

The New Light of Myanmar

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Germany to invest in agriculture, livestock breeding, forest, oil and gas sectors

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Vice-President of German Parliament Dr Wolfgang Thierse and party at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 4 pm today.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers U Aung Kyi, U Soe Maung and U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw and departmental heads.

The German guests were accompanied by German Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Christian-Ludwig Weber-Lortsch.

They cordially discussed further strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries, promoting of tourism in-

dustry between Germany and Myanmar, language exchange and cooperation, removal of trade barriers, investment in agriculture, livestock breeding, forestry, oil and gas sectors, and assistance of Germany in reform process of Myanmar.—MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Vice-President of German Parliament Dr Wolfgang Thierse and party.—MNA



Thai sailing team wins five gold, one silver, one bronze in Pre-SEA Games Sailing Championship

YANGON, 10 April—Thai sailing team bagged five gold, one silver and one bronze in the Myanmar National Open Sailing Championship (Pre-SEA Games) at the boat club in Ngwehsaung Beach of Ngwehsaung Sub-Township of Patheingyi District on 8 April.

Malaysian team won

four gold, three silver and four bronze medals. Myanmar secured two gold, four silver and two bronze, Singapore team one gold and two bronze medals and Indonesian, two silver and one bronze medal.

A total of 109 sailors from host Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and

India participated in the championship. Myanmar women duo Wai Pwint Wah Po and Theingi Win Shwe won one gold in international 420 class, and Myanmar men duo Sithu Moe Myint and Phone Kyaw Moe Myint one gold in Half Rater (Open) Class.

MNA

4 m USD KOICA assistance for Public Works

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Public Works under the Ministry of Construction and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) signed record of discussion for drafting development of road network master plan at the ministry, here, this afternoon.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Win Myint gave a speech and KOICA Resident Representative Mr Shin Man Shik spoke word

of thanks.

Public Works Managing Director U Kyaw Lin and Mr Shin Man Shik inked the deal and exchanged documents.

Under the agreement, Public Works will receive technical assistance worth USD 4 million from KOICA.—MNA

Significant day temperatures (10-4-2013)

Chauk	42°C
Aunglan	42°C
Gangaw	42°C
Gyobingauk	42°C

Handset market unaffected by low-cost SIM cards

By Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)

The mobile handset market nationwide seems not to be affected significantly by the government's revelation of prices of low-cost SIM cards and date for the launch of sale, according to market sources.

Ko Thaw Zin, manager of Mobile Bank mobile and accessories shop in Yangon, said the sale is going through as usual.

The quick sale attributed by the speculations has been held steady since the

government's confirmation of the price of SIM cards on 3 April. The price of SIM cards was reduced to K 1500 (approximate to 2 USD) and the sale will be launched on 25 April.

"Huawei handsets are best sellers. Samsung handsets are second best sellers. A few others use iPhone or HTC. Most buyers spend from K 70000 to K 150000," Ko Thaw Zin added.

The reasons why the

buyers do not mass the mobile shops include the speculations of possible offers of 'handset plus SIM card' by mobile shops.

"GSM or WCDMA should be opted for the long term," he spoke of the favourable communication line.

Both handset buyers and suppliers await possible plans of sale ahead of the launch of the sale of low-cost SIM cards later this month.

Kyemon; 6-4-2013

Trs: HKA



LOCAL NEWS

Pilot census taking in progress in designated townships in Yangon Region

YANGON, 10 April—An expert from EU-EST and Secretary of Union Election Commission U Tin Tun on 5 April visited the ward-5 administrator's office in Lanmadaw Township, here, where pilot census taking was in progress. They met with education staff who are performing data collection there.

Next, they observed

taking pilot census at sector Nos (5) and (10) in the township. They also conducted interviews with local people regarding relationship between pilot census taking and compilation of voting lists.

Then they proceeded to sector No (10) in Shwepyitha Township where pilot census taking is being carried out.

Kyemon

New locomotives, railway coaches arrive in Yangon

YANGON, 10 April—New locomotives and railway carriages transported from India by ship arrived at Sule jetty, here.

Works to unload the newly-arrived two carriages from the ship were carried out on 4 April.

Works for unloading of three more carriages (BDUEZ (AC) 12694, BDUEZ (AC) 12322 and BDUEZ (AC) 12321) and DF-1360 and DF-1376 locomotives from

the ship were also undertaken on 5 April.

Now they had been transported to designated places.

It was reported that new locomotives and railway carriages for the Ministry of Rail Transportation were transported from India by Manaung ship of Myanmar Five Star.

Kyemon



Free eye surgical operations performed in Kyauktaw



SITTWAY, 10 April—Free eye care service was provided to the patients at Kyauktaw Township People's Hospital of Rakhine State from 23 to 26 March.

Tipitaka Sekkhupala Group comprising eye specialist Dr Aye Tun, Dr Hla Maung Din, Dr Soe Moe, Dr Zaw Tun, Dr

Thaung Thaung Hsaing, Dr Tin Tin Lin, Dr Saw Thein, Dr Moe Kyaw and Dr Ohnma Zin and nurses led by 11th Tipitakadhara Rakhine Sayadaw Bhaddanta Indapala performed surgical operations at 367 patients and provided eye care services to 3500 patients.

Moreover, Specialist Dr

Daw Khin Mya Lwin also gave free surgical treatment to 446 persons of epidermis diseases. Dr Tun Khaing Saw, Dr Tun Aye and other doctors and nurses assisted in surgical operations with the sponsorships of Ko Aung Thein Hlaing, Ma Nan Mie Mie Win and party.

Myanma Alinn

Chinese embassy donates equipment to Home for the Aged

BHAMO, 10 April—The Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar handed over equipment worth US\$ 10000 to Home for the Aged in Bhamo on 4 April morning.

At the ceremony held at the hall of District General Administration Department, Deputy Commissioner U Teza Aung of the district made a speech.

He on behalf of the

embassy handed over the equipment to member of the home U Myint Swe who spoke words of thanks.

The home accommodates seven grandpas and nine grandmas.—Myanma Alinn

Stake driven for construction of Jewellery Trade Centre

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—The stake driving ceremony for construction of the Jewellery Trade Centre was held at the industrial

zone of Sitapu Ward in Myitkyina on 3 April morning.

Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai and the chair-

man of Myanmar Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association made speeches on the occasion.

MNA

Waingmaw gets new asphalt roads

WAINGMAW, 10 April—Anawrahta Road, 1315 feet long and 12 feet wide, and No 7th asphalt street were commissioned into service in Waingmaw of Kachin State on 22 March morning.

Waingmaw Township Development Affairs Committee spent K 16.5 million on construction of the roads in 2012-2013 fiscal year. Kachin State Hluttaw representative

U Mya Aung, Township Administrator U Win Htay and Executive Officer of Township Development Affairs Committee U Win Myint formally opened the roads.—Myanma Alinn

Illegal teak in cargo carriage seized

MOEGAUNG, 10 April—According to a tip-off, a combined force comprising forest staff, police members and railway staff of departments concerned in Moegaung Township confiscated 6.109 tons of

sawn teak, teak doors and various parts of furniture while conducting a search of BBEZ 10536 carriage of Mandalay-Myitkyina up-train No (939) at about 1 pm on 2 April.

Moegaung police

station filed a lawsuit against railway staff U Khin Zaw, 49, of Kawlin for carrying of illegal teak.

Investigation is on going to expose the owner of the seized timbe teak.

Kyemon

Rakhine State Hluttaw approves regional planning law

SITTWAY, 10 April—The sixth regular session of the First Rakhine State Hluttaw approved the regional planning law for 2013-2014 fiscal year with amendments after the Hluttaw representatives had

held discussions.

In 2013-2014 fiscal year, there are 25 departments and organizations are to be contributed by the fund of the State under the title of the investment (capital

expenditure) of the fund of the State.

Of them, the State government has allotted K 10007.925 million fund to 20 departments and organizations.

Myanma Alinn

Teleplay on Pyu envoy to China

NYAUNGU, 10 April—Yunnan TV of the People's Republic of China telecast a TV play under the title of Poem in Legend based on the sketch of Pyu diplomatic journey to China in 802 AD in Tang Dynasty of China, at Bagan Ancient Cultural

Region from 28 March to 4 April.

The play is being produced by film director cum actor Yu Rong Guang of Run Shirong Guang Film Industry of China.

The teleplay is starred by main actors from China

and one South Korean actress together with Myanmar actors.

Most of the scenes have been shot in Bagan, and some scenes are being telecast at the studio in Ruili of Yunnan Province.

Myanma Alinn



Two-year-old child plunges 12 feet to his death in Kyauktan Township

KYAUKTAN, 10 April—According to information a dead body of three-year-old child was taken to Kyauktan hospital, Acting Police Major Win Maung of the Township Police Force and party rushed there and made necessary investigation into

the case.

Initial investigation revealed that the dead body was Nay Min Khant, 2, son of U Thet Paing Htwe of Shwepyauk Village in Kyauktan Township and he is believed to have died of drowning in the three-foot-

deep water of a well which is 10 feet in width and 12 feet in depth.

Kyauktan police station opened the case and carrying out further investigation into it whether there is foul play or other suspicious.—Kyemon

WORLD

UN warns of risk of Mali war spillover in Western Sahara

UNITED NATIONS, 10 April—The conflict in Mali threatens to spill over into the disputed territory of Western Sahara, with the possibility of infiltration by foreign militant groups, the UN chief warned in a report.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon also called for “sustained” independent human rights monitoring for Western Sahara, something Morocco opposes but

out terrorist infiltrations” from Mali by militants, Ban said in a report to the 15-nation Security Council obtained by *Reuters*.

“Possible armed infiltrations, gaps in regional security coordination and resource shortages for effective border controls expose military observers to risk,” the report said.

France launched a military offensive in Mali in January against Islamist

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon speaks at a news conference at the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the Hague on 8 April, 2013.
REUTERS



human rights groups and the Polisario Front independence movement have long advocated.

Morocco took control of most of Western Sahara in 1975 when colonial power Spain withdrew, prompting a guerrilla war for independence that lasted until 1991 when the United Nations brokered a ceasefire and sent in a peacekeeping mission.

“During meetings with MINURSO (the UN mission), Frente Polisario commanders have not ruled

militants threatening the capital. That drove the insurgents out of the towns they had seized, but they have since hit back with suicide attacks and guerrilla-style raids.

Western powers are concerned that Mali’s vast and lawless Saharan desert could become a launchpad for international militant attacks. Other European governments have ruled out sending combat troops but are backing a military training force.

Reuters

Gov’t to submit bill to revise SDF law to Diet next week

TOKYO, 10 April—The government plans to present to parliament next week a bill to revise the Self-Defence Forces law to make it possible for the SDF to transport Japanese nationals by land as part of efforts to rescue them during emergency situations abroad, a ruling party source said on Tuesday.

The bill, compiled in response to the hostage crisis in Algeria in January that resulted in the deaths of 10 Japanese among other expatriate victims, is expected to be approved by the Cabinet before being sent to the Diet on 19 April, the source said. The Defence Ministry explained the bill on Tuesday to a ruling party project team on protecting Japanese overseas. The draft was put together based on a report prepared by the Liberal Democratic Party and its junior coalition partner, the New Komeito party, in

March.

But a senior LDP member said that even if the bill were presented to the Diet, it may not be approved during the ongoing regular session scheduled until June as the opposition bloc, which controls the House of Councillors, is unlikely to give the green light.

Under the current SDF law, the SDF can transport Japanese nationals overseas only by sea or air.

A senior ruling party member said a plan to ease the rules for the use of weapons by SDF members in line with the expansion of their duties was not included in the bill in consideration of the Komeito party’s views. In mid-January, Islamist militants took over the In Amenas gas complex in eastern Algeria, resulting in the deaths of 37 foreigners from eight countries including 10 Japanese employees of engineering firm JGC Corp.

Kyodo News



Afghan soldiers inspect the blast site in eastern Afghan Province of Wardak on 8 April, 2013. Up to nine civilians were killed and 22 others wounded on Monday morning when a passenger bus was struck by a roadside bomb in Wardak, the country’s Interior Ministry confirmed.—XINHUA

Quake hits near Iran’s nuclear city Bushehr, 37 dead

DUBAI, 10 April—A powerful earthquake struck close to Iran’s only nuclear power station on Tuesday, killing 37 people and injuring 850 as it destroyed homes and devastated two small villages, Iranian media reported.

