed and very affected by the unfortunate and undeserved Champions League defeat against Chelsea", Rummenigge added.

The Germany legend added that Bayern fans need to know how to pick up a player when he is down and pointed out that many supporters had contacted him to apologise on behalf of those who booed the player.

Internet

McIlroy, Donald battle for top spot at Wentworth

WENTWORTH, 24 May—The battle to be the world's top-ranked golfer will again be a subplot of this week's PGA Championship which starts on Thursday at Wentworth.

Luke Donald, who deposed Lee Westwood at the top of the rankings when winning last year's title, is the only player who can topple current number one Rory McIlroy but needs to repeat his victory of 12 months ago to do so.

However McIlroy performs, Donald has to

and hang onto his title as the world's best golfer. "You have to think you can beat everybody else," McIlroy told reporters after competing in the eve-of-tournament Pro-Am at Wentworth. "You have to believe you are the best and I certainly believe that. It is just a matter of going out there and showing everyone else what I believe."

World number three Westwood, who missed out in a play-off to Donald last year, has a new caddy after his regular bag man Billy Foster injured his knee playing football ahead of Quail Hollow.—Internet



Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland at The Players Championship on 11 May.

INTERNET

finish eighth alone or better to have any chance of reclaiming his place at the head of the rankings.

A win for Westwood, who displaced Tiger Woods as number one in October 2010, would leave him just short of top spot.

But US Open champion McIlroy is confident he has the game to see off his rivals



Queens Park Rangers' English midfielder Joey Barton (L) is sent off by referee Mike Dean during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Queens Park Rangers at The Etihad stadium in Manchester. Barton apologised for his red card at Manchester City but the controversial QPR midfielder insisted he was only reacting to provocation from Carlos Tevez.—INTERNET

Khan to fight Garcia in July

LONDON, 24 May—Britain's Amir Khan will return to the ring on 14 July against unbeaten World Boxing Council light-welterweight champion Danny Garcia after his planned bout last weekend was wiped out.

Khan had to seek a new opponent after a 19 May rematch against Lamont Peterson was canceled following the American's positive doping test for synthetic testosterone, a banned performance-enhancing substance.



Britain's Amir Khan, pictured in 2011, will return to the ring on July 14 against unbeaten World Boxing Council light-welterweight champion Danny Garcia after his planned bout last weekend was wiped out.

INTERNET

Late drama sends Boca, Corinthians into last four

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 May—The Libertadores Cup served up a double dose of late drama as Boca Juniors and Corinthians scored last-gasp goals in Wednesday night's games to reach the semi-finals.

Santiago Silva scrambled home a 90th minute goal to give six-times champions Boca a 1-1 draw at Fluminense which sent them through 2-1 on aggregate.

In the other match, Paulinho headed an 87th minute winner for Corinthians, the only goal of a dour, fear-ridden two-leg tie against their fellow Brazilians Vasco da Gama.

Fluminense, missing playmaker Deco and striker Fred through injury, still managed to take a 17th minute lead when defender Carleto scored with a free kick which took a deflection and left goalkeeper Agustin Orion stranded.

The Brazilians managed to nullify Boca playmaker Juan Roman

Riquelme as the visitors were reduced to launching long balls forward for Silva to chase.

Beaten finalists four years ago when they overcame Boca in the semi-finals, Flu were close to settling the tie when Thiago Neves was denied by Orion and Rafael Moura shot wide from an excellent position in the next attack.

Instead, Boca went through with the last move of the game as Diego Rivero's shot hit the post, goalkeeper Diego Cavalieri clawed it

away only for Uruguayan striker Silva to force the ball across the line.

The Corinthians-Vasco tie produced more crunching tackles than clearcut chances and the hosts had coach Tite sent off just after the hour for protesting the referee's decisions.

Vasco had two good chances in quick succession in the second half when Diego Souza galloped clear of the Corinthians defense but had his effort saved by Cassio, then Nilton headed against the post.—Reuters



Rafael Sobi's Fluminense (L) fights for the ball with Argentina's Boca Juniors' Clemente Rodriguez during their Copa Libertadores soccer match in Rio de Janeiro on 23 May, 2012.—REUTERS

FA don't hold back on Barton ban

LONDON, 24 May—QPR's volatile captain Joey Barton received a 12 match ban from the Football Association on Wednesday

after being found guilty by an Independent Commission of two counts of violent conduct.

