

President U Thein Sein congratulates Bangladeshi counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr. Abdul Hamid on his election as the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.—MNA

President U Thein Sein calls for closer cooperation of ASEAN members towards a people-centered community



President U Thein Sein takes part in 22nd ASEAN Summit retreat session at Prime Minister's Office in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei Darussalam.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—President U Thein Sein took part in 22nd ASEAN Summit retreat session at Prime Minister's Office in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Thongsing Thammavong, special representative of the Malaysian Prime Minister Mr Tan Sri Abu Zahar Ujang, Filipino President Mr Benigno Aquino, Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Thai Prime Minister Ms Yingluck Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, the

ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Le Luong Minh, ministers and high-ranking officials from ASEAN countries.

The Brunei King delivered an inaugural speech before the heads of State/Government and the ASEAN Secretary-General exchanged their views on ASEAN Community 2015, ASEAN's central role in regional architecture, ASEAN future plan and international issues.

President U Thein Sein promised to strive for accomplishment of ASEAN resolutions to be adopted together with ASEAN fellow countries, welcoming the fresh and creative plans of the ASEAN Secretary-General. He also expressed his readiness to support for rethink of ASEAN Charter.

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President U Thein Sein attends working dinner of 22nd ASEAN Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended a working dinner of 22nd ASEAN Summit hosted by King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah at Prime Minister's Office in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei Darussalam at 8 pm local time yesterday.

It was also attended by King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Thongsing Thammavong, President of Senate Mr Tan Sri Abu Zahar Ujang, the special representative of the Prime Minister of Malaysia,

President of the Philippines Mr Benigno Aquino, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Thailand Ms Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Le Luong Minh.

First, King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah cordially greeted President U Thein Sein and heads of state/government of ASEAN countries.

Next, the King of Brunei Darussalam and heads of state/government of ASEAN countries enjoyed dinner. After dinner, heads of state/government and ministers of ASEAN countries held a meeting.

MNA



President U Thein Sein attends working dinner of 22nd ASEAN Summit hosted by King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, at Prime Minister's Office in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei Darussalam.—MNA

Loans disbursed to members of cooperative society

MANDALAY, 25 April— Under the programme to alleviate poverty, the Ministry of Cooperatives extends formation of micro-credit cooperative societies and disburse loans at soft interest.

On 20 April, a ceremony to disburse loans to members of San Thawda Micro-credit Cooperative Society was held at Yankin Dhammayon in Pyigy Yanlon Ward of Aungmyethazan Township

of Mandalay.

At first, Township Staff Officer of the department U Kyaw San Lin and ward administrator U Zaw Moe Lwemade speeches. Head of department U Nyunt Swe and the chairman of cooperative syndicate explained poverty alleviation.

Later, Head of Department U Nyunt Swe presented loans to members of the cooperative society.

Myanma Alinn

Flocks of globetrotters interested in Myanmar handicrafts in Mingun region

MEIKTILA, 25 April— Tourists are interested in Myanmar handicrafts at Mingun Stupa of Mingun region and purchase souvenirs.

“Most of the tourists who arrived in Mandalay visited Mingun region passing through Ayeyawady River. They tour the museum of Mingun Sayadaw, Grandma Oo Zun Home for

the Aged, Mingun Stupa and other Myanmar ancient cultural heritage.

They prefer to observe Mingun Bell and then visit souvenirs shops. They view statuettes of Myanmar handicrafts, paintings, sculptures and bronze images. Whenever arrived in Mingun, they bought handicrafts as souvenirs,” said a woman of souvenir shop in Mingun

Drinking water supplied to villages in Padaung Township

PADAUNG, 25 April— Lake of some villages in Padaung Township of Pyay District in Bago Region ran dry due to overheat of summer.

From 12 to 19 April, Region Hluttaw representative U Than Zaw of Pyay Township Constituency No. 2, the township administrator, departmental officials

Drinking water being supplied to local people of Padaung Township.



and wellwishers supplied 50,900 gallons of drinking water to Thebyu, Gyogyar, Ywathit, Kya-in, Hmankon, Thabyegon, Paybin,

Yedwinhla, Taungbohgyi and Shwenyinaung villages where water is scarce.

The authorities looked into lakes of the villages and

pledged to redredge these lakes as much as possible for storage of water in the rainy season.

Myanma Alinn

Cattle smugglers seized in Waingmaw Township

WAINGMAW, 25 April— Policemen led by IP Aye Lwin of Kachin State Anti-Crime Squad together with witnesses, acting on a tip-off, searched the fields and bamboo groves in Naungcho field, four miles west of Madein Village in Waingmaw Township at 5.30 pm on 15 April.