The 6.3 magnitude quake totally destroyed one village, a Red Crescent official told the *Iranian Students’ News Agency (ISNA)*, but the nearby Bushehr nuclear plant was undamaged, according to Iranian officials and the Russian company that built it. “Due to the intensity of this earthquake, this tragedy has deepened and we have seen the destruction of many homes in the region, the deaths of 37 people and more than 850 injured,” the governor of Bushehr Province, Fereydoon Hassanvand, told *Mehr* news agency.

Many houses in rural parts of the province are made of mud bricks, which have been known to crumble easily in quake-prone Iran. Some 700 homes were destroyed, Hassanvand said.

Across the Gulf, offices

Japan may avert numerical power-saving targets this summer

TOKYO, 10 April—The government is considering not setting numerical power-saving targets in the summer for the first time since the March 2011 quake-tsunami disaster and nuclear crisis created power shortages in Japan, sources close to the matter said on Tuesday.

According to estimates reported by nine regional utilities, supply capacity will exceed demand by an average 6.3 percent in August—above the minimum required level of 3 percent—amid heightened awareness among consumers of the need to save power and an increase in thermal power generation. The estimates are based on the premise that two reactors operated by Kansai Electric Power Co continue to operate through

in Qatar and Bahrain were evacuated after the quake, whose epicentre was 89 km (55 miles) southeast of the port of Bushehr, according to the US Geological Survey. The early afternoon shock was also felt in financial hub Dubai.

The Russian company that built the nuclear power station, 18 km (11 miles) south of Bushehr, said the plant was unaffected.

“Personnel continue to work in the normal regime

damage to the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant and no radioactive release from the installation”, an agency statement said. One Bushehr resident said the quake shook her home and the homes of her neighbours but they were not damaged.

“We could clearly feel the earthquake,” Nikoo, who asked to be identified only by her first name, said. “The windows and chandeliers all shook.” While initial fears about nuclear fallout



Damaged houses are seen in the earthquake stricken town of Bushehr in Iran on 9 April, 2013.—REUTERS

and radiation levels are fully within the norm,” Russian state news agency *RIA* quoted an official at Atomstroyexport as saying.

Iran informed the UN’s International Atomic Energy Agency that there was “no

receded, nearer the epicentre the rescue efforts ramped up into the night in search of survivors and to feed and house hundreds of residents who were traumatised by at least 16 aftershocks.

Reuters

Australia PM eyes trilateral naval exercises with China and US



Australia’s Prime Minister Julia Gillard delivers a speech at the China’s Executive Leadership Academy in Pudong District, Shanghai, on 8 April, 2013.—REUTERS

BEIJING, 10 April—Australia is hoping to see trilateral naval exercises with China and the United States and is pursuing a new strategic partnership with Asia’s biggest economy, Prime Minister Julia Gillard said on Tuesday.

Gillard, speaking in Beijing at a trade forum,

Political dialogue only solution to Iranian nuclear issue

MOSCOW, 10 April—Moscow believes that the Iranian nuclear issue could be settled only via political dialogue on a mutual and gradual ground, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday.

The results of the talks between Iran and the so-called P5+1 group this year in Almaty and Istanbul “show that such a dialogue has a real prospect,” ministry spokesman Alexander Lukashevich said.

Moscow, he added, still insists that Iran fully implement the decisions by the UN Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency aimed at ruling out the “possibility that Tehean’s nuclear activity would obtain military dimension.”

“At the same time, we’ll persuade our partners that increasing the sanction pressure is a road to nowhere,” Lukashevich said, adding that a threat of use of force against Iran must be completely excluded.

Last week, representatives of Iran and P5+1 countries—Britain, China, France, Russia, the United States and Germany—as well as European Union envoys held a new round of talks in Kazakhstan’s Almaty.

Xinhua

said Australia was seeking more cooperation with China in clean energy and emissions trading.

Gillard said defence cooperation between China and Australia was likely to be strengthened, nearly three years after the two countries held bilateral naval drills, and said that would help bring stability to the region.

“Over time, we would like to see this extended to trilateral naval exercises including the United States,” she said at an Australia China Economic and Trade Forum in Beijing.

Australia has positioned itself as the strongest US ally in the Asia-Pacific region and it is also seeking firmer defence ties with China.—Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft, Nokia demand EU action over Google's Android

BRUSSELS, 10 April —Companies including Microsoft and Nokia have stepped up pressure on EU antitrust regulators to take action against Google, accusing it of blocking competition in mobile telephony. The complaint comes as Google attempts to resolve a two-year long investigation by the European Commission into its Internet search practices and avert a possible fine that could hit \$5 billion, or 10 percent of its 2012 revenue.

More than a dozen companies have voiced their grievances about Google's search practices to the Commission. The investigation's initial focus was on its desktop search

engine, but European Union Competition Commissioner Joaquin Almunia said last year he had received complaints about Google's Android, the world's most popular operating system for smartphones.

Almunia has said he aims to reach a settlement with Google in the latter half of the year. The complainants, however, are frustrated with the pace of his investigation.

In a complaint made public on Tuesday by their lobbying group FairSearch, Google's rivals accused the company of using Android to divert traffic to its search engine. FairSearch's other members include world No 3 software maker Oracle,



The Google signage is seen at the company's headquarters in New York on 8 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

online travel sites Expedia and TripAdvisor, French shopping comparison site Twenga, British price comparison site Foundem and US-based adMarketplace."

Google is using its Android mobile operating system as a 'Trojan Horse' to deceive partners, monopolize the mobile marketplace, and control consumer data," FairSearch's

lawyer Thomas Vinje said in a statement.

"Failure to act will only embolden Google to repeat its desktop abuses of dominance as consumers increasingly turn to a mobile platform dominated by Google's Android operating system," he said. The Commission declined to comment.

Reuters

Google, AT&T target Austin for high-speed Internet

SAN FRANCISCO/NEW YORK, 10 April—Google Inc said on Tuesday it plans to bring its ultra high-speed Internet and television service to Austin, Texas, next year, prompting AT&T Inc to reveal its own plans to follow suit — if it gets the same terms from local authorities. AT&T appeared to be making a political point to highlight the heavy regulations that encumber traditional phone companies, analysts said.

Google promised to begin connecting homes in Austin by the middle of 2014 with a 1-gigabit-per-second Internet service, roughly 13 times faster than the speediest service AT&T

had previously committed to offering and about three times faster than the zippiest available from Verizon Communications. The Austin launch would be Google's first move to expand its "Google Fiber" service beyond Kansas City, Missouri, introduced last year. Google says the Fiber Internet service is 100 times faster than today's average broadband performance.

But as Google unveiled its plans at an event in Austin that featured Texas Governor Rick Perry, Austin's mayor and other city officials, AT&T issued a challenge to the city to provide a more level playing field.

Reuters

Sea level rise threatens biodiversity in the Pacific

VIENNA, 10 April—The predicted rise in sea level in the Pacific in future will lead to heavy losses of habitat that will threaten numerous species, a new study showed on Tuesday.

Conducted by researchers from the Veterinary University of Vienna in conjunction with Yale University, the study is based on model calculations for the Southeast Asian and

Pacific Region and is published in the journal *Global Change Biology*.

The Veterinary University said its model calculations showed a sea level rise of about a metre by the end of the century, and up to 5.5 metres by the year 2500. It also examined more than 12,000 islands and 3,000 vertebrate animal species in the Southeast Asian and Pacific region.

The findings showed that a sea level rise in the region of only one metre would result in the loss of about one percent of land, which would in turn mean 14.7 percent of primarily small islands in the region would be completely flooded, threatening local species.

Should the sea level rise by up to 5.5 metres by 2500 as predicted, a loss of

9.3 percent of habitat in the region would occur, which poses a very significant threat to numerous species including those already endangered, and those who only live on certain islands.

Researchers said their results also reflected the threat a sea level rise poses to island and coastal animal species across the world, the Austrian Press Agency reported.—Xinhua



Google homepage logos are seen on a wall at the Google campus near Venice Beach, in Los Angeles, California on 13 Jan, 2012.—REUTERS

Six US Air Force cyber capabilities designated "weapons"



Medallions for (L-R) the US Air Force, Air Force Space Command, Air Force Cyber Command and the Air Force Space Command Network Operations & Security Centre (NOSC) are seen outside the NOSC at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado on 20 July, 2010.—REUTERS

COLORADO SPRINGS, (Colo), 10 April —The US Air Force has designated six cyber tools as weapons, which should help the programmes compete for increasingly scarce dollars in the Pentagon budget, an Air Force official said on Monday.

Lieutenant General John Hyten, Vice Commander of Air Force Space Command, which oversees satellite and cyberspace operation, said the new designations would help normalize military cyber

operations as the US military works to keep up with rapidly changing threats in the newest theatre of war.

"This means that the game-changing capability that cyber is is going to get more attention and the recognition that it deserves," Hyten told a cyber conference held in conjunction with the National Space Symposium in Colorado Springs.

Hyten's remarks came a month after US intelligence officials warned that cyber attacks have

supplanted terrorism as the top threat to the country. Spending on cyber security programmes has gone up in recent years, but may face pressure given mandatory across-the-board cuts to the Pentagon's planned spending on military equipment, programmes and staff.

Hyten said the recent decision by Air Force Chief of Staff General Mark Welsh to designate certain cyber tools as weapons would help ensure funding. "It's very, very hard to compete for resources ... You have to be able to make that case," he said.

Hyten said the Air Force is also working to better integrate cyber capabilities with other weapons. He gave no details on the new cyber weapons, but the Pentagon has become more open over the past year about its work to develop offensive cyber capabilities in the face of escalating cyber attacks by China, Russia, Iran and others.—Reuters

Citi files claim with Nasdaq for compensation from Facebook IPO

NEW YORK, 10 April—Citigroup has filed a claim with Nasdaq OMX Group to potentially receive compensation for losses associated with Facebook Inc's glitch-ridden market debut last May, according to two people with knowledge of the situation. Citi filed the claim on Monday, which is the deadline for applications from firms seeking to participate in the \$62 million compensation plan, but is still looking at all of its options, including legal options, said one of the

people. They did not have permission to speak with the media.

A spokeswoman for Citi had no comment, nor did a spokesman for Nasdaq. The filing was reported by the *Wall Street Journal* earlier on Monday. Citi's market-making arm lost around \$20 million in the 18 May IPO, a source told Reuters in May. That is just a sliver of the upwards of \$500 million that market-making firms — which facilitate trades, backing them with their own capital

— and brokers lost in the \$16 billion IPO.

UBS AG has pegged its losses from the problematic IPO at above \$350 million. It said on 25 March it had already filed an arbitration demand against Nasdaq to fully recover losses due to the exchange's "gross mishandling the IPO." Citi has been highly critical of Nasdaq's compensation plan as well, saying in a letter to the US Securities and Exchange Commission in August that the exchange operator should be liable for hundreds of millions of dollars more.

Liabilities at US exchanges, which have some regulatory duties, are capped when fulfilling those duties. Nasdaq's cap for technical glitches is \$3 million a month in most instances. But the New York-based exchange should be fully liable for all of the IPO losses, Citi argued, because it was operating in the capacity of a for-profit company during the IPO, and as such it should not have regulatory immunity.—Reuters



A Citi sign is seen at the Citigroup stall on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 16 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

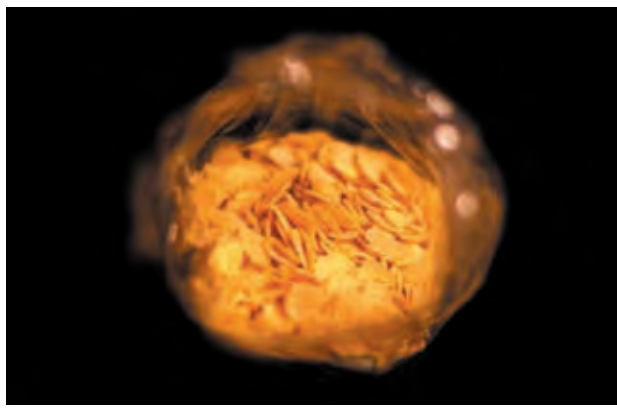
Breakfast cereal tied to lower BMI for kids

NEW YORK, 10 April—Regularly eating cereal for breakfast is tied to healthy weight for kids, according to a new study that endorses making breakfast cereal accessible to low-income kids to help fight childhood obesity. One in every four American children lives in a food insecure household where breakfast isn't a sure thing, lead author Dr Lana Frantzen told *Reuters Health*.

