

The New Light of Myanmar

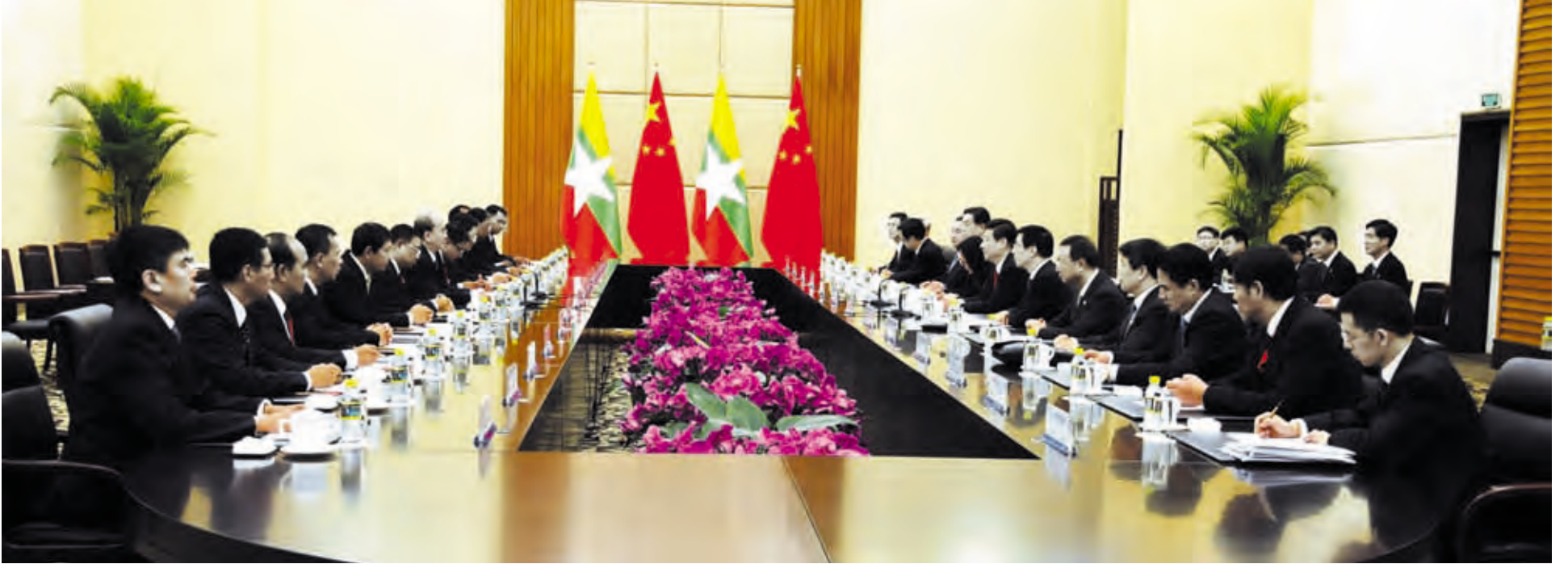
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China has committed to sharing its development with regional countries



President U Thein Sein and party holding talks with Chinese President Mr. Xi Jinping and party at Sheraton Hotel in Sanya of PRC.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein held talks with Chinese President Mr. Xi Jinping at Sheraton Hotel in Sanya of the People's Republic of China yesterday evening.

It was attended by Union Ministers U Wunna

Zhan Shu, State Councilor Mr Yang Jie Chi, Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Wang Yi, Minister for National Development and Reform Commission Mr Xu Shao Shi, Minister of Commerce Mr Gao Hu Cheng, the General Secretary of Hainan Province Party, the Deputy Foreign Minister, the Chinese

He expressed thanks for Myanmar's stance on One-China policy and pledged that China would maintain the existing amity between the two countries. China always put emphasis on Myanmar-China multi-strategic cooperation, he added.

He also discussed

strategic cooperative partnership countries through "Paukphaw relation". Mutual respects and sympathy is the essence of relations between the two countries. He also expressed thanks for China's constant supports for Myanmar over past two decades.

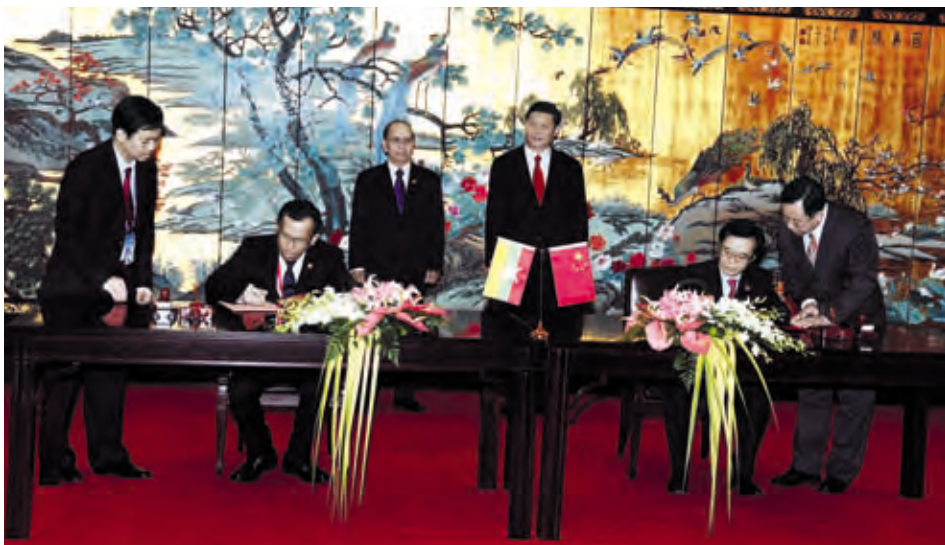
He strongly believed that both countries would further promote relations and cooperation during the term of his Chinese counterpart. Myanmar would constantly

strategic location.

He said he welcomes comprehensive strategic cooperation, and both countries need to overcome difficulties through mutual understandings and patience. He hoped that as responsible investors, Chinese companies would make effort for winning the trust of local people.

He expressed his wish for soonest implementation of China's low-interest loans. He highlighted Myanmar's

After that, both leaders attended a signing ceremony. Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and Chinese Minister of Commerce Mr Gao Hu Cheng signed the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation. Ambassador U Tin Oo and Chairman of China Export & Import Bank Mr Li Rougu signed the Preferential Buyer Credit Loan Agreement on the Design, Material Supply and Technical Service of Upper Yeywa-Shwesaryan 230 KV



Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and Chinese Minister of Commerce Mr Gao Hu Cheng sign the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation.—MNA

Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein, U Than Htay, Dr Myint Aung, and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Tin Oo and departmental heads. The Chinese President was accompanied by Member of the Politburo of the CPC Central Committee and head of the Policy Research Office Mr Wang Huning, Member of the Politburo of the CPC Central Committee and head of Admin Office Mr Li

Ambassador to Myanmar, special representative for Asia and high-ranking officials.

The Chinese President said that Myanmar President's goodwill visit to China shows Myanmar's attention constantly paid to the relations between the two countries. Both countries are to move forward through mutual respects and equality. China has committed to sharing its development with regional countries.

China's investments including Kyaukpyu Deep Sea Port and micro finance assistance for development of agricultural sector in Myanmar, cultural exchanges, China Radio International (CRI)'s cooperation with MRTV, technical assistance for XXVII SEA Games and border region stability.

President U Thein Sein said that he believed that both countries would reach the status of comprehensive



Ambassador U Tin Oo and Chairman of China Export & Import Bank Mr Li Rougu sign the agreement in the presence of President U Thein Sein and President Mr. Xi Jinping.—MNA

continue to support One-China Policy. He pledged that Myanmar would practice an independent and active foreign policy and five principles of peaceful co-existence. Myanmar put more emphasis on regional countries as being in a

lack of investments and technology and export of rice, corn and rubber to China.

He asked for China's assistance to human resources development for capacity building of the governmental organizations.

Twin Bundle Double Circuit Transmission Line (80 Miles) and 230 KV Shwesaryan Substation Extension Project, and the Financing Arrangement Agreement Regarding Microfinance Cooperation for Myanmar Rural Development.—MNA

Yangon Mayor's water-throwing pavilion to appear in new design

YANGON, 6 April—Yangon Mayor's water-throwing pavilion will appear in new design in Thingyan water festival. It will be certainly different to that of the previous years. A wide variety of performances will be presented by Yein troupes, music bands and a group of Shwe Phalar comedians at the pavilion. It is planned to spend about K 25 million on construction of this year's water-throwing pavilion for enabling Yangonites to take part in the joyful festival of the country in accord with Myanmar tradition and

culture.

Yangon City Development Committee's Engineering Department (Building) will design and build the pavilion with a curved shape in the middle flanked by two LED boards for concert audience from a distance.

During the period of water festival, Yein troupes of young girls, pop stars including Playboy Than Naing, Khine Htoo, Soe Paing, Athin Cho Swe, Ni Ni Khin Zaw and Bunny Phyo and comedians of Shwe Phalar Yazar Anyeint troupe will present a variety of performances to Thingyan lovers from 13 to 16 April.

Kyemon



Fire-damaged notes, handbags found abandoned while clearing debris on fire-raised land in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 6 April — With prevalence of peace and stability, victims at relief camps in Meiktila are being allowed to go back to their homes for necessary examination. They are also being provided with full safeguard by local authorities daily.

Security members and

Tatmadawmen discovered a haul of fire-damaged 880 K 5000 notes and 700 K 1000 notes worth K 5.1 million and five abandoned handbags near a drain in sector (8) of Wunzin ward on 4 April. The abandoned notes and handbags are being kept held at No (2) police station.

Kyemon



Passenger bus crashes into back of stationary truck on Mandalay-Monywa motorway

MONYWA, 6 April— A passenger bus crashed into the back of a stationary six-wheeled truck on Mandalay-Monywa road near Laymyathnar Dhammayon in Shwethamar ward in Sagaing at about 2.45 am on

29 March.

The passenger bus of Sein Htay Hlaing bus line driving from Yangon to Shwebo by Han Win Aung of Thaton Township hit the back of the truck which was stationary by the roadside on Mandalay-Monywa road near Laymyathnar dhammayon in Sagaing because of its engine failure. Due of the force, the two vehicles plunged down the embankment, leaving the driver of the passenger bus injured.

No (1) police station in Sagaing filed a lawsuit against Han Win Aung for his reckless driving.

Kyemon

School boy attacked by leopard in amateur hunt

MONYWA, 6 April — A group of young boys who are in Grade XI had fallen victims to a leopard while they went hunting in the forest near Phonegyi creek, six-furlong south of Kyaukdine village in Wuntho Township of Sagaing Region on 26 March.

While going an amateur hunt in the woods, the group of eight students including Myo Hlaing Win and Thant Zin Tun came across the leopard and Myo Hlaing Win was attacked by the big cat. As the victim had suffered from cuts and bruises on his forehead and life tight, he was taken to the hospital. Due to the incident, local people have warned of going walks in the woods carelessly.

Kyemon



World Health Day

7 April, 2013

High Blood Pressure

Ministry of Health



Erosion of ring road in Mawlamyinegyun Township threatens remaining dwellings

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 6 April— Of 29 houses, only seven have remained because of the severe erosion that has occurred since 1990 on Yamonna ring road at Myoma ward-9 in Mawlamyinegyun Township of Ayeyawady Region.

The ring road had been eroded by river water of Tonhle creek.

At the regular rate of erosion from the Myanmar month of Tabaung to Tazaungmone in every year, the area of the road that ranges from about 10 to 15 feet disappear yearly. With the land erosion at a rapid

rate by the river water of Tonehle creek, over 1000 feet long Yamonna ring road was lost, the land area of 22 houses eroded and all perennial trees washed out by the river water.

The displaced households were forced to seek refuge in the houses of their relatives.

