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President U Thein Sein meets Indonesian coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—President U Thein Sein received a delegation led by Mr M Hatta Rajasa, Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of Indonesia, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

They cordially discussed the matters related to promoting economic cooperation including further promoting amity and relations between the two countries, promoting cooperation in agriculture,

energy, communication, mining, hotels and tourism and production of rubber, palm oil, fisheries and crops, and doubling trade volume between the two countries.

Also present together with the President were Union Ministers U Win Tun, U Win Myint and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw and departmental heads. The Indonesian delegation was accompanied by Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono.—MNA



President U Thein Sein receives Mr M Hatta Rajasa, Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of Indonesia.—MNA

Environmental conservation master plans discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The Environmental Conservation Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry organized the inception workshop on environmental conservation master plans with the assistance of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) at

Myat Taw Win Hotel, here, this morning, with an address by Union Minister U Win Tun. The Union minister stressed the importance of progress of undertakings on institutional and legal in environmental conservation, systematic statics and report for long-term managements. He also pointed out the environmental master plan from the workshop which is basic one for writing

reports concerning world environment review being implemented at regional level. Myanmar Coordinator Mr. Bijay Karmacharya of UN-Habitat and Regional Coordinator Dr. Ananada Dias from the Office for Asia and Pacific of UNEP extended greetings.

The departmental officials and experts read out the papers and the workshop will last till 5 April.—MNA

Jimmy Carter arrives in Nay Pyi Taw



Former US President Mr Jimmy Carter and wife receive warm welcome at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—To pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar, a delegation led by former US President Mr Jimmy Carter and wife arrived here by special flight this

afternoon.

The US delegation was welcomed at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by the Deputy Director-General and officials of International

Organizations and Economic Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the US Ambassador to Myanmar and officials of the Embassy.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office

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2 April, 2013

Appointment of Rakhine State Minister

In accordance with Section 262, Subsection (e) and Subsection (f), Section 264, Subsection (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Section 19, Subsection (c), Section 82, Subsection (c) of Union Government Law and Section 8, Subsection (g), Section 56, Subsection (a) of Region or State Government Law, State Hluttaw Representative U Maung San Shwe of Buthidaung Township Constituency No 1 has been appointed as Finance and Revenue Minister of Rakhine State.

Sd/ Thein Sein

President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Myanmar, Indonesia to promote trade volume

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint held talks with Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of Indonesia Mr M Hatta Rajasa at his office, here, at 3 pm today.

Both sides mainly focused on cooperation in promotion of trade between the two countries, more investment sectors, matters related to signing of an MoU on rice trade for both countries, promoting further relations with government

departments and private dealers, exchange of knowledge on accelerating the growth of SMEs and increasing trade volume of which target is up to US\$ 1000 million in coming 2016.

MNA

Ministry of Electric Power's Announcement

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—General maintenance of offshore platform of the Yadana Offshore Natural Gas Rig of the Ministry of Energy will be carried out from 5 to 13 April. During the nine-day period of maintenance, gas transportation to gas-fired power plants of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise of the Ministry of Electric Power will be reduced to

165 million cubic feet. So, power generation from Hlawgar, Ywama, Ahlon and Thakayta in Yangon Region and Thaton, Mawlamyine, Shwetaung and Myanaung gas power plants will decrease to about 330 megawatt, equivalent to 20 % (1850 megawatt) of the power demand of the country.

Power distribution to state-owned and private-

owned factories, industrial zones, heavy industries and production will be stopped. Meanwhile, the ministry would increase the share from inland natural gas fields and increase the production of hydropower plants.

During the maintenance period, the people are urged to efficiently use the power.

MNA

Two ships collide head-on in the middle of Toe river

YANGON, 2 April — A head-on collision between Pathein Thu No (5) hovercraft bound for Yangon from Kyaiklat

The crash caused damage to the hovercraft which was taken in tow to the bank by Thuzada and left two passengers severely

given necessary assistance before they were sent back to their homes. Actions are being taken by Twantay police station. — *Kyemon*



and Thuzada ship carrying goods and passengers in Toe river near Apyin Yaygyaw village in Yaygyaw village-tract in Twantay Township, here, at about 5 pm on 31 March.

The Yangon-Kyaiklat hovercraft steered by U Nyunt Hlaing, 46, carrying 109 passengers collided head-on with the ship steered by U Kyaw Sein, 60, in the middle of the river while the former turned and headed for Yangon after leaving some passengers at Apyin Yaygyaw village.

wounded. While the injured were sent to Kyaikhtaw people's hospital, Ma Thanda, 21, Kyonmangae was pronounced dead but another victim, U Tint, 68, broke his left thigh bone in the accident.

"The hovercraft had sunk after it was taken in tow to the bank by Thuzada and all passengers got off", says an eyewitness.

As soon as they were informed of the accident, officials concerned rushed there. Victims were taken to the village monastery and

Woman stabbed to death in a family quarrel in Thongwa Township

THONGWA, 2 April — A 55-year-old woman died of a knife wound to the space between two ribs under her left arm and a cut on her left hand at East Yaygyosu ward in South Bagan village-tract in Thongwa Township at about 8 pm on 27 March.

Daw Ngwe was pronounced dead on the spot after she was stabbed to death by his son's father-in-law,

Myo Nyunt (a) Myo Tint, 47, who rushed there while there had been a quarrel between Daw Ngwe and his son, Zaw Lwam Wai.

During the fatal incident, Daw Ngwe was killed and her daughters, Su Su Hlaing, 25, and Sein Moh Moh, 14 were wounded. Actions are being taken by Thongwa police station.

— *Kyemon*

village BEHS in Kyunsu Township.

After his inspection tour of Kanmaw station hospital, he met with local people at Sakhamthit village.

On 25 March, the chief minister looked into construction of Kye bridge on Myeik-Dawei road section, regional development of Palaw-Palauk region, progress of new school building for Nyeinchan village BEPS (branch) and road work of 47-mile radius of Boktaung. — *MNA*

township, and met with service personnel at Karathuri sub-township and Bokpyin Township.

On 23 March, the chief minister visited Chaunglamu village BEPS in Taninthayi Township and oversaw Taninthayi-Myeik motorway.

On 24 March, he met with service personnel, ward administrators and townselders at Kanmaw

recently and presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Next, he inspected progress in upgrading of Kawthoung-Myeik Union Highway and construction of Chaung Mon bridge in Pyigy Mandine sub-

Regional development task in progress in Taninthayi Region

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April — Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko attended the closing ceremony of advanced tailoring course No (34) and basic tailoring course No (63) at domestic training school in Kawthoung

Patterns and regularities of social life return normalcy in Thayawady district

THAYAWADY, 2 April — Starting from 29 March, calm returned to riot-stricken Minhla, Monyo, Okpo, Gyobingauk, Zigon and Nattalin Townships of Thayawady District in Bago Region following a declaration of State of Emergency, and peace and stability has been restored there.

Thanks to security measures taken by officials concerned, situations in the six townships returned to normalcy and local people have enjoyed community peace and tranquility.

Moreover, security members and Tatmadawmen performed clearing the debris at the violence-hit areas.

Now, local people in the six townships of Thayawady District resumed their livelihood peacefully and patterns and regularities of their social life returned to normalcy.

Actions will be taken against those who caused disturbances in the region, jeopardizing peace and stability in accord with the law for the sake of rule of law, it is learnt. — *Kyemon*

Yangon Mega Expo 2013 organized

YANGON, 2 April — Under the sponsorship of Job Seekers Journal, Dagon Exhibition Limited organized Yangon Mega Expo 2013 at Myanmar Convention Centre, here, on 31 March for the emergence of new markets and informing the public of new quality products and services in accord with developing market system.

Yangon Region Minister for Planning and Economy U Than Myint, film Director Maung Tin Oo of Anupyinna Hna-lone-in and Director U Aung Aung of Dagon Exhibition Limited formally opened the expo.



Boots of housing and interior decoration, construction materials, modern furniture, sanitation equipment and kitchen utensils, paints, industrial

tools, electrical appliances and electronics, handsets, computers and accessories were on display at the expo till 2 April.

— *Kyemon*

Hledan bridge to be tested with first commute

YANGON, 2 April — As of 11 April, Hledan Bridge will be put to the test, allowing vehicles to cross the bridge, according to Engineering Department (Road/Bridge) of Yangon City Development Committee.

Among flyover construction projects in Yangon, Hledan bridge construction started first and it has been completed by more than 95 per cent so far.

The bridge will be tested with first commute on 11 April, before Thingyan water festival. Its construction work started after stake-driving ceremony was held on 11 March 2012. Upon completion, traffic congestion in the neighborhood of Hledan will be reduced, officials concerned and engineers predicted.

As test running of vehicles on it, technical requirements to be fulfilled and traffic engineering works like traffic light system will

be necessary to complete the project, a survey will be conducted.

Estimated K14.487 billion has been spent in the project by the government. Shewdaung Development Co., Ltd took responsibility for construction of the bridge. Upon completion, the RC type bridge with steel trusses will have a 44 feet and eight inches wide motorway flanked by three-foot pavements. Its clearance area from the ground will be 18 feet (fire engines with ladders will be allowed passing under it) and it can withstand 60-ton load. Volume of traffic jam can be reduced by 60 per cent as vehicles on Pyay road are to pass the bridge, says an official.

Although the bridge will be tested with running of vehicles on it, water-throwing pavilions will not be allowed in the neighborhood of the bridge, according to YCDC.

— *Kyemon*



WORLD

Ghost of Chavez dominates Venezuela election campaign

CARACAS, 2 April—Weeks after his death, Venezuelan socialist leader Hugo Chavez still leads supporters in singing the national anthem.

The late president's recorded voice booms over rallies for his protégé, acting President Nicolas Maduro, who stands under billboards of Chavez's face and waves to crowds carrying signs emblazoned with his name.

Maduro, who is favoured to win a snap election triggered by Chavez's death last month, rarely misses a chance to lionize the man many Venezuelans know as "El Comandante."

"All of the prophecies of Hugo Chavez, the prophet of Christ on this earth, have come true," intoned Maduro at a rally celebrating the anniversary of the former president's release from jail for leading a failed 1992 coup.

"In eternity, or wherever you are, you must be proud



Venezuela's acting President and presidential candidate Nicolas Maduro holds a copy of the Venezuelan constitution as he speaks during a ceremony with students in Caracas, on 1 April, 2013.—REUTERS

because you left our people the greatest inheritance of all: a free and independent nation on the path toward socialism," he said of the man loved by supporters as a saviour but excoriated by adversaries as a dictator.

Seeking to tap into the emotional outpouring following his death, Maduro's presidential campaign has put Chavez's image on nearly

everything except the ballot. From thundering speeches celebrating Chavez's days as a leftist military conspirator to stories told in a low voice of his final days suffering from cancer, Maduro has made Chavez's ghost the centerpiece of his campaign.

Polls show the 50-year-old former bus driver, whom Chavez named his successor before dying, leading

opposition challenger Henrique Capriles by at least 14 percentage points.

He enjoys ample state spending to back his candidacy, and has used the celebration of Chavez's legacy to keep attention away from high inflation, nagging product shortages and one of the world's highest rates of violent crime.

At one rally, a symbolic dividend check from a telephone company that Chavez nationalized was tied to red helium balloons and released into the sky to thank him for a wave of state takeovers that put much of the economy under state control.

"This is a present for the person who most deserves it, the person who created this economic and social system to take us toward socialism," Maduro said, in a rally at the steps of the presidential palace. "There it goes, for our Comandante Chavez!"

Reuters

Diet panel begins deliberations on online election campaigning

TOKYO, 2 April—A panel of the House of Representatives began full-fledged deliberations on Tuesday on removing the ban on online election campaigning for the upper house election this summer.

A special committee on political ethics and revision of the public office election law is examining a bill submitted by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, its coalition partner the New Komeito party and the opposition Japan Restoration Party, as well as another bill presented by the opposition Democratic Party of Japan and Your Party.

The main opposition DPJ and Your Party aim to allow the use of e-mails by voters, which is not included in the proposal of the LDP and the two other parties on the grounds that it may lead to the posting of slanderous

messages on the Internet.

The LDP, the New Komeito and the Japan Restoration Party call for limiting the use of e-mails to political parties and candidates. The three parties also suggest that those who falsely pretend to be candidates will face up to two years in prison or fines of up to 300,000 yen and suspension of their civil rights. Both bills stipulate that the use of social media networks, including Facebook and Twitter, will be allowed.