“(Cereal) is an excellent breakfast choice, it's simple, and gets those essential nutrients that children need, especially

low income minority children,” who tend to be hit hardest by childhood obesity and related health problems, said Frantzen, who is employed by Dairy MAX, a regional dairy council in Grand Prairie, Texas. Previous studies have linked eating breakfast with maintaining a lower body mass index (BMI) over time. The new study looked at the role that breakfast, specifically cereal, plays in both weight and nutrition among low-income kids.

Frantzen and her coauthors interviewed 625



A bag of corn flakes is seen in Bucharest on 23 April, 2012.—REUTERS

schoolchildren as they progressed from fourth to sixth grades in San Antonio. Once a year they asked the children to remember what they had had to eat over the previous three days and calculated their BMI, a

measure of weight relative to height. As fourth graders, 64 percent of the kids said they'd eaten breakfast on each of the last three days, compared to 42 percent by the time they were sixth graders.—*Reuters*

Roche immune therapy cancer drug shows promise in early study

NEW YORK, 10 April—An experimental drug that spurs the immune system to fight cancer appeared to be safe and demonstrated anti-tumour activity against a variety of cancers in a small early stage study, researchers said on Tuesday. The drug, called MPDL320A, was discovered and is being developed by Roche's Genentech unit. The Phase 1 trial of the drug in 30 patients with advanced cancer was designed as a dose escalation study to test for toxicity at higher doses. But researchers were also pleased to find early signs of effectiveness of the drug.

“We saw clear evidence of anti-tumor activity in a broad range of diagnoses, including lung cancer, kidney cancer, colon cancer and gastric cancer,” said Dr Michael

Gordon, who presented the data on Tuesday at the American Association for Cancer Research meeting in Washington, DC. The drug is an engineered antibody that targets a protein called PD-L1, for programmed death-ligand 1, and enables T cells of the immune system to more effectively attack cancer cells. PD-L1 is found on the surface of many cancer cells and impairs the immune system's ability to fight the disease. The drug was administered intravenously every three weeks, beginning with a dose of just 0.01 milligrams per kilogram of weight and increased up to a maximum dose of 20mg/kg. “There were no dose limiting toxicities,” Gordon, research director at Pinnacle Oncology Hematology in Scottsdale, Arizona, said in a telephone interview.

Reuters



A logo is pictured on Swiss drug makers Roche plant in Kaiseraugst near Basel on 21 July, 2008.—REUTERS

Reuters

Digital advertising defies downturn in Britain

LONDON, 10 April—Advertising spending on the internet jumped 12.5 percent in Britain last year, defying a flagging economy as companies battled to reach consumers spending more time on smartphones and tablet computers. The Internet Advertising Bureau (IAB) said on Wednesday a study conducted by PwC showed spending on online advertising reached 5.42 billion pounds in 2012.

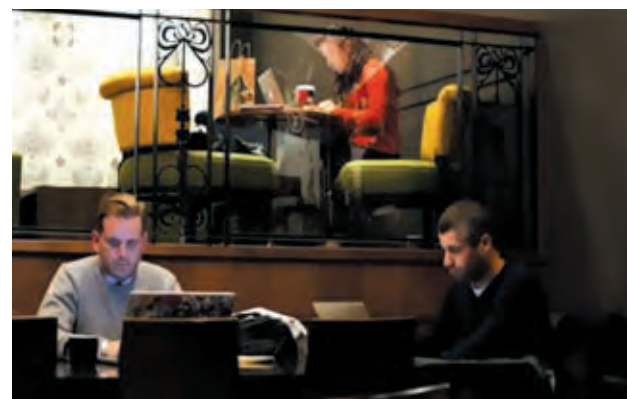
The study, which used data from companies that had provided information the previous year, said

Internet ad spending rose 607 million pounds on 2011, with some 323 million pounds due to an increase in mobile advertising. Britain has led the way in moving advertising from traditional areas like newspapers and radio to the Internet. A high take up of broadband and the rise of smartphones and tablet computers which allow users to access the internet on the go have helped the shift.

“Advertisers are increasingly buying integrated campaigns across online and mobile rather than regarding mobile

as an afterthought,” said Tim Elkington, Director of Research & Strategy at the Internet Advertising Bureau. With around two-thirds of Britons owning a smartphone as of December 2012, mobile advertising now accounts for almost 10 percent of all digital ad spending, compared with about 1 percent in 2009. Video advertising grew 46 percent to 160 million pounds, accounting for 12 percent of online and mobile display in 2012. Demand for mobile ads is likely to increase after auctions for next-generation 4G airwaves earlier this year, which are set to deliver speeds more than five times faster than 3G services.

These services will make downloading high-resolution video easier and enable better multi-tasking on the latest smartphones and tablets. EE, Britain's biggest mobile operator, said on Tuesday it was on track to sign up 1 million customers for its 4G service by the end of the year.—*Reuters*



Customers use laptop computers in Starbucks' Vigo Street branch in Mayfair, central London on 11 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Asian shares up on record Wall Street close, China trade data



Pedestrians holding umbrellas stand in front of a stock index board showing various stock prices outside a brokerage in Tokyo on 3 April, 2013.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 10 April—Asian shares edged higher on Wednesday after Wall Street closed at a record high overnight and Chinese trade data signalled a

recovery in the world's second largest economy was gathering strength, while the yen remained under pressure. China recorded a mild trade deficit of \$884

million in March as imports surged way ahead of market expectations, growing 14.1 percent year on year, while annual export growth of 10.0 percent were largely in line with forecasts.

The trade data indicated China's economic recovery remained on track, a day after an inflation report suggested policymakers could hold to an accommodative monetary policy for a while longer in order to help regain momentum in growth. Haibin Zhu, chief China economist at JP Morgan in Hong Kong said the surge in imports in March could help dispel a major concern over trends in domestic demand

that had been prompted by weakness of import growth in previous months.

“So the stronger than expected import growth for March suggest this cycle is probably coming to a turning point,” Zhu said. “If domestic demand turns out to be stronger than expected, it's definitely positive for the economic outlook.” The MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan was up 0.4 percent after rising 1 percent the day before. The Dow Jones industrial average closed at a record high on Tuesday on hopes for better corporate earnings.

Reuters

Japan drug firms eye stockpiling treatment in face of bird flu threat

TOKYO, 10 April—Pharmaceutical companies in Japan are getting ready for securing supplies of influenza drugs as bird flu infections among humans have been growing in China.

The World Health Organization sees antiviral drugs such as Tamiflu, Inavir and Relenza as effective in containing the H7N9 strain that is reported in China if they are given early in the course of illness.

Chugai Pharmaceutical

Co is in close touch with the Roche group of Switzerland, which manufactures Tamiflu and supplies Chugai with the drug for sale in Japan. Daiichi Sankyo Co, which manufactures Inavir, says the company is “prepared to boost production immediately if a major outbreak occurs.”

The Japanese unit of British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline, which manufactures Relenza, said if healthcare

institutions run out of the drug, the government's stockpile will have to be tapped. According to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, municipalities across Japan had a stockpile of Tamiflu and Relenza to treat 67.22 million people at the end of March. With the drugs' shelf life spanning six to seven years, the amount “should be sufficient” to meet an uptick in domestic demand, a ministry official said.

Kyodo News

New Zealand medical staff deployed to Solomon Islands to fight dengue outbreak

WELLINGTON, 10 April—New Zealand is to send medical staff to the Solomon Islands to help the Pacific nation battle an outbreak of dengue fever, the New Zealand government announced on Tuesday.

Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully said a New Zealand doctor and

a nurse would travel to the Solomons to help that government's response to the illness, which has killed three people and resulted in 1,700 suspected cases including 1,200 in the capital, Honiara.

“The outbreak has put considerable strain on the health system—depleting resources and overwhelm-

ing staff,” McCully said in a statement.

“The medical staff are from the Ministry of Health and will deploy for an initial period of up to two weeks as part of an Australian-led medical team.”

Dengue fever is a serious viral disease spread by the bite of infected mosquitoes.—*Xinhua*

WORLD

Kishida, Lavrov to discuss isle row, energy development

LONDON, 10 April—Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov will hold talks on Wednesday in London to discuss the territorial dispute and energy development cooperation. During their first face-to-face meeting, the two foreign ministers are expected to take up a wide range of issues, a Japanese official said.

The ministerial meeting is aimed at preparing for a summit meeting between Japanese Prime

Minister Shinzo Abe and Russian President Vladimir Putin to be held in Russia in late April.

Although Putin appears to be positive about resolving the long-standing dispute over four Russian-controlled islands off Hokkaido, any breakthrough is unlikely in the near future as a wide gap remains between the two countries.

Japan says it is flexible about when, how and on what conditions the islands should be returned, provided that Russia acknowl-

edges Japanese ownership of all four of them.

Russia says it is only prepared to resolve the territorial row by returning the smaller Shikotan and Habomai islets group. The two larger islands are Kunashiri and Etorofu.

The dispute over the four islands, known as the Northern Territories in Japan and as the Southern Kurils in Russia, has prevented the two countries from signing a peace treaty to formally conclude the World War II.—Kyodo News

Five UN peacekeepers, seven civilians killed in South Sudan

BOR, (South Sudan) 10 April—Five soldiers engaged in UN peacekeeping operations and seven civilians were killed in an ambush attack by armed assailants on Tuesday in the eastern state of Jonglei in South Sudan, a UN spokesperson said. The five soldiers were Indians, according to India's Ministry of External Affairs.

Five other soldiers and four other civilians were injured in the attack and some remain unaccounted for, according the spokesperson of the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS).

According to a UN official, all the civilians involved in the incident are South Sudanese.

The spokesperson and other sources said the attack occurred when a convoy of vehicles carrying Indian soldiers and others were travelling from Bor, the state capital, to Pibor.

The assailants have not been identified. A spokesman of South Sudan's military blamed the attack on fighters of a rebel leader, according to Associated Press. Japan has sent troops from the Ground Self-Defence Force to Juba, the country's capital, for peacekeeping operations. No Japanese troops have been involved in the incident.

Kyodo News

UN may cut food aid to Syrian refugees due to cash shortage



A Syrian refugee child stands behind a pile of bread during a visit by UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Antonio Guterres in Katermaya village in the Chouf mountains on 14 March, 2013.

REUTERS

BEIRUT/GENEVA, 10 April—The United Nations said on Tuesday it will halt food aid to 400,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon next month unless it receives urgent new funding.

The cash shortage is part of a wider financial shortfall that the organization says is threatening its

efforts to help nearly 1.3 million Syrian refugees and almost 4 million more people displaced inside Syria by the two-year conflict.

"The speed with which the crisis is deteriorating is much faster than the ability of the international community to finance the Syrian hu-

manitarian needs," Panos Moutmtzis, the UN refugee agency's regional coordinator for Syrian refugees said.

"We're afraid, if no more funds are made available urgently — and this is where we are at a breaking point — we will come to a point where we will have to start reducing aid, prioritising aid," he said in Geneva.

In Lebanon, where authorities and aid groups are struggling to cope with a growing wave of refugees already equivalent to 10 percent of the local population, the UN World Food Programme warned that it might be forced to cut back operations in May. "In one month, and with the current funding, more than 400,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon will no longer receive food assistance," WFP country operations head Etienne Labande said.

Reuters

Texas college student wounds 14 in stabbing spree

HOUSTON, 10 April—A male student went on a stabbing spree at a community college in northwest Houston on Tuesday, injuring at least 14 people, two of them critically, Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia said. The campus was sealed off. Garcia said at a Press conference that an emergency call came in at 11:12 am local time: "Male on the loose stabbing people." A 21-year-old male, a student at Lone Star College near Houston, was detained. Police did not release his name. Garcia declined to say what type of weapon the man used, although the injuries were mostly lacerations.

The campus, part of a Houston-area community college network, was

on lockdown and being methodically searched by police. "This is a sprawling campus," Harris County Sheriff's Department spokesman Alan Bernstein said on CNN. "It will take a long time to get through all these buildings, to interview everybody."

The suspect is believed to have acted alone, Garcia said. Earlier in the day, police had said they were searching for a possible second suspect.

Of the 14 injured, two were in critical condition, four in fair condition and eight others had minor injuries, Garcia said.

Garcia said that students and faculty quickly responded to subdue the suspect. Michael Chalfan, a student at the college, said

that shortly after he arrived on campus on Tuesday, he saw police taser the suspect, a student he recognized as a classmate in a drama class about a year

ago. Chalfan described the suspect as an eccentric student who carried a stuffed pet monkey around campus and regularly wore workout gloves.—Reuters



First responders help injured victims following a mass stabbing at the Cy-Fair campus of Lone Star College in northwest Houston, Texas, on 9 April, 2013.—REUTERS



The Union Flag flies at half mast over the Buckingham Palace following the death of former British Prime Minister Baroness Margaret Thatcher in London, Britain on 9 April, 2013. The funeral of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will be held in London on 17 April, the office of Prime Minister David Cameron said on Tuesday. —XINHUA

Turkey needs to take move to reach normalization of relations with Israel

JERUSALEM, 10 April—The road to restore the ties between Israel and Turkey got off to a bad start as a meeting to discuss several critical issues regarding reconciliation had been postponed from 12 April for ten days.