The remaining seven houses are in danger of erosion. Some houses are being demolished to move to the other place while others are taking self-reliant measures to protect the erosion.

Kyemon

Expressway crash claims two lives, hurt two others

TOUNGGOO, 6 April— A car crash on Yangon-Mandalay expressway claimed two lives and hurt two others at about 5 am on 3 April.

A Yangon-Mandalay-Pyin Oo Lwin passenger bus of Akartha bus line driven by Tint Swe, 42, crashed into the back of a light truck driven by Moe Nyo (a) Than Htut Aung, 39, while trying to overtake the latter at a place between mile post No (238/1) and (238/2) on Yangon-Mandalay expressway, causing the light truck overturned.

The driver of the overturned light truck and

Aung Naing Win, 31, of Bago were pronounced dead on the spot at the scene of incident while Aung Myo oo, 31, and Tun Naung, 19, who were on board the light truck were wounded.

The injured were hospitalized at Nay Pyi Taw 1000-bedded Hospital.

Soon after they were informed of the fatal road accident, Police Captain Zeyar Lin of Panntin traffic police station on the expressway rushed there and made necessary arrangements.

The case is under investigation by the police station.—Kyemon

Meiktila victims allowed to go through their homes

MEIKTILA, 6 April — The provision of care for the victims at relief camps in Meiktila are being contributed by officials concerned and wellwishers.

Moreover, arrangements are being made for them to check their damaged houses by local authorities. On 4 April, 62 households were allowed to go through their houses in Wunzin and Yan Myo Aung wards.

Kyemon



WORLD

Fukushima reservoir tank may have leaked contaminated water



Aerial photo shows buildings housing the No 1 to 4 reactor units (from L to R) at Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Fukushima Prefecture on 19 March, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 6 April—Tokyo Electric Power Co said on Friday that up to 120 tons of contaminated water may have leaked into soil from one of the seven underground reservoir tanks at the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear

power plant.

Around 13,000 cubic metres of contaminated water remain in the tank, with TEPCO having begun transferring it to other tanks nearby with four pumps on Saturday morning, the utility said. It will take roughly five days to complete the transfer, TEPCO added.

Radioactive substances have been detected in water accumulated around the tank, which measures some 60 meters long, 53 metres wide and 6 metres deep and is covered by three layers of waterproof sheets.

According to TEPCO and the Nuclear Regulation

Authority, around 6,000 becquerels of radiation per cubic centimetre were logged Friday in water between the sheets. Trace amounts of radioactive substances were also detected in water between the outermost sheet and the soil. The tank stores water used to cool down atomic reactors at the crippled plant after radioactive cesium is removed, but other radioactive substances are thought to remain.

The tank is around 800 meters from the ocean and TEPCO believes the contaminated water is unlikely to flow into the sea.—Kyodo News

Abe to make 4-nation trip from 28 April

TOKYO, 6 April—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe plans to make a four-nation trip during the Golden Week holidays from late April that will take him to Russia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Turkey, government officials said on Friday.

Abe hopes during his weeklong trip to foster ties with the countries and boost cooperation over the use of natural resources, the officials said.

During his 28-30 April trip to Russia, Abe is expected

to hold talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin on a longstanding territorial dispute over Russian-held islands off northern Japan as well as on the development of the Russian Far East and Siberia, the officials said.

The Japanese prime minister will then visit Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Turkey, meeting with the countries' leaders to boost cooperation in the energy sector.

Abe will return to Japan on 4 May.

Kyodo News

“We are broke,” UN says as Syria refugee funds dry up

GENEVA, 6 April—The United Nations gave its starkest warning yet on Friday that it would soon run out of cash to cope with the vast influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan and other neighbouring countries.

“The needs are rising exponentially, and we are broke,” Marixie Mercado, spokeswoman for the UN Children's Fund UNICEF, told a UN news conference in Geneva.

The number of people fleeing in the world's worst refugee crisis has repeatedly outrun the UN's expectations. The 1.25

million refugees, three-quarter of them women and children, is 10 percent higher than had been expected by June.

With more than 3.6 million people internally displaced within Syria and no end to the two-year conflict in sight, there is every chance that the exodus could keep growing.

“Since the beginning of the year, more than 2,000 refugees have streamed across the borders (into Jordan) every day. We expect these numbers to more than double by July and triple by December,” Mercado said.—Reuters



Syrian refugees carry aid and ration at the Zaatari refugee camp in the Jordanian city of Mafraq, near the border with Syria on 22 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

US, partners secure 149 pounds of bomb-grade uranium from Czech Republic

WASHINGTON, 6 April—The United States and its allies have secured 68 kilograms (149.91 pounds) of highly enriched uranium from the Czech Republic as part of an effort to keep nuclear materials from falling into the hands of extremists, the White House said on Friday.

The uranium, enough

material for two nuclear weapons, was transported to Russia where it will be blended down into low-enriched uranium for nuclear power reactors, according to a statement from Caitlin Hayden, spokeswoman for the National Security Council.

The Czech Republic becomes the 10th country

from which all highly enriched uranium has been removed in the last four years, Hayden said.

The United States and its allies have been trying to secure nuclear materials.

“Today we can announce that the United States, with the cooperation of our international partners, successfully removed 68

kilograms of highly enriched uranium (HEU)—enough material for two nuclear weapons—from the Czech Republic,” she said. The removal of the uranium from the Czech Republic culminated a lengthy effort by the United States, the Czech Republic, Russia and the International Atomic Energy Agency.—Reuters

Reuters



Qi Jianguo (R, Back), Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), attends a meeting with Malaysian Armed Forces officials in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 5 April, 2013. Senior Chinese and Malaysian military officials reached consensus here on Friday to further strengthen military cooperation between the two countries.—XINHUA

Top legislators from G20 countries convene in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 6 April—Top legislators from the G20 member countries gathered on Thursday in Mexico City for a two-day forum on economic recovery.

Other topics for the two-day event include the fight against corruption, food security, climate change, water management and energy generation, according to a statement posted on the forum's official website by Ernesto

Cordero Arroyo, president of the Mexican Senate.

The G20 Speakers' Consultation Forum, now in its fourth year, has become an integral part of the G20 consultation mechanism and Mexico will continue to make the forum a proper platform for inter-parliament exchanges between G20 members, Arroyo said at the opening ceremony on Thursday morning.

The previous three

such forums were held respectively in Canada's Ottawa, South Korea's Seoul and Saudi Arabia's capital city of Riyadh.

The G20, formally launched in September 1999, groups 19 countries plus the European Union. Collectively, the G20 economies account for more than 80 percent of the world's economic output, 80 percent of the global trade and two-thirds of the world population.—Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

AMS announces first results in search for dark matter

GENEVA, 6 April—The Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer (AMS) team led by Nobel laureate Samuel Ting announced on Wednesday the first results in the search for dark matter, reporting an excess of positrons in the cosmic ray flux.

Ting's team found out that the positron fraction increases from 10 GeV to 250 GeV, with the data showing the slope of the increase reducing by an order of magnitude over the range 20-250 GeV. The data also show no significant variation over time, or any preferred incoming direction.

These results are consistent with the positrons originating from the annihilation of dark matter particles in space, but not yet sufficiently conclusive to rule out other explanations.

"Over the coming months, AMS will be able to tell us conclusively whether these positrons are a signal for dark matter, or whether they have some other origin," said AMS spokesperson Ting.

The AMS results, to be published in the journal *Physical Review Letters*, were based on some 25 billion recorded events, including 400,000 positrons with energies between 0.5 GeV and 350 GeV, recorded over 18 months, according to Ting. This represented the largest collection of antimatter particles recorded in space.

Cosmic rays are charged high-energy particles that permeate space. The AMS experiment, installed on the *International Space Station*, is designed to study them before they have a chance



A crew member of team of Samuel Ting, Chinese-American principal scientist for the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer (AMS) project, is seen at the European Organization for Nuclear Research's (CERN) near Geneva, on 3 April, 2013.—XINHUA

to interact with the Earth's atmosphere.

An excess of antimatter within the cosmic ray flux was first observed around two decades ago. One possibility for the origin of the excess, predicted by a theory known as supersymmetry, is that positrons could be produced when two particles of dark matter collide and annihilate.

However, the AMS measurement cannot yet rule out the alternative explanation that the positrons originate from pulsars distributed around the galactic plane.

Supersymmetry theories also predict a cut-off at higher energies above the mass range of dark matter particles, and this has not yet been observed.

Xinhua

United Nations Secretary-General's message on World Health Day

7 April 2013

This year's World Health Day sounds the alarm about a silent global killer: raised blood pressure, otherwise known as hypertension. One in three adults worldwide has this condition. It is a major cause of death in rich and poorer countries alike.

Raised blood pressure, a main trigger for cardiovascular disease, all too often goes undiagnosed because symptoms are rare. The good news is that when it is detected early enough, relatively simple steps can significantly reduce the risk of heart attacks, heart failure and strokes. That is why the United Nations encourages all adults to have their blood pressure regularly checked at health care facilities.

Following a healthy lifestyle can add years to all our lives. The evidence is unequivocal. Cutting down on the consumption of processed salt, eating a balanced diet, avoiding harmful use of alcohol, getting regular exercise, reducing stress and avoiding tobacco use minimize the risk of developing high blood pressure and further consequences such as strokes or heart attacks.

Addressing high blood pressure is a key to tackling cardiovascular disease — one of the four most deadly non-communicable diseases.

The other three — cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes — are on the rise everywhere, particularly in low-and middle-income countries, and increasingly among younger people. The countries that are hit hardest are those that can least afford the social and economic consequences of losing a significant part of their workforce to illness and premature death. These are the same countries that can least afford to pay for treatment and care.

I welcome the growing, global momentum to address non-communicable diseases. At the General Assembly in September 2011, countries committed to taking action. Since then, the World Health Organization has worked with partners to develop a global action plan to address non-communicable diseases in the years leading up to 2020.

Reducing hypertension is a critical element in that action plan — and something we can all play a part in. Let us become aware of our own blood pressure levels, and contribute to greater public awareness of the problem of hypertension.—UNIC/Yangon

Russian space agency eyes joining NASA asteroid defence programme

MOSCOW, 6 April—Russia's federal space agency Roscosmos mulled over joining an asteroid defence programme with the US NASA, the agency's head Vladimir Popovkin has said.

The programme is aimed at capturing an asteroid and putting it into high lunar orbit for exploration, Popovkin told *Rossiyskaya Gazeta* newspaper in an

interview on Friday.

"We could send a manned expedition to explore the asteroid or study it with probes," Popovkin said.

According to the US-based Keck Institute for Space Studies, the asteroid mission could cost about 2.65 billion US dollars in total.

Space specialists may capture the targeted asteroid

and tow it to the lunar orbit in a giant draw-string bag.

Meanwhile, the Roscosmos chief suggested Russia build an efficient unified system to monitor asteroids and other "space invaders" that could pose potential threat to the Earth.

Currently, Russia has three systems monitoring and forecasting the asteroid danger — one at the Defence

Ministry, another at the Russian Academy of Sciences and the third at Roscosmos, Popovkin said.

He called for joint efforts from various countries, as asteroids are dangerous for the entire Earth, not just one country.

"We will be able to protect ourselves only if we work together," he said.

Xinhua

Scientists race to gauge pandemic risk of new bird flu

LONDON, 6 April—Genetic sequence data on a deadly strain of bird flu previously unknown in people show the virus has already acquired some mutations that might make it more likely to cause a human pandemic, scientists say.

But there is no evidence so far that the H7N9 flu—now known to have infected nine people in China, killing three — is spreading from person to person, and there is still a chance it might peter out and never fully mutate into a human form of flu. Just days after authorities in China announced they had identified cases of H7N9, flu experts in laboratories across the world are picking through the DNA sequence data of samples isolated from the patients to assess its pandemic potential. One of the world's top flu experts, Ab Osterhaus, who is based at the Erasmus Medical Centre in The Netherlands,

says the sequences show some genetic mutations that should put authorities on alert and entail increased



A chicken is seen at a local market in Minhang District, south of Shanghai on 3 April, 2013.—REUTERS

surveillance in animals and humans.