The 29-year-old - who has been in trouble on several occasions throughout his career both on and off the pitch - had eight matches added to the four game suspension he had picked up already for being sent off in the final game of the season against champions Manchester City. He was also fined £75,000. The FA's regulatory panel had discretionary powers to further increase the length of the suspension if charges were found to be proven.

Barton's admission on Twitter that his violent actions were a cynical ploy to provoke a City player to be sent off saw those discretionary powers employed. Barton insisted via

Twitter on the day of his sending-off that he had not lost his head, but that a teammate "suggested I should try to take one of theirs with me".

Barton, who now faces an internal enquiry by QPR into his behaviour, was shown a red card for elbowing Carlos Tevez and then kicked Sergio Aguero before appearing to attempt to headbutt opposing captain Vincent Kompany.

"There are rules of conduct that should be adhered to, and such behaviour tarnishes the image of football in this country, particularly as this match was the pinnacle of the domestic season and watched by millions around the globe," said the Commission chairman Maurice Armstrong.

Internet

40% of Brazil World Cup projects yet to start

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 May—A little over two years before the kickoff of the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, nearly 40 percent of projects are yet to start, the government said Wednesday, insisting there was no cause for alarm.

Brazil plans to spend \$13 billion on 101 projects to build or modernize stadiums, airports, roads and public transport ahead of the World Cup, but work has begun on only 60 of them, the government said. Football's governing body FIFA has for months complained about delays, but Brazilian Sports

Minister Aldo Rebelo insisted preparations for the first World Cup in the soccer-mad country since 1950 remain on track. "We are not working on the possibility or the assumption of a delay. We have an eye on the current state of the projects and another on their completion," said Rebelo, flanked by Planning Minister Miriam Belchior and Cities Minister Aguinaldo Ribeiro. Six of the 12 stadiums that are to host World Cup matches will be ready in time for the 2013 Confederations Cup, the government said.—Internet

Focus Myanmar TV Programme**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(25-5-12 09:30 am ~ 26-5-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * News Tid-Bit
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Flight Training Seminar
- * News
- * NOTOS Quartet
- * A Day in the Life of a Mahout
- * News
- * Myanmar Traditional Kite Flying & Fighting Contest
- * News
- * Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (SIBA) (Part - III)
- * News
- * Let's conserve for Sustainable Development of Inlay Lake
- * News
- * 90th Birthday Celebration of a Myanmar Music Legend
- * Myanmar Movie "Kamma"

MYANMAR TV

(25-5-2012) (Friday)

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

8:00 am

2. Health Programme

8:10 am

3. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies

8:45 am

4. Musical Programme

4:10 pm

5. Traditional Game

4:15 pm

6. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

4:30 pm

7. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - First Years (Law)

4:50 pm

8. Myanmar Language

5:20 pm

9. Documentary

6:20 pm

10. Internet Garden

8:00 pm

11. News
12. Just For Laughs
13. TV Drama Series
14. Song Lover

Weather forecast for 25th May, 2012

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.M.S.T During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Ayeyawady Region, Scattered in Bago Region, Kachin and Shan States, isolated in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Regions, Rakhine and Kayah States, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfall in Taninthayi Region. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Sagaing, Magway Regions and Kachin, Southern Shan and Kayah States, (6°C) above May average temperatures in Chin State, (4°C) below May average temperatures in Kayin State and about May average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (45°C), Kalewa, Monywa, Myingyan and NyaungU (43°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (3.42) inches, Chaungzone (1.30) inches, Launglon (0.91) inch and Mudon (0.83) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw weather: Maximum Temperature on (23-5-2012) was 104°F. Minimum Temperature on (24-5-2012) was 78°F Relative Humidity at 09:30hours MST on (24-5-2012) was 71%. Total rain fall hours on (24-5-2012) was (Tr).

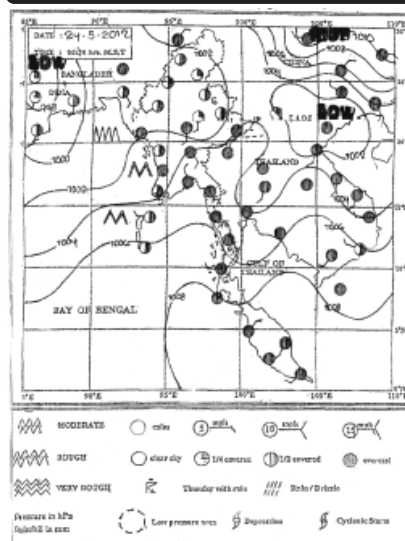
Nay Pyi Taw (Airport) Weather: Maximum Temperature on (23-5-2012) was 98°F. Minimum Temperature on (24-5-2012) was 77°F Relative Humidity at 09:30hours MST on (24-5-2012) was 65%. Total rain fall hours on (24-5-2012) was (Nil).