In addition, on Monday, the families of the Turkish activists killed in an Israeli raid on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla in May 2010 announced that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's apology on 22 March was insufficient and that they would continue to seek legal actions against Israeli officials and military officers whom they argue were responsible for the events on the ship.

Israel wanted the lawsuits would be dropped in return for compensation to the victims' families and the amount of the compensation was one of the issues that would be discussed during the now postponed meeting.

"Now if (Turkey) pushed Israel into this legal corner of compensation and courts and so on, the whole thing may collapse because the idea was to change the atmosphere in relations and what they are doing isn't changing the atmosphere,"

Dr Alon Liel, of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, told Xinhua on Tuesday.

In May 2010, the Mavi Marmara was intercepted and raided by Israeli forces as it was on its way to break the Israeli maritime blockade of the Hamas controlled Gaza strip, leaving nine dead.

Turkey then expelled the Israeli ambassador to Turkey and ended all military cooperation with Israel. The Turkish ambassador to Israel was recalled immediately after the incident, indicating the deteriorating in Israeli-Turkish relations.

Since the election of Erdogan in 2003 Turkey has changed its foreign policy to focus more on Middle East instead of Europe and the United States.

Efraim Inbar, a professor at the Bar-Ilan University, said that he was very skeptical of the Turkish desire for normalization and added that "unless the Turks change their foreign policy they won't improve relations with Israel."

Inbar argued that Turkey, once a very close ally of Israel, wants "to be a major factor in the Arab and Islamic world and as a result of that they are engaging in Israel bashing."—Xinhua

LOCAL NEWS

Construction of rice mill, irrigation facilities inspected in Pobbathiri Township



NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspected construction of 70-ton rice mill, cultivation of 500 acres of Paletwe paddy plantation reclamation of 900 acres of mechanized farming, digging of concrete

tributary canals, filling of gravels and storage of water at Setsetyo diversion weir near Aungthukha Village of Pobbathiri Township on

4 April.

After that, the Union minister left necessary instructions on works.

MNA

Power station fire in Ahlon Township

YANGON, 10 April—A fire broke out on the second floor of Recycle Power Plant in the compound of Ahlon Power Station under the Ministry of Electricity on Strand Road in Ayeyawady Ward of Ahlon Township at 11.40 pm on 4 April.

The fire started from leak of hydraulic oil.

Under the supervision of Director-General of Fire Services Department U Tin Moe, fire fighters con-

trolled the outbreak of fire with the use of 24 fire engines from FSD (Head Office), Ahlon, Kyimyindine, Sangyoung, Kyauktada, Tamway, Thakayta, Hline, Latha (Ahlon), Mayangon, Bayintnaung and Insein fire stations, two fire fighting machines and four management vehicles.

They totally put out the fire at 00.03 am on 5 April.

Myanma Alinn



Pilot census taking conducted in Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint attended the ceremony to launch the pilot census taking in Yoegoe Village of Mawlamyine Township on 4 April.

Together with Mon State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Htay Myint Aung and departmental officials, the Chief Minister formally opened the ceremony.

A similar ceremony was held in Kyaikto Township. staff of Township Immigration and National Registration Department took census on a trial basis in the designated wards of the township.

The Chief Minister also attended the ceremony to hand over permit to local farmers for cultivation of crops on the farmland at the town hall in Mudon.—MNA

Make hay while the Sun shines.

Pilot census taking conducted in Myawady

MYAWADY, 10 April—The pilot census taking 2013 was conducted in Whayshan Village of Myawady in Kayin State on 30 March.

Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Win Myint inspected works of taking census.

At the office of Myawady Township Immigration and National Registration Department,

the deputy minister met members of Kayin State, district and township census taking committee, town-selders and ward administrators.

At the meeting, he stressed the need for the people to join hands with the departmental personnel to be able to successfully conduct census taking 2013.

Myanma Alinn

Respects paid to retired teachers at Pyinyaygyi BEHS branch in Nyaunglebin

NYAUNGLEBIN, 10 April—A ceremony to pay respects to older persons and teachers was held at Basic Education High School branch in Pyinyaygyi Village of Nyaunglebin Township in Bago Region on 7 April.

Departmental personnel, acting headmistress Daw Thet Thet Naing, Chairman of the organizing committee retired teacher U Maung Tun, Mandalay Region High Court Judge Daw Lay Lay Mon, village administrator U Kyi

Hlaing, teachers and old students paid respects to 12 older persons and 30 retired teachers.

They presented gifts to older persons and retired teachers. The chairman of the organizing committee explained the purpose of holding the ceremony. Retired teachers gave words of advice. Old student Daw Lay Lay Mon spoke words of thanks.

Later, old students served a lunch to retired teachers.

NLM



Strong winds uproot trees, lamp-posts in Lashio

LASHIO, 10 April—Due to strong winds at 3.10 pm on 4 April, lamp-posts fell down in Lashio of Shan State.

The strong winds hit eight lamp-posts along the railway station road in Lashio.

In the incident, trees fell down but there was no casualty, said a local.

Myanma Alinn



NATIONAL

Myanmar-Chinese armies to enhance cooperation



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Chinese Ambassador Mr Yang Houlun and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yang Houlun and party at Zeyathiri Beikman here this evening.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander-in-Chief

(Air) Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and senior military officers from the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), and Chinese Military Attaché to Myanmar Senior Colonel Xiong Shaowei and officials.

The meeting focused on enhancing cooperation

between Myanmar and China and two armed forces, Myanmar-China strategic cooperative partnership, Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, border security, measures for combating drug trafficking and smuggling and security cooperation.

MNA

WFP to distribute rice to undernourished people



An MoU signing ceremony between the Ministry of Border Affairs and World Food Programme (WFP) in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—An MoU signing ceremony between the Ministry of Border Affairs and World Food Programme (WFP) was held at the ministry, here, this morning.

Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win delivered a speech on the occasion and regional director Mr Kenro Oshidari from WFP (Bangkok) office explained

the projects.

Director-General U Htway Hla of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs and WFP resident representative

Mr Carlos Veloso signed the MoU. The MoU's aims are: quick response to the disasters, rehabilitations, food sufficiency and promoting socio-economic status of people in conflict-affected areas, handling of undernourishment providing foods to the people with HIV disease and those with lung disease and children's easy access to education and development.

A total of 175,544 tons of rice worth USD 167.69 million contributed by WFP will be distributed to the undernourished people and those who lack food sufficiency in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine, Shan and Kayah States and Mon States and Magway, Tanintharyi and Yangon Regions between 2013 and 2015.

MNA

Daewoo E&P donates medical equipment worth US\$ 73,188 to Kyaukpyu, Yanbye Hospitals

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—On 15th March 2013, a ceremony was held at Kyaukpyu Hospital for the donation of medical equipment for Kyaukpyu Hospital and Yanbye Hospitals in Rakhine State.

Medical equipment, worth 73,188 USD, was handed over to Kyaukpyu and Yanbye Hospitals by Daewoo E&P on behalf of Shwe Consortium.

Since 2006, in consortium of Corporation Social Responsibilities (CSR), on behalf of Shwe Consortium, Daewoo E&P has provided necessary medical equipment to Kyaukpyu Hospital for the upgrading of hospital facilities which can promote

the public health care services.

Shwe Consortium is developing the gas fields in block A-1 and A-3, off the coast of Rakhine State, and consists of Daewoo International Cooperation, ONGC Videsh Limited, GAIL (India) Limited, Korea Gas Corporation (KOGAS) and Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE).

As the sole operator of Shwe Consortium, since 2006, prior to the gas production, Daewoo E&P has performed its Socio-Economic Programme and Environmental Conservation Programme with the expenditure of US\$ 2.6 million.

NLM

Myanmar, Colombia seek to include Myanmar cultural heritage sites on world heritage list

YANGON, 10 April—Concluding ceremony of workshop on "Heritage and Community Methodology for the Management of Cultural Properties in Myanmar" and launching of Publication "Heritage and Community" took place at the National Museum, here, this noon.

Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sandar Khin said, in her speech, that

the bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and Colombia in cultural sectors is aimed at helping prepare for the nomination dossier in inscribing the cultural heritage sites of the country on the world heritage list.

Next, Colombian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ms. Patti Londono extended greetings.

Mr. Carlos del Cairo Hurtado and Mr. Martin

Water supply master plan in Yangon City discussed

YANGON, 10 April—Discussion on Yangon City water supply and better sewage treatment and drainage system between Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) and Japan International Cooperation Agency, was held at Traders Hotel, here, Andrade Pe'rez from Colombia explained the advantages of the launching of the publication heritage and community.—MNA

this morning.

Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint said that suggestions and discussions would contribute much to YCDC's water supply. Resident representative of JICA (Myanmar) Office Mr Masahiko Tanaka delivered an opening speech. Officials from JICA respectively presented the programmes on supply of safe water, master plan for water supply and drainage system.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 11 April, 2013

Unique Thingyan

Myanmar's traditional New Year, better known as Thingyan water festival, kicks off on 13 April. This festival will mark the end of 1374 Myanmar Era and ringing in of 1375 ME. Myanmar celebrates New Year by throwing water at each other with the notion that dirt of an old year is got rid of by Thingyan water. Once the Thingyan water was doused with a spring of Padauk (Angsana) or Thabyay (Eugene). As time goes by, the style of celebrations has changed drastically. Today, we are using water pipes powered by pumps instead to soak every reveller on the road. Its very essence, cleaning the dirt of an old year, is still and all unchanged.

For the first time in more than two decades, this year's Thingyan festival will be featured by Thangyat (traditional chants) troupes who have broke silence in a contest a few days ahead of the festival. The return of chanters back to stage broadcast live by Skynet, one of two private TV broadcasters in Myanmar, drew attention of TV watchers. After celebrating its second year in office, the government has allowed the politically flavoured and critical chants on stage as the latest sign of greater freedom of speech and expression.

Thangyat was once a unique character of Myanmar's traditional New Year. Besides those lovely humorous chants, we should also preserve many other unique features of Thingyan. If Thingyan is no more than license to drink or shake on road to DJs' electro music like many youths seen today, it would become one of endangered cultures on the earth. Only unique things survive. We should start preserving unrivalling features of Thingyan through thorough understanding of our own culture. It would better explain how Myanmar is meant to be.

NATIONAL

Hluttaw must encourage development of primary industry

YANGON, 10 April—Coordination meeting for drafting the laws protecting the farmers' rights was held at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), here, this afternoon, with an address by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann.

In his speech, the Speaker called for socio-economic development of farmers and breeders called primary producers is directly related to the country's development. Their current problems are repayment of their debts, which is the problem of entire nation. Like other countries, the country needs a law that protects farmers and breeders. He called for cooperation between experienced experts in drafting the law.

He highlighted the pre-

scription of law for primary industry development and manufacturing of primary goods. In his conclusion speech, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said that Hluttaw has responsibility for encouragement of primary industry.

After that, chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Commission and committees submitted their reports. Deputy Ministers and officials also gave suggestions.

It was also attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa and officials from Hluttaw committees and commission, deputy ministers, officials from UMFCCI and its sister associations, Myanmar Banks Association and private banks association, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry



of Finance and Revenue, guests and media.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets with attendees at Coordination meeting for drafting the laws protecting the farmers' rights.

MNA

Refresher course No (5) for district judges concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo addressed the concluding ceremony of refresher course No (5) for district judges at the Supreme Court of the Union Office in Yan-

gon this morning.

He said the judicial sector should uphold the rule of law, stressing the need of judicial reforms and judicial independence.

District courts play a

key role in Myanmar's judicial system as they have to hear appeals on verdicts of township courts.

He called on the judges to make all-out efforts in seeking truth and justice.

The eight-week course

was completed by 42 trainees.

The chief justice held a meeting with the chief justice of Yangon Region High Court, judges and other judicial officers.

MNA

Minister U Paik Htway said in meeting with journalists and publishers in Magway Township General Administration Department Office this morning, referring to publishing of porno-graphic and gambling contents after dissolution of censorship.

Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Tint elaborated on the draft law. The deputy ministers and officials answered queries raised by those present at the meeting which was aimed at seeking advices from local journalists and publishers.

The meeting was also attended by the Region Hluttaw Speaker, Region ministers, Region Hluttaw representatives, journalists, publishers and observers.

MNA

Printing and publishing draft law meant to prevent "poisonous contents"



Deputy Information Minister U Paik Htway meets with journalists.—MNA

MAGWAY, 10 April—The printing and publish-

ing draft law was drawn to get rid of "poisonous

contents" from published works, Deputy Information

dren out of 16 children fall asleep upstairs dead. Moreover, according to the latest confessions of the children, the two teachers and U Ye Naung Thein of Mawlawi Organization, the fire was due to overheated regulator stemming from high

Findings of investigation committee over Yekyaw...

(from page 16)

fire was due to overheated regulator and diesel found was those kept for the blackout; that clothes found stained with diesel were covers of pillows and

shirts and blankets belong to the children.

He added that according to the detailed investigation, the fire started from overheated regulator, leaving 13 chil-

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Election Commission

Nay Pyi Taw

Notification No.10/2013

15th Waning of Tabaung, 1374 ME

(10th April, 2013)

Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw representative substituted

According to the request made in accordance with Section 33 of Region or State Hluttaw Election Law to substitute one Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw representative nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following one Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw representative under the Notification No. 31/2012 of the commission dated 22-6-2012 with personnel shown against him.

<p>Sagaing Region Hluttaw BC 21082 Major Kyaw Min Htut</p>	<p>BC 24861 Major Aye Zaw</p>
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By order,
Tin Tun
Secretary
Union Election Commission

real situation from the start of the incident; that misunderstanding was rife due to some speculations; that the findings had cleared suspicions, all faiths will be able to live in peace and harmony; and that was why the incident was made public as soon as possible to get rid of suspicions of the people. Afterwards, Secretary of Yangon Region Gov-

ernment U Khin Maung Thein read out the report on findings of the investigation committee. Next, the Yangon Region Chief Minister, Commander of Yangon Region MPF Police Col Win Naing and officials from the investigation committee and departmental personnel replied queries raised by those present.

MNA

WORLD

New defence budget means more financial uncertainty for Pentagon



US Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel (R) shakes hands with Deputy Secretary of Defence Ash Carter as he departs a news conference about the effects of the 'sequester' on military operations, at the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, on 1 March, 2013.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 10 April—The Obama administration is poised to roll out a 2014 defence budget that is billions of dollars higher than legally mandated spending caps, setting the stage for another year of financial uncertainty and turmoil at the Pentagon, defence analysts say.

The White House will propose a \$526.6 billion defence budget on Wednesday when it unveils its spending plan for the fiscal year beginning on 1 October, US

officials say. That is \$51 billion above the spending cap set by a 2011 law aimed at controlling government deficits. The White House budget plan proposes spending reductions and revenue increases that officials say would make defense cuts under a process known as sequestration unnecessary.

But a deal on taxes and spending with the Congress seems unlikely, given that President Barack Obama, a Democrat, and the Republican-controlled House

of Representatives have been trying for two years to achieve one.

As a result, the Pentagon appears to be headed toward another round of forced budget cuts in October with no plan in place for absorbing the reductions, even as it struggles to implement a \$41 billion budget cut for which it was ill-prepared. "By ignoring sequester and hoping for a grand bargain that has remained elusive ... Pentagon leaders are in for another year that looks like the one before it and the one before that, with no clarity in the short- or the long-term on budget or strategic matters," said Mackenzie Eaglen, a defence analyst at the conservative American Enterprise Institute think tank.

The White House, which opposes the sequester cuts, is not alone in proposing defence spending above the budget caps. The Senate and House of Representatives have passed 2014 budget resolutions calling for defence spending in the range of \$550 billion.

Reuters

France starts troops withdrawal from Mali

PARIS, 10 April—France has started to withdraw its troops from Mali, with the first group of 100 soldiers already leaving the West African country to Cyprus, local media reported on Tuesday.

The military's chief of staff said the 100 soldiers had been sent to Paphos in Cyprus on Monday, where they will spend three days in a hotel before heading back to France, the French radio RFI reported.

Those soldiers are from French army's parachute units. They had been deployed in north Mali where heavy fighting against Islamist rebels took place, according to the army sources.

On the weekend, French-led troops launched one of the largest offensives since its military intervention in Mali, attacking a valley thought to be a logistics base for al-Qaeda-linked Islamists near Gao. France sent troops in January for a military intervention in the West African country, targeting Islamist rebels who had threatened to take over the capital of Mali.—Xinhua

Colombians march in polarizing bid to make peace with FARC

BOGOTA, 10 April—Waving balloons and dressed in white, tens of thousands of Colombians marched in Bogota and across the nation on Tuesday in a polarizing gathering for peace that critics slam as a show of support for Marxist FARC rebels.

Throng of people chanting "We want peace" advanced toward the capital's main square, Plaza Boli-

var, a few blocks from where former presidential candidate Jorge Eliacer Gaitan was assassinated on 9 April, 65 years ago.

"The nation is expressing its rejection of violence, violence that has caused so many wounds and so much pain," President Juan Manuel Santos said as he joined the mass. The march, backed by leftist politicians Ivan Cepe-

da and Piedad Cordoba, aims to show a united front against violence and in favour of peace. But it has divided the nation, with many believing the movement is a launch pad for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, to enter politics.

Santos late on Monday called on the nation to reject what he called "enemies of peace" and join the march to show support for his historic bid to bring an end to five decades of bloodshed with the rebels.

"Peace is the sublime objective of any society," Santos said. Colombia, at war with the FARC since 1964, in November launched a controversial bid to negotiate peace with the rebels during talks in Havana, Cuba.

Critics say Santos is negotiating behind the nation's back and handing the FARC whatever they want.

Reuters



Colombians walk down a central avenue in Bogota during a nation-wide march for the country's peace and for the victims of war in Bogota on 9 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Six dead from suspected carbon monoxide poisoning in Ukraine

KIEV, 10 April—Six people were found dead on Tuesday in western Ukraine due to suspected carbon monoxide poisoning, authorities said.

The five young men

and one woman were found dead around noon in a rented house in Lvov region, according to the regional department of the State Service for Emergencies.

The dead probably

died from carbon monoxide poisoning caused by a leak in the heating stove, the agency added.

Further investigation is under way.

Xinhua

UN to extend retirement age to alleviate pension pressure

NEW YORK, 10 April—A United Nations committee has adopted a draft resolution to stretch the mandatory retirement age of workers at the international organization to 65 from 60-62 now, to alleviate pressure on pension costs amid an increase in longevity worldwide.

The new mandatory age in the document approved by the Fifth Committee on administrative budgetary issues is effective from those joining the organization in 2014. It is expected to be finalized soon in a vote at a plenary

meeting of the General Assembly.

The draft resolution, adopted on 28 March, says it "welcomes" a review of the new retirement age by the secretariat of the International Civil Service Commission with the implication of applying it to current staff members. The commission is tasked with examining manpower management issues at the United Nations.

UN staff members currently retire at between 60 and 62 depending on the organization they work for or the timing of recruit-

ment. Pension payments have been growing as the life spans of retirees extend, throwing into question the long-term sustainability of the pension fund. Since 2009, the commission has been exploring the possibility of extending the age.

The International Civil Service Commission is expected to consider potential impacts of delaying the retirement age for current staff by considering factors such as gender balance and geographical distribution before reporting it to the General Assembly after this autumn.—Kyodo News



A health worker sprays disinfectant at a poultry farm in Dayang Township of Bozhou City, east China's Anhui Province, on 9 April, 2013. Two patients from east China's Anhui and Jiangsu provinces who were confirmed as H7N9 cases days ago died of the avian influenza on Tuesday afternoon. This has brought the total number of deaths caused by the H7N9 bird flu in the country to nine. So far, China has reported a total of 28 H7N9 cases, including nine which ended in fatalities.—XINHUA

IAEA mission on reactor decommissioning to visit Japan

TOKYO, 10 April—The Japanese government said on Tuesday it will welcome an International Atomic Energy Agency mission next week to seek advice on the country's ongoing efforts toward scrapping the crippled reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

The 12-member team will be led by Juan Carlos Lentijo of the IAEA Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology. It is the first time that Japan has invited an IAEA mission focusing on decommissioning, an official of the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy said.

Issues that could be taken up include the recent water leakage from underground tanks storing radioactive water at the Fukushima plant, the condition of

the meltdown reactors, and the soundness of buildings housing reactors and spent fuel pools, the official said.

Since the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami triggered the nuclear crisis, TEPCO has continued to grapple with massive amounts of radioactive water that have accumulated inside the plant as a result of continuing water injections into the meltdown reactors. The utility and the government currently plan to spend up to 40 years in scrapping the four reactor units severely damaged during the nuclear crisis, three of which suffered core meltdowns.

The IAEA mission will start working next Monday and is expected to release a preliminary report on 22 April, the official added.

Kyodo News

US online retailer Amazon.com Inc's distribution subsidiary shows reporters its distribution depot in Tajimi, Gifu Prefecture, central Japan, on 9 April, 2013. The facility began operation in November 2012.—KYODO NEWS



REGIONAL

Four-year-old boy in Vietnam dies from H5N1 bird flu

HANOI, 10 April—A 4-year-old boy in southern Vietnam died from the H5N1 strain of bird flu last week, Vietnamese health officials said on Tuesday.

This is the first reported death in Vietnam since 28 January last year of a patient infected with the H5N1 virus, which swept many countries

in the past decade. Vietnamese health officials said the boy, who lived in Dong Thap Province, west of Ho Chi Minh City, fell ill with high fever and cough on 23 March and died last Thursday.

Medical experts found out that the boy was infected with the H5N1 virus a day after his death.

According to the World Health Organization, including the 4-year-old boy, the H5N1 virus has infected a total of 124 people in Vietnam since 2003, killing 62 of them. Vietnam reported four cases of human infection of the H5N1 virus last year and two of them died from the disease.—Kyodo News

A model presents a machine at the 7th China Jiangsu International Agricultural Machinery Fair in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 9 April, 2013. The three-day fair kicked off on Tuesday at Nanjing International Expo Centre.—XINHUA



ADB predicts developing Asia will bounce back this year

HONG KONG, 10 April—The Asian Development Bank said on Tuesday developing economies in Asia are projected to expand 6.6 percent this year and 6.7 percent in 2014, up from 6.1 percent in 2012, with robust domestic demand and greater reliance on regional trade set to accelerate growth.

Growth will rise in China from 7.8 percent in 2012 to 8.2 percent in 2013 and then fall back to 8 percent in 2014 as the government moves to cool pressure on the environment and to address income inequality, the Asian Development Outlook 2013 report said.

“The rebound in China and solid momentum in Southeast Asia are lifting the region's pace after the softer performance of

2012,” said Changyong Rhee, the ADB's chief economist, speaking in Hong Kong.

“Domestic spending, in particular consumption, is the main driver of the recovery, and is a welcome shift from the reliance on the markets of advanced economies,” Rhee said.

“Resilient private consumption demand will help maintain that pace into 2014,” the report said. But it warns that Asia's recovery remains vulnerable to global shocks.

“Strong capital inflows could feed asset bubbles. Political discord surrounding fiscal debates in the United States like the US debt ceiling, deepening austerity fatigue in the euro zone, and simmering border disputes in Asia could

jeopardize macroeconomic stability,” the report says.

It says inflation, though still relatively stable, is forecast to pick up as regional economies return to their production potential in the midst of rising global liquidity from advanced economies.

“Consumer prices are expected to rise by 4 percent in 2013 and 4.2 percent in 2014, up from 3.7 percent last year. These pressures remain manageable for now, but will need to be monitored closely, especially as strong capital inflows raise the specter of potential asset market bubbles.”

Rhee said most Asian economies “now seem to operate near production potential...and we expect the advanced economies will continue with their loose

monetary policies for a while.”

“There are several Asian economies trying to reduce many subsidies, especially fossil fuel subsidies, and inevitably that will increase the inflation pressure for those economies. We believe the inflation pressure is building now,” he said.

The outlook report says South Asia will see a turnaround after two years of economic softening, with growth estimated at 5.7 percent in 2013 and 6.2 percent in 2014. “India will lead the upturn, with projected growth of 6 percent and 6.5 percent, but the world's second most populous country is still struggling to realize its full potential, with structural and policy issues inhibiting investment,” it says.