"The virus has to a certain extent already adapted to mammalian species and to humans, so from that point of view it's worrisome," he told *Reuters* in a telephone interview. "Really we should keep a very close eye on this."

China's National Health and Family Planning

Commission confirmed on Sunday that three people had been infected with the new H7N9 flu, with two deaths



of men in Shanghai aged 87 and 27 who fell sick in late February.

authorities have in the past two days confirmed another six cases, including another fatal one.

The World Health Organization (WHO) says the cases of H7N9 are "of concern" because they are the first in humans.

Reuters

PayPal tests merchant financing as Kabbage raises debt

SAN FRANCISCO, 6 April—eBay Inc's payments business, PayPal, already lends money to online shoppers, but it is now starting to finance the merchants who sell on the company's online marketplaces.

PayPal has already tested a financing programme for eBay sellers in the UK and it plans similar tests in the United States this year, a company spokesman said on Tuesday.

"Marketplaces is a great innovation lab for us to test new experiences," Gary Marino, senior Vice President, global financial services at PayPal, said at eBay's investor day last week. "We've done it successfully with credit and we are experimenting with many new capabilities which will drive share like small business lending."

The UK programme and the up-coming US test focus on merchants selling

on eBay.com, which number in the millions. The PayPal spokesman said the UK test was only available to a small number of merchants who were pre-selected.

"The pilot programme has now ended," he added. "We are working on full rollout plans."

Banks and other providers of loans for merchants pulled back after the 2008 financial crisis, leaving an opening for alternative sources of financing. Factor-

ing, a common source of financing in the retail business that is provided by lenders such as CIT Group and Wells Fargo, can be tough to tap for smaller merchants.

The combination of fast-growing online shopping and a lack of credit for smaller businesses has created strong demand for new types of financing among sellers that ply their trade on Amazon.com, eBay.com and other marketplaces.

Reuters

A PayPal card is shown as customers can now pay with the card at selected Home Depot stores such as the one in Daly City, California. REUTERS



BUSINESS & HEALTH

Britain house prices up 1.1 pct in Q1

LONDON, 6 April—House markets in Britain continued to improve in the first quarter of this year with the house prices rising 1.1 percent year on year, British mortgage lender Halifax said on Friday.

According to a house price index report of Halifax, now part of Lloyds Banking Group, housing prices went up 1.2 percent in the first three months as compared with the previous quarter, and up 0.2 percent in March from the previous month.

“Weak income growth and continuing below-trend economic growth are likely to remain significant constraints on housing demand during the remainder of this year,” said Martin Ellis, Halifax’s chief housing economist.

“Overall, we expect to see a modest increase in UK house prices during 2013,” he said. British Finance Minister George Osborne announced a package of housing measures in his Budget plans last month, which aimed to increase supply of low-deposit mortgages to credit-worthy households, boost levels of house building and contribute to economic growth.—Xinhua

Britain car sales rise 5.9 pct in March

LONDON, 6 April—Britain’s car market continued the strong momentum in March with the new car registrations surging 5.9 percent to 394,806 units, according to figures released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) on Friday.

March marked the 13th consecutive month of growth in new car registrations, with volumes the highest since 2010 when the Scrappage Incentive Scheme supported the market, said the SMMT.

The March figure adds the total volume of the new car registrations in the first quarter of this year to 605,198 units, jumping 7.4 percent year on year. SMMT attributed the growth to strong rises in sales of private, petrol and mini cars in the period. “The better than expected outturn in the first quarter should support net growth in the market in 2013.”—Xinhua



Members of the 14th Chinese medical team pose for a photo at the Hann/Mer Medical Centre in Dakar, capital of Senegal, on 31 March, 2013. The 14th Chinese medical team in Senegal provided free medical service and medication to local people in Dakar on 31 March.

XINHUA

US Fed hints monetary stimulus to continue

WASHINGTON, 6 April—US Federal Reserve vice chair Janet Yellen on Thursday signaled that the central bank’s monetary easing policies will continue until the US economy substantially improves.

Against the background of high unemployment rate at 7.7 percent, the Fed’s mandate calls for a “highly

accommodative monetary policy,” Yellen said here at the Society of American Business Editors and Writers 50th Anniversary Conference. Starting in late 2008 and continuing through today, the Federal Reserve has purchased assets including agency-guaranteed mortgage-backed securities and longer-term Treasury securities that

have added about 2.5 trillion US dollars to its balance sheet, she noted.

“At some point it will be appropriate to cease adding to accommodation and, later, to begin the process of withdrawing the significant accommodation required by the extraordinary conditions caused by the financial crisis,” she said.—Xinhua



Court upholds \$142 million verdict against Pfizer over Neurontin



A woman walks past the Pfizer Inc headquarters in New York, on 31 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 6 April—A federal appeals court said Pfizer Inc should pay about \$142 million to cover costs for the marketing and prescribing of epilepsy drug Neurontin for unapproved uses, a practice that has also earned it a hefty criminal fine.

A panel of appellate judges in Boston on Wednesday refused to overturn a ruling in favor of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, which claimed it had been damaged after prescribing Neurontin for conditions it did not effectively treat,

based on fraudulent marketing by Pfizer, the largest US drugmaker.

In related appeals, the panel also revived similar claims from insurer Aetna and class action allegations from Harden Manufacturing Corp, restoring lawsuits that had been thrown out by a lower court.

The ruling in the Kaiser case, which deals the biggest immediate blow to Pfizer, upholds a lower court’s decision not to grant Pfizer a new trial after a jury had awarded it \$142 million.

The jury found that Pfizer had marketed Neurontin for bipolar disorder, migraines and neuropathic pain, none of which had been approved by the US Food & Drug Administration.

Reuters

Sanofi Pasteur, Xiamen University in flu vaccine cooperation

XIAMEN, 6 April—Sanofi Pasteur, the world’s largest vaccines company, and China’s prestigious Xiamen University have agreed to jointly research the development of a universal flu vaccine. According to an agreement signed on Wednesday, Sanofi Pasteur will fund research on broad-spectrum neutralization monoclonal antibodies to treat the influenza virus, work which is already being carried out by the National Institute of Diagnostics and Vaccine Development in Infectious Diseases (NIDVD) under Xiamen University. It is hoped that the cooperation will prompt the development of a universal flu vaccine, a vaccine that doesn’t require updating each year.

Zhu Chongshi, princi-

pal of Xiamen University, labeled the joint program a pioneering effort that will benefit mankind. Sanofi Pasteur provided more than 200 million doses of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2012, accounting for about 40 percent of global market share.

Founded in 2005, the NIDVD is the only national institute of its kind in China. It aims to develop original and innovative diagnostic tests and vaccines, and to industrialize them through collaboration with academia, industry and the healthcare sector. Influenza is a contagious virus that mainly spreads through coughing. About 250,000 to 500,000 people die from the virus each year worldwide, according to the World Health Organization.—Xinhua

Hyundai recall could grow further, sounds warning on quality

SEOUL, 6 April—South Korea’s Hyundai Motor Co (005380.KS) and its affiliate Kia Motors Corp (000270.KS) will take “global action” to fix a potentially faulty brake light switch, after they said they planned to recall almost 1.9 million cars in the United States.

The move may mean the world’s fifth-biggest automaker ends up recalling

even more vehicles than that number, Hyundai’s US record, and is a stark warning that it may have sacrificed quality standards for rapid expansion.

Chairman Chung Mong-koo consistently stresses that quality should come first, and has recently slowed the pace of capacity expansion in favor of stricter quality control, but analysts say the shift in



A Hyundai logo is seen on a car at the Paris Mondial de l’Automobile, on 28 September, 2012.—REUTERS

direction has come too late.

“Hyundai has built factories very fast around the globe until recent years, but its quality improvement has failed to keep up with its rapid volume growth,” said Kim Phill-soo, a professor at Department of Automotive Engineering at Daelim University College in Seoul.

“The latest recall highlighted loopholes in Hyundai’s quality system.”

Reuters

WORLD

March jobless rate down, but nonfarm job growth dismal

WASHINGTON, 6 April—The US unemployment rate fell to a 51-month low of 7.6 percent in March, down 0.1 percentage point from the previous month, while US employers added a smaller-than-expected 88,000 nonfarm jobs, the Labour Department said on Friday.

The growth in nonfarm jobs was disappointing—roughly half the average market forecast—and the smallest gain since June, when payrolls rose by 87,000.

By contrast, the figures for nonfarm jobs in the two preceding months were revised up, with January payrolls upgraded to 148,000 from an earlier reported 119,000 and the February data revised to 268,000 from 236,000.

With the March data, nonfarm employment has expanded for 30 consecu-

tive months. The private sector created 95,000 jobs.

Alan Krueger, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, indicated that the lower-than-expected nonfarm employment growth may be attributable to automatic spending cuts that kicked in March.

“It is important to bear in mind that the March household and payroll surveys are the first monthly surveys to look at employment since the beginning of sequestration,” he said in a statement.

“While the recovery was gaining traction before sequestration took effect, these arbitrary and unnecessary cuts to government services will be a headwind in the months to come, and will cut key investments in the nation’s future competitiveness,” Krueger added.

The goods-producing sector saw 16,000 more

jobs in March than February. The manufacturing sector shed 3,000 jobs, while the construction sector added 18,000 jobs.

The service sector, in normal times the engine of job creation in the United States, generated 79,000 jobs.

In the service sector, retailers slashed 24,100 jobs, while payrolls in the professional and business services sector—which includes consulting, accounting and computer services—registered 51,000 more jobs than the previous month. The education and health services sector added 44,000 jobs.

The government sector cut 7,000 jobs.

Average hourly earnings in the private sector, a key gauge of inflation, fell 1 cent from February to \$20.03, the department said.—*Kyodo News*

US board faults California safety regulations in Chevron blaze

RICHMOND, (California), 6 April—The federal agency investigating the fire that broke out in August at Chevron Corp’s oil refinery in Richmond, California, faulted the state’s regulatory system for not being proactive enough in preventing accidents.

“The California process safety regulatory system lacked sufficient well-trained, technically competent staff and also lacked more rigorous regulatory requirements to require Chevron to reduce safety risk,” said the US Chemical Safety Board’s lead investigator Dan Tillema at a public hearing in Richmond on Friday.

CSB Western Regional Director Don Holmstrom called upon California to change its regulatory system to one called “safety case” in which high-hazard industrial plants such as crude oil



Firefighters douse a flame at the Chevron oil refinery in Richmond, California on 6 Aug, 2012.

REUTERS

refineries would not be allowed to begin operating until they have proven they have reduced all safety risks to as low as reasonably practicable.

“That is a pre-condition for operating,” Holmstrom said in a prepared statement at a public hearing before California legislators on Friday.

“There’s a need for step change (in safety regula-

tion),” Holmstrom said while answering questions during the Friday afternoon hearing.

“The whole system needs improvement,” Holmstrom said the change to a safety case system would be a reversal from the current system in which high-hazard facilities are allowed to operate and are punished when they have a mishap or found in violation of a regulation.

Reuters

Two adults dead in Canada daycare shooting, police say

GATINEAU, (Quebec), 6 April—A shooting at a daycare centre near Ottawa on Friday left two adults dead, one of them the gunman, but police said all 53 children at the centre were unharmed.

Police said they received a call for help Friday morning after shots were fired in the Montessori daycare centre in Gatineau, Quebec, just across the Ottawa River from the Canadian capital.

“We have two deceased. One of the males is the person responsible for



A police officer hands a child to a caregiver near the scene of a shooting in Gatineau, Quebec on 5 April, 2013.—REUTERS

the shooting and the second person is another male who works here at the daycare,”

Gatineau Police Chief Mario Haren told reporters.