The ruling camp aims to enact legislation in mid-April after reaching a consensus with the DPJ and Your Party.

At the panel, LDP lower house member Mineyuki Fukuda will likely call for allowing the use of e-mails by voters in a national election after the upper house contest this summer.—Kyodo News

Federal government slashes New York's Medicaid payments

NEW YORK, 2 April—Federal authorities have dramatically lowered the amount that New York state can claim from the federal government for certain medical services, costing the state an estimated \$1.2 billion.

The Centre for Medicaid Services (CMS), the federal agency that administers the nation's medical insurance system for people on low incomes, cut the per-patient reimbursement rate for patients in developmental centers to \$1,200 from \$5,100 from 1 April, according to CMS documents seen by Reuters.

The move by CMS had been expected ever since a bipartisan congressional report said overbilling for the

centres reached \$15 billion over the last 20 years. The centres serve people with developmental illnesses.

In February, in anticipation that the federal government would reduce its funding for the centres, New York state Governor Andrew Cuomo cut \$1.1 billion from the state's \$135 billion budget plan.

The budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 was passed by New York lawmakers last week, in time for the start of the state's fiscal year on 1 April. There was, however, a failed amendment in the Assembly that tried to torpedo the \$90 million in cuts for the developmentally disabled that resulted from the loss of funding.



New York Governor Andrew Cuomo on Capitol Hill in Washington, on 3 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

Although the budget anticipated the federal cut, there is still uncertainty about whether the federal government will seek reimbursements for past years.—Reuters

UN General Assembly to vote on draft arms trade treaty?

UNITED NATIONS, 2 April—The 193-nation UN General Assembly is tentatively planning to vote on Tuesday on a draft treaty to regulate the \$70 billion global trade in conventional arms.

Iran, Syria and North Korea last week prevented a treaty drafting conference at UN headquarters from reaching the required consensus to adopt the treaty. That left delegations that support it no choice but to turn to the General Assembly to adopt it.

The Mexican delegation, which has been one of the most ardent supporters of the arms trade treaty, predicted victory if the resolution containing the draft convention is put to a vote in the General

Assembly. The point of an arms trade treaty is to set standards for all cross-border transfers of any type of conventional weapon—light and heavy. It would also create binding requirements for nations to review all cross-border arms contracts to ensure the munitions will not be used in human rights abuses, terrorism or violations of humanitarian law;

do not breach UN arms embargoes; and are not illegally diverted.

It would require governments to refuse to export weapons to countries that would likely use them to violate human rights and humanitarian law or commit genocide or other war crimes. It would also require governments to regulate arms brokering.

Reuters



Confiscated weapons are seen at the office of Sonora's State Police in Hermosillo on 7 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

Japan hopes to cooperate on infrastructure projects in India, Abe says

TOKYO, 2 April—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Monday Japan is willing to cooperate in developing infrastructure in India, but urged the South Asian nation to pursue financial sector regulatory reform and improve its tax system in order to increase Japanese investment there, Foreign Ministry officials said.

In a meeting with Indian Finance Minister P Chidambaram, Abe expressed hope that bilateral

cooperation in developing India's high-speed railway system and the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor will further be promoted.

The industrial corridor is a bilateral initiative agreed in 2006 to build a freight railway linking the two major Indian cities and industrial complexes along the rail corridor. "The relationship between Japan and India is filled with potential," Abe said at the outset of the meeting at his office. Chidambaram

expressed hope that Japan will cooperate in developing India's infrastructure by utilizing Japanese technologies and that more Japanese companies will set up local operations.

In a news conference earlier Monday, the Indian minister said his country supports former Japanese Vice Finance Minister for International Affairs Takehiko Nakao becoming the next president of the Asian Development Bank.

Kyodo News

Russia prepared for constructive dialogue with US

MOSCOW, 2 April—Russia was ready to hold constructive dialogue with the United States on the basis of equality and non-interference, the country's Foreign Ministry said on Monday. Following a board meeting on Russia-US ties, the ministry said Washington's willingness to return to the dialogue with Moscow was viewed positively. Russia and the US have special responsibility to maintain "strategic stability" in the world, and the level

of mutual trust between the two countries remained a key factor in international security, the ministry said in a statement.

Moscow was ready to tighten collaboration with the US side particularly within the framework of Russian-US Presidential Commission, said the ministry, adding that the two sides should take into account each other's interests and not to interfere into each other's internal affairs.

Closer trade, economic and investment relations,

broader direct contacts between the two peoples serve as stabilizers for bilateral ties, said the ministry.

The Barack Obama administration made significant achievements in the past four years following the "reset" policy to strengthen ties with Russia, said the ministry, citing the conclusion of the new START treaty, Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization, among others, as successful examples.

Xinhua

Ethnic groups in Myanmar

The eight major races of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the official list of their ethnic groups

There are 135 national races by official count. The majority group is the Bamar, who comprises about 65 percent of the population. The other main groups are the Shan, Kachin (Jinghpaw), Chin, Kayah (Kerreni), Kayin, Mon and Rakhine. Each group includes sub-groups that speak different languages.

About 85 percent of the population are Theravada Buddhists, with Christians comprising about 10 percent, Muslims and Hindus at about four percent each, and others who reverence animist deities, at about one percent. The people have a deep reverence for their cultural traditions and their celebrations. In cities and other areas popular with tourists many people can speak English.

The Bamar race is of Tibeto-Burman stock that migrated from the northeast, and later assimilated with the Pyu race around the 9th century. The Bamar make up approximately 65% of the population. They live in the central part of Myanmar, beginning from the region somewhat north and west of Mandalay and then south-

wards up to the sea at the far end of the delta. Most Bamar are Buddhists and their faith is integral to every part of their peaceful lifestyle.

The Bamar race comprises of 9 ethnic groups: **Bamar, Beik, Dawe, Ganan, Hpon, Kadu, Salon, Yabein, Yaw.**

The Shan live mostly in the large Shan State in the eastern part of Myanmar but they also live scattered all over, especially in the north and north east. They are not often seen in the dry and hot zones of central Myanmar because the climate is never cool enough for



their comfort. Most Shan people are Buddhist and are extremely devout. Their handicrafts and art work, mostly related to places of worship, are very finely done.

The Shan race comprises of 33 ethnic groups: **Shan, Danaw, Danu, Eik Swair, Eng, Hkun, Intha, Kaw (Akha-E-Kaw)--, Khamti Shan, Khamu, Kokang, Kwi, Lahu, Maingtha, Man Zi, Maw Shan, Pa O, Palaung, Pale, Pyin, Shan Galay, Shan Gyi, Son, Tai Lay, Tai Lem, Tai Loi, Tai Lon, Taung Yo, Wa, Yao, Yin Kya, Yin Net, Yun (Lao).**

The Kachin State is in the far north, and can boast of the having the ice-capped Mt Hkakabo-

razi, the highest in SE Asia at 5889 m or 19316 ft. The Hpakan Mines producing Imperial Jade is also in the Kachin State. The biggest lake in Myanmar, Inndaw Gyi is also situated there, 45 square miles of crystal clear waters. The Kachin are mostly Christians and they are very devout.

The Kachin race comprises of 12 ethnic groups: **Kachin, Atsi, Dalaung, Duleng, Guari, Hkaku, Jinghpaw, Lashi, Lisu, Maru (Lawgore), Rawang, Tarong (nearly extinct race of pygmies)**

The Chin race lives in the west of Myanmar in a beautiful, mountainous country with lush forests. Their ancient tradition of hand weaving exquisite fabrics in fine patterns is famous.

Most Chin people are devout Christians but some who live in remote regions are animists. In the past Chin women used to tattoo their faces in beautiful patterns of thin blue lines but it is no longer practiced. They sometime migrate southwards to settle along the western coast.

To be continued.....

Ref: Myanmar Hotels & Tourism Guide 2013

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Appeals court denies broadcasters' request to shut Aereo

SUN VALLEY, 2 April—An appeals court on Monday denied broadcasters' request that Aereo Inc., an online television venture backed by billionaire Barry Diller, be temporarily shut down.

The 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed with the claim of broadcasters including Walt Disney Co's ABC and Comcast Corp's NBCUniversal claim that Aereo should discontinue

its service until the dispute between the companies is resolved.

Monday's decision upholds a July decision by US District Court Judge Alison Nathan.

The cases are CBS Broadcasting Inc., et al v. AEREO, Inc. and WNET, et al v. AEREO, Inc, 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Nos. 12-2807 and 12-2786.—Reuters

Videocon VT75C Jelly Bean tablet spotted online for Rs 5,965

NEW DELHI, 2 April—Videocon is all set to launch another affordable tablet in the Indian market. Dubbed as Videocon VT75C this tablet has been listed on online retail site Infibeam and Flipkart.com.

The tablet is currently listed as coming soon on Flipkart.com, but Infibeam has it on sale for Rs 5,965. As far as the specs go, Videocon VT75C comes with 7-inch LCD Capacitive Touchscreen with 800x480p resolution. It comes with a 1GHz processor along with 512MB of RAM.

The device comes with 4GB of internal storage that can be expanded by up to 32GB.

The tablet runs on Android 4.1 (Jelly Bean) out of the box.

For camera, there is a 2-megapixel rear camera and a 0.3-megapixel front camera. Connectivity options include Wi-Fi, 3G, Bluetooth, HDMI and USB 2.0.

The tablet also comes pre-installed with apps such as Notepad, Media Library, Skype, Games, Facebook, TOI, ET, Saavn, YouTube, Movie Studio, Google Talk and Instant Messaging. Videocon VT75C comes with a 3,000mAh battery. Videocon is already offering VT10 and Videocon VT71 tablets in the Indian market.—PTI

Apps help parents monitor children's Internet use

TORONTO, 2 April—With smartphone and tablet users getting younger, new apps can help parents of 2-to-13-year-olds monitor and control their children's use of the Internet.

A Pew Research Centre study shows that more than one-third of American teenagers own a smartphone, up from more than a fifth in 2011. For nearly half of these users, the phone is their main way of getting online, making it difficult for parents to supervise their behaviour.

"When you have a smartphone, you basically have the Internet in your pocket wherever you are—away from your parents' eyes," said Anooj Shah, a partner in Toronto-based company Kytphone, which develops apps.

Kytphone's namesake app allows parents to control the apps and sites their

children use and the people they receive texts and calls from. The company on Monday released Kytetime for 13-to-17-year-olds. The new app has many of the same features as Kytphone but does not include the ability to block calls.

Earlier this month, Net Nanny, a monitoring software company, released a browser app for Apple Inc's iOS devices to filter Web content and block profanity.

"Smartphones and tablets have added new technology, with new challenges (for parents) - full Web browsing capability, unlimited texting, access to hundreds of thousands of good, bad and malicious apps," said Russ Warner, chief executive officer of the Salt Lake City-based company.

The Android version of

Net Nanny, which sells for \$12.99, can control which apps a child uses. The app is also available for iOS devices, with fewer applications, for \$4.99. The company is also introducing Net Nanny Social, a subscription, Web-based tool to help parents monitor problems such as cyberbullying, sexual predators and identity theft on social networks including Facebook and Twitter. The service costs \$19.99 per year.

For parents of 2-to-8-year-olds, Boston-based Playrific has a free app with a locked browser that allows only content suitable for children, including educational videos, interactive games and books.

The app, available for Android, iPad and on the Web, curates content based on a child's interests, which it learns over time.—Reuters



Photo taken on 1 April, 2013 shows the model of the Long March 2F carrier rockets presented on the China's Space Exhibition in Hebei Museum in Shijiazhuang, capital of north China's Hebei Province. The exhibition which will last till 7 April included the display of space carriers, rocket-launcher models of the Long March series, paintings and photos related to aerospace.

XINHUA

BUSINESS & HEALTH



BEIJING, 2 April—The number of Chinese students infected with HIV increased by 24.5 percent year-on-year in 2012, and sex between men was the main cause of the new infections, a senior health expert said.

There were 1,700 students infected with HIV last year, Yu Jingjin, director

More HIV cases among Chinese students

of the bureau of disease control and prevention under the National Health and Family Planning Commission, was quoted by *Xinhua News Agency* as saying on Saturday.

Yu said 64.8 percent contracted the virus through sex with people of the same gender. Eighty-seven percent of HIV cases were sexually transmitted.

In China, more than 7,000 students are HIV carriers or AIDS patients, Yu said during an event to promote HIV prevention on campuses. Wang Ning, deputy director of the National Centre for AIDS/STD Control and Prevention, said most of the 1,700 cases were male college students, and were reported

by various non-government organizations around the country that focus on helping men who have sex with men.