They seized 61 buffaloes and 26 oxen to be smuggled into other country and arrested five persons including Ko Sai (a) Sai Aung.

Myanma Alinn

Waingmaw Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Ko Sai (a) Sai Aung, 37 of Maingna Village in Waingmaw Township, Sein Lin Khaing, 25 of Hsahmaw Village-tract in Mogaung Township, Sein Min Naing, 30 of Hsahmaw Village-tract in Mogaung Township, Kyaw Zeya, 26 of Hsahmaw Village-tract in Mogaung Township and Kyaw Htoo, 37 of Talon Village in KhinU Township under the law.

Wellwishers continuously donate cash and kind

MEIKTILA, 25 April— Wellwishers donate cash and kind to victims from relief camps in Meiktila.

U Sein Maung and family donated 9000 packets of instant noodle, 6000 bottles of purified drinking water, Pact Myanmar 2550 viss of fish paste, Cetanashin Youth Group of Yangon 3000 packets of instant noodle, 1860 sachets of

coffee mix, 288 boxes of canned fish, four boxes of crackers, 200 pieces of sarongs, Bang Seng Lee Factory staff of Malaysia K 450,000 and three bales of clothes.

Up to 21 April, wellwishers donated K 132,915,000 and relief supplies worth K 491,266,990.

Myanma Alinn

They gathered at the Township Education Office in Natmauk Township on 21 April morning. A total of 49 primary assistant teachers led by Deputy Township Education Officer U Khin Maung Swe (U Swe-Philosophy) and two assistant TEOs received words of advice by Township Education Officer Daw Khin Nyein Yu.

Myanma Alinn

Fingerlings, birds released on New Year Day

KENG TUNG, 25 April— Kengtung Buddhist Youth Development Association of Shan State (North) organized the first fish and bird releasing ceremony at Naungkham Lake of Sasana Beikman in Naungkham Area of No. 3 Ward in Kengtung on Myanmar New Year Day.

Present on the occasion were Presiding Nayaka of the association Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vannita and members of the Sangha, Patrons of the association U Tin Swe (Head of Kengtung Jail), U Kyi

Thein (Additional Head of Fire Services Department), U Min Swe (Ingyin Ni Ni Restaurant), Chairmen U Cho Naing Tun (Head of Kengtung District Agriculture Department), U Aye Than Soe (Head of Kengtung Township FSD) and Secretary U Win Myint (Hein Htet Si Video Tape Rental) and members.

The Sayadaw, members of the Sangha, patrons and officials of the association, members and families collectively released 10000 fingerlings and 100 birds.

Myanma Alinn

YAMETHIN, 25 April— Due to lesser rainfalls in wards and villages of Yamethin Township in Mandalay Region, lakes and reservoirs dried up. So, the local people faced shortage of drinking water.

The local people missed the chance to redredge Pyidawtha Lake for many years.

Under the auspices of the village Sayadaw, social organizations and local people dredged the lake with the use of one excavator and five dumpers as of 19 April. Wellwishers donated K 2.5 million. On completion, the rural lake will benefit about 2000 people from 180 houses.—Myanma Alinn

Lake dredged on self-reliant basis for water storage in Yamethin



WORLD

Embassy attack spreads Libyan instability to capital

TRIPOLI, 25 April—Libya's central government has long had only a tenuous grip on the eastern city of Benghazi, but the bombing of the French Embassy in Tripoli shows its control of the capital may now also be under threat. The early morning car bomb devastated France's Embassy, wounding two French guards, in the most significant attack against foreign interests in Libya since September's deadly assault on the US diplomatic mission in Benghazi.

The US Ambassador and three other Americans were killed in the Benghazi attack leading to a lingering

political row in Washington with Republicans accusing President Barack Obama's administration of withholding information and the White House defending its handling of the issue. In a blow to the Libyan government's hope of asserting its authority after the 2011 war that ousted Muammar Gaddafi, the French embassy bombing, was the first of its kind in Tripoli. Both France and Libya called the attack a "terrorist act".