He said all the children

—including five babies—were safe after being evacuated by police officers to a nearby house.

Haren would not confirm the identities of the deceased, saying their families had not been notified.

He said a shotgun was found near the body of the presumed shooter, and that police were investigating the possibility that the shooting was related to a domestic dispute.

Earlier, CBC television reported seeing an adult-sized body being removed on a stretcher.—*Reuters*

150 shops found engaged in online sales of high-risk drugs

TOKYO, 6 April—A total of 150 shops were found engaged in online sales of nonprescription drugs with high risks of side effects as of the end of February, a health ministry survey showed on Friday.

The findings in the nationwide survey were reported the same day at a panel meeting of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

After the Supreme Court ruled in January in favour of Internet retailers who argued a ministry ordinance banning online sales of “category 1” and “category 2” drugs with high risks of side effects is illegal, ministry officials were considering new rules for such drug sales.

The survey showed two shops were selling only “category 1” drugs including some analgesic antipyretic drugs, 15 shops were selling both “category 1” and “category 2” drugs including cold drugs, and 133 shops were selling only “category 2” drugs.

In another survey conducted in March on the basis of information from local prefectural governments, 13 shops were confirmed selling “category 1” drugs and 11 of them posted precautions for use on their websites.

Ministry officials said the ministry wants to call for voluntary restraint on online sales of such drugs until new rules are made.

Kyodo News

UN human rights chief urges US to close Guantanamo detention centre

GENEVA, 6 April—The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay on Friday urged the United States government to close the Guantanamo detention centre, as “the continuing indefinite incarceration of many of the detainees is in clear breach of international law.”

“I am deeply disappointed that the US government has not been able to close Guantanamo Bay, despite repeatedly committing itself to do so,” Pillay said.

“It severely undermines the United States’ stance that it is an upholder of human rights, and weakens its position when addressing human rights violations elsewhere,” she said. She said as a first

step, those who have been cleared for release must be released.

Pillay noted that four years ago she warmly welcomed President Obama’s announcement immediately after his inauguration that he was placing a high priority on closing Guantanamo and setting in motion a system to safeguard the fundamental rights of the detainees.

She welcomed a White House spokesman’s reiteration of this commitment on 27 March, citing congressional legislation as the prime obstacle.

“Nevertheless, this systemic abuse of individuals’ human rights continues year after year,” she said.

Xinhua

After Cyprus, is Slovenia next euro zone domino?

LJUBLJANA, 6 April—Successive Slovenian governments have refused to privatize the country’s banks, which made disastrous loans to politically connected business interests and now threaten to drag the country centre-stage in the euro zone debt crisis. A span of unfinished apartment blocks in the Siska complex on the outskirts of Ljubljana is emblematic of the former Yugoslav republic’s woes, just as many such ghost neighbourhoods in Europe’s debt-choked south stand testament to the depth of the broader continent’s economic problems.

The rows of buildings, housing 833 flats in all, stand mostly empty, casualties of a property boom turned bust and a subsequent recession. Alongside, Vegrad, a company once led by a well-placed politician, also planned to build a hotel, but got no further than digging an enormous hole. An apt symbol, as Slovenia comes under grow-

ing pressure to seek a bailout to fill a financial hole, just as Cyprus did last month.

The countries are different in many ways, but they have at least two things in common: like Cyprus, Slovenia needs to recapitalize its biggest banks, and it does not have the money to do so.

Slovenia was the only former communist state to refuse to sell most of its state-owned banking system after the fall of communism, so now it is taxpayers alone who must foot the bill of healing lenders after years of political influence and bad management loaded them down with bad loans equal to about a fifth of the economy.

Joze Damijan, an economics professor who was development minister in 2006, said state ownership meant a number of people and firms got special treatment from the lenders because of ties between political parties and the banks’ management.—*Reuters*



A protester holds a sign during an anti-austerity and anti-corruption protest in Ljubljana on 8 February, 2013.—REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS



FARMING MACHINERY DEMONSTRATED: *Technicians demonstrated use of combine harvester at the farmland of U Than Aung in Hsinchan Village-tract of Taikkyi Township, Yangon North District, on 20 March. Officials of Agriculture Mechanization Department and local farmer observe use of farming machinery.*

MYANMA ALINN

Taninthayi Region observes World TB Day 2013

DAWEI, 6 April—A ceremony to mark the World TB Day 2013 of Taninthayi Region was observed at Dawei General Hospital on 28 March morning.

Taninthayi Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Aung made a speech. Head of Region Health

Department Dr Kyaw Zeya read the message sent by the Deputy Minister for Health for the World TB Day 2013.

Leader of TB disease control project Dr Aung Tun explained matters related to combating TB disease and control of disease.

Myanma Alinn



Inspector-II U Myo Aung Lin of Directorate of Road Administration gave talks on reduction of traffic accidents in Mawlamyine District to the people at the hall of the district DRA on 26 March.

MYANMA ALINN

SPEI (Yangon) recruits outstanding youths

MYEIK, 6 April—A sport trial for choosing outstanding youths to be able to attend the first year courses of Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon) for 2013-2014 academic year was held at Myoma sports ground in Myeik on 21 March afternoon.

Deputy Principal of SPEI (Yangon) U Soe Naing and party assessed the talent of the candidates. Altogether 44 youths participated in the sport trials.

Those selected will have the opportunity to attend the SPEI (Yangon)

in the 2013-2014 academic year and to pursue sports plus education.

The institute is turning out the athletes who brought honour to the State.

Myanma Alinn



Stadium, gymnasium in Mandalay completed by 70%

MANDALAY, 6 April—Stadiums and hostels are under construction in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay where Myanmar will host the 2013 SEA Games.

Max Myanmar Company is building a stadium and gymnasium meeting international standard in Mandalay as of January 2011.

So far, construction tasks have been completed by 70 per cent.

A plan is underway to complete 75 per cent of construction by the end of April.

In cooperation with Chinese technicians, the company will carry out construction of advanced stadium to be completed by October this year. The stadium will have a seating



Financial assistance for basic cooperative societies in Shan State (South)

TAUNGGYI, 6 April—Shan State (South) Cooperative Department and Shan State (East) Cooperative Syndicate disburse microfinance to respective cooperative societies for rural development and poverty alleviation in Shan State.

On 27 March, K 95.905 million microfinance was disbursed to 385 members of four basic cooperative

societies in Shwenyaung Station at Shwenyila Hall of the town and K 49.53 million to 346 members of seven basic cooperative societies at Aungpan Township Cooperative Society in Kalaw Township.

It was attended by Shan State Cooperative Development Committee Shan State Minister for Economic U Aung Kyaw Nyunt, Shan State Hluttaw representatives, officials of Shan State and township departments and members of cooperative societies.

Shan State (South) Cooperative Syndicate disbursed the loans to the cooperative societies.

A plan is underway to provide more disbursements to those of Yaksawk, Pindaya and Ywangan townships.

Myanma Alinn

Danger of narcotic drugs dissuaded

MAWLAMYINE, 6 April—Organized by Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Central), the talks on narcotic drugs and HIV/AIDS were given at the Dhammayon of Kyaungthit Monastery in Kwamthat

Village of Thanbyuzayat Township in Mon State on 15 March.

Dr Maung Maung Lwin of the association (central) gave lectures on interrelations between psychology and narcotic drugs, disadvantages,

Joint-Secretary U Myint Soe on root cause of family problems for narcotic drug cases and secretary of the Mon State association U Ye Naung tasks of the Mon State association.

Myanma Alinn

Steam-engine roller displayed at Magway Park

MAGWAY, 6 April—Magway Township Development Affairs Committee puts an antique roller as a historic work on display at the Magway Monument Park of Magway Region.

It was estimated that the roller was over 100 years old. It was operated with

the steam.

The roller was manufactured by Jon Fowler Company with letters of Working Pressure 200 LBS.

Whatever it may be, the roller indicates earnest efforts of inventors for smooth transportation of the people.—Myanma Alinn



capacity of about 30000.

The stadium will have 400 feet long and 32 feet wide track, three-step stands,

meeting hall, training hall, recreation halls for coaches and athletes and car park.

Myanma Alinn

Women trained in vocational subjects

YANGON, 6 April—The course No 2/2013 of Vocational Training School concluded at the hall of the school at 135 on Dhammazedi Road in Bahan Township of Yangon Region on 29 March morning.

Head of Yangon Region Social Welfare Department U Tin Zaw Moe made a speech.

The head of the region department, the

additional head of the region department, the principal and course instructor presented certificates to trainees.

One more training course comprising women wears, male shirt, knitting, body/brassier, pants, coats, snack making, Myanmar foods, Chinese foods, fruit and flowery works and wedding attires was opened on 1 April.

Myanma Alinn



NATIONAL

Graduation dinner of 116th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School held



Vice-Senior General Soe Win attends the graduation dinner of the 116th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—The graduation dinner of the 116th Intake of Defence Services (Army) Officers Training School took place at the training school in Bahtoo garrison town yesterday, attended

by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe.

It was also attended by Lt-Gen Aung Than

Htut from Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, senior military officers, the commander of Eastern Command, departmental heads, cadets and their families.

The Vice-Senior

General and party had dinner together with cadets and their families. They then enjoyed the entertainment of Myawady Music Band, Myawady Anyient and artists.

MNA

Rakhine State Peace and Development Implementation Central Committee meets



Union Minister Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win makes a speech at the meeting of Rakhine State Peace and Development Implementation Central Committee.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—Rakhine State Peace and Development Implementation Central Committee met this morning at

Ministry of Border Affairs.

Union Minister for Border Affairs Rakhine State Peace and Development Implementation Central Committee Deputy Chairman Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win called for accommodation of all victims ahead of monsoon, provision of water and drinking water, health care, and education and regeneration of their livelihoods, and implementation of socio-economic development schemes by respective work committees.

Seven work

KMSS held a workshop on 25 March, sharing experience on success and difficulties in establishment of communal woods plantations. EU has been supporting the project, it is learnt.—NLM-001

committees—tranquility and rule of law work committee, security and regional order work committee, immigration and citizenship scrutiny work committee, regional temporary accommodation and rehabilitation work committee, socio-economic development work committee, work committee for cooperation with UN-agencies and international organizations and comprehensive strategy adoption work committee—have been running under the central committee.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin reported on requirements of makeshift tents and cooperation in health and education matters.

UN Resident Represen-

tative Mr Ashok Nigam pointed out the urgent needs for provision of shelters, health care services and education, calling for more effectiveness of coordination centre being jointly run by Union government and Rakhine State government, one-stop visa application process for personnel of UN agencies and INGOs.

He also promised financial help from UN agencies and INGOs, pledging to take measures to obtain required amount from the UNHCR for construction of temporary shelters in Myebon, Pauktaw and Sittway.

Those present made suggestions on restoration of peace and rehabilitation of Rakhine State.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 7 April, 2013

Healthy blood pressure

Known as a silent killer, high blood pressure kills seven million people worldwide every year and globally some 1.5 billion among the adults have fallen victims to the chronic medical condition for many years without knowing it. The risk of developing high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, may bring about the risk of developing heart and kidney diseases and stroke which are serious risk factors for sudden death worldwide.

That's why each and every citizen of Myanmar needs to have a healthy lifestyle for healthy blood pressure. They are required to be health-conscious to prevent high blood pressure. It is good news that there are practices you can do yourself to prevent hypertension in its early stage no matter what your age or physical condition. As high blood pressure is both preventable and treatable, the risk can be reduced by keeping strict adherence to three simple tips—watch your weight, make healthy food choices and live an active life.

As prevention is better than cure maintaining a healthy weight, changing eating and cooking habits, reducing salt intake, kicking a smoking habit, avoiding risky consumption of alcohol, sticking to a regular exercise, getting a better night sleep and monitoring blood pressure regularly will help us to prevent the risk of hypertension and reduce high blood pressure. So the onus is on each and every citizen to develop the abovementioned health tips in getting rid of the serious public health problems like hypertension.