Wang said more people are being tested for HIV, which is one of the reasons for the increase in new cases in 2012. The number of HIV tests taken nationwide rose from more than 60 million in 2010 to 100 million in 2012, and the number of people infected has been on the rise every year, Wang said.

“Many more gay people are coming out and doing the test nowadays due to a more open public opinion,” he said.

He also said that a more open attitude toward sex and unsafe sex is another reason for the increase. According to the former health ministry, 84.9 percent of the new

HIV cases reported from January to October 2012 were contracted through sex, and 21.1 percent of them through men having sex with other men. The disease caused 17,740 deaths between January and October



last year, an 8.6 percent increase over the same period the year before, according to figures of the ministry. Poor awareness of safe sex

increases the risks of young people getting infected, said Ye Dawei, deputy secretary-general of the China Red Ribbon Foundation, a non-government organization working to prevent HIV and support people affected by

college. But schools and parents are not willing to tell these young people how to protect themselves,” he said. “Also, young people are facing more temptation in this information age. I have heard of some college students offering sex through the Internet for money to buy things such as an iPhone.” The foundation is conducting a programme to educate college students and migrant workers on how to prevent HIV/AIDS, and has reached out to more than 5,000 students in 200 universities around the country, Ye said.

“College students are in a relatively active stage of sex. There will be more and more cases of HIV infection among them if they are not guided in the right way.”

Xinhua



The sign in front of the headquarters of Lear Corp, an auto parts maker, is seen in Southfield, Michigan.—REUTERS

Lear settles with activist investors, to increase share buybacks

SOUTHFIELD, 2 April—Auto parts maker Lear Corp (LEA.N) avoided a proxy battle with investors Marcato Capital Management LLC and Oskie Capital Management LLC by agreeing to increase and quicken the pace of its share buyback programme, and add a new board member. The company said it would accelerate its existing \$1 billion repurchase programme, and start on a new \$750 million buyback programme immediately

after. The shareholders have withdrawn their slate of board nominees and will support Lear's nominees, the company said.

Lear has agreed to expand its board to nine from eight. Marcato—run by Mick McGuire, one of activist investor William Ackman's former partners—in February reported a 5.2 percent stake in Lear and said it planned to nominate candidates to the board.

Reuters

Novartis loses landmark India patent case on Glivec

MUMBAI, 2 April—India's top court dismissed Swiss drugmaker Novartis AG's attempt to win patent protection for its cancer drug Glivec, a blow to Western pharmaceutical firms targeting India to drive sales and a victory for local makers of cheap generics.

The decision sets a benchmark for intellectual property cases in India, where many patented drugs are unaffordable for most of its 1.2 billion people, and does not bode well for foreign firms engaged in ongoing disputes in India, including Pfizer Inc and Roche Holding AG, analysts said.

Among the chief beneficiaries of Monday's Supreme Court ruling will be India's Cipla Ltd and Natco Pharma Ltd, which already sell 'generic' Glivec in India at around one-tenth of the price of the branded drug.

“The multinational companies will have to find new ways of doing

business in India,” said Deepak Malik, healthcare analyst at brokerage Emkay Global, suggesting they may consider licensing agreements with local firms to offer cheap versions of branded drugs like Glivec.

Ranjit Shahani, managing director of Novartis India Ltd, the firm's locally listed unit, said it will still file patents and carry on investing in the country, but with caution, and will continue to refrain from research and development activities there.

“The intellectual property ecosystem in India is not very encouraging,” Shahani told reporters in

Mumbai after the ruling.

Healthcare activists have called on the government to make medicines cheaper in a country where many patented drugs are too costly

for most people, 40 percent of whom earn less than \$1.25 a day, and where patented drugs account for under 10 percent of total drug sales.

Reuters



A logo is pictured on a building of Swiss drug maker Novartis before its annual general meeting in Pratteln near Basel on 22 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

Egypt increases gas prices

CAIRO, 2 April—Egyptian Ministry of Supplies and Internal Trade started on Monday to apply the policy of raising the price of butane gas, the state-run MENA news agency reported. “Starting from 1 April, the 12.5 kg

cylinder will be sold at 8 EGP (1.1755 US dollars), while the 25 kg cylinder will be sold at 16 EGP (2.3511 dollars),” an official in the ministry was quoted as saying. The official added that the price was set after adding costs

of transportation, costs of maintaining the gas cylinder vehicles, commission of storage stations' owners, as well as wages of the workers.

Any one who violates the set price would be exposed to imprisonment, according to the official. A gas cylinder used to be sold at 3.5 Egyptian pounds (0.5143 dollars). Later, some governorates applied the system of home delivery, which increases the price to 6 Egyptian pounds (0.8816 dollars). Ministry of Supply recently stopped subsidizing flour and requested designated bakeries to hand over bread in exchange for flour supplied by the government, as a new way to provide cheap staple food for the poor.

Reforming the subsidy policy is on the cabinet's new economic plan that is vital to secure the 4.8 billion dollars loan from the International Monetary Fund.

Xinhua

China's manufacturing PMI rises in March

BEIJING, 2 April—China's purchasing managers' index (PMI) for the manufacturing sector rose to 50.9 percent in March from 50.1 percent in February, according to data released on Monday.

The China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing (CFLP) said in a statement on its website that the rise was the result of increasing trade activity, increasing orders and slowing price increases for upstream products. Enterprises are demonstrating positive signs in their performance and

the economy is stabilizing with upward momentum, the statement said.

The rise indicates that the economy may further stabilize in the future, said Zhang Liqun, an analyst from the Development Research Centre of the State Council.

Despite the month-on-month rise, the PMI missed market expectations, said Liu Ligang, an analyst with ANZ Bank.

The PMI in the first three months stood at 50.5, slightly above the demarcation level of 50 percent and equivalent to that in the fourth quarter,



indicating the economy is advancing, but with relatively strong uncertainties, Liu said.

The PMI stayed above 50 for the sixth consecutive month in March, according to the CFLP. A PMI reading of

50 or greater indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 indicates contraction.

Of all five major sub-indices, four rose and one dropped last month, the CFLP data showed. The sub-index

for production rose 1.5 percentage points to 52.7 percent. It reached its highest level in 10 months, indicating active production among manufacturing enterprises, the statement said. Orders received by manufacturers climbed, as the sub-index for new orders rose 2.2 percentage points from the previous month to 52.3 percent. The sub-index for employment rose 2.2 percentage points to 49.8 percent and the sub-index for supplier delivery times climbed 2.8 percentage points to 51.1 percent.

Xinhua

WORLD

Exxon oil spill cleanup ongoing in Arkansas, pipeline shut



Workers scrub crude oil from their boots in the Northwoods subdivision where an ExxonMobil pipeline ruptured in Mayflower, Arkansas, on 1 April, 2013.

REUTERS

MAYFLOWER, ARK/HOUSTON, 2 April—Exxon Mobil Corp continued efforts on Monday to clean up thousands of barrels of heavy Canadian crude oil spilled from a near 65-year-old pipeline in Arkansas, as a debate raged about the safety of transporting rising volumes of the fuel into the United States.

The Pegasus pipeline, which ruptured in a housing development near the town of Mayflower on Friday, spewing oil across lawns and down residential streets, remained shut and a company spokesman declined to speculate about when it would be fixed and

restarted.

Exxon, which was fined in 2010 for not inspecting another portion of the Pegasus line with sufficient frequency, had yet to excavate the area around the Pegasus pipeline breach on Monday, a critical step in assessing damage and determining how and why it leaked.

Police set up a check point keeping residents away from the affected area, while helicopters mapping the spill continuously circled the neighbourhood on Monday. A strong smell of oil, which resembled asphalt, permeated the town well beyond

the affected area, according to a Reuters witness.

Two front lawns less than fifty feet from where the rupture occurred were blackened by oil. Crews in yellow hazmat suits bagged up oil-covered leaves from the yards.

Exxon said in a statement that 10 “oiled ducks” were being treated at a local animal welfare centre. Two more ducks had been found dead, the oil major said.

The spill in this small commuter town has stoked a discussion about the environmental dangers of using aging pipelines to transport heavy crude from Canada, including tar sands, as a boom in oil and gas production in North America increases volumes moving across the continent.

The Pegasus line, which can transport more than 90,000 barrels per day of crude from Patoka, Illinois to Nederland, Texas, was carrying Canadian Wabasca Heavy crude at the time of the leak, a bitumen oil from the massive Pelican Lake field in northern Alberta. It needs to be blended with lighter oils or natural gas liquids to flow through pipelines.—Reuters

Mexico unveils plan to fight addiction, violence in schools

MEXICO CITY, 2 April—The Mexican government announced a strategy on Monday to prevent addiction and violence in elementary and middle schools in 57 districts with high incidences of both.

Mexico’s education and health ministries are to jointly implement the plan, which is expected to reduce rates of addiction and violence within a year, said Roberto Campa, vice interior minister for social security at a joint press conference.

At the press conference, Mexican Health Minister Antonio Kuri Morales said the multi-pronged strategy includes promoting sports among youth, with the help of the National Sports Committee (Conade).

Enrique del Val, vice minister of planning and evaluation of education policies, said the strategy also includes extending the part-time schedule at some schools by 50 percent, or 400 hours, for the 2013-2014 school year.

That measure will increase the number of full-time schools from 6,700 to 8,200 in the next school year, he said, adding that the goal is to have 40,000 full-time schools as part of the National Social Security Plan for Violence and Delinquency Prevention.

The strategy also calls for delivering laptop computers to students in the fifth and sixth grades, with the government earmarking 1 billion pesos (81 million dol-

lars) for the effort.

Other measures include increasing the number of scholarships for top high-school students, boosting access to technological schools and improving public universities.

The authorities have found that alcohol and tobacco are the main sources of addiction among youngsters aged from 12 to 19, with a significant increase among women users, Kuri said, adding officials will monitor the strategy on a monthly basis to measure its progress.

Over the past several years, Mexico has seen a steady increase in drug trafficking and organized crime that has led to shocking homicide rates.—Xinhua



A man pulls a rickshaw carrying his wife in a wedding gown during their wedding ceremony amid snowfall in Weihai, Shandong Province on 30 March, 2013.

REUTERS

Kenya looks for economic peace dividend after calm vote

NAIROBI/MOMBASA, 2 April—Kenya’s tourism industry may be a swift winner from the election of Uhuru Kenyatta, owner of hotels and a vast business empire, as east Africa’s biggest economy seeks to benefit from a vote that avoided a re-run of bloodshed of five years ago.

Tourism is a vital sector for the nation of more than 40 million people and was one of the worst hit after a disputed presidential poll in December 2007 led to weeks of tribal bloodletting, scaring away investors and tourists by the payload.

This time, a row over who won the vote was led by lawyers instead of armed thugs. A reformed judiciary

that reviewed the case commands more respect than it ever did, a victory for the rule of law that could also lift business confidence.

As well as seeking more visitors, Kenya wants oil and gas investment to develop hydrocarbon discoveries,

funds for a major new port planned in Lamu and other infrastructure, and investors to boost the nation’s position as a regional manufacturing hub.

“Kenyan investment plans previously put on hold because of election-related

uncertainty are now likely to be realized,” said Standard Chartered economist Razia Khan. Foreign investment “may take a while longer to see a meaningful increase but that should also start to rise in the near-term,” she said.

Old problems that annoy business, such as corruption and red tape, have not changed with Saturday’s ruling that confirmed US-educated Kenyatta won in a fair vote against Raila Odinga, who studied in the former communist state of East Germany.

And a Kenyatta presidency comes with other baggage. He is charged with crimes against humanity at the International Criminal Court (ICC). —Reuters



A tourist rides on a camel's back at the Jomo Kenyatta public beach in Kenya's coastal city of Mombasa, on 24 March, 2013.—REUTERS

Gov't decides to liberalize electricity retail market from 2016

TOKYO, 2 April—The government decided on Tuesday to liberalize the electricity retail market from 2016, making it possible for consumers to choose power suppliers that can offer lower electricity rates.

In a set of electricity system reforms approved by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s Cabinet, the gov-

ernment also seeks to lead major utilities to separate power generation and transmission businesses between 2018 and 2020. The liberalization of the electricity retail market is a significant reform that will create a more competitive market, allowing diversification of services and prices, through the breakup of major utili-

ties’ regional monopolies over electricity supply to households.

The separation of power generation and transmission businesses, meanwhile, is hoped to promote the spread of renewable sources of energy that have attracted attention following the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident by paving

the way for new entrants in the field.