Rain fall on (24-5-2012) was (Tr) at Nay Pyi Taw and (Nil) at Yangon (Kaba-aye) and Mandalay at. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (4) mph from the South at (09:30) hrs MST on 24-5-2012.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 25th May, 2012: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, Mon and Kayin States, fairly widespread in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, scattered in Bago Region, Shan and Kayah States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30) to (35) mph. Sea will be

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Deltaic Areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 25th May, 2012: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25th May, 2012: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25th May, 2012: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Tokyo, Madrid, Istanbul make cut for 2020 Olympics

TOKYO, 24 May— Istanbul and Madrid made the first cut among bidders to host the 2020 Olympics, as the International Olympic Committee announced that Baku and Doha were dropped from the running.

The IOC will decide which city will host the 2020 Olympics in a final vote on 7 September, 2013 in Buenos Aires. That gives the remaining hopefuls more than 15 months to make final impressions upon the IOC to boost their candidacy.

Tokyo 2020 bid chief Tsunekazu Takeda said Wednesday that being on the short list would help boost the spirits of the Japanese

people after last year's devastating earthquake and tsunami, which killed about 19,000 people.

"I think this will be a big help for the Japanese people," Takeda said. "I think it will give big, big power to the people who suffered the disaster."

Tokyo is the only one of the candidates to have hosted the event before, doing so in 1964, and many see Tokyo as the pacesetter because of its sound plan for hosting the games.

Hosting the 2020 Olympics is also seen as an opportunity to help rebuild the country and bring some much-needed joy after last

TOKYO 2020

(L-R) Badminton player Reiko Shiota, Tokyo Governor Shintaro Ishihara and artistic gymnast Kohei Uchimura with the Tokyo 2020 floral Olympic bid logo in Tokyo in February.—INTERNET

year's natural disaster.

Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda said hosting the Games would "serve as a symbol of Japan's recovery from last year's tragedy."

"With the Japanese government's full support for Tokyo's bid, our nation greatly desires to achieve the goal of hosting the Games," he said.—Internet

Winds, heat hamper fight to contain Southwest wildfires

LAS VEGAS, 24 May—Fire crews hampered by wind gusts and dry conditions on Wednesday made slow gains battling dangerous forest and brush fires in the US Southwest, including a wildfire in Nevada that doubled in size overnight and destroyed 17 buildings and two homes.

Blazes in rugged, mountainous areas of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah have already forced the evacuation of several small towns and torched more than 85 square miles (220 square km) of forest, brush and grass in the past two weeks.

The Arizona blazes were the first major wildfires in the Grand Canyon state this year after a record 2011 fire season in which nearly

2,000 blazes consumed over 1,500 square miles (3,900 square km), according to the National Interagency Fire Centre.

In northern Nevada near the California border, crews said two homes and 17 other buildings were charred and more than 100 were under voluntary evacuation on Wednesday as the Tre wildfire razed more than 9 square miles (23 square km) of brush and forest in Douglas County.

More than 360 firefighters fought the conflagration with bulldozers and helicopters, as billowing smoke cast a pall over the rugged area south of Carson City, making it difficult to assess the burn size.

Reuters



CASH DONATED: Daw Tin Moe Lwin residing at Malikha housing, Thingangyung Township, Yangon, donated K 1 million to Shwe Min Tha Foundation (Myanmar) which is an organization for the development of the disabled.

KYEMON

Six-year-old boy dead in Insein Township

YANGON, 24 May—Maung Kaw Zin Oo, aged 6 years, residing in Railways Compound on Baho road, West Gyogone ward, Insein Township, Yangon Region, was dead while swimming in the fish breeding pond on 1st road of East Gyogone ward yesterday.

The dead body was sent to Insein People's Hospital and action is taken in connection with the case.