Today is World Health Day which is observed annually to mark the founding of WHO in 1948. The theme for 2013 is High Blood Pressure. The goals of this year's World Health Day is to reduce stroke, hearth attack and kidney failure caused by high blood pressure, heightening the public awareness of causes and consequences of high blood pressure.

All in all, we have to adopt the habits of healthy lifestyle to keep away from hypertension and to be able to control it in its early stage. Only then, will each and every citizen have a healthy lifestyle for healthy blood pressure.

Community woods plantations gaining momentum in Kachin State

MOHNYIN, 6 April—Fauna and Flora International (FFI) and Biodiversity and Nature Conservation (BANCA) in cooperation with the Forest Department have been establishing community woods plantations in Myitkyina, Waingmaw and Mohnyin townships in Kachin State since 2011, with a view to facilitating ecological balance and development of local people.

There have been 26 communal woods plantations teams in



The representatives of FFI greet communal woods plantation team members in Belu Village of Mohnyin Township.—NLM-001

Mohnyin Township. The team members, departmental personnel,

and officials from NGOs such as BANCA, FOW, ECODEV, ENGLISH and

NATIONAL

Parliament denounces discriminatory and lawless acts

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—Parliament denounced recent incidents based on discrimination and lawlessness, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann said this morning in meeting with squads of well-rounded students and youth observers from Mon State visiting the parliament.

He briefed the visitors on formation and functions of the parliament, admitting that the parliament needs to reach further.

The Speaker, on behalf of lawmakers, promised the students and young observers to serve the interests of the nation and citizens.

The country is in democratic transition with the introduction of a market-

oriented economy, he said.

He stressed the need of coordination of responsible institutions to ensure the rule of law and safeguard the image and sovereignty of the country.

Only when respect to different opinions is instilled at tender age, will the future of the multi-ethnic country be better, he said.

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Fundamental Rights of Citizens, Democracy and Human Rights Committee U Htay Oo also gave a speech.

A student and the leader of the young observers spoke words of thanks.

Officials of the Hluttaw Office conducted the observers round the parliament complex.

MNA



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann meets squads of well-rounded students and youth observers from Mon State.—MNA

Printing and publishing draft law reviewed

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—Information Ministry and UNESCO jointly organized a reviewing discussion on printing and publishing draft law, at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel, here on 3 April. It was attended by Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut and personnel, four lawmakers from Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee and Sports,

Culture and Public Relations Committee, personnel from foreign missions and international media organizations, international media development partner organizations and UNESCO and UNDP. The deputy information minister gave an account on feedback of printers and publishers and Myanmar Press Council (interim)

on the draft law and those present made suggestions on points to be cancelled or amended. The Information Ministry will assess the recommendations and report them to the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee for further amendments. UNESCO announced on 4 April that those present supported the reviewing discussion and recommendations.—MNA

Union F & R Minister attends 17th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein held talks with US Assistant Secretary of Treasury Mr Charles Collyns in Bandar Seri Begawan in Brunei on 3 April on ending of economic sanctions against Myanmar, assistance for monetary and banking

sector development and promotion of bilateral cooperation.

The Union minister then paid a courtesy call on Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah together with financial ministers from ASEAN member countries and tripartite central bank governors.

The Union minister then attended ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting (retreat) and discussed financial and monetary matters of ASEAN. He attended the 17th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting at which economic prospects of ASEAN, plans ASEAN

financial integration process, establishment of ASEAN Economic Community in 2015 and ASEAN+3 macroeconomic research office and so on were discussed.

He also attended US-ASEAN Business Council. Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein also attended the related meetings to discuss ASEAN banking, financial matters and bond market development.

Myanmar will host the 18th ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting in April, 2014.—MNA

Skirmish near Myanmar-Thailand border

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—Myanmar Tatmadaw border security force exchanged fires with one armed group near Myanmar-Thailand border in Taninthayi Region

on 4 April. It is reported that no one died in the fight, and local military columns are carrying out regional security.

MNA

Pa-O National Day observed in Taunggyi

TAUNGGYI, 6 April—The 64th Pa-O National Day was observed in Taunggyi on 26 March. About 2000 Pa-O people young and old in national addresses participated in walks from the filling station at downtown Taunggyi to Taungkyawgyi Pariyatti Monastery along Bogyoke Aung San Street. They donated alms to the monastery

and shared merits gained. Pa-O nationals actively took part in the traditional sports in the afternoon and enjoyed entertainment at the sports ground at night. The significant day was also attended by Pa-O, Shan, Danu, Taungyoe and Bamar nationals from Taunggyi, Ayethaya, Hopong, Pyinmana, Kalaw, and Aungpan regions.

Myanma Alinn

2013 Myanmar National Open Sailing Championship commences

NGWEHSAUNG, 6 April—The 2013 Myanmar National Open Sailing Championship (Pre-SEA Games) kicked off at Ngwehsaung Beach in Ngwehsaung Sub-Township of Patheingyi District in Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

A total of 86 sailors and 23 managers and coaches from host Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand,

Indonesia, Malaysia and India participated in the championship.

The sailing teams took the designated positions and saluted the State Flag.

At first, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Championship Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung and President of Myanmar

Sailing Federation U Moe Myint delivered addresses.

The Chief Minister, the Region Development Affairs Minister and the President of MSF formally opened the championship.

Myanmar team comprises 10 managers and coaches and 37 sailors.

In 1961 2nd SEAP Games hosted at Inya Lake in Yangon, Myanmar team

secured two gold medals in two sailing events. In the 5th SEAP Games hosted at Ngapali Beach of Rakhine State in 1969, Myanmar could sweep four gold medals in four sailing events.

In 2013, Myanmar will host the sailing event of the XXVII SEA Games at Ngwehsaung Beach of Ayeyawady Region on a grand scale.—MNA



Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung views the 2013 Myanmar National Open Sailing Championship (Pre-SEA Games) at Ngwehsaung Beach.—MNA

WORLD

France wants to keep 1,000 soldiers in Mali permanently

BAMAKO/PARIS, 6 April — France has proposed keeping a permanent force of 1,000 French troops in Mali to fight armed Islamist militants, Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said on Friday.

Fabius, on a visit to Bamako, said France was pushing ahead with plans to reduce its 4,000-strong military presence from the end of this month but planned to keep a combat force in Mali to support a future UN peacekeeping mission.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called last week for the deployment of a UN mission of 11,200 troops and 1,440 police in Mali once major combat ends.

This would include thousands of African troops already in Mali in support of France's three-month military campaign, which has swept Islamist rebels out of the towns of northern Mali and into remote desert and mountain hideaways.

Ban's plan also referred to a parallel force to tackle al-Qaeda-linked Islamist extremists directly, which diplomats had said would likely be French. Paris has repeatedly warned that the Islamist enclave in north Mali posed a threat to the West and pledged to entirely eradicate it.

"France has proposed, to the United Nations and to the Malian government, a French support force of

1,000 men which would be permanent, based in Mali, and equipped to fight terrorism," Fabius said before leaving Bamako after a one-day visit.

A diplomatic source in Paris said France hoped to have the peacekeeping force approved by the Security Council within three weeks, and to have it deployed by the end of June or early July in time for scheduled presidential elections.

A clause in the UN resolution will allow Ban to request the rapid intervention of France's 1,000 troops, which would be deployed under a bilateral deal with Mali, the source said.

Despite widespread



Mali's Foreign Minister Tieman Hubert Coulibaly (R) and France's Foreign Affairs Minister Laurent Fabius attend a news conference in Bamako on 5 April, 2013.—REUTERS

concerns over continuing Islamist attacks in northern Mali and the lack of an effective government presence in many areas, France is pressing its former colony to quickly organize nationwide elections to complete a democratic transition after

a March 2012 coup.

"It is best that elections are held," Fabius said. "Our Malian partners say they want that and it is possible. The target is July and everything is being done to meet that deadline."

Reuters

Drugmaker Eisai sets up Russian marketing arm

TOKYO, 6 April — Eisai Co, a major pharmaceutical company, announced on Friday the establishment of a marketing unit, Limited Liability Co Eisai, in Moscow ahead of the releases of its anticancer drug Halaven and epilepsy treatment Zonégren and Exalief later this year in Russia.

Eisai said it received approval for sale of these drugs last business year and it is also seeking approval for another epilepsy drug Fycompa in the country.

Kyodo News

Sudan, Egypt deny differences over borders, vow to enhance cooperation



Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir (R) and Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi attend a joint Press conference in Khartoum, Sudan, on 5 April, 2013.—XINHUA

KHARTOUM, 6 April — Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir and his Egyptian counterpart Mohamed Morsi on Friday denied reports of differences between the two countries on their common borders, and vowed to work together to promote cooperation.

"There is no problem between us and our brothers in Sudan on the borders, and the border issue will

never stand as an obstacle to the development of relations between Khartoum and Cairo," Morsi said at a joint Press conference with al-Bashir in Khartoum at the end of his two-day visit.

For his part, al-Bashir said "we respect the borders, but we're working in order to activate the agreement of the four freedoms, and the application of them" will lead to "no disagree-

ments over the borders."

The Four Freedoms agreement, signed in 2004, allows citizens of Egypt and Sudan to freely move across the border, and gives them the rights to reside, work and own property in either country without a permit. The two presidents also stressed the importance of coordination on the issue of the Nile water, and confirmed their willingness to manage dialogue with the Nile Basin countries in order to overcome any unexpected differences.

"We are taking steps since last June to improve relations with the African countries, especially the Nile Basin countries, and we are working to remove setbacks of these relations which we had experienced," Morsi said, referring to the chilly ties between his country and the Nile Basin countries when Egypt was ruled by Hosni Mubarak.

Xinhua

No sign of sustained spread of H7N9 between humans

GENEVA, 6 April — The World Health Organization said on Friday there was no sign of "sustained human-to-human transmission" of the H7N9 virus in China, but it was important to check on 400 people who had been in close contact with the 14 confirmed cases. "We have 14 cases in a large geographical area, we have no sign of any epidemiological linkage between the confirmed cases and we have no sign of sustained human-to-human transmission," WHO spokesman Gregory Hartl told a news briefing in Geneva.

"The 400 contacts are being followed up to see if any of them do have the virus, have had it from someone else," he said.

"There are reports of people or a person with fever, so this is obviously why it's so important to follow up with all contacts in order to know whether or not they do have the vi-

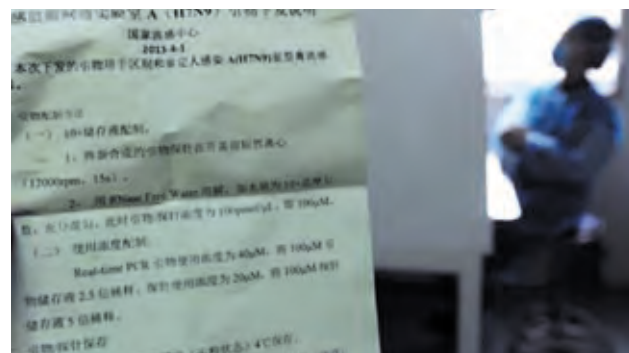
rus and/or from whom they contracted it."

He added: "Remember even that if they are infected, you still need to try to find out if they contracted the virus from one another, or from a common environmental source." Chinese authorities slaughtered over 20,000 birds on Friday at a poultry market in the fi-

nancial hub Shanghai as the death toll from the new strain of bird flu mounted to six, spreading concern overseas and sparking a sell-off on Hong Kong's share market.

"It is really a severe illness but cases are being well handled and put into intensive care units."