"Given the events in Benghazi in the last year, it may not be that surprising that even areas where there is more state control are not immune," a Western



Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan (C) walks out of a damaged house during a visit to the scene of an explosion in front of the French Embassy in Tripoli on 23 April, 2013.—REUTERS

diplomatic source in Tripoli said. "People can't just point to the east now." In the capital, the presence of state security forces is more evident than elsewhere — pick-up trucks bristling with weapons protect ministries or

stand guard at roundabouts. But the city of around 1.7 million people is not immune to violence — gunfire still often rings late into the night as armed brigades fight pitched battles against rival groups.—Reuters

US seeks to ease Afghanistan-Pakistan tensions in Brussels talks



US Secretary of State John Kerry (C) escorts Afghan President Hamid Karzai (2nd L) to a meeting in Brussels on 24 April, 2013.—REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 25 April—Afghan President Hamid Karzai met Pakistan's army chief and foreign minister in talks on Wednesday hosted by US Secretary of State John Kerry aimed at easing tension between the neighbours before the end of NATO's

Afghanistan combat mission. Afghanistan has grown increasingly frustrated with Pakistan over efforts to pursue a peace process involving the Taliban, suggesting that Islamabad is intent on keep Afghanistan unstable until foreign combat forces leave

ASEAN leaders plan roadmap to boost competitiveness

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 25 April—Leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations will task their ministers to develop a roadmap to boost the region's economic competitiveness as the 10 member states rush to meet the deadline of an economic community by the end of 2015, according to an ASEAN document obtained on Wednesday.

"Given the current regional and global economic landscape, we recognized the need to enhance ASEAN competitiveness by better facilitating trade and investment, leveraging upon ongoing work to establish the ASEAN Economic Community, to put ASEAN

in a more strategic position," said the draft of the chairman's statement to be issued by the host country at the end of the summit on Thursday.

"Therefore we tasked our Ministers to develop a roadmap that will set out initiatives to ease the way of doing business, address investment impediments, institutionalize discussions on regulatory improvement and incorporate innovation policies into ASEAN's efforts," it said. Since 2007, ASEAN has already achieved 77.5 percent of the measures in its blueprint designed to achieve the economic community.

Kyodo News

at the end of 2014.

Kerry is hosting the talks in Brussels involving Karzai and Pakistani Army chief General Ashfaq Kayani and Foreign Minister Jalil Jilani, with the aim of calming tensions over border disputes and the stalled peace process. Kerry told reporters at the start of the meeting at the residence of the US Ambassador to NATO on the outskirts of the Belgian capital that Afghanistan was in "a critical transformational period". "(I am) very, very pleased the president could travel, General Kayani and Secretary Jilani could take the time to be here," he said. "We are very, very hopeful for a productive series of discussions."

Karzai called it an important meeting and said he was glad Kayani and Jilani had found the time to travel to Brussels. "Let's hope forward for the best," he told reporters.—Reuters

Italy's newly named PM vows coalition gov't to enact reforms

ROME, 25 April—Road for forming the new government was finally opened on Wednesday after Enrico Letta, a centre-left politician named



Enrico Letta

by President Giorgio Napolitano as the new Italian Prime Minister, said he will get started immediately to overcome impasse. Soon after meeting Napolitano, Letta told journalists he would hold a round of consultations with party leaders on Thursday, a national holiday celebrating liberation day from fascist rule, and then return to the presidential palace "as soon as possible" to fully accept the mandate.

Napolitano said a "broad coalition" that can ensure a majority in both houses of parliament was the only possible step to break

Boston bomb suspect's name was on classified government watch lists

WASHINGTON, 25 April—The name of one of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was listed on the US government's highly classified central database of people it views as potential terrorists. But the list is so vast that this did not mean authorities automatically kept close tabs on him, sources close to the bombing investigation said on Tuesday.

Tsarnaev, 26, was killed in a police shootout early Friday, while his younger brother Dzhokhar, 19, was captured later that day. Prosecutors say the brothers, ethnic Chechens who had been living in the United States for more than a decade, planted two bombs that exploded

tip-off that he had become a follower of radical Islamists. The FBI found nothing to suggest he was an active threat, but all the same placed his name on the "Terrorist Identities Datamart Environment" list. The FBI has not said what it did find about Tsarnaev. But the database, which holds more than half a million names, is only a repository of information on people who US authorities see as known, suspected or potential terrorists from around the world.

Because of its huge size, US investigators do not routinely monitor everyone registered there, said US officials familiar with the database. As of 2008, TIDE contained more than 540,000 names,



A combination of handout pictures released through the FBI website on 18 April, 2013 show Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev (L), suspects wanted for questioning in relation to the Boston Marathon bombing on 15 April.—REUTERS

near the finish line of the marathon on April 15, killing three people and wounding more than 200.

The sources said Tamerlan Tsarnaev's details were entered into TIDE, a database maintained by the National Counterterrorism Centre, because the FBI spoke to him in 2011 while investigating a Russian

although they represented about 450,000 actual people, because some of the entries are aliases or different name spellings for the same person. Fewer than 5 percent of the TIDE entries were US citizens or legal residents, according to a description of the database on the NCTC website.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Israeli iPhone app for collaborative photo collages

Snap a picture with your iPhone. Then upload it to a split template via the new Israeli mobile app Pixplit (<http://www.pixplit.com>) and invite friends to add related photos to the open areas. Voila, a finished composite.