Myanma Alin



A view of the Gladiator Fire near Crown King, Arizona as shown from the fire operations base camp at Mayer High School in Mayer, Arizona on 15 May, 2012 in this photo obtained by Reuters May 20, 2012.—REUTERS

Union Ministers receive former Singaporean Foreign Minister and party

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received a delegation led by former Singaporean Foreign Minister Mr George Boon Yeo and Vice Chairperson Mdm Kuok Oon Kwong of KUOK Group of Singapore at the office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, they had a discussion on cooperation in agricultural sectors, production of rice, palm oil, grams and sugarcane, construction of downstream industry and cooperation in export of agro-based finished products.

Both sides also discussed matters related to implementation of large scale farm in addition to downstream industry, job creation for local people and making investment in Ayeyawady, Bago and Magway regions and Rakhine State where arable lands are



Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister U Win Myint receive former Singaporean Foreign Minister Mr George Boon Yeo and Vice Chairperson Mdm Kuok Oon Kwong of KUOK Group.—MNA

available.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than, directors-general of departments and officials.—MNA

Economists suggest reform strategies for Myanmar



Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein holds talks with Advisor to the President Dr U Myint, Economists Professor Paul Collier and Professor Robert F Conrad, Advisor to the President Dr Hset Aung and Member of National Economic and Social Consultative Team Dr Zaw Oo.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Advisor to the President Dr U Myint, world-famous economists Professor Paul Collier and Professor Robert F Conrad, Advisor to the President Dr Hset Aung and Member of National Economic and Social Consultative Team Dr Zaw Oo paid a call on Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein at his office yesterday morning to discuss further measures for adoption of second-phase reform policy, actions to be taken in respective fields for people-centered

development, and international experiences on reform strategy.

At the assembly hall of the ministry, the guests explained actions for effective implementation of second-phase reform strategies with case studies from global countries.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thauang Lwin, personnel from the NPED Ministry and reps from ministries concerned.—MNA

Workshop on awareness of landmine dangers opened in Taunggyi

YANGON, 24 May—A workshop on awareness of landmine dangers jointly organized by Shan State Social Welfare Department and UNICEF (Myanmar) was opened at Myanmar Medical Association in Taunggyi on 22 May with an address by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat.

UNICEF (Myanmar) Resident Representative Mr Ramesh Shrestha delivered an address. The workshop is being attended by 48 trainees from Health Department,

Basic Education Department and NGOs which are related to Child Rights Committee and its relevant organizations.

Next, the State Chief Minister attended the opening of Shan State National Sanitation Activities held at the city hall and made a speech on the occasion.

Later, he looked into health education booths displayed at the city hall and sanitation activities being undertaken in Taunggyi.

MNA

Myeik District Police Force presents cash assistance for offspring of policemen

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Myeik District Police Force presented cash assistance for education of 26 children of its policemen and staff on 20 May, attended by Police Lt-Col Shwe Nya Maung who presented K 156,000 for the children.

Likewise, a similar ceremony was held at Myeik Township Police Force yesterday at which Police Lieutenant Major Than Oo presented K 549,000 for a total of 93 offspring of members pursuing higher and basic education.—MNA

Chin State sanitation activities launched

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Chin State Chief Minister U Hong Ngai met freshmen of three-year Primary School Teacher Training Course No (44) of Union Nationalities Development University at the Chin State government office on 22 May morning.

The chief minister also attended launch of Chin State National Sanitation Activities 2012 at Haka People's Hospital and addressed workshop for drafting plan of natural disaster preparedness and emergency response.—MNA

Mon State sanitation activities launched

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Mon State Social Affairs Minister Dr Hla Oo addressed launch of Mon State National Sanitation Activities at State General Hospital in Mawlamyine on 22 May morning.

Head of State Health Department Dr Aye Nyein made presentation on national sanitation activities.

The state minister inspected construction of fly-proof latrines and sanitation tasks in Thirimyaing ward.—MNA

Double Strong Cup kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Double Strong Cup Mandalay Sepak Takraw Tournament-2012, organized by Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports and Double Strong was held at Bahtoo Stadium yesterday morning. Among the spectators were the vice-president and members of Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation, the chairman of Myanmar Brewery Ltd, region, district and township departmental personnel, participating teams and fans.

First, Vice-Chairman of MSTF U Nyan Tun and Myanmar Brewery Ltd Chairman U Nay Win made speeches and formally opened the tournament, which will last up to 27 May. —MNA