Reuters



A technician (not pictured) shows a paper giving the composition and instructions on use of the H7N9 bird flu virus test reagent at the centre for diseases control and prevention in Hefei, Anhui Province on 5 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Japan, Mongolia achieve progress in free trade negotiations

TOKYO, 6 April — Japan and Mongolia achieved some progress in bilateral free trade negotiations as they concluded a four-day meeting in Ulan Bator covering goods and services trade, the Japanese government said on Friday.

In the third round of talks, the two sides also discussed topics including customs regulations, investment and intellectual property, it said. "The first and the second rounds of negotiations were largely procedural, but this time we were able to hold meaningful discussions in each area," said

a Japanese official, adding Tokyo will continue to work toward finalizing the talks at an early date.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry said the two sides agreed to hold the next round of negotiations in Tokyo, although the dates are yet to be set.

The meeting followed Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to the Mongolian capital last weekend, during which the two countries agreed to accelerate FTA talks and strengthen cooperation on developing Mongolia's rich mineral resources.—Kyodo News

All South African troops back home from CAR

CAPE TOWN, 6 April — All South African troops have returned home from the Central African Republic (CAR), the South African National Defence Union (SANDU) said on Friday.

The pullout began on Thursday amid mounting scepticism about the necessity to keep the troops in the war-torn country following the killing of 13 South African soldiers outside Bangui last month.

SANDU spokesperson Pikkie Greef said the best

information they had at this stage was that the last members arrived home on Friday morning.

But the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) did not confirm the news.

South African Defence Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula announced the pullout on Thursday, saying the move was taken after the CAR government had been overthrown.

South Africa had about 200 soliders in the CAR in accordance with a defence

accord with the CAR government. The agreement was to provide the CAR's army with an array of military training, from infantry, artillery and Special Forces training to logistics and driving courses, as well as the refurbishment of military infrastructure in Bouar and Bangui.

Although the troops are out, the opposition and the media continued to criticize President Jacob Zuma for "keeping Parliament and the public in the dark about the mission in the CAR."

REGIONAL

Shanghai bans entry of live poultry

SHANGHAI, 6 April—Shanghai authorities on Saturday started banning all live poultry from other parts of the country from entering the city after temporarily closing three markets to battle the H7N9 bird flu.

The authorities will launch inspections on roads to prevent live poultry from being transported into the city, said the Shanghai Municipal Agricultural Commission.

The latest move came after six H7N9 bird flu cases, including four fatalities, were reported in the city.

Nationwide, as of Friday afternoon, China had confirmed 14 H7N9 cases — six in Shanghai, four in Jiangsu, three in Zhejiang and one in Anhui, in the first known human infections of the lesser-known strain. Zhejiang has also reported two cases of deaths.

Xinhua



A man puts chickens into a basin at a market in Shanghai, east China. The government of Shanghai Municipality said on Friday sales of live poultry will be suspended in the municipality from 6 April as the H7N9 strain of avian influenza has sickened 14 people and killed six. —XINHUA

Endangered whale making comeback in New Zealand waters

WELLINGTON, 6 April — A breed of whale that was hunted almost to extinction in the 19th century appears to be making a comeback to waters around New Zealand, scientists said on Friday.

Sighting collated from the public showed that mainland New Zealand was becoming an increasingly important winter habitat for the southern right whale, according to a study by academics from the universities of Auckland and Otago.

“For the first time we have documented southern right whales returning to the mainland, including females returning with their

calves in different years,” lead author Dr Emma Carroll of the University of Auckland said in a statement.

Twenty-eight mother-calf pairs were seen in the area between 2003 and 2010, compared with only 11 sightings from 1991 to 2002 and none between 1976 and 1991, the study found. New Zealand’s coastal waters were once the seasonal home of tens of thousands of southern right whales, but extensive whaling saw them all but disappear from around the mainland, with few sightings for most of the 20th Century.—Xinhua

Tajima Motor Corp, a maker of race cars, unveils in Shizuoka, central Japan, on 4 April, 2013, to the press a prototype floating shelter made of fiber-reinforced plastic that can accommodate up to 20 people in the event of a tsunami.

KYODO NEWS



Nepal likely to meet four out of eight Millennium Development Goals

KATHMANDU, 6 April —Nepal is likely to achieve only four out of eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), according to a joint Press statement released here on Friday by United Nations Development Programme and the government of Nepal.

“Nepal is likely to achieve MDGs targets such as reducing the proportion of people below national poverty line, achieving 100

percent enrollment in primary education, reducing child and maternal mortality, and access to improved drinking water facilities,” the Press release stated.

However, targets related to achieving full and productive employment, reducing hunger (stunting and under-weight children) and improving the environment will be difficult to achieve, the release further stated.

The Press statement also pointed out that extra efforts are required to ensure that progress is equitably distributed to reduce disparity between geographical locations and social groups. “We have 1,000 days to close the gaps that remain for the Millennium Development Goals in Nepal—1,000 days to accelerate action,” Terence D Jones, UN Resident Coordinator said.—Xinhua

Death toll rises to 72 in Mumbai building collapse

MUMBAI, 6 April—The death toll from a collapsed building in India’s financial centre Mumbai rose to 72 on Saturday, as an injured woman trapped for 36 hours was freed from the rubble of the illegal and half-constructed building.

Rescue workers using cranes and bulldozers continued to search through the wreck of twisted steel and concrete after the seven-storey building collapsed “like a pack of cards” on Thursday evening, officials and witnesses said.

A shortage of cheap homes in Asia’s third-

largest economy has led to a rise in illegal construction by developers who use substandard materials and shoddy methods in order to offer rock-bottom rents to low-paid workers.

“The building collapsed like a pack of cards within three to four seconds,” said Ramlal, a resident. “It just tilted a bit and collapsed,” he said. Residents said labourers paying rent of around \$5 a day had lived in the building.

The building, which was in a forested area in the city of Thane, had been



People gather near the debris of a collapsed building in Thane, Mumbai, India, on 5 April, 2013.

XINHUA

made using poor materials and without proper approvals, said Sandeep Malvi, a spokesman for licensing authority the Thane Municipal Corporation.

He said 72 people had

been killed and 36 injured had been admitted into local hospitals. “There may still be more bodies inside,” Malvi added. “The rescue is still going on.”

MNA/Reuters

Nomura Research Institute’s Singapore unit sets up Manila branch

TOKYO, 6 April—Nomura Research Institute Ltd said on Friday its Singapore unit has established a branch in Manila to take over operations of the Japanese parent company’s office in the Philippines capital.

Nomura Research

Institute Asia Pacific Pte Ltd’s Manila branch will provide consulting services in a more timely manner in the country where an increasing number of Japanese businesses are making investments, it said.

Kyodo News



Vendors wait for customers at the Cipulir textile market inundated by flood in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 5 April, 2013. —XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (545)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (545) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (011)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (011) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1314)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1314) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.4.2013 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: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



More than 3,000 participants crowd the Monas field during the annual Walk for Autism 2013 in Jakarta, Indonesia on 6 April, 2013. Walk for Autism is one part of its autism awareness campaign. XINHUA

Spain to provide renting aid for low-income families

MADRID, 6 April — The Spanish government on Friday said it would help families with low income to pay their rent as a part of its Housing Plan 2013-2016 passed by the cabinet meeting earlier the same day.

According to Spanish Minister of Public Works Ana Pastor, only families earning less than 1,597 euros (about 2,079 US dollars) a month would be able

to benefit from this measure, while the flat rent cannot exceed 600 euros per month. The financial aid would cover up to 40 percent of the rent.

Families will receive this financial aid for a year up to a maximum of 4,200 euros with the possibility of extension.

According to Pastor, renting houses is "a suitable way to access to hous-

ing, especially for those who have lower incomes." The minister predicted that around 133,000 Spaniards could benefit from these measures. The Spanish Cabinet on Friday passed the 2013-2016 housing plan that foresees an investment of 2.311 billion euros not only for renting aid but also for housing rehabilitation and energy efficiency in buildings.—Xinhua

Spain's fishing company Pescanova to file for insolvency

MADRID, 6 April — Spanish food processing company Pescanova on Friday said it would file for insolvency after failing to reach agreement with its creditors over debts of 2.5 billion euros (about 3.23 billion US dollars).

Pescanova, based in Galicia in northwestern Spain, declared bankruptcy after a meeting of more than 13 hours with its creditors,

which include banks such as Sabadell, Caixabank, Bankia, Santander, BBVA and Banco Popular. The company, whose shares had been suspended from trading since 12 March, said it filed for insolvency in order to "protect the interests of people affected."

Last month Pescanova was reported to have found differences between the liabilities required by its cred-

itors and those calculated by the company, and was accused by some advisers for not being "transparent" in its management.

The stock market regulator opened an investigation into Pescanova for possible market abuse, but Pescanova failed to provide the complete information about its accounts which banks and advisers are requiring. The Bank of Spain

said the company has a total debt of 2.5 billion euros, but the debt could be even higher as doubts still remain over the exact state of the company's accounts.

According to the Spanish National Institute of Statistics, firms declaring bankruptcy increased by 32 percent from 2011 to 2012 with a total of 7,799 enterprises declaring insolvent last year.—Xinhua

Caterpillar laying off 460 workers, cites weakness in mining



The CAT logo is seen on back of a Caterpillar excavator machine at a work site in Detroit, Michigan on 25 January, 2013.

REUTERS

CHICAGO, 6 April — Caterpillar Inc said on Friday it was laying off 460 workers at a US plant that makes mining equipment.

The layoffs will affect about 11 percent of the workforce at the Decatur, Illinois, factory and reflect softening demand from the global mining industry, which is cutting back on capital investment because of a retreat in commodity prices.

Caterpillar, which had already implemented temporary layoffs and line

shutdowns as well as a shortened work week in Decatur, said the permanent layoffs were needed to "bring production in line with demand."

It said the job cuts would take effect in 60 days.

Caterpillar is the world's largest maker of mining equipment. The Peoria, Illinois-based company also makes construction equipment, gas turbines and diesel engines, and railroad locomotives.

Xinhua

Ferry collides with barge in Hong Kong, injuring ten

HONG KONG, 6 April — Around 10 people have been injured as a ferry bound to Cheung Chau Island, southwest of Hong Kong island, collided with a barge Friday evening, local media reported.

The collision occurred in the water off the south of Hei Ling Chau Island.

Among the 10 injured people, eight were on the ferry and the other two on the barge, reports said.

Xinhua

Air Mauritius plans direct flight to Beijing

PORT LOUIS, 6 April — The National Airline of Mauritius plans a direct flight to Beijing, China in July, the carrier of the Indian Ocean island country disclosed here on Friday.

The plan is part of a promotion campaign organized by the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority

(MTPA) and its partners in China. There is the latest development after more than 170 Chinese tourism professionals, travel agents and tour operators attended shows sponsored by the tourist office in Mauritius on 26-27 March.

For the moment, Air Mauritius provides seven

flights between China's Shanghai and Mauritius per week. The number of visitors from China is rising by a yearly 271.6 percent, according to Statistics Mauritius. In February 2013, Chinese tourist arrivals hit 5,229 against 1,407 recorded in February 2012.

Xinhua



The members of Los Angeles County and City Fire Departments, along with County Department of Animal Care and Control experts, prepare during a large animal rescue training session in Los Angeles, California, on 5 April, 2013. The event focused on horses and cattle in distress - trapped or injured.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

JLo's diva demands reportedly lost her IPL opening gig

MUMBAI, 6 April—Hollywood actress-singer Jennifer Lopez reportedly got herself axed from an Indian Premier League (IPL) gig to perform for 60 mil-

lion viewers when she gave the organizers a long list of unessential demands.

The 43-year-old insisted on a private plane and dozens of hotel rooms for her huge entourage, including her stylists, assistants and chef, reports thesun.co.uk.

Disgusted officials who wanted

to book her for the opening ceremony of the IPL cricket tournament instead signed up rapper Pitbull for Tuesday's event.