Kyodo News

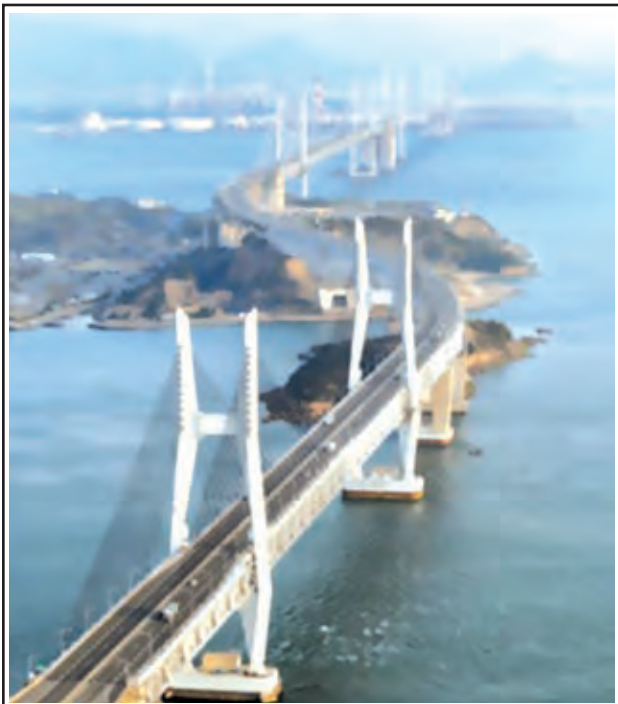


Photo from a Kyodo News helicopter shows the Seto Ohashi Bridge, linking Japan's Honshu and Shikoku islands, which marked the 25th anniversary of its opening on 10 April, 2013.

KYODO NEWS

Indonesia to hold South-South Cooperation forum

JAKARTA, 10 April—Indonesia is scheduled to hold an international event aimed at enhancing its role in South-South Cooperation alignment on 17 April that would be featured with seminar and exhibitions to socialize the country's commitment and policies in the implementation of South-South cooperation, a senior official at Indonesia's foreign affairs ministry said here on Tuesday.

The event, called Indonesia's South-South and

Triangular Forum, would be attended by officials from international organizations, diplomats, related ministries, experts, Non-government organizations (NGOs) and many think tank agencies, said Wicaksono, a senior official at Indonesian foreign affairs ministry's technical cooperation directorate.

He added that the event themed “Sharing of Indonesia's Capacities through the Development of Community of Practice” was

also intended to promote experiences and flagship programmes conducted by agencies involved in South-South technical cooperation held in Indonesia.

Wicaksono said that during the event, Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Marty Natalegawa would announce four of Indonesia's funded South-South cooperation programmes set to be implemented this year.

Of those four programmes, infrastructure training for Afghanistan and micro finance training programme for Palestine would be the most important ones as they were part of Indonesia's commitments to improve capacity building in those war-torn countries.—Xinhua

Four workers injured in factory explosion in Osaka, Japan

OSAKA, 10 April—Four workers were injured, two seriously, in an explosion occurred on Tuesday at a metal processing factory in the western Japanese prefecture of Osaka, local officials said.

The accident happened at round 11 am local time at the plant in Sakai City of the prefecture, and local rescue teams carried the four men to hospitals according to the spokesperson at the city's fire bureau.

The spokesperson told Xinhua that the most seriously injured of the four is a 35-year-old worker who was

badly burned after the blast, adding that he is in a life-threatening condition after he was rescued from the blast site, and another 54-year-old man is also treated in a specialized burn unit of the hospital.

The accident happened at a melting furnace in the plant, and local police and the fire department are jointly investigating details of the explosion, the spokesperson said. The factory belongs to Nippon Shindo Company, which is mainly engaged in the manufacture and sale of copper products.—Xinhua

Malaysia's elections set on 5 May

PUTRAJAYA, (Malaysia), 10 April—Malaysians will vote on 5 May in the country's 13th general elections with nomination set on 20 April, the Election Commission announced on Tuesday.

Candidates are given 16 days to campaign in the elections, longer than the period allotted in previous elections.

ASEAN on target to establish AEC by 2015

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 10 April—The 9th meeting of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council meeting opened on Wednesday at Brunei's International Convention Centre. The top agenda of the meeting is to facilitate the establishment of the AEC by 2015.

The AEC Council is

Parliamentary and state elections will be held simultaneously.

Prime minister Najib Razak had last Wednesday dissolved the parliament.

Election commission chairman Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof told a press conference at the Election Commission headquarters the commission is prepared to spend 400 million ringgit in

the election, making it the most expensive election to date, as he gave repeated assurance that the election process will be clean and fair. “We have cleaned up the electoral rolls and check the data from time to time. We have tried our best I am satisfied that this would be the most peaceful elections,” Abdul Aziz said.

Xinhua

one of the three community councils that was established under Article 9 of the ASEAN Charter to oversee the work plan towards the creation of the ASEAN Community.

The AEC Council is primarily to oversee the implementation of the AEC Blueprint, coordinate the sectoral bodies under its

purview and submit its report, including any recommendations, to the ASEAN Summit.

The council is expected to discuss the AEC Scorecard which tracks the implementation of the AEC Blueprint, particularly in view of the target to establish the AEC by 2015.

The council will also review progress made in further facilitating and encouraging the flow of services and professionals across borders, developments in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations since its launch in November last year and the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity.—Xinhua



People visit the Resorts World Sentosa's SEA Aquarium in Singapore, on 9 April, 2013. The aquarium, is the official record holder of the two Guinness World Records - for the world's largest aquarium and for the world's largest acrylic panel in its Ocean Gallery, according to the announcement of the Resorts World Sentosa.

XINHUA

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Same person with two names

Both my names Dr. Kyaw Win also known as Dr. Kyaw Htye are used only for one person. This affidavit was sworn and signed before and by the Yangon Region High Court Judge.

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Notice is hereby given that Sojitz Infinity Inc., a corporation incorporated in Japan and having its office at Akasaka DS Bldg, 10F No. 8-5-28, Akasaka Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052, Japan is the owner of following Trade Mark:-

McGREGOR

Reg. No. (JV) - 12407/2012
The said Trade Mark is used on or in respect of the following goods:-

"International Class 25, i.e. clothing, footwear and headgear, International Class 24, i.e. Bed cover, table cover, towels, handkerchiefs, sleeping bags etc., International Class 18 i.e. Trunks, Travelling bags, umbrellas, parasols etc."

Any imitation or fraudulent use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to Law.

KAY THI OHN, LL.M
Advocate

No.3, 34th Street, Yangon.
ohn_associates@myanmar.net.mm
Date : 11-4-2013

Nine dead of H7N9 bird flu in China

BEIJING, 10 April—Two patients from east China's Anhui and Jiangsu Provinces who were confirmed as H7N9 cases days ago died of the avian influenza on Tuesday afternoon, said health authorities.

This has brought the total number of deaths caused by the H7N9 bird flu in the country to nine, the National Health and Family Planning Commission announced in a daily update on H7N9 cases across China.

The agency also said that, during the 25-hour period ending 6 pm on Tuesday, China has confirmed four new cases of H7N9 avian influenza, with two each in east China's Zhejiang Province and Shanghai City.

China officially confirmed the occurrence of human infection with the H7N9 virus late last month.

So far, China has reported a total of 28 H7N9 cases, including nine which ended in fatalities.

A total of 13 cases, including five ending in fatalities, have been reported in Shanghai. Eight cases, including one death, have been reported in Jiangsu, and two cases, including one death, in Anhui. Five cases have been reported in Zhejiang, with two deaths.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BLPL ECLIPSE VOY NO (1213N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BLPL ECLIPSE VOY NO (1213N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORIENT EXPRESS LINE
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RATNA VOY NO (887)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RATNA VOY NO (887) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.4.2013 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

Ministry of Information Open tender for purchase of Set-top Boxes for Myanma Radio and Television

1. Myanma Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information invites open tenders to purchase DVB-T2 Set-top Boxes in US dollar to transform Analogue system to Digital one.

(a) DVB-T2 Set-top Box (Free to Air) 1,000,000 Nos.

2. Open tender forms are to be drawn from Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm during the office days as of 9-4-2013.

3. The open tender forms are to be submitted in the presence of the Tender Board members at Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon, from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm on 8-5-2013. The overdue tender forms will not be considered.

4. Disciplines for the open tender forms, list of machinery and detail information are available at the following address.

Machinery Purchase Committee
Myanma Radio and Television,
Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon)
Ministry of Information
Tel: 067-79411, 067-79135

A visitor poses for photo with a British taxi at a cruise for the "Great Britain" promotion event in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 8 April, 2013. Several British taxis set out from Shanghai and will stop at Hangzhou, Hefei and Nanjing during the three-day cruise.

XINHUA

Assistant White House chef faces furlough due to budget cuts



White House Chef Sam Kass drops freshly harvested pumpkins into a wheelbarrow during the fall harvest of the White House Kitchen Garden at the White House in Washington, on 20 Oct, 2010.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 10 April—Assistant White House chef Sam Kass, who cooks weekly for President Barack Obama and helps run a programme to battle childhood obesity, said on Tuesday he will be furloughed because of federal budget cuts.

Kass mentioned the furlough while talking to reporters about Let's Move, a childhood obesity initiative of first lady Michelle Obama. The program will not be affected by automatic budget cuts that took effect on 1 March but he said, "We're being furloughed."

A White House spokesman who accompanied Kass to the briefing declined to comment and the White House provided no details. Kass said he continues to cook for the Obamas weekly despite his increasing duties with Let's Move.

The White House has an executive chef and four assistant chefs. It was unclear whether other chefs would be affected by furloughs forced by budget cuts. Some federal workers face furloughs of one day a week through September 30, but the impact varies among agencies. Some cut spending sufficiently to avoid any furloughs.

A Chicago chef, Kass joined the White House staff during Obama's first term and helped create the vegetable garden on the South Lawn that has provided more than 3,000 pounds (1,361 kg) of home-grown produce for White House meals. He is also an occasional golf partner of the president. Last week, 45 elementary school students took part in spring planting of the garden.—Reuters

Australian gov't to investigate asylum seeker boat arrival

CANBERRA, 10 April—Australian government will investigate how a boat full of asylum seekers from Sri Lanka managed to make it to the West Australian port of Geraldton without being detected by border patrol authorities, Home Affairs Minister Jason Clare said on Wednesday.

A boat carrying more than 60 asylum seekers has arrived in the port city of Geraldton in the Mid West region of Western Australia, local media reported on Tuesday.

Geraldton is the usual destination of asylum seekers heading for Australia, located 2,240 kilometres south of an offshore detention centre for asylum seekers in Christmas Island. Clare said a review would be carried out Wednesday into how the vessel made it to the mainland undetected, the first to do so in about five years.

"It seems like a very unusual circumstance in which people have traveled directly from Sri Lanka to the southern coast of Australia," he told ABC Radio. He added it was his understanding their processing would be treated no differently just because they reached on the mainland.

Xinhua

Cambodia, Slovakia hold 1st talk to discuss bilateral ties, int'l matters

PHNOM PENH, 10 April—The first consultative meeting between Cambodia and Slovakia was held here on Tuesday to discuss ways to promote bilateral ties and exchange views on regional and international issues.

The meeting was co-chaired by Cambodian Secretary of State for Foreign Ministry Ouch Borith and the visiting Slovakian Deputy Foreign Minister Peter Burian.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Ouch Borith said on bilateral relations, the two countries agreed to enhance cooperation in politics, economics, trade, tourism and education.

He said, in the meeting, he presented the Slovakian delegation about Cambodia's four major sectors supporting the economic growth—garment industry, tourism, real estate, construction, and agriculture. He appealed to

Slovakian investors to consider investing in tourism and agriculture because the two sectors still have much room to grow. Burian also pledged to encourage Slovakian investors to mull investment in Cambodia's tourism and agriculture, adding that the two countries should establish a joint economic commission to determine specific priority sectors for future cooperation. Cambodia and Slovakia forged diplomatic ties in 1997. To date, bilateral trade and investment ties remain relatively small, and on tourism side, some 1,700 Slovaks visited Cambodia last year, up 34 percent year-on-year, according to a tourism report. During the meeting, the two sides also exchanged views on regional and international issues, especially on the Korean peninsula dispute and Iran's nuclear weapon program.—Xinhua



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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

Dated: 11th April, 2013

INVITATION FOR BIDS TO CONDUCT PETROLEUM OPERATIONS IN MYANMAR OFFSHORE AREAS (2013)

1. The Ministry of Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar hereby announces Invitation of Sealed Bids for Petroleum Operations to be conducted in Myanmar Offshore Areas (Shallow Water and Deep Water Blocks) on production sharing basis.