“Consumers will have a wider choice over the purchase of electricity from operators and in terms of fees. It will also lead to a reduction in electricity payments,” Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Toshimitsu Motegi told a press conference.—Kyodo News

US urges Japan to remove barriers in auto, insurance sectors

WASHINGTON, 2 April—The United States on Monday prodded Japan to step up efforts to remove nontariff barriers for US companies in the Japanese automobile and insurance markets.

In the 2013 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barrier that was sent to Congress, the Office of the US Trade Representative said, “A variety of nontariff barriers have traditionally impeded access to Japan’s automotive market.”

Specifically, the report noted one of the nontariff barriers is “the lack of equivalent opportunities for US models imported under the preferential handling procedure certification programme to benefit from temporary fiscal incentive programmes.”

Among other nontariff barriers are issues related to standards and certification and obstacles that hinder the development of distribution and service networks, it said. “Overall sales of US-made vehicles and automotive parts in Japan remain low, which is a serious con-

cern,” the report said, adding that Washington “urges Japan to address the full range of barriers in Japan’s automotive market.”

While the Japanese auto market is one of the key issues on which the United States will base a decision on whether to allow Tokyo to formally join the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade talks, the wording in the auto sector was quite similar to that in the previous year’s report.

With regard to Japan Post grouping firms, the United States reiterated its call on Japan to take all necessary measures “to achieve a level playing field between Japan Post companies and private sector participants in Japan’s banking, insurance and express delivery markets.”

In the insurance sector, the report asked Tokyo to address US concerns such as ensuring equal supervisory treatment between Japan Post’s affiliates and private sector companies.

Kyodo News

NATIONAL

Press conference held for Yaykyaw mosque fire in Botahtaung Township



Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe explains outbreak of fire on 48th street at press conference.—MNA

YANGON, 2 April — A press conference on deaths of young boys in the fire occurred at Yaykyaw mosque in ward-10 of Botahtaung Township in Yangon was held at the

windows with metal bars upstairs. There is only a stairway that links upstairs and downstairs. Children died of suffocation in the fire. A police patrol did not see any suspicious things

Children were rescued after fire crews had rushed there and destroyed the locks with axe.

If some media made biased reporting without collecting accurate

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Police Col Win Naing of Yangon Region Police Force said, "The keys were kept by mosque teacher Khin Maung Aye. The fire started from a voltage regulator under the stairway. Investigation revealed that children died of suffocation. Khin Maung Aye and Zeya Phyo are mainly responsible for the incident. They said that the school was under arson attack as they want to evade the blame. Security measures are underway under alternate sentry by street dwellers.

Next, officials concerned answered the queries raised by media persons.

The Yangon Region Chief Minister made clarification on objective situation regarding the fire at the office of Yangon Region Government at 5.30 pm again.

In his clarification, the Chief Minister said that a fire broke out at about

2.30 am on 48th Street and constant investigations into the case were made in cooperation with officials and organizations concerned. An overheated voltage regulator caused the fire. Investigation revealed that it is due to negligence, not an arson attack.

Alarm went off due to the overheated voltage regulators. Wai Yan Thu aged 14, who was sleeping next to the regulator woke up his two teachers Khin Maung Aye and Zeya Phyo as soon as he started feeling the fire. Even though he woke up his two teachers, they did not wake up. The children at downstairs themselves had to put out the fire with water in the tank, but they could not put out. The fire spread to the lying diesel bottle under the stairway through the wire of regulator, according to Wai Yan Thu.

Mosque has a 25-HP diesel generator for emergency use at a time when the power is out. It is also known that one 5-gallon diesel is always placed under the stairway for that generator. According to the preliminary investigation,

Zeya Phyo (a) Nuywalar responsible for that case, spread the rumors that his longyi and blanket are wet with diesel because he wants to hide the truth.

Wai Yan Thu, Zaw Zaw Htet and Myo Aung explained the truth of the incident to the officials. Zeya Phyo has confessed the truth of the fire. Khin Maung Aye is on the run. There are 13 children at upstairs at the time when the fire broke out. Those children died from suffocation. Fifty eight children at down stairs were rescued. We could expose that the cause of the fire is due to the negligence.

After that, Commander of Yangon Region Police Force Police Col Win Naing and Yangon East District Police Commander Lt-Col Myint Aye displayed investigations and evidences.

Yangon Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Tin Win explained security measures for peace and stability in the commercial city Yangon.

The Region Chief Minister replied to the queries raised by the media.

MNA



Commander of Yangon Region Police Force Police Col Win Naing meets the press.—MNA

office of Yangon Region Government, here, this morning.

"This school is being kept open at a mosque. The school was closed with two locks and there are

while they are on the patrol. While the fire broke out, the keys were kept by the mosque teacher. Failure to open the door in time led to the tragedy. He should get wise to take prompt action.

information, people will suffer. Correction should be made if they reported mistakenly. The public aspire truth. It is required to make the public known about the truth," says

Regional development tasks inspected in Sagaing Region

MONYWA, 2 April— Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye together with Indian Consul-General Dr Madan Mohan Setthi, region ministers and officials on 20 March attended the opening ceremony of farming machinery driving course at Myatharaphu Hall of Basic Education Middle School in Tharzin Village of Sagaing Region.

The consul-general

explained the purpose of donation for farming machinery.

Head of Region Agricultural Mechanization Department U Aung Kyaw explained the opening of the course.

The Chief Minister and party comforted patients at Sitagu Byamaaryu People's Hospital in Sadaung Village of Sagaing Township.

After meeting with local people in Htangyi in Wetlet

Township and Kyaungphyu and Talaing villages in Sagaing Township, the Chief Minister inspected progress in reconstruction of school buildings of Basic Education Middle School in Yaylehmar Village of Wetlet Township that were damaged in the earthquake.

The Chief Minister also looked into installation of steel frames at Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanatheinga) in Kyaukmyaung Sub-



Commander of Yangon East District Police Force Police Lt-Col Myint Aye shows part of burnt diesel container.—MNA

Experience on value-added industrial exhibition recounted

KATHA, 2 April— Secretary U Tun Tint and U Wan Yu of Katha District Sugarcane Producers (Katha Zone) Association of Sagaing Region attended the value-added industrial

Township.

He also inspected construction of the two-storey school building at BEHS.

Myanma Alinn

exhibition organized by Myanmar Rice Federation at Myanmar Convention Centre, here, from 2 to 5 March.

They recounted their experience in attending the exhibition where various types of tractors and power-tillers manufactured by India, Japan-made Kumota, Japan-, Thailand- and Korea-made tractors, international plum new hollen and Thiha

Tun AW engine made by Monywa Industrial Zone, Shwe Phone tractors made by Letywayzin Group of Companies and YTO brand equipment made by China were staged.

The ceremony to recall experience was held at the hall of the school in Yinkhe Village of Katha Township and replied to queries raised by farmers.

Myanma Alinn

NATIONAL

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets Singaporean President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam and party

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann met a delegation led by President of the Republic of Singapore Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, this morning.

Also present at the meeting together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker were Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen U Maung Maung Thein, Thura U Aung Ko, U Maung Oo, U Hla Myint Oo and U Soe Naing, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, Committee Secretary U Htay Win and officials from the Hluttaw Office. The visiting Singaporean president was accompanied by Singaporean Minister of National Development Mr. Khaw Boon Wan, Minister of State of the Ministry of Trade and Industry Mr. Teo Ser Luck, parliamentarians from Singaporean Parliament, Singaporean Ambassador



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann holds discussion with President of the Republic of Singapore Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam.

MNA

to Myanmar Mr. Chua Hian Kong Robert and those from the embassy.

At the meeting, both sides cordially exchanged views on strengthening of amity between the two parliaments and the governments of Myanmar and Singapore,

closer cooperation for successful implementation of political and economic reforms, poverty alleviation, cooperation in financial sector for development of agriculture and livestock breeding to uplift socioeconomic status

of farmers, cooperation in trade and investment and education, health and technical cooperation.

After the meeting, they posed for a documentary photo together with the visiting Singaporean President and party.—MNA

Singaporean delegation visits Myanmar Gems Emporium



NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—A visiting goodwill delegation led by Mrs Mary Tan, wife of Singaporean President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, visited Myanmar Gems Emporium, here, this morning.

Curator and officials of the emporium conducted them around the museum.

MNA

A visiting goodwill delegation led by Mrs Mary Tan, wife of Singaporean President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam at Myanmar Gems Emporium.

MNA

MOC seeks Chinese and Thai interpreters

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Those with the following qualifications will be employed as interpreters with foreign referees/coaches at Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung where the XXVII SEA Games will be held.

It is planned to appoint 45 Chinese interpreters and 20 Thai interpreters at the salary rate of K 200,000

by Myanmar Olympic Committee.

Men and women who are in good health, have good social skills and are fluent in Chinese and Thai language are eligible to apply the abovementioned posts.

The unmarried applicants will be able to work in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung.

Those who are willing to apply the posts may send their letters of application together with certificate of morality, medical certificate, letter of recommendation for language proficiency given by departments concerned, graduation certificate (original) if the applicant have it, citizenship scrutiny card (original) and three colored passport size

photos to U Tun Myint Oo, deputy director-general of the Ministry of Sports at Office No (31) during the period from 22 to 25 April. Interview will be conducted on 30 April.

Accommodation will be provided for those who are chosen. For further information, anyone may contact Ph: 067 406034 and 09-5022357.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 3 April, 2013

Settle the differences with noblest and worthiest virtues

Individual freedom, which is a fundamental ingredient of democracy, can mean freedom that does not infringe on the civil liberties of others. All citizens are to bring together our diverse backgrounds and chart together on a path towards a new kind of society, based on mutual respect, democratic deliberation and consensus building to solve the challenges we face and will continue to face during our historic transition.

All citizens from different ethnic and religious groups need to work together to create a peaceful society based on democratic norms and a proud nation that is based on mutual respect and understanding. Meanwhile, we are to strive for further flourishing of the noblest and worthiest virtues such as justice, liberty and equality.

As a nation, it is our firm belief that only an inclusive democratic society based on equality for all citizens will ensure peace and stability, especially in a multicultural, multiethnic and multifaith country such as ours. Despite our differences, we must find a common ground to coexist peacefully while upholding our democratic ideals.

We are sure we will be able to overcome both immediate and future challenges if we can embrace our differences and stand united in face of adversity as one people. Towards this end, we must see our diversity not as a problem to be managed but as a fundamental strength of our nation, and we must find strengthen and take pride in diversity.

As citizens of the country, we must also distinguish fact from fiction and overcome dangers posed by rumors in a wise and open-minded manner. And only then, will it be possible to build a harmonious society that safeguards human dignity, peace and stability and promote rule of law.

Micheal Learns to Rock concert gets success



YANGON, 2 April—A throng of Micheal Learns to Rock fans enjoyed Micheal Learns to Rock concert at the People's Square and People's Park at 7 pm on 31 March.

Myanmar Rock Stars Zaw Win Htut and Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein also entertained at the concert. Micheal Learns's about 15 famous

songs were entertained at the concert.

The MLTR concert, jointly organized by Pastel Communications and Friendship Entertainment and plans are underway to present international shows along with world's famous vocalists.

By Moe Thuzar Soe (NLM)

NATIONAL

Committee for Safety of Foreigners meets

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Committee for Safety of Foreigners held its (1/2013) meeting at the Ministry of Home Affairs this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the committee Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko.

The minister said that Myanmar sees a flood of foreign guests, businessmen, diplomats and tourists. Daily arrival foreigners has reached 2,000. The committee is aimed at ensuring safety of the tourists in accord with the laws.

Secretary of the Committee Police Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun submitted formation of work committee and the crimes related to the foreigners and then those present gave supplementary reports.—MNA

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko speaking at coordination meeting of committee for ensuring safety of foreigners.—MNA



Seminar on commercial arbitration held

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—Jointly conducted by Union Attorney-General Office and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), an opening ceremony of Seminar on

commercial arbitration was held at Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone, here, at 9 am today.

Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin delivered a speech at the forum. The Union Attorney-General highlighted implementation of economic, administration and judicial reforms in order to ensure the prevalence of law and order. He also expressed unicital rules

in commercial arbitration and those responsible for judgment of this law.

Head of JICA Mr Masahiko Tanaka extended greetings. The forum was attended by deputy ministers, the deputy attorney-general, directors-general of respective ministries, deputy directors-general and officials.

The forum runs up to 3 April.—MNA

Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin delivering speech at the seminar on commercial arbitration.