"The demands were outrageous. She effectively priced herself out of the event. It was idiotic because the audience for this event is huge," said the source.

"She had turned down the deal because she was busy recording an album," said Jennifer Lopez's spokesperson.

PTI



Scarlett Johansson uses apple cider vinegar to cleanse her face

Scarlett Johansson's beauty secret is vinegar

LONDON, 6 April—The Avengers star Scarlett Johansson uses apple cider vinegar to cleanse her face as she believes it keeps her spots at bay. The 28-year-old actress said the product can be harsh on skin, but it has been effective to her skin, reported Contactmusic.

"I researched natural skincare and found that apple cider vinegar is really effective. Using it as

a toner can be harsh, but if you have breakouts it can be really healing." Johansson also recommends using lipsticks with built-in conditioners to get her trademark stand-out red lips.

"My lipsticks have con-

ditioner on the inside so if you like to wear red or coral lipstick, like me, you're not using a dry red, which can be chalky," Johansson said.—PTI



Tom Cruise knows how to make the perfect Cocktail

now

LOS ANGELES, 6 April—Tom Cruise has learnt how to pour the perfect pint of Guinness.

The Oblivion star was treated to a master class in pint pouring at the world famous Guinness Storehouse in Dublin, Ireland, on Wednesday (03.04.13) and admitted that despite playing a bartender in the movie Cocktail in 1988, he never realised the level of skill involved in creating the perfect drink.

Asked by Guinness master Fergal Murray whether he had done anything like it before, the 50-year-old actor, who was in Dublin with his French co-star Olga Kurylenko for the premiere of their new thriller, replied: "Well... I played a bartender, but I never poured Guinness!"

After taking a drink from his pint, Tom raised his glass and shouted: "To Ireland, thank you so

much. Cheers." Tom, who split from his third wife Katie Holmes last summer after six years of marriage, took advantage of his time in Ireland to trace his family's roots.

He said: "To learn about the history of my family — it was incredible. "I knew I was Irish but I had no idea where it went and the depth of it. It goes all the way back to the 12th century. "It's a great honour for me and for my whole family — I can't wait to bring it back to them and enlighten them on their history."

"I'm very proud to be Irish. There's a pride in America of being Irish. I can't wait to come back and I want to visit the land of my ancestors and the castle that they had." The country's Minister for Foreign Affairs Eamon Gilmore presented Tom with a framed certificate of his Irishness.—PTI



Tom Cruise was subjected to a master class in pint pouring at a world famous storehouse in Dublin.—PTI

Lindsay Lohan's childhood pet dog dead

NEW DELHI, 6 April—Liz & Dick actress Lindsay Lohan's beloved Maltese pooch Gucci passed away in New York at the age of 15, her mother Dina has revealed. In a Twitter post, Dina wrote: "Sad Day, Gucci our family Dog passed away ! She was 15 and brought so much love to us ... she will forever be missed xo (sic)"

She later thanked fans for their support, tweeting: "Thank you for your kind words." Lindsay's 25-year-old brother Michael Jr later posted his own tribute to the family pet on his Twitter page.

He wrote: "Unconditional love - when presented, embrace it and return it just the same. it's far too often taken for granted. RIP GL (sic)"

The sad news comes

weeks before Lindsay is due to check into rehab for 90 days as agreed with a Los Angeles court following her recent charges over a car accident last June.

It was reported earlier this week that her lawyers have submitted a shortlist of potential clinics and are now awaiting court approval ahead of the treatment, which is scheduled to begin next month.

A source said: "Lindsay's attorney, Mark Heller, gave a list of potential rehabs to the Los Angeles City Attorney, Terry White, last week. The prosecutor will personally be calling the facilities to make sure that there is proper security, meaning someone that monitors the whereabouts at all times of the patients."

PTI



Troubled actress Lindsay Lohan's pet, a Maltese pooch named Gucci, died at the age of 15.

REUTERS

Beyonce, Jay-Z, Lana Del Rey part of eclectic "Great Gatsby" soundtrack

LOS ANGELES, 6 April—The setting is still the Roaring Twenties but the soundtrack for Australian film Director Baz Luhrmann's take on classic novel "The Great Gatsby" is firmly 21st-century rap, pop and rock.

Universal Music on Thursday released the track list for the upcoming movie featuring Beyonce, Lana Del Rey, and Florence + the Machine, as well as a new song, "100\$ Bill," by rapper Jay-Z, who is executive producer of the soundtrack.

Beyonce and OutKast musician Andre 3000 team



Singer Beyonce attends HBO's New York premiere of her documentary "Beyonce — Life is But a Dream" in New York on 12 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

up to sing late British singer Amy Winehouse's single "Back to Black" on the soundtrack, which also features Australian Grammy-winner Gotye and former White Stripes rocker Jack White.

Rising artists such as British singer Emili Sande are being given a spotlight. She collaborates with The Bryan Ferry Orchestra on the 2003 hit for Beyonce and Jay-Z, "Crazy in Love."

The soundtrack will be released worldwide by Interscope Records on 6 May, ahead of the Warner Bros-movie opening in US theatres on 10 May.—Reuters

SPORTS

Barcelona complains about refereeing in PSG draw

BARCELONA, 6 April—Barcelona says it has sent a letter to UEFA protesting some of the referee's decisions in its 2-2 draw

at Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League quarterfinals. Club spokesman Toni Freixa says referee Wolfgang Stark of Germany "did not apply the rules of the game." Freixa

specifically cited Stark's decisions not to stop play after Barcelona defenders Javier Mascherano

and Jordi Alba collided and fell to the turf, and then forcing both off the pitch momentarily, leaving Barcelona to defend a corner kick with nine men.

Barcelona hosts PSG on Wednesday in the return leg. PTI

Barcelona says it has sent a letter to UEFA protesting some of the referee's decisions in its 2-2 draw at Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League quarterfinals. PTI

Mancini laments former tormentor Balotelli's absence

MANCHESTER, 6 April—Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini believes a lack of goals and maverick striker Mario Balotelli's departure to AC Milan in January has harmed the defence of their Premier League crown.

Second-placed City are 15 points behind rivals Manchester United, whom they face at Old Trafford on Monday, and Mancini said last week the title race was over.

"Mario scored 15 goals last season. This is the difference, the goals we did not score," Mancini told a news conference on Friday.

It was Italy striker Balotelli, often in Mancini's bad books for his wild antics, who provided the pass for Sergio Aguero to score in injury time on the final day of last season as City took the title on goal differ-

ence from United.

City scored a total of 93 league goals last season. In 30 games so far this campaign they have found the back of the net 55 times compared to 72 at the same stage last season.

"The difference is that we score 20 goals less than last year. Only this difference," said Mancini.

"We concede the same, we have the best defence, we are missing only these goals. We had a lot of injuries, we lost Sergio, we lost Mario," he added in reference to Aguero, who missed the first month of the season and has sustained further knocks.

Mancini again said the title race was finished but felt United's big lead was not a true reflection of the season's form.

"We do not deserve to be 15 points behind Man-

chester United. They play very well and have won a lot of games and they deserved to stay on top but not by 15 points," he said.

United have won their last seven league matches



while City have lost twice and drawn twice in their last seven.

"We want second place. The next two weeks will be very hard and crucial for second place," said

US senators back Tyson pardon bid for boxing champ Johnson

WASHINGTON, 6 April—Two senior US senators welcomed a petition launched by former boxer Mike Tyson to have heavyweight champ Jack Johnson posthumously pardoned by President Barack Obama for race crimes a century ago.

Democratic leader Harry Reid and Republican John McCain, longtime Johnson supporters, joined fellow boxing champions Lennox Lewis and Laila Ali, the daughter of retired boxing legend Muhammad Ali, in backing Tyson's petition on grassroots campaign website Change.org.

The petition says Johnson, the first black heavy-



Former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson

weight boxing champion of the world "is long overdue a pardon. Johnson paved the way for black boxers like me."

"Thanks to @MikeTyson for joining effort to pardon Jack Johnson's racially motivated conviction," McCain said on Twitter on Thursday. "One great boxer standing up for another," Reid tweeted on Wednesday.

Reid and McCain,

Beckham criticism 'strange and unfair'

PARIS, 6 April—Paris Saint-Germain coach Carlo Ancelotti on Friday rounded on critics of David Beckham for his performance in the Champions League quarter-final first leg match against Barcelona.

"Criticism of Beckham is strange and unfair. He had a very good match. He followed the strategy I laid out to the letter and gave the ball quickly," the Italian told a news conference.

"Did the way he played make me want to start with him again in the second leg? Yes, of course it did. If Paris were good in the first half-hour against Barca it's because Beckham was good as he looked to play quickly."



Paris Saint-Germain coach Carlo Ancelotti on Friday rounded on critics of David Beckham for his performance in the Champions League quarter-final first leg match against Barcelona.—PTI

Ancelotti was speaking after assessments that the 37-year-old former England captain, who started the game but was substituted after 70 minutes in the 2-2 draw, played the long ball well but fell short when it came to winning it.

Others have raised questions about whether PSG's

along with Senator William Cowan and US Representative Peter King, introduced a resolution calling for Johnson's pardon in March. Pardons require presidential approval.

More than 1,400 people have signed the petition since Tyson launched it on Wednesday.

Johnson, the world heavyweight champion from 1908 until 1915, was convicted in 1913 for transporting a woman across state lines for immoral purposes. The law, meant to combat prostitution, was often used in the segregation era as a way to punish interracial couples.

Johnson, who was married three times, all to white women, was arrested in 1920 after seven years in exile and spent a year in jail. He died in 1946 at age 68. At least two previous attempts to get Johnson pardoned have come to nothing in the past 10 years.—Reuters

O'Neill says did not deserve Sunderland sack

LONDON, 6 April—Martin O'Neill, still licking his wounds following his first sacking as a manager, believes he was unlucky to be dismissed by Sunderland after helping keep them in the Premier League last season.

O'Neill had once been heavily touted in the media for a big job like Liverpool or even Manchester United but now the 61-year-old's reputation is at an all-time low with 16th-placed Sunderland having slipped to a point above the drop zone.

Nevertheless he is adamant he deserved the chance to try to save the club like last season, when he took over in December 2011 and won seven of his

first 10 games. "Coming into the football club at the time when the club was on its knees, and I believe I saved the club from relegation last year, I felt the opportunity (to stay) should have still been afforded to me," the former Celtic and Aston Villa



Sunderland's manager Martin O'Neill reacts ahead of their English Premier League soccer match against Manchester United in Sunderland, northern England on 30 March, 2013.—Reuters

boss told the BBC.

Italian Paolo Di Canio, who has had to fight off accusations he is a fascist, succeeded O'Neill on Sunday and has seven matches left this term to try to guide the north east club away from trouble.

His first game in charge is Sunday's trip to Chelsea, with O'Neill's last match at the helm a 1-0 defeat at home to soon-to-be champions

Manchester United. Pundits questioned the reasons for sacking the Northern Irishman after a game he was not expected to win but nothing surprises O'Neill, who quit Villa just before the start of the season in 2010 over what he saw as a lack of investment.

"I'm still disappointed and frustrated but life goes on," he said of his sacking by boyhood club Sunderland. "I'm in the business now where I think very little shocks you about professional football, particularly in the last 10 years. I think you can nearly lose your job in management if your tie doesn't fit your suit."

Reuters

Qatari owners pressurised Ancelotti into starting with the former Manchester United and Real Madrid midfielder for commercial reasons.

But the coach said: "It's wrong to say that Qatar told me, 'Beckham must play'..."

Club presidents can't force a coach to pick a player... "During my career, no president has forced me to pick a player, whether it's (AC Milan president Silvio)

Berlusconi, (Chelsea owner Roman) Abramovich or Nasser (al-Khelaifi, PSG's majority shareholder). "It annoys me that anyone can think that," he said.