2. The following Offshore blocks are available for bidding in this bidding round:-
Offshore Shallow Water Blocks

No.	Block	Area	Type of Contract
(1)	A-4	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(2)	A-5	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(3)	A-7	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(4)	M-4	(Moattama Offshore Area)	PSC
(5)	M-7	(Moattama Offshore Area)	PSC
(6)	M-8	(Moattama Offshore Area)	PSC
(7)	M-15	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC
(8)	M-16	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC
(9)	M-17	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC
(10)	M-18	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC
(11)	YEB	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC

Offshore Deep Water Blocks

No.	Block	Area	Type of Contract
(1)	AD-2	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(2)	AD-3	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(3)	AD-4	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(4)	AD-5	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(5)	AD-9	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(6)	AD-10	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(7)	AD-11	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(8)	AD-12	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(9)	AD-13	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(10)	AD-14	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(11)	AD-15	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(12)	AD-16	(Rakhine Offshore Area)	PSC
(13)	MD-1	(Moattama Offshore Area)	PSC
(14)	MD-2	(Moattama Offshore Area)	PSC
(15)	MD-3	(Moattama Offshore Area)	PSC
(16)	MD-4	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC
(17)	MD-5	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC
(18)	MD-6	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC
(19)	YWB	(Tanintharyi Offshore Area)	PSC

3. All interested parties are cordially invited to submit **“the Letter of Expression of Interest”, together with Company’s Article of Association (AOA), Memorandum of Association (MOA), Certificate of Incorporation, latest Annual Report and latest Financial Statement (or) Financial Report and Detailed Track Record, which are to be endorsed for authenticity by the respective Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the place of Company’s registration (or) establishment or nearest, in sealed envelopes superscripted “Confidential” “Myanmar Offshore Blocks First Bidding Round-2013”, to the following address and the closing date and time for receiving the submissions will be 14th June 2013 at 16:30 hours.**

Director General
Energy Planning Department
Ministry of Energy
Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

4. The “Letter of Expression of Interest” must be submitted together with all the documents mentioned in above paragraph 3. If the “Letter of Expression of Interest” is not accompanied by all the documents mentioned in above paragraph 3, it will be not considered. Also if the submission is not received at the Ministry of Energy within the stated closing date and date of 14th June 2013 at 16:30 hours, the late arrivals will not be considered.

5. The petroleum operation shall be conducted on production sharing basis and the party(s), who desire to enter into the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) with the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) must have technical competency, financial capability, experience, expertise and technical Know-how to conduct petroleum exploration and development works in Offshore areas and must have good track record with respect to offshore petroleum operations.

6. The potential bidders will be pre-qualified and selected. Then the potential bidders who passed pre-qualification will be presented with General Overview of each Block consisting of representative data and information, free of charge, by Geological/Geophysical Team of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise.

7. The potential bidders will also be explained and provided with Standard Terms and Conditions of both Shallow Water and Deep Water Blocks by Energy Planning Department, in order to submit proposal(s).

8. The potential bidders will be allowed to submit up to three (3) proposals for any three (3) offshore blocks (Shallow Water and/or Deep Water and/or both) together with proposed Terms and Conditions. The proposal submitted shall be on a block by block basis.

9. Due to time limitation and in anticipation to interests shown by many international oil companies, there will be no negotiation with respect to proposed terms and conditions. Hence, potential bidders has a single chance to submit their proposed terms and conditions and the submitted proposed term and condition must be a final one and non-negotiable.

10. The potential bidders’ proposed Terms and Conditions together with other relevant information as stated in above paragraph 3, will be evaluated and the best offered Terms and Conditions will be selected for awarding.

11. The potential bidders must cooperate with a minimum of one (1) Myanmar national owned company registered at Energy Planning Department, Ministry of Energy, of their own choosing in Shallow Water Blocks. The potential bidders must conduct Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) without participation of any Myanmar national owned company in Deep Water Blocks.

12. Energy Planning Department will provide the list of Myanmar national owned companies registered at Energy Planning Department to interested foreign companies, for Shallow Water Blocks.

Director General
Energy Planning Department
Ministry of Energy
Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

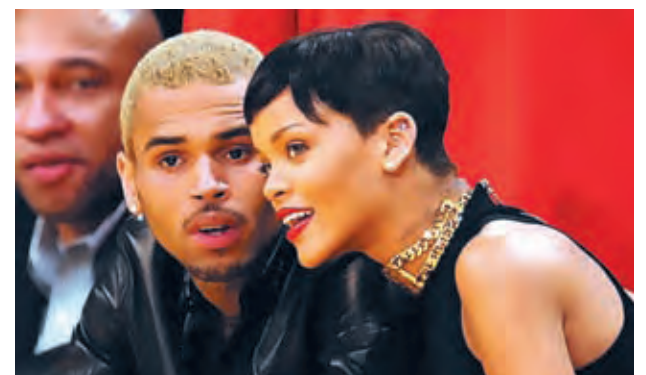
Note: For further inquiry (and/or) information, please contact the followings:-

- (1) Director General
Energy Planning Department
Ministry of Energy, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: 95-67 411 099/ 411 057
Fax: 95-67 411 113
Email: myanmoe@mptmail.net.mm
- (2) Managing Director
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: 95-67 411 055/ 411 056
Fax: 95-67 411 125
Email: mogedirplan@energy.gov.mm
- (3) Myanmar Embassies in respective Countries

Chris Brown, Rihanna too busy to see each other

LOS ANGELES, 10 April — Chris Brown and Rihanna are finding it difficult to spend time together because of their busy schedules. The couple, who reconciled last year even though Brown is still on probation for beating Rihanna up in 2009, were spotted partying at different Los Angeles hot-spots over the weekend but friends insist they are still together and just have a lot going on, reported Hollywood Life.

“Chris ain’t trying to hear no nonsense today. It’s simple, he with Ri. They’re cool and if and when something changes between them that’s between them —they both have a lot going in their



Rihanna and Chris Brown re-united in 2012 after their infamous split in 2009.—PTI

careers right now and just doing them and focused on they work,” a source said. “They’ve been trying to connect but it hasn’t been clicking for them. It ain’t like Rihanna got time to just chill and run through — she’s on tour and her schedule is way too tight.”

Brown recently revealed he revealed loves collaborating with Rihanna and they have a great working relationship because they are so similar. “It flows easy. What works with us is that we have similar ways of creating music. It’s as effortless as can be,” he said.—PTI

Tom Cruise confirms Mission Impossible 5

LOS ANGELES, 10 April — Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise has revealed that a fifth Mission: Impossible film is in the works. Cruise confirmed the planned sequel during an appearance on The Graham Norton show, reported Digital Spy.

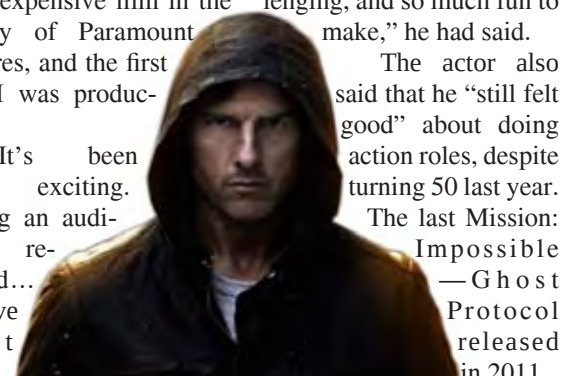
He replied when asked about the series: “I am working on the story.” However, he declined to give any more details. Cruise had said in October that he would be keen to make another Mission: Impossible film.

“I started Mission: Impossible hoping I could make many of them. It’s a character that I can grow with. At that time it was the most expensive film in the history of Paramount Pictures, and the first film I was producing.

“It’s been pretty exciting. Seeing an audience re-spond... to have t h a t

experience is really wonderful. I’ll make a bunch of those. I’ll make as many as people want to see... because they’re very challenging, and so much fun to make,” he had said.

The actor also said that he “still felt good” about doing action roles, despite turning 50 last year. The last Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol released in 2011.



Tom Cruise

PTI

SPORTS

Dortmund defeat Malaga 3-2 in dramatic Champions League match

BERLIN, 10 April—Dortmund's Felipe Santana flabbergasted Malaga with his winner at the injury time to claim a 3-2 victory in Champions League quarterfinals second leg match on Tuesday. After the goalless first leg, Dortmund were in need of a victory to progress into the semi-finals whereas Malaga needed a draw or a victory to advance.

It looked like a decisive goal when Malaga's Eliseu Pereira dos Santos made it 2-1 at the 82nd minute to force Dortmund to win the match. However, they turned things around within two minutes to shock the visitors from Spain. Both sides staged a slow start but with 15 minutes into the match Dortmund's Robert Lewan-

dowski approached Malaga's goal with a lob over the bar. The hosts controlled the proceeding on the pitch but it were the visitors that opened the scoring against the run of the game when Joaquin Sanchez Rodriguez danced through Dortmund defence to curl the ball from 18 metres into the bottom right with 25 minutes into the match.

Dortmund pilled on the pressure and responded five minutes before the break as Robert Lewandowski utilized Marco Reus's back heel pass to slot home into the open goal. After the break Dortmund again dictated the proceedings on the pitch but yet they were unable to grab the lead. Malaga's keeper Wilfredo Daniel Caballero Lazcano secured the

draw with two great saves to deny Marco Reus and Mario Goetze the score. Goals were scored at the other end of the pitch as Eliseu Pereira dos Santos finished a counter out of the blue to make it 2-1 on the scoreboards at the 82nd minute. It looked like an early knockout but Dortmund kept it bowling to overpower the visitors in the closing period. The hosts pressed Malaga into their own territory to make it 2-2 on the scoreboards with one minute into the additional time. However, Dortmund were able to turn around a nearly impossible deficit as Felipe Santana tapped in the ball from very close range to secure his side Champions League semi finals with a 3-2 win on aggregate.—Xinhua

Ind Davis Cup players presented luxury watches

BANGALORE, 10 April—The four members of the Indian Davis Cup team that won the Asia/Oceania relegation play-off match against Indonesia were presented with a Chairros luxury watch each by e-commerce firm QNET India.

India beat Indonesia 5-0 in the Asia/Oceania relegation play-off match here on Sunday. The four members of the team were Leander Paes, Somdev Devvarman, Yuki Bhambhani and Sanam Singh. QNET is the official sponsor of Indian Davis Cup team.—PTI



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo (R) vies with Galatasaray's Nordin Amrabat during the UEFA Champions League quarter final second leg soccer match between Galatasaray and Real Madrid in Istanbul, Turkey, on 9 April, 2013. Real Madrid lost 2-3 but entered the semifinal with a total result 5-3.—XINHUA

Recharged Woods eyeing Masters victory

AUGUSTA, (Georgia), 10 April—Tiger Woods is happier and healthier than he has been in years. His aching knee has stopped hurting and he has a new love interest. His golf game is in great shape as well, having already won three tournaments this year and returning to top spot in the

world rankings. The only thing missing is a new major. It has been five years since the 37-year-old won the last of his 14 major titles, stalling in his bid to beat Jack Nicklaus's record of 18. If his state of mind counts for anything, Woods could add to his collection this week where he is the

overwhelming favourite to win the 11-14 April Masters.

"I think life is all about having a balance and trying to find equilibrium and not getting things one way or the other," he told a news conference at Augusta National on Tuesday. "And I feel very balanced." Woods has had enjoyed a prickly relationship with the media in recent years after his infidelities were exposed to the world and his marriage collapsed.

But he was all smiles when he faced his inquisitors on Tuesday, speaking candidly about his game and mindset and even cracking a joke about whether he could end his eight-year drought at the Masters after growing a small beard. "(I've) never won a major with a goatee on because it takes a long time for this thing to grow," he said.—Reuters



Tiger Woods of the US (L) watches his tee shot on the third hole next to compatriot Fred Couples during a practice round in preparation for the 2013 Masters golf tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia, on 9 April, 2013.—REUTERS

NFL wants brain injuries suit dismissed as 'workplace' issue

PHILADELPHIA, 10 April—Lawyers argued in federal court on Tuesday over whether 4,200 former NFL players can sue the league over brain injuries or whether the issue should be decided under the players' collective bargaining agreement.

In what could be a high stakes challenge for both sides, the players want the case heard in court, their attorney David Frederick said on Tuesday. He argued that the league failed to dis-

close information about the risks of playing football and "glorified violence at the expense of the players." NFL lawyer Paul Clement, however, called it a "case about workplace safety." He said suing the league is not the way to go since the NFL Players Association has a collective bargaining agreement.