MNA

Yangon school fire...

(from page 16)

"I found that fire engines were putting out fire. The voltage regulator is the one run manually. The fire outbreak was caused by the failure to readjust the regulator in time of high voltage supply. We are investigating into further details," he said.

U Win Maung, security in-charge of Botahtaung BEHS-3 said, "I live in 49th street. The first to report the fire is the headmistress of my school. She called the fire brigade. It was only 2.30 am when firefighters arrived there. The fire was not strong. I thought the persons inside the building were putting out fire by themselves. Then, I shouted 'Fire! Fire!' We then called the township administrator and the fire brigades. As the doors of the burning building were locked, some children inside there died of suffocation. Rescue teams rescued other children through side doors and back doors. Firefighters broke locks and rescued the children. The fire was almost put out by the first fire engine.

I heard there was a voltage regulator inside there and the fire started from it."

"My house is in 46th Street. I rushed here at about 3am. Fire crews followed me. A fire officer and I rescued more than 30 children from the side door of a three-storey building. Thirteen children living another three-storey building were killed in the fire", says Company Commander Daw Khin Than Soe of Botahtaung Red Cross Battalion of Yangon Region Red Cross Society.

U Ba Ni, chairman of the religious school and mosque says, "I rushed there as soon as I was informed. The school was reopened two days ago. Ward dwellers paid special care to children. The school was reopened after it was closed a few days ago. They are helpful children as they are asked whenever there is something to do in the ward. The ward also provides them with necessary assistance. We can rely on the ward completely. So the school was reopened two days ago, aimed at

making students in order not to forget their lessons in the school holiday. The children died of suffocation as doors were shut. Downstairs is used for teaching. There is a prayer hall in the east. There are no materials that caused fire. Floors and ceilings are made of wood.

That's all. I heard that a thorough investigation into the fire is ongoing. The outbreak of fire took only a short time. Out of 70 students, the fire claimed 13 lives who were upstairs. The remaining students were relocated at a mosque in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. As some students are orphanages from the rural areas, they are being



U Sar Ei, a teacher of the school.—MNA

looked after at the mosque in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. Other students were taken by their parents". "Only two teachers and 70 students live here. We go back home after the school periods. Young kids sleep upstairs. The elder children and teachers sleep downstairs. They tried to put out the fire. But the fire spread to the ladders and ceilings and the children upstairs were pronounced dead in the fire", says U Sar Ei, a teacher of the school.

Investigation into further details is ongoing and an investigation team was formed by Yangon Region Government.—MNA



U Ba Ni, chairman of the religious school and mosque.—MNA

Ambassador U Zaw Tun concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Slovak Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 3 April—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Zaw Tun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Serbia, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Slovak Republic.

MNA

Nwetame Bridge completed on Magway-Minbu-Salin Tanyaung Road

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The approach road on Nwetame bank to Nwetame Bridge on Magway-Minbu-Salin Tanyaung Road was eroded by Salin Creek in Salin Township of Magway Region in the past.

Public Works of Ministry of Construction rebuilt the 250 feet long reinforced concrete bridge

starting from 1 September 2012.

The construction tasks were completed on 8 March 2013.

With the aim of ensuring smooth transportation for the local people and swift flow of commodities, vehicles large and small were allowed to pass through the newly-built bridge as of 29 March 2013. MNA

Death toll hits 34 in Tanzania building collapse



Rescuers search for survivors amongst the rubble of a collapsed building in the Kariakoo district of central Dar es Salaam on 29 March, 2013.—REUTERS

DAR ES SALAAM, 2 April—The death toll from the collapse of a multi-storey building in Tanzania has risen to 34 after more bodies were pulled from the rubble, a senior government official said on Monday.

Rescue workers at the site in a district in the commercial capital Dar es Salaam have now cleared most of the debris and reached the basement of the building that caved in on Friday morning. It is likely more bodies could be found.

Tanzania's buoyant economy has fuelled a building boom, especially in Kariakoo and the city centre. But the speed of construction has raised concerns about safety standards.

"A total of 34 people have so far been confirmed dead. We expect to conclude the search operation early today and officially announce

the final death toll," Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Said Meck Sadick told Reuters.

"The bodies being recovered now have started to decompose...so we want to conclude this exercise as soon as possible to allow funeral arrangements to take place." The building of more than 12 storeys had been under construction near a mosque in the Kariakoo District near the city centre. Several cars were crushed and boys playing football nearby were among the dead.

Police said four people had been arrested over the incident.

"This is the worst building collapse in our country's history," Dar es Salaam regional police commander Suleiman Kova told Reuters.

He said those responsible would face criminal charges.—Reuters

US amphibious landing ship to participate in Philippine-US annual exercise

MANILA, 2 April — The United States is sending USS Tortuga, an amphibious dock landing ship of the US 7th Fleet, to the Philippines to participate in the annual bilateral military exercise, the US Embassy in Manila said here on Monday.

The ship is to arrive in Manila on Tuesday and then have a brief stop in Subic before taking part in the Philippine-US Balikatan exercises.

During Balikatan exercise, which takes place on the island of Luzon from 5 to 17 April, the Tortuga will support Philippine and US troops' joint training for humanitarian assistance and disaster response scenarios, the embassy report said.

USS Tortuga (LSD-46) is part of the Bonhomme Richard Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) and is currently on deployment in the US 7th Fleet area of responsibility.

BEIRUT, 2 April—March was the bloodiest month yet in Syria's two-year conflict, with more than 6,000 people killed, a third of them civilians, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said on Monday.

The group opposes President Bashar al-Assad but has monitored human rights violations on both sides of a revolt that began as peaceful protests but is now a brutal war between forces loyal to Assad and an array of rebel militias.

The Britain-based Observatory, which has a network of sources across Syria, has documented 62,554 dead in the conflict, said Rami Abdelrahman, the head of the group.

"But we know the number is much, much higher," he told Reuters by telephone. "We estimate it is actually around 120,000 people. Many death tolls are more difficult to document so we are not officially including them yet."

As in previous months, around a third of those killed in March were civilians, the Observatory said. Almost 300 children died, taking the number killed in the conflict to around 4,390.

The United Nations says more than 70,000 people have died in Syria. Abdelrahman said both sides have found ways to minimize their dead to keep morale high among their followers.

"There are some

groups where it took us longer to get access to sources. For example we started counting deaths much later among the shabbiha," said Abdelrahman, referring to pro-Assad militias that have fought alongside security forces.

His group has a rough count of 12,000 dead shabbiha fighters but has yet to include those in its toll.

Also unknown is the number of dead among the tens of thousands jailed by Assad's forces since the conflict began. There was also no way to count the number of Syrian soldiers killed after being captured by rebels. Activists believe those are also likely to number in the thousands.

Some 2,250 dead oppo-

sition fighters are unknown, and the Observatory said it believed most of those are fighters from abroad who joined the rebels in Syria, which has become a site for jihad, or "holy war", to many Islamic militant groups.

Assad has long accused his opponents of being "terrorists" funded by Gulf and other foreign powers.

Disunity among the opposition in exile and the armed factions on the ground has hindered the struggle against Assad and contributed to Western reluctance to intervene.

Abdelrahman called on foreign powers to take action to help ease Syria's crisis as violence continues to rise.—Reuters

Caroline Kennedy, daughter of JFK, seen as likely US envoy to Japan

WASHINGTON, 2 April—Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of former US President John F Kennedy, is likely to become the next US ambassador to Japan, replacing John Roos, US-media reported on Monday.

Kennedy is "being vetted" for the post, CNN said, citing Democrats familiar with the matter. If realized, Kennedy will be the first female US ambassador to Japan. The Washington Post said in its online edition the appointment "is almost cer-

tain to thrill Japanese, who like their American ambassadors to be superstars."

In Tokyo, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said the Japanese government has not heard about the possible appointment through official channels, but added such a move would be a big topic in Japan and bring the two countries closer.

John F Kennedy was assassinated in 1963 when Caroline Kennedy was 5 years old. —Kyodo News



Sculptures are shown at San Agustin Archaeological Park, in Huila, Colombia, on 31 March, 2013. San Agustin Archaeological Park is located in the southern Colombian Department of Huila, which will celebrate its centenary and being denominated as World Cultural Heritage in 1995 by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) this year.

XINHUA

Osaka Mayor Hashimoto marks over 1 million Twitter followers

OSAKA, 2 April—Toru Hashimoto, co-head of the opposition Japan Restoration Party, has crossed the threshold of 1 million followers on his Twitter social networking account, a level of strong public attention rarely paralleled by other politicians.

Hashimoto, also Osaka mayor, made about 9,380 posts over the two years and two months until Sunday when the 1 million mark was achieved, often

using the microblog as a platform to express his resolve for political and economic reforms as well as to criticize media organizations and intellectuals who he disagreed with.

According to his Twitter timeline, the mayor posted his first message on 1 Feb, 2011. The frequency of posting varied,

ranging from 28 to 1,025 messages per month, while sometimes topping 100 on a single day. Hashimoto continued tweeting even during general elections in December when the government said such an act could infringe on the Japanese election law forbidding the use of the Internet for campaigning. —Kyodo News



Theatre goers wait in front of the new Kabukiza theatre for its opening in Tokyo's Ginza district on 2 April, 2013. The theatre reopened the same day after a three-year hiatus due to renovation work. —KYODO NEWS

Three die after floods wash away bridge in C Spain

MADRID, 2 April—Three people died this Monday after a bridge over the river Yeguas in central Spain was washed away by flooding waters.

The three victims, including a couple and a young man, were on board two separate vehicles, a car and a lorry, driving along the N-420

road between the cities of Ciudad Real and Cordoba.

Persistent rainfall over the closing days of March has led to rising water levels in many of the country's rivers and reservoirs, according to data supplied by the Automatic Systems of Hydrological Information.

The Pisuerga river has

seen its water level grown by a metre in less than 24 hours in the latest rainfall, putting the city of Valladolid in the Province of Castilla-Leon, which has around 500,000 inhabitants, under threat. Meanwhile the city of Zamora, which is the smallest provincial capital in Spain, is also threatened

by the rising water levels of the River Duero, while the N-113 main road between Pamplona and Madrid has been cut for several days as a result of the nearby river Ebro bursting its banks. Spain's Civil Protection organization has advised drivers to try and avoid areas with flooding.—Xinhua

REGIONAL

First post-disaster public housing completed in Miyagi Prefecture

SENDAI, 2 April— A ceremony was held on Monday in Miyagi Prefecture, northeastern Japan, following the completion of the first public housing to be built after the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster.

In the ceremony held in the town of Yamamoto, town Mayor Toshio Saito handed over the keys to nine households, who survived the disaster and who were screened to ensure they were eligible for public housing.

Kiyoshi Shimada, 74, who received one of the keys, said he is looking



forward to leaving the one-room temporary housing unit he has been living in and moving into his new two-bedroom house in early May, and added he hopes he will get along with his

neighbours as he will live alone.

Fumiko Abe, 50, who will move into the public housing with her mother and sister, checked out their three-bedroom house after receiving the key to the property.

As of Monday, 18 houses had been completed in the town of Yamamoto, 12 in the city of Sendai and 50 houses in the city of Ishinomaki.

The Miyagi prefectural government plans to complete about 16,000 houses for disaster victims by March 2016.

Kyodo News

Australia expects boost from airline alliance with Emirates

DUBAI, 2 April—Australia's Transport and Infrastructure Minister Anthony Albanese said here on Monday that his country expects significant added value from the strategic alliance between Dubai's Emirates Airlines and Australian carrier Qantas.

Albanese said at a joint press conference held by Emirates and Qantas that the role of Dubai International Airport as a global hub would increase the flow of tourists and business travellers to Australia. Through the alliance, which is limited at first for five years, Qantas will no longer use Singapore as a hub to serve its global network. Together, both carriers of-

fer as of 31 March a total of 98 flights per week between Dubai and Australia's Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

Through Dubai, Qantas passengers can reach 65 destinations in Europe and North Africa and, vice versa, Emirates clients get easier access to Australia.

Xinhua

Nepal's Election Commission defers voter registration

KATHMANDU, 2 April — Nepal's Election Commission has decided to postpone the voter registration and update works meant for the forthcoming general election due mainly to physical disruption and intimidation led by CPN-Maoist, the splinter group of the UCPN-



People enter Ginza Cine Pathos, the only movie theater to screen old classic films in Tokyo's Ginza area, on 31 March, 2013, to see the last screening there. The cinema closed the same day, ending its more than 45-year history. —KYODO NEWS

Japan, Russian arranging PM Abe's trip to Russia on 29-30 April

MOSCOW, 2 April— Japan and Russia are arranging for Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to visit Russia on 29 and 30 April, a source familiar with bilateral relations said on Monday.