He added: "I'm not a friend of

Beckham or a supporter. I try to be objective. A player doesn't play if he's not good in training. Beckham deserves to play even if he's 37 years old. "I've got one aim only: get PSG to win something, whether it's the French championship, French cup, or even, dare I say it, the Champions League."—PTI

GENERAL



A woman looks at display boards and specimens of snakes at a snake-themed exhibition in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 5 April, 2013. This year marks the Year of Snake in Chinese lunar calendar, thus this exhibition in Kunming Natural History Museum of Zoology attracted many local citizens during the three-day Qingming Festival.

XINHUA

Heavy rains disrupt transport, power in Kenya

NAIROBI, 6 April—Heavy downpour that began late March in Kenya is wreaking havoc in some parts of the East African nation, disrupting transport and electricity supply with numerous properties becoming flooded.

The government estimated that some 15 people have been killed and more than 600 families displaced by the flash floods and flood-related accidents in the past two weeks.

"The affected population is also at risk of contracting water borne diseases," the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) said in its latest update on the situation of flood across the country on Friday.

The government has also advised people living in flood prone areas to move to higher ground following the heavy rains in many parts of the country.

Widespread destru-

ction of property and infrastructure has also resulted, as well as disruption of key activities such as farming and education.

The KRCS, the government and the Meteorological department said learning in some parts of the East African nation has been disrupted since schools have been marooned.

The most affected regions are in Western Kenya, Coastal region and parts of Rift Valley where heavy rains have washed away bridges and rendered many roads impassable, making difficult efforts to reach thousands of people made homeless by the flooding.

The humanitarian agency said it carried out a rapid needs assessment and the immediate needs of the affected households are food, shelter, bedding, jerry-cans and water

purifiers.

"The immediate interventions include distribution of relief food, provision of shelter, bedding and mosquito nets, provision of aqua tabs for treatment of water to avoid diarrheal disease, hygiene promotion talks to avoid contamination of water and placement of two boats at different strategic positions," it said.

The country's electricity utility Kenya Power said its working towards restoring power to customers in some parts of the country where heavy rains have caused damage to the company's electricity infrastructure.

The company said rainstorms that hit several parts of Nairobi and environs over the Easter break left a trail of destruction on the power supply infrastructure, and customers without electricity.—Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(7-4-13 09:30 am ~
8-4-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * World Consumer Rights Day
- * Kites Flying and Fighting Competition
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs & Dances
- * Traditions and Customs of Inlay Thingyan
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- * Orchestra Concert & It's Audience
- * The Advertisements that make City ugly
- * Preparations for Thingyan Festival
- * "Myanmar Movies Impact" On the shoulder (Part-1)
- * Myanmar Democratization within Two Years
- * Seminar on Writers and Publishers Rights
- * Orchestra Concert & It's Audience
- * The Advertisements that make City ugly
- * Conversation with Kevim Machenzie
- * Myanmar Movies "At your Command"

Myanmar TV

(7-4-2013, Saturday)

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 6:00 am | 12:25 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Venerable MinGun Sayadaw | 18. Myanmar Video (Part-1) |
| 6:25 am | 2:50 pm |
| 2. Health Programme | 19. Dance of Thin Gyan Festival |
| 6:30 am | 3:00 pm |
| 3. Pyi Thu Ni Ti | 20. News |
| 6:40 am | 3:15 pm |
| 4. Dance & Song of National Races | 21. TV Drama Series |
| 6:50 am | 4:25 pm |
| 5. Documentary | 22. Dance & Song of National Races |
| 7:00 am | 4:40 pm |
| 6. News | 23. Documentary |
| 7:20 am | 4:55 pm |
| 7. Public Debate (Part-1) | 24. Performance With Song |
| 8:00 am | 5:15 pm |
| 8. News - International News | 25. Sing & Enjoy |
| 8:25 am | 6:00 pm |
| 9. Amazing World | 26. News |
| 9:00 am | 6:20 pm |
| 10. News | 27. Cartoon Series |
| 9:20 am | 6:45 pm |
| 11. Documentary | 28. TV Drama Series |
| 9:40 am | 7:00 pm |
| 12. Performance with Song | 29. News |
| 10:00 am | 7:15 pm |
| 13. News | 30. TV Drama Series |
| 10:15 am | 8:00 pm |
| 14. TV Drama Series | 31. News - International News |
| 11:00 am | 8:35 pm |
| 15. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn | 32. Public Debate (Part-2) |
| 11:50 am | 9:00 pm |
| 16. Round Up Of The Week's International News | 33. News |
| 12:00 pm | 34. Tamyethnar Takwetsar |
| 17. News | 35. TV Drama Series |
| | 36. New Melody |

Azinger says Tiger is a mix of artist and engineer

NEW YORK, 6 April—Tiger Woods has regained his golfing mojo because his artistic talents are combining with his technical prowess to produce the complete player, according to former US Ryder Cup captain Paul Azinger.

Fourteen-times major winner Woods has gone through four swing changes in his career, the most recent under coach Sean Foley, prompting widespread criticism after the American slid from the top to 52nd in the rankings in 2011.

Woods, however, has gradually worked his way back up the rankings and three PGA Tour victories this year have helped the 37-year-old take over from Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy as number one.

"Tiger is an artist who has tried to become an engineer and when there is a convergence of the two, that is something to behold," Azinger told Reuters in an interview

ahead of next week's US Masters, the first major of the season.

"It is a beautiful thing to watch, a bit like Roger Federer in tennis. It's harder to play golf as an engineer than as an artist but you have to have a little bit of both.

"I believe Tiger is still the great artist who was overcome by becoming the engineer in each one of his swing changes. Now he's beyond the point where the thoughts of the engineer are interrupting his motion."

Azinger, who led the Americans to victory at the 2008 Ryder Cup, compared Woods with the great Spanish shotmaker Seve Ballesteros who died in 2011 at the age of 54 after a long battle with brain cancer.

The swashbuckling Ballesteros delighted galleries around the world when he won five majors between 1979-88 before his game went into decline.—Reuters

One dead, dozens injured in Illinois school bus crash

WADSWORTH, 6 April—A school bus taking children to an elementary school in northeastern Illinois overturned in a crash at an intersection on Friday, killing an adult and injuring three dozen people, most of them young students, authorities said.

The bus was headed to Newport Elementary School in Wadsworth when witnesses say it ran a red light and hit a Jeep Wrangler, Lake County Sheriff Mark Curran said. "The bus windows all crashed out. It's a bad scene," Curran

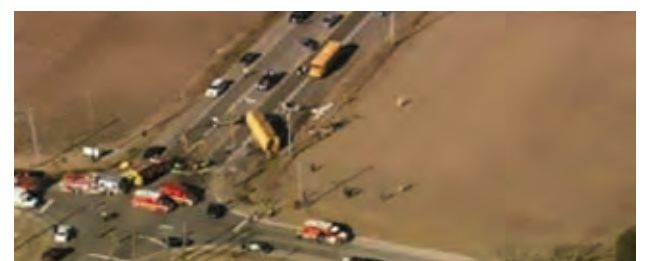
told a news conference.

Wadsworth is about 45 miles north of Chicago near the Illinois-Wisconsin border in Lake County.

Twelve students were taken by ambulance to area hospitals and 23 others considered to be in at least good condition were taken on another bus to a hospital, John Kavanaugh, deputy chief of the Gurnee Fire Department, told reporters.

Two people from an SUV also involved in the crash were taken to a hospital, said Kavanaugh.

Reuters



A school bus lays on its side after being overturned following a collision, in Wadsworth, Illinois, as pictured in this frame taken from video courtesy of www.nbcchicago.com, on 5 April, 2013.—REUTERS



Comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership taking shape between Myanmar and China



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein holds discussion with Secretary Mr. Luo Bao Ming of Hainan Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Reporter Ms. Li Xiaokun from China Daily at MGM Grand Hotel in Sanya of China at 9:10 am today.

The President explained his views on Boao Forum, developments in Myanmar, Myanmar's efforts for ensuring regional food security, rural development and poverty alleviation, invitation of investments from foreign countries including China for more job opportunities, investment of Chinese entrepreneurs in Myanmar and comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership through "PaukPhaw" relations.

The President also received Head of China Non-ferrous Metal Mining Group Co Ltd Mr. Luo Tao at the same venue at 9:45 am today. They cordially discussed the starting of Nickel mining

project in Tagaungtaung area of Myanmar, sticking to a project contract in profit sharing, upgrading of technology in mining, appointment of Myanmar experts and skilled labours, fulfillment of education, health, potable water and social needs for locals and regional development by the company. The Union ministers participated in the discussions.

President U Thein Sein also met Secretary Mr. Luo Bao Ming of Hainan Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China at MGM Grand Hotel in Sanya at 10:30 am today.

It was attended by Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein, U Than Htay, Dr Myint Aung and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint, Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Oo and departmental heads. The secretary was accompanied by Mr. Wang Yingfan, Special Envoy



President U Thein Sein and party pose for documentary photo together with Vice Governor Mr. Zhang Xiaoqin of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China.—MNA

on Asian Affairs, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Yang Houlan and the Sanya mayor.

At the call, the Chinese side dealt with develop-

ment of tourism industry, electronic and software and disbursement of small loans to the farmers. The Myanmar side also discussed the disbursement of small loans

to farmers in rural areas. Both sides touched upon co-operation in tourism industry between Myanmar and Hainan Province, launching of Yangon-Hainan airline and cooperation in agricultural sector and designating Yangon and Sanya as Sister City, establishment of SME enterprises and fellowship programmes.

The President received Vice Governor Mr. Zhang Xiaoqin of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

At the meeting, they discussed measures for deepsea ports and special economic zones, running of Nanning-Yangon regular airline for promoting tourism industry, Myanmar's participation in 10th China-ASEAN Expo to be held in

They discussed matters related to nickel exploration in Chin State, creating job opportunities for locals and assistance for education and health for promoting of living standard of local people.

The President also met Head of CNPC Co Ltd Mr. Zhou Jiping at the same venue at 3:25 pm today. At the meeting, The CNPC president made clarifications on 92 % completion of 1540-miles long pipeline from Made Island in Rakhine State to Yunnan Province, Myanmar's cooperation in facilitating communication system along the pipeline.

The President recognized smooth running of projects. He highlighted the

Nanning in September.

President U Thein Sein met President Mr. Li Li of North Petro-Chem Corp Ltd at the same venue at 2:30 pm today.

appointment of Myanmar local workers, cooperation in pipeline security, local people's cooperation and offshore oil exploration.

MNA

Chaungzauk BEHS Branch in Thanlyin Township gets new building

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—The Government of Japan, under its Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme, granted US\$ 84,481 for construction of school building at Chaungzauk Village Basic Education High School Branch in Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region

and school building was handed over yesterday.

Ms Tokunaga, Third Secretary of Japanese Embassy, Chairman U Win Hlaing and members of the School Construction Committee together with village elders attended the said ceremony.

The Japanese Government decided

to provide the fund for construction of a two-storey RC school building complete with four classrooms, toilets, school furniture and walkway through its GGP scheme. The donation is aimed at further strengthening friendly relations between Myanmar and Japan.

NLM

Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister gives Aide Memoire to Indonesian ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 6 April—On the morning of 5 April 2013, a violent clash broke out between a group of so-called Rohingyas and 12 Myanmar nationals waiting for repatriation at the Immigration Detention Centre in Medan, Indonesia. As a result, 8 Myanmar nationals were killed and 2 seriously injured.

In this connection, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw summoned Ambassador Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono of Indonesia at the ministry in Yangon at 3:30 pm today.

The Deputy Minister informed Myanmar Government's serious concern over the death of Myanmar citizens following

the violent clashes in Medan. He called on the Government of Indonesia to immediately investigate into the matter to expose the true cause, to bring those who are responsible to justice, and to ensure the safety of Myanmar nationals in Indonesia. An Aide Memoire was handed over to the Indonesian ambassador.—MNA