"There is a certain give-and-take with collective bargaining and you don't have the same rights to sue an employer as somebody



A football helmet's health warning sticker is pictured between a US flag and the number 55, in memory of former student and NFL player Junior Seau, as the Oceanside Pirates high school football team prepares for their Friday night game in Oceanside, California on 14 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

in a non-unionized industry would have," Clement told reporters outside the court. The hearing before US District Court Judge Anita Bro-

Cheerleaders compete during the 2013 Sea to Sky International Cheerleading Championship in Vancouver, Canada, on 7 April, 2013. More than 3,500 athletes from 135 cheerleading teams competed for a chance to perform at the 2013 World Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida, at the end of April 2013. XINHUA



Seedorf escapes 12-match ban with warning

RIO DE JANEIRO, 10 April—Clarence Seedorf is free to play for Botafogo against Friburguense on Wednesday after the former AC Milan midfielder was spared a possible 12-match ban by a Brazilian sports tribunal on Tuesday. The 36-year-old faced charges of "conduct contrary to the ethics of sport" and "offending the referee's honour" over an incident that led to his injury-time dismissal in Botafogo's 2-1

victory over Madureira on 24 March.

The former Dutch international was shown successive yellow cards after arguing with referee Philip Georg Bennett over where to leave the pitch when substituted during the Campeonato Carioca match. "The referee did not want to talk to me," Seedorf said during Tuesday's hearing. "I have never been told to leave on the other side of the pitch [opposite to the substitutes' bench]. For me it was normal. That's my culture and I was trying to explain that. At no time did I disrespect him."

"What happened in my opinion was a communication failure between me and the referee. I think the difficulty with the Portuguese language didn't help. In

fact, there were several instances throughout the match that showed a clear lack of understanding between the referee and other match officials." Judge Renata Mansur Bacellar handed Seedorf a one-match



Clarence Seedorf

suspension, already served, and a warning for unsporting conduct. The second charge was dropped after Bennett said he did not feel offended by Seedorf's actions. Both offences carry maximum penalties of six matches each.—Xinhua

Archive website of ICC events launched

DUBAI, 10 April—The International Cricket Council today announced the launch of an archive website which will have footages of ICC events dating back from 1975 World Cup to the latest Women's World Cup 2013.

The website, www.iccarchive.com, is the definitive online search engine of past ICC Events, from the ICC Cricket World Cup 1975 right up to the ICC Women's World Cup 2013, the world body said in a release.—PTI

GENERAL



Phil Mickelson of the US is applauded as he walks to the eighth tee during a practice round in preparation for the 2013 Masters golf tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia, on 9 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Mickelson ready to unleash creation on Augusta

AUGUSTA, 10 April — Phil Mickelson has always been a magician on the golf course but sounded more like a mad scientist on Tuesday discussing his creation the 'Phrankenwood' he is about to unleash on Augusta National. The hugely popular Mickelson will never be mistaken for Dr Frankenstein but his monster club, described as a "souped up three-wood/driver combo", is designed to strike fear into fellow golfers as he chases a fourth Masters title. "I asked the engineers to take that technology in our three wood and just put it on ster-

oids, which is probably not the best way to say it, but I wanted to make it more like a driver," explained Mickelson.

"It's a larger three-wood but it's got a driver shaft in it and it's hot like our three-wood. We had to put hot in the name, it's so hot." Mary Shelley's horror tale about Frankenstein does not remotely fit Mickelson's nice guy profile but the left-hander is a ruthless competitor and if he is able to control his creation, he will be among the favourites to slip into the green jacket on Sunday. During practice

rounds, Mickelson has already seen enough from his new driver to convince him it has improved his chances of adding to his collection of four major wins.

He introduced the club at the Phoenix Open in February, going on to claim his only PGA Tour win of the season thus far, and says he's already been hitting the ball further at National Augusta. "What it's done is taken a lot of spin off of it and if you watch," he gushed. "You'll see a lot of the shots off the tee that I hit have a lot more scoot on them."

Reuters

Afghanistan helicopter crash kills two Americans

KABUL, 10 April—A helicopter crash in eastern Afghanistan killed two American members of the NATO-led force on Tuesday, spokesmen said.

There were no reports of enemy activity in the area, said Captain Dan Einert, a spokesman for the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force.

US military spokesman Colonel Thomas Collins said both the dead were from the United States.

The helicopter went down in Pachir Agam District of Nangarhar Province, said Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, a spokesman for the governor's office.

No other details were immediately available.

Reuters

Japanese, German ministers agree to propel Japan-EU FTA talks

THE HAGUE, 10 April—Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle agreed on Tuesday to propel negotiations for a free trade pact between Japan and the European Union with the first round of the talks set to begin on Monday.

At a meeting in The Hague on the fringes of a ministerial meeting of 10 non-nuclear countries,

Kishida said Tokyo aims to conclude the negotiations soon, with Westerwelle saying the FTA talks are one of the most important issues between Japan and Germany, Japanese officials said.

The two ministers agreed that it is important for the international community to implement expanded sanctions against North Korea in accordance with a new UN Security Council resolution adopted follow-

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(11-4-13 09:30 am ~ 12-4-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * "Thingyan Road Trip 2012" Kyaik Htiyoe Pagoda
- * News
- * Thingyan Songs & Dances
- * News
- * Mobile Phone Etiquette
- * Tattoo Fashion
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * A Singing Contest for Kids
- * Opportunities for Youths
- * Thingyan through their expressions
- * News
- * Foreign Investors' Perspective on Myanmar Economic
- * Herbal Pillow
- * News
- * Rendezvous for Fine Arts Lovers
- * News
- * Mobile Phone Etiquette
- * Tattoo Fashion
- * News
- * Back to Paradise (Episode-1)
- * Myanmar Movies "Miss Arrogant"

Myanmar TV

(11-4-2013, Thursday)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 6:00 am | 12:30 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 18. Myanmar Video (Part-1) |
| 6:25 am | 1:00 pm |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 19. News |
| 6:40 am | 1:15 pm |
| 3. Dance & Song of National Races | 20. Myanmar Video (Part-2) |
| 6:50 am | 2:00 pm |
| 4. Documentary | 21. News |
| 7:00 am | 2:15 pm |
| 5. News | 22. Myanmar Video (Part-3) |
| 7:20 am | 3:00 pm |
| 6. People Talk | 23. News |
| 7:30 am | 3:15 pm |
| 7. Teleplay | 24. Dance of Thingyan Festival |
| 8:00 am | 4:00 pm |
| 8. News / International News | 25. News |
| 8:25 am | 4:15 pm |
| 9. My Mind Game My SEA Games | 26. Myanmar Language |
| 9:20 am | 4:30 pm |
| 10. How It's Works | 27. Dance of National Races |
| 9:45 am | 4:55 pm |
| 11. Documentary | 28. Cute Little Dancer |
| 10:00 am | 5:00 pm |
| 12. News | 29. News |
| 10:15 am | 5:15 pm |
| 13. Kyaie Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than | 30. Documentary |
| 10:30 am | 6:00 pm |
| 14. Dance of Thingyan Festival | 30. News |
| 11:00 am | 6:20 pm |
| 15. Sing & Enjoy | 31. Approaching Science Discovery World |
| 11:45 am | 7:15 pm |
| 16. Dance of Thingyan Festival | 32. TV Drama Series |
| 12:00 pm | 8:00 pm |
| 17. News / International News | 33. News / International News |
| | 34. CLEVER |



Experts perform tea ceremony at the 2013 China Tea Conference in Xinchang County, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 9 April, 2013. The conference, which kicked off on Tuesday, includes a series of cultural and commercial activities like forums and tea trade fairs.—XINHUA

Chinese Navy starts visit to Morocco

CASABLANCA, 10 April — The 13th Escort Taskforce of the Chinese Navy on Tuesday arrived in Casablanca, the largest city of Morocco, beginning a five-day visit to the country.

The visit by the escort taskforce, composed of two frigates and one supply ship, is the first of its kind made to the nation by a Chinese naval fleet, said Li Xiaoyan, commander of the

escort taskforce.

During the visit, Li will meet Morocco's navy officers and government officials and introduce the Chinese navy's anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden and the waters off Somalia for more than four years.

Further, cultural and sports activities, including a deck reception and a basketball match, are planned

between the Chinese Navy and the Moroccan military.

The 13th Escort Taskforce had been conducting China's convoy tasks for a four-month period in the Gulf of Aden and waters off Somalia before it departed from the region on 18 March for nation-visiting tasks. Currently, the 14th Escort Taskforce is undertaking the convoy tasks in the region.—Xinhua



Forest policemen try to put out a forest fire in Anning, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 9 April, 2013. The fire broke out around 1 pm (0500 GMT) in Anning City. Forest policemen and firefighters have been mobilized to quench the fire.—XINHUA

Leading Committee for holding XXVII SEA Games meets

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—“Chance of hosting XXVII SEA Games is a golden opportunity for the country

at a time when success of sports symbolizes pride and standard of a country,” said Vice-President U Nyan Tun

at 7th meeting of Leading Committee for holding XXVII SEA Games, at the meeting hall of President

Office, here, this morning.

He pointed out three aims for success of the SEA Games: successful holding

of it, success of most medal-winning sports and success on economic scale. He called for integration of culture and sports as being the opening and closing ceremonies could showcase Myanmar's traditions and customs. The sports and games should be in line with international standards and practices.

He called for attracting the investments as a means to

promote country's economy and promoting small and medium enterprises. It also needs to get successes in manufacturing of Myanmar's handicraft and wares, information and consultation, financial services, transportation services and hotels and tourism industry, he added.

After that, Committee Chairman Union Minister U Tint Hsan and officials presented the reports. President of the Myanmar Disabled Sports Federation reported 7th ASEAN Paralympic Games and those present gave suggestions. It was also attended by the Union ministers, deputy ministers, committee members and departmental officials.

MNA



Vice-President

U Nyan Tun delivers

speech at 7th meeting of

Leading Committee for

holding XXVII SEA

Games.—MNA

Letpadaungtaung committee meets local people

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Chairman of Committee for Implementation of Report of Investigation Commission on Letpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project Union Minister at President Office U Hla Tun and party cordially met village administrators and local people in Kanton village Basic Education High School (branch) yesterday morning.

The Chairman called for cooperation among the Union government, the region government and local people for the development of the entire country.

The village administrators and local people discussed future prospects, social environment

and environmental conservation and social, economic, education and health affairs.

The chairman and party also met local people at BEPS in Kyawywa village. He elaborated on employment opportunities for local people, education and health assistance and regional development. They visited reclamation of substitute farmlands for the people in the project areas.

The committee has paid compensations of K 1835.7 million to 588 farmers for 1730 acres of land and paid expenses for relocation. Plans are under way to ensure the employment of local people.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker receives Vice-President of German Parliament

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint received Vice-President of the German Parliament Dr. Wolfgang Thierse, and party at the hall of Amyotha Hluttaw building of the Hluttaw complex, here, at 2 pm today.

At the meeting, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker explained Myanmar's political and economic reforms in line with the 2008 constitution of Myanmar, holding meetings of the Hluttaws and the Hluttaws' undertakings, Germany's support for development

of education, economic, agriculture and health sectors including human resources development in Myanmar. After that, both sides cordially discussed further cementing relations and amity of the two countries.

Also present at the call together with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker were Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Amyotha Hluttaw Committee Chairmen U Zaw Myint Pe, U San Tun, Col Maung Maung Htoo and U Hmat Kyi and officials concerned from the Hluttaw Office.—MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint shaking hands with Vice-President of the German Parliament Dr. Wolfgang Thierse.—MNA

Findings of investigation committee over Yekyaw mosque fire briefed

YANGON, 10 April—A press brief on findings of the investigation committee over Yekyaw mosque fire was held at the Yangon Region Government Office here at 5 pm today.

In his clarification, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe said that he initially explained the fire outbreak at 10 am on 2 April and explained it was due to overheated voltage regulator again at 5 pm. He added that according to the findings of Yangon Region MPF and the confessions of the children of the mosque, the

(See page 9)



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe makes clarification on Yekyaw mosque fire.—MNA

Political Party submits application for registration

NAY PYI TAW, 10 April—The Union Election Commission is scrutinizing and passing the applications for registration as a political party. A 16-member group comprising U Aung Tin submitted its application for registration for Kayah Nationality Democracy Party to UEC today.

The UEC has sent request to relevant ministries in order to scrutinize whether the party is in conformity with Political Parties Registration Law sections 4 and 6.—MNA