Interfax news agency separately quoted a diplomat as saying that "preparations are being made for (the Japanese prime minister's) planned visit on the 29th (of April)."

It will be the first time in 10 years for a Japanese prime minister to make an

official visit to Russia.

Abe and Russian President Vladimir Putin are expected to exchange views on a long-standing territorial dispute over a group of Russian-held islands off Hokkaido. The two leaders are also expected to seek to enhance bilateral cooperation in the energy sector.

In January 2003, then Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi made an official visit to Moscow and met with Putin, who was serving as president in his first stint. —Kyodo News

Funai Electric to acquire inkjet business from US firm

OSAKA, 2 April— Funai Electric Co said on Tuesday it has agreed to acquire inkjet printer-related technologies and assets of Lexmark International Inc of the United States for around 9.5 billion yen by June.

Funai, an Osaka-based consumer electronics maker, will be entitled to Lexmark's inkjet patents and take over the US firm's plant in the Philippines under the agreement.

Funai is hoping to turn its business around with the latest deal amid a slump in its core liquid crystal television business.

Funai said the deal will enable it to establish its own inkjet business using the platform of the Kentucky-based company it has worked closely with since 1997 in its role as a contract supplier of inkjet hardware.

Lexmark operates in around 170 countries across the world but is set to pull out of the inkjet printer business. —Kyodo News



Noriyuki Hamada holds the bronze statue he won in the Bocuse d'Or French cooking competition for chefs, which took place in Lyon, France, in late January, on 22 Feb, 2013 at the French restaurant Yukawatan at Hotel Bleston Court in the resort town of Karuizawa, Nagano Prefecture. Hamada led Japan to its first medal in what is regarded as the world's top culinary competition. KYODO NEWS

New Zealand companies fined for selling bogus souvenirs to Asian tourists

WELLINGTON, 2 April —Two New Zealand souvenir firms and two of their senior managers have been heavily fined for ripping off Asian tourists with expensive mementos that were not what they were claimed to be, the country's Commerce Commission announced on Tuesday.

The prosecutions followed an investigation that began when police, Customs and other law enforcement agencies raided 10 premises in the geothermal resort town of Rotorua and one in Auckland in August 2011 and more would follow, according to the commission.

Organized groups of tourists from the Chinese

mainland, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan were taken to some of the premises and sold items such as alpaca rugs and merino or alpaca duvets, said a statement from the commission.

The tourists paid dearly as a result of false claims that the alpaca rugs were New Zealand made, when they were imported, and that the wool content of the duvets was 100-percent alpaca or merino when it was not.

In total, the two companies and individuals were fined 259,000 NZ dollars (217,045 US dollars).

Top Sky Holdings Ltd. was fined 140,000 NZ dollars, while its managing

consultant Haidong Chen was fined 24,500 NZ dollars.

The company's Rotorua shop offered alpaca rugs imported from Peru that had been re-labeled as "Alpaca New Zealand, 100 percent Baby Alpaca, proudly made in New Zealand by Alpaca New Zealand." The rugs were priced between 4,000 NZ dollars and 8,000 NZ dollars each when Peruvian alpaca rugs are sold elsewhere for between 1,000 NZ dollars and 1,600 NZ dollars each.

Kiwi Wool Ltd was fined 84,000 NZ dollars, while its managing director Jinming Chen and was fined 10,500 NZ dollars. Kiwi Wool made and sold

wool duvets with labels stated they were "100 percent pure alpaca wool" when the alpaca wool content was just 20 percent, or that they were "100 percent New Zealand merino lamb wool," when the wool content was not merino.

The duvets cost about 70 NZ dollars to make and they were sold to tourists for between 400 NZ dollars and 1,000 NZ dollars. "New Zealand has a reputation for producing premium wool products. Tourists are prepared to pay significantly more for these products than for the same items produced elsewhere," Commerce Commission chairman Mark Berry said in the statement. —Xinhua



Fishing boats are anchored on the water off the Juzizhou, an islet on the Xiangjiang River, in Changsha, capital of central China's Hunan Province, 1 April, 2013. A three-month fishing ban on the main stream of the Xiangjiang River, linking Yongzhou City and Yueyang City of the province, began on the noon of 1 April, in order to protect fishery resources and keep the bio-diversity of the river. —XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

TRADEMARK CAUTION
SANKEN ELECTRIC CO., LTD., a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 3-6-3, Kitano, Niiza-Shi, Saitama, JAPAN is the owner and proprietor of the following mark:



Reg. No. 4/1364/2013
(8 February 2013)

In respect of "Starters for motors and engines; AC motors; DC motors; AC generators; DC generators" in Int'l Class 7;

"ICs (integrated circuits); transistors; thyristors; diodes; sensors; LEDs (light emitting diodes); power modules; uninterruptible power systems; power adapters; switching mode power supplies; DC power supplies; inverters; noise filters; aircraft warning lights" in Int'l Class 9; and

"Lighting apparatus and installations using LEDs (light emitting diodes); electric discharge tubes for lighting; CCFLs (cold cathode fluorescent lamps)" in Int'l Class 11.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the said mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For SANKEN ELECTRIC CO., LTD.,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd
#1508-1509, 15th Floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union
of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 3 April 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION
TULIP Food Company GmbH, a company incorporated in Germany, of Kokkolastrasse 2, 40882 Ratingen, Germany, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-



Reg. No. 1698/2004
Reg. No. 327/2007

In respect of "Int'l Class 29: Meat, fish, poultry and game, meat extracts, edible oils and fats, meat, fish, poultry and game preserves, mixed salads with meat, fish, poultry and game and among others pork luncheon meat, picnics, sausages, pate".

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 TULIP Food Company GmbH
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 3 April 2013

TRADEMARK CAUTION
NISSAN JIDOSHA KABUSHIKI KAISHA (also trading as Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.), a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at No.2, Takaracho, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa-ken, Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

SUNNY

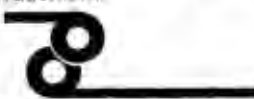
Reg. No. 4/13818/2012
(7 December, 2012)

In respect of "automobiles, wagons, trucks, vans, sport utility vehicles, buses, recreational vehicles (RV), sports cars, racing cars, lorries, fork lift trucks, and towing tractors (tractors), and structural parts and fittings therefor; tractors; anti-theft alarms for vehicles; adhesive rubber patches for repairing tubes or tires; all included in International Class 12".

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd
#1508-1509, 15th Floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon
The Republic of the Union
of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 3 April 2013

TRADEMARK CAUTION
DENKI KAGAKU KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA, a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 1-1, Nihonbashi-Muromachi 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:



Reg. No. 4/1107/2013 (5.2.2013)
In respect of "Electrical insulating materials in the form of tapes; electrical insulating tapes; electrical insulating materials in the form of sheets; electrical insulating sheets; electrical insulating materials in the form of adhesive tapes; electrical insulating adhesive tapes; electrical insulating materials in the form of adhesive sheets; electrical insulating adhesive sheets" in International Class 17.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For DENKI KAGAKU KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd
#1508-1509, 15th Floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union
of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 3 April 2013

INVITATION FOR TENDER

TENDER No. BRIDGE/BYN-2/2013-2014/NPT/ST-001

1. Opened Tender is invited by Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the Supply of Steel Truss and Accessories for BAYINTNAUNG BRIDGE No.2 (Four Lanes Highway Bridge Construction Project) across Hline River, it links Mayangon Township with Hlinethaya Township, Yangon Region.

2. Tender application form of BAYINTNAUNG BRIDGE No.2 (including Technical Specifications, terms of Tender, Tender Schedule and Offer Form) can be purchased with USD 1000 (One Thousand Only).

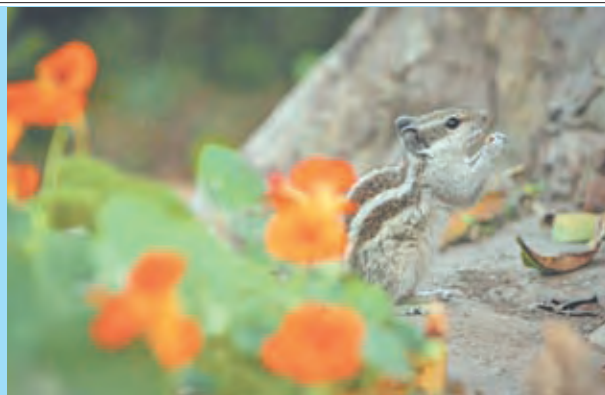
3. The payment for tender application must be paid to Public Works's Account OA-010311, Myanmar Economic Bank (2) through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.

4. The Tender documents can be obtained from Bridge Division, Building No. (11), Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar only with the Cash Receipt delivered by Account Division, Public Works from 5th April, 2013 to 25th April, 2013 in office time.

5. Tender should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on 5th June, 2013.

6. For further detail information, Please contact to Telephone No. 067-407183, 407514.

Managing Director
Public Works



A squirrel enjoys food in the Lodhi Gardens in New Delhi, capital of India, on 1 April, 2013. Lodhi Gardens, a popular public park in downtown New Delhi with centuries of history, was taken as home by many squirrels due to its trees and grassland.—XINHUA

Yunnan-Indonesia cooperation seminar opens in Jakarta

JAKARTA, 2 April—A cooperation seminar between China's Yunnan province and Indonesia's entrepreneur association kicked off here on Monday, in a bid to motivate mutual collaboration in economy and trade, tourism, finance and cultural industry between China and Indonesia.

Li Jiheng, the governor of Yunnan Province, said at the seminar that Yunnan and Indonesia have witnessed

strengthened exchanges and cooperation in the areas of economy and trade, which help bring tangible benefits to both countries and their people.

"The cooperation of economy and trade, investment and people to people contact between Yunnan and Indonesia has made significant progress in recent years with the effort of Yunnan and Indonesian people," Governor Li said.

According to Li, the total trade volume between Yunnan and Indonesia reached 1.14 billion US dollars in 2011, up 119 percent from a year earlier.

Indonesian coordinating minister for people's welfare Agung Laksono said China and Indonesia have been enjoying high economic growth in recent years and the good cooperation between the two nations benefits each other.

"Yunnan is a beautiful

region with rich natural resources and Indonesia considers Yunnan as a partner," Agung said, adding that Indonesian government will strongly support the economic cooperation between Yunnan and Indonesia.

Organized by Yunnan government and Indonesian Chinese Entrepreneur Association, the one-day seminar was attended by around 500 entrepreneurs from Yunnan and Indonesia.—Xinhua

UN says nearly 400,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon

BEIRUT, 2 April— The number of Syrian refugees in Lebanon has reached 396,931, the UN refugee agency said on Monday in its latest report.

Up to 251,407 Syrian refugees have been registered, while 145, 524 are waiting for finalizing their registration process, the report said. Some 110,204 refugees were registered in northern Lebanon, 95, 457

in the Bekaa area, 25,746 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, and 20, 000 in southern Lebanon, said the report.

The UN refugee agency said some 48,000 Syrians who were forced to leave their war-torn country took shelter in Lebanon in March.—Xinhua

Syrian refugee kids play in front of the newly built tents in Beirut, on 1 April, 2013.—XINHUA



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PHUONG NAM-68 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHUONG NAM-68 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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: RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

US economy to grow 2.3 percent this year

WASHINGTON, 2 April— American economy may pick up modestly this year in a context of subdued inflation, the Peterson Institute for International Economies (PIIE), a Washington-based think tank, forecast on Monday.

Speaking at the semi-annual "Global Economic Outlook" meeting held Monday, David Stockton, a senior fellow at the PIIE, predicted that the US economy would continue its slow recovery and expand by 2.3 percent in 2013 as an underlying improvement in household spending will be largely offset by the fiscal consolidation of the so-called "sequester," — the automatic across-the-board

federal spending cuts.

"There are signs that the US economy now is slowly gathering strength," said Stockton, the former chief economist at the US Federal Reserve. However, he added that the economy may suffer from "cold spells" in the middle of the year before an entrenched momentum is likely in late 2013.

Unemployment rate for the country will remain above the mark of 7 percent through 2014, before dropping below 6.5 percent in the second half of 2015. Inflation, which may edge higher during the year, would still remain below the 2 percent target, he said.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Ryan Gosling: Taking a break to direct

LOS ANGELES, 2 April—Ryan Gosling sent his female fans into mourning by announcing an acting break but the actor has apologised for not making himself clear. He is turning director.

“I should have been more clear; I’m just taking a break to direct. I’m sorry about that,” Gosling told Vanity Fair at the premiere of his latest movie *The Place Beyond the Pines*.

A hotline was created following Gosling’s sudden announcement of an acting hiatus. The hotline is for fans going through Ryan Gosling withdrawals. They can dial and hear the actor’s voice while he is away from the screens.

The 32-year-

old Canadian actor

looked amused about the hotline.

“Uh, sorry about the hotline,” he added, laughing.

In *The Place Beyond the Pines*, Gosling has teamed up with his real-life girlfriend Eva Mendes and his Blue Valentine director Derek Cianfrance.

“I have a lot of admiration and respect for him, as a person and as a filmmaker. Having history with somebody, it’s nice to get to go to work and just be able to hit the ground running,” said Gosling.

Cianfrance revealed how he struggled to keep Gosling’s army of admirers from ruining the shots where he is seen walking shirtless into a fair.

PTI



Ryan Gosling will be seen next in *The Place Beyond The Pines*.



Katie Holmes filed for divorce from Tom Cruise on 29 June last year after five years of marriage.—PTI

Tom Cruise furious with Katie Holmes

LOS ANGELES, 2 April—Actor Tom Cruise is said to be upset with his ex-wife Katie Holmes after she posed for some steamy, eye-popping photos for an ad campaign.

Holmes bared her body in a sizzling new ad campaign for jewellery brand H Stern, where she appears naked and barely

covers her chest with her hands.

The 34-year-old also got wet and wild on the cover of the April issue of *Allure* magazine, appearing to be topless in the pictures, reported Showbizspy.

“I think Tom is fit to be tied over Katie’s red-hot new image. It is sure to burn him up because he probably

thinks Katie is deliberately trying to rub his nose in her sassy single-girl persona.

“The bottom line is that I’m sure it galls Tom to no end that he doesn’t have the power to call the shots with Katie anymore,” a source said. Holmes filed for divorce from Cruise on 29 June last year after five years of marriage.—PTI

Madonna has a new net worth of USD 1 billion

NEW DELHI, 2 April—Madonna, who has four children, Lourdes, 16, Rocco, 12, David, seven, and Mercy, also seven, recently became a billionaire, according to *Women’s Wear Daily* (WWD) magazine via the *New York Post*.

The 54-year-old star — who was

sell out shows last year, grossed USD 305,158,363, and also saw her rake in USD 75 million in merchandise sales and USD 10 million in TV rights and DVD sales. Madonna has also enjoyed success off stage as her perfume *Truth of Dare* saw her earn USD 60 million.

PTI



named the top earner in pop music in 2012 — was

previously estimated to have a personal fortune of around USD 700 million but has now earned more than a billion dollars from her successful career in showbiz after investing in several additional money making ventures recently. Her MDNA world tour, which saw her perform 72

The singer, who was previously estimated to have a personal fortune of around USD 700 million, has now earned more than a billion dollars from her successful career.

Christina Aguilera is in a “great place in her life”

The blonde star’s stylist Simon Harouche has revealed that her current happiness is having a huge impact on her wardrobe choices.



NEW DELHI, 2 April—Christina Aguilera — who is still in a long term relationship with Matthew Rutler and recently shed a few pounds — is focusing on taking care of herself and being healthy after deciding to take a well-earned break from the fourth season of *The Voice USA*.

A source told People.com: “Without the gruelling production hours Christina can focus ... most importantly on herself. Its amazing what having some personal time can do not only for the body but also for the mind and the spirit.”

The blonde star’s stylist Simon Harouche also revealed her current happiness is having a huge

impact on her wardrobe choices.

She said: “Christina is in a great place in her life and is looking great. She’s been gravitating towards less provocative silhouettes. While still wanting to keep it feminine and sexy, her outfit choices lately are leaving more to the imagination. Clothes reflect where you are at mentally sometimes. I think Christina’s in a happy place and that is reflected in her clothing choices.”

Christina recently revealed she wants to get “re-inspired” and is taking a trip to Japan with her five-year-old son Max.

She said: “I’m going on vacation next week with my son, first time in Japan, which is such an inspirational place for me [to] get re-inspired, rejuvenated for what’s to come... I can’t say everything!”

Asked about the possibility of new music, she added: “We’ll see, yeah, if it feels right.”—PTI

SPORTS

Superb Ba goal, Cech save send Chelsea through

LONDON, 2 April—Chelsea's love affair with the FA Cup continued when a brilliant goal by Demba Ba gave them a 1-0 win over Manchester United in a sixth-round replay at Stamford Bridge on Monday.

The holders will play Manchester City in the semi-finals after Senegal international Ba, who had only scored once for Chelsea in his previous 10 appearances, struck with astonishing athleticism after 49 minutes.

Ba, drifting free of his marker, allowed a lofted ball from Juan Mata to sail over his shoulder before stretching to volley it into the far corner beyond a helpless David De Gea.

Chelsea goalkeeper Petr Cech then produced magic at the other end 14

minutes later when he produced the other highlight of an otherwise relatively tame game.

United's Mexican forward Javier Hernandez seemed bound to equalise with a diving header but Cech performed a backward twisting dive to palm the ball over the bar and win the tie for Chelsea who were 2-0 down after 11 minutes in the first match at Old Trafford before fighting back to draw 2-2.

Chelsea, who have won the cup four times in the last six seasons, will meet City, the 2011 winners, at Wembley on 14 April. Championship (second tier) side Millwall will Premier League Wigan Athletic in the other semi at Wembley the day before.

"I scored one that was quite the same for Newcastle against Man U, so when I scored this one it reminded me of it," Ba told ITV. "But it was important to win today, it gives us a lot of confidence."

Manchester United, who have won the FA Cup a record 11 times, had their chances, with Robin Van Persie spurning a good opportunity to equalise in the second half, but with both teams playing their second match in three days, the game never lived up to expectations.

United manager Alex Ferguson, who has led United to five FA Cup successes and is poised to take them to a 20th league title, said his team had not been able to take their chances.



Chelsea's Demba Ba scores against Manchester United during their English FA Cup quarter-final replay soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London, on 1 April, 2013.

REUTERS

"We lacked the composure to win the game," he said. "We had a lot of possession but did not make the best use of it and then on the counter-attack they caused us quite a few problems." Chelsea's semi against City will be their

sixth in the last eight seasons and Monday's victory was their 23rd in 28 FA Cup matches.

Chelsea's interim manager Rafa Benitez, who is deeply unpopular with the club's fans and is leaving at the end of the season, said

he was looking forward to leading a team out at Wembley for the first time.

"It will be in good, when I was at Liverpool we played the final in Cardiff - and I hope I can get to the final at Wembley too."

Reuters

Tiger Woods stays top of world rankings

LONDON, 2 April—Tiger Woods stayed top of the world rankings on Monday following Rory McIlroy's failure to win the Houston Open on Sunday.

The 37-year-old American returned to the top last week after an absence of two and a half years, replacing the 23-year-old Irishman, who has struggled with his game this year following a change of clubs and ball in the close season.

Woods will go into next week's Masters Tournament at Augusta National with back-to-back wins boosting his confidence, while McIlroy will take part in the Texas Open in another bid to win for the first time this year.

World Top 20:-

Woods will go into next week's Masters Tournament at Augusta National with back-to-back wins boosting his confidence, while McIlroy will take part in the Texas Open in another bid to win for the first time this year.—PTI

1. Tiger Woods (USA) 11.74 pts; 2. Rory McIlroy (NIR) 10.87; 3. Justin Rose (ENG) 7.01; 4. Luke Donald (ENG) 6.69; 5. Brandt Snedeker (USA) 6.29; 6. Louis Oosthuizen (RSA) 6.05; 7. Adam Scott (AUS) 5.70; 8. Steve Stricker (USA) 5.68; 9. Matt Kuchar (USA) 5.29; 10. Phil Mickelson (USA) 5.24; 11. Keegan Bradley

(USA) 5.21; 12. Ian Poulter (ENG) 5.17; 13. Lee Westwood (ENG) 5.12; 14. Bubba Watson (USA) 5.08; 15. Charl Schwartzel (RSA) 4.94; 16. Sergio Garcia (ESP) 4.84; 17. Graeme McDowell (NIR) 4.79; 18. Jason Dufner (USA) 4.64; 19. Dustin Johnson (USA) 4.63; 20. Webb Simpson (USA) 4.47.—PTI



Somdev Devvarman geared up for Davis Cup tie

BANGALORE, 2 April—The refurbished KSLTA courts here received the thumbs up from Somdev Devvarman who will be leading Indian challenge against Indonesia in the Asia-Oceania Davis Cup tie here this weekend.

"It is more like the Miami Masters and I love playing at altitude and we had our first session of hit today and we are happy with the conditions," said Somdev who wasted little time on arrival here to get himself a spot of practice.

While stating the obvious that India should not under-estimate Indonesia, Somdev said he was keen to wrap up the tie without much ado.

Somdev, the 28-year-old who was

ranked 64 in 2011 before a series of injuries pulled his ranking down to current 208, said he was in good shape after playing on the US circuit prior to flying in to Bangalore.



While stating the obvious that India should not under-estimate Indonesia, Somdev said he was keen to wrap up the tie without much ado.

PTI

"It is great to play the top player in the world and I always loved competing against top 10 players and it does lot to your confidence if you play well against them," said Somdev on his recent match with World No1 Novak Djokovic.

Somdev was in the eye of the dispute between the players and the All India Tennis Association that led to the top stars staying away from February's Davis Cup tie with Korea.

On the upcoming players association meeting here, Somdev said that it would take up issues pertaining to the betterment of players and tennis in general in the country.

PTI

Drogba back to where he began for Real clash

MADRID, 2 April—The wheel will have come full circle for Galatasaray forward Didier Drogba when he takes to the pitch for Wednesday's Champions League quarter-final first leg

match at Real Madrid.

The Ivory Coast international, who turned 35 this month, made his debut in Europe's elite club competition at Real's Bernabeu stadium in September 2003 play-

ing for Ligue 1 side Olympique Marseille. Although he scored to put Marseille ahead in the 26th minute, goals from Roberto Carlos and Luis Figo and a double from Brazilian Ronaldo fired Real's "Galacticos" to an easy 4-2 group stage victory.

"It will be very special for me, I will never forget that day," Drogba was quoted as saying in Galatasaray's club magazine this week.

"It was very important for my career," added the former Chelsea player.

Drogba was Chelsea's key performer on their run to a first Champions League triumph last season before quitting the London club for a stint in China and then moving to Turkey.

He struck the winning penalty in the final shootout against Bayern Munich having earlier kept Chelsea in the match with a crashing header two minutes from the end of regular time that levelled the score at 1-1.

"I just grabbed this chance to be able to play at the highest level in Europe again without thinking," he said. "That's why I am here. To have the opportunity to win again." Wednesday's clash, the fourth between the clubs in UEFA competition, also pits Drogba against his former manager at Chelsea Jose Mourinho, who is bidding to lead Real to the 10th European crown that has eluded the club since 2002.

Reuters

Cole and Cahill to miss Chelsea fixture pile-up

LONDON, 2 April—European champions Chelsea will be without England defenders Ashley Cole and Gary Cahill for their gruelling programme of five matches in 13 days.

Cole limped off with a hamstring injury in the first half of Monday's 1-0 victory over Manchester United in an FA Cup quarter-final replay and Cahill was already ruled out for two weeks because of a knee injury.

"The problem now is that Cahill will be out for another 15 days at least and Ashley the same," interim manager Rafael Benitez told reporters after Demba Ba's exquisite second-half goal

gave Chelsea victory.

"Our squad is not too big but we can manage if we don't have injuries. You have to approach every game carefully, make substitutions or rotate players—sometimes it will go well, sometimes not so well."—Reuters



Chelsea's Ashley Cole arrives at a training session at Cobham in Surrey southern England on 13 March, 2013.

REUTERS



Galatasaray's Didier Drogba and team mates celebrate their victory over Schalke 0-4 following their Champions League soccer match in Gelsenkirchen on 12 March, 2013.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Huma Qureshi sheds desi girl image in Ek Thi Daayan



The actress plays Emraan Hashmi's love interest in Ek Thi Daayan and essays the role of a smart and confident girl from Mumbai.

PTI

MUMBAI, 2 April—After playing a small town girl from the heartlands in her debut film Gangs of Wasseypur and a Punjab kudi in Luv Shuv Tey Chicken Khurana, Huma Qureshi finally gets a chance to be an urban girl in Kannan Iyer's upcoming film Ek Thi Daayan.

The actress, who has

always been seen in salwar kurtas on the screen, will be seen in the Emraan Hashmi-starrer in western wear.

A source said, "Due to her character requirements in her earlier two films, the general perception of her was that of being a desi girl. Both the films had a similar styling. But in her new film, she finally gets a chance to shed her rustic image."

Huma plays Emraan's love interest in the film. As she essays a smart and confident girl from Mumbai, her styling is more uptown.

The source added, "It will come as a pleasant surprise to see the salwar kameez clad Wasseypur girl in a mod makeover." Even in her public appearances, Huma has preferred to stick to her screen image. Looks like after this film, Huma is in a mood to reinvent herself.

PTI

Three dead, 11 missing in Tanzania's mine accident

ARUSHA, 2 April—Three people died and 11 others were missing when a gravel mine collapsed on Monday in Moshono area of Arusha Region, northern part of Tanzania.

Police in Arusha confirmed the accident, as rescue team was busy working on the ground to rescue the trapped people in the collapsed mine.

Unconfirmed report from the scene said there were 14 miners in the gravel mining site.

Eye-witnesses said the tragic accident occurred at

around noon, when gravel miners were busy mining the important building materials in the area.

"We heard a big bang from inside the mine, the situation indicated the sudden fall of the debris," a witness said.

Some of the trapped miners include those who were busy loading the gravel in two lorries which were also buried by the falling debris.

Police and other civilians teamed up to rescue the debris-covered people in the collapsed mine.—Xinhua

Winter bonuses at Japan firms hit record low for 4th year in row

TOKYO, 2 April —The average winter bonus paid to company employees in Japan in 2012 fell 1.5 percent from the year before to 365,687 yen, marking a record low for a fourth year in a row, the labour ministry said on Tuesday.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare traced the lowest bonus since the

survey began in 1990 to the strong yen associated with the European sovereign debt crisis which dealt blows to export-oriented companies, particularly manufacturers.

By industrial sector, employees at construction companies suffered a steep 14.0 percent drop, while restaurant workers saw a

7.1 percent fall. The survey covers companies with five or more employees.

The ministry said bonuses at construction firms appeared to have fallen as the number of construction workers increased after the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, resulting in a shorter average length of service in the sector.

Meanwhile, the ministry said the average monthly wage in February sagged 0.7 percent from a year earlier to 262,523 yen for the first fall in two months, with nonscheduled wages, including overtime pay, dropping 3.5 percent for the fifth consecutive monthly fall.

Kyodo News



A visitor takes photos of Nipplefruit at a flower exhibition at the National Peony Garden in Luoyang, central China's Henan Province, on 1 April, 2013. All together 225 kinds of flowers from China and other countries and regions were on display at the exhibition, which opened on Monday.—XINHUA

Inflation rate in Iran's urban areas rises to 31.5 pct

TEHERAN, 2 April—The inflation rate in Iran's urban areas in the past Iranian calendar year, which ended March 2013, reached 31.5 percent, semi-official Mehr news agency reported on Monday.

Citing information from the state Statistics Centre, the report said the inflation rate of food stuff

hit 57 percent in the period.

Iran's inflation rate in the 12-month period ended on the tenth Iranian calendar month (from 21 Dec, 2012 to 19 Jan, 2013) hit 28.7 percent, Teheran Times daily reported in February.

Economic observers, however, say that Iran's real inflation rate must be

much higher than the official figures. In December 2012, Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance, Shamseddin Hosseini, said the Iranian administration had special plans to curb a probable surge in inflation during the final months of the past Iranian calendar year, ended on 20 March, 2013.—Xinhua

KIEV, 2 April—Ukraine said on Monday it plans to increase its annual bioethanol output by six fold over the next two years to 360,000 tons, as part of the effort to reduce reliance on imported oil.

"We plan to turn 29 distilleries into bio-refineries, which will produce about 360,000 tons of bioethanol annually," Agriculture Minister Mykola Prysyazhnyuk said in a statement, adding that Kiev is also mulling over a viable way to produce the substance from sugar beets and corn.

Prysyazhnyuk said increased bioethanol production could reduce the country's dependence on imported oil products.

Starting next year, it would be mandatory for Ukrainian oil firms to blend 5 percent of bioethanol in gasoline to reduce CO2 emissions.—Xinhua

Els phasing out belly putter but will use it at Augusta

LONDON, 2 April—British Open champion Ernie Els will use the belly putter for the last time at a major during the US Masters next week as he phases out the controversial club ahead of a proposed ban, the South African said.

The rule-making Royal and Ancient and the United States Golf Association want to outlaw the controversial anchoring of a long-handled putter to the body during the swing — a technique employed by three of the last five major winners including Els - from 2016.

The European Tour has backed the proposal but the US PGA Tour is opposed to such a ban.

Els used the short stick for his first three rounds at the Chiangmai Golf Classic in Thailand before taking 29 putts with his belly putter on Sunday in a closing two-under-par 70 to finish tied 14th in the Asian Tour event.

"I just wanted to play (with the belly putter) since it was my last competitive round before the Masters," said the four-time major winner who will switch to the shorter stick in time for the US Open in June.

"Mentally, I was going to do the long putter at the Masters. I wanted to feel what it is like under a little bit of

pressure," said the towering, smooth-swinging 'Big Easy'.

World number 24 Els has been looking for consistency this year, having missed the cut in the Arnold Palmer Invitational with successive rounds of 75s before heading for Thailand.

"So far

this year

I've played

not quite

there on the consistency front," the former number one wrote on his blog on www.pgatour.com.

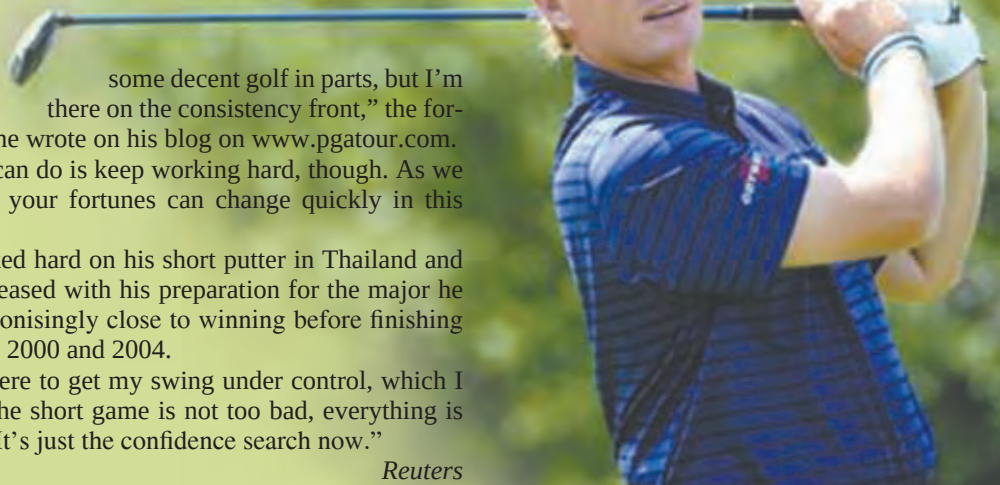
"All you can do is keep working hard, though. As we saw last year, your fortunes can change quickly in this game."

Else worked hard on his short putter in Thailand and was overall pleased with his preparation for the major he came twice agonisingly close to winning before finishing second both in 2000 and 2004.

"I came here to get my swing under control, which I think it did. The short game is not too bad, everything is kind of there. It's just the confidence search now."

Reuters

South Africa's Ernie Els watches his tee shot on the first hole during second round play in the Arnold Palmer Invitational PGA golf tournament in Orlando, Florida on 22 March, 2013.—REUTERS



NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The visiting goodwill delegation led by President of the Republic of Singapore Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam and wife, accompanied by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung and wife, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Tin Oo Lwin and wife left here for Mandalay by special aircraft.

They were seen off by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife and officials at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

At Mandalay International Airport this noon, they were welcomed by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and wife Daw Myat Ngwe, region ministers and officials concerned.

On their arrival at Mandalay Children's Hospital (500-bed) in

Chanayethazan Township, they were welcomed by Medical Superintendent Dr Sein Han and doctors, nurses and medical staff from KK Hospital of Singapore. Child specialist Professor Dr Tin Myint reported to them on remarkable points and variations of the hospital.

The delegation then observed the Paediatric Emergency Care Training course being conducted by KK Hospital.

In the evening, they proceeded to Mya Nan San Kyaw Golden Palace and Mandalay Cultural Museum. The Singaporean President then visited Hsutaungpyae Pagoda on Mindalay Hill and enjoyed sunset beauty of Mandalay.

Next, the Mandalay Region Chief Minister hosted a dinner to the Singaporean delegation at Sedona Hotel in Mandalay.—MNA

Singaporean President, wife arrive in Mandalay



President of the Republic of Singapore Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam and wife being seen off by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

Ministry of Finance and Revenue selects sponsors for SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 2 April—The Committee on Finance and Awards, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has issued the following "Press Release".

The tender invitation for "Sponsorship Management Consultant" who would manage to find sponsors for the forthcoming 27th SEA GAMES which will be held in Nay Pyi Taw from 11th to 22nd December this year, was advertised in the newspapers. Out of three bids received,

"Dentsu Sports Asia Pte. Ltd & JK Consulting and Management Co., Ltd" was a successful bidder. International and domestic companies desirous of giving sponsorship for the SEA GAMES can contact it.

NLM

Yangon school fire kills 13 children



Photo shows fire-destroyed place.—MNA

YANGON, 2 April—A fire broke out at a religious school of a mosque at No. 181/183 in 48th street between Bogyoke Aung San Street and Anawrahta Street in No. 10 Ward in Botahtaung Township here killing 13 boys.

According to

preliminary investigation by the Fire Brigade, the fire outbreak was caused by overheated voltage regulator.

The fire started at about 2.30 am was put out by 11 fire engines and four administration vehicles at about 3.15 am. A total of 58 children in the dorm were

rescued successfully by the fire brigade, Myanmar Red Cross brigade and residents of the ward.

The commander of Botahtaung Township Police Station said, "As the officials in the ward reported fire, Myanmar fire brigade members arrived the scene

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Yangon Region Government
Formation of Investigation Team

1. An investigation team comprising the following persons is formed to set up a probe into the death of the young boys in the fire occurred at a religious school of Yaykyaw mosque at Ma/183, 48th Street, Ward-10 of Botahtaung Township, at 3:00 am on 2 April.

Sr	Name	Department	Duty
(1)	U Toe Aung	Secretary, Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB)	Head
(2)	U Kyi Win	Head of Yangon Region Fire Services Department	member
(3)	U Aung Kyi	Head of Yangon Region Religious Affairs Department	member
(4)	Police Lt-Col Thet Lwin	Deputy Commander of Office of Commander of Yangon Region Police Force	member
(5)	U Hlaing Soe Thant	Deputy Commissioner of Yangon East District General Administration Department	member
(6)	U Hla Kyi	Assistant Chief Engineer Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB)	member
(7)	U Khaing Mye	Assistant Director Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB)	member

2. The commission is to expose the cause of the fire and submit the report along with its reviews and suggestions not later than 5-4-2013.

at about 3 am.

Fire engines and administration vehicles, totaling 15, from Kyauktada Township Fire Brigade arrived and put out the fire at about 3.15 am. 13 children died of suffocation by smoke. Other children were rescued. Preliminary investigation by fire brigade indicates the overheated voltage regulator as the cause of the fire. Investigation into details is under way.

There is no other suspicious thing. Looking from the road, the voltage regulator could be seen on the left side of stairway of two-storey building. As the fire started by the regulator, the children upstairs could not

make the escape and that's why 13 children upstairs died of suffocation."

Deputy commanding officer of Botahtaung Auxiliary Fire Battalion U Myint Aung said, "I arrived at the scene at about 3 am. Fire was there inside the building.

Two doors were locked. The fire brigade members broke the locks. We learnt that the fire was started by the overheated voltage regulator underneath the stairways. Then, the stairs and floor and then the roof caught fire. That's why 13 children upstairs died of suffocation."

Administrator of Botahtaung Township General Administration

Department U Than Zaw Oo said, "I arrived there as soon as I heard the report of fire by the ward."

(See page 9)



Company Commander Daw Khin Than Soe of Botahtaung Township Red Cross Battalion.

MNA