"There are almost 13,000 photo apps on the App Store but ours is the only one that lets you collaborate with others in a visual dialogue," says Pixplit co-founder Yovav (Jay) Meydad. "A photo typically has one area of content, while on Pixplit it's divided into two to four parts."

One example he recently showed visiting journalists was a three-part image on the theme of underground trains.



A two-frame Pixplit creation

The originator uploaded a picture of the London Underground. A friend added a shot of New York City's subway, and a friend of that friend completed the split with a photo of the Milan Metro.

"People are becoming architects and blending all kinds of images, like the Dizengoff Tower in Tel Aviv with one of New York's skyscrapers, and applying a filter to build something really cool," says Meydad.

The free app, run on Google Cloud Storage, is a social network complete with user profiles and the ability for friends to follow each other. "We have a feed showing all the completed splits," says Meydad.

"I can comment and 'like' just like on Instagram. But we're different because we have a 'playground' where I see the splits that have at least one open slot waiting to be populated. I can join with the tap of a button: Snap photo, add filter, upload. All followers will now see the completed split in their feed and they can interact with me around it."

Pixplit's founders started development in May 2012, attracted angel funding and officially opened on 17 October when the company was named best new startup at StartTWS (www.StartTWS.com) startup launch competition in Tel



For now, you can choose from six templates.

Aviv.

A new form of consumer engagement

Meydad and his co-founders have a business model in mind for Pixplit.

Premium features such as additional templates may be downloaded for a fee, but the main money-making concept is recruiting corporate sponsors in order to take social marketing to a different level. In each user's feed, every few splits will be sponsored ones roughly matched to the user's age, gender and location.

"We have communicated with top ad agencies and they are excited about new ways to engage with users," says Meydad.

"Brands measure the number of likes or tweets

or retweets concerning their product or service. That is not as strong as starting a campaign on Pixplit," he says. "Let's say Nike could begin with the Nike swoosh in the first frame, and friends will add variations – maybe a kid playing basketball wearing Nike sneakers. It allows brands and users to create campaigns together."

What if any of the added photos are offensive or counterproductive to Nike's marketing strategy?

"If the creator of a split isn't happy about a specific photo, we provide a mechanism to delete it," assures Meydad. "We also have a mechanism to report usage of copyrighted materials and will delete that split. We want to keep Pixplit a safe place to collaborate."

Not for couples only

Pixplit's origin was a student project at Shenkar College of Engineering and Design in Tel Aviv. Adi Binder, now the company's director of product and design, developed the concept of an app for couples to manage their communication in one space with chat, video, messaging and co-created photos.

His serial-entrepreneurial friends Jay Meydad and Nir Holtzman Ninio thought about adding a viral aspect.

"After some brainstorming, Adi, Nir and me, and Gil Barzilay — a fourth co-founder no longer a member of the team — decided not to limit ourselves to couples, but to make it something anyone could participate in," says Meydad. "On social networks such as YouTube, only a small percentage of users are creators, because creating content is hard. With Pixplit, it's easy to be an active user," says Meydad, who previously was VP-product at a US company that runs 30 dating sites and then at Snap.com. Most recently, he and Nir started Hitpad, a top iPad news application.

"At some point Nir and I said, 'Hitpad is nice, but

it's not growing to tens of millions of users.' We need a service where virality is in its DNA."

What he especially relishes is the ability to span degrees of separation. "When I create a three- or four-part split, the first degree is those directly connected to me, the second degree of separation is those connected to the people I'm connected to, and the third is the friends of my friends' friends. Pixplit is the first app that uses the concept of connecting with people in the third degree of separation."

He reports that CTO Holtzman Ninio is busy working on an Android version of the app.—NLM



The Pixplit team: Jay Meydad, Adi Binder and Nir Holtzman Ninio

Fukuoka official in Myanmar as water adviser on JICA mission

YANGON, 25 April—Masaru Matsuoka, a 34-year-old Japanese official of the Fukuoka city government, has been in Yangon since April 2012 to teach local people how to improve the municipal water system in Myanmar's largest city.

Soon after joining the municipal government of Fukuoka in 2002, the university graduate in civil engineering was tasked with managing the water distribution facilities of the southwestern Japan city.

And since Matsuoka had often been described by his boss as "energetic and proactive in everything," the city government picked him when the Japan International Cooperation Agency asked the city to provide a water supply adviser for its mission in Myanmar.

Kyodo News



Masaru Matsuoka, an official of Japan's Fukuoka city government, works at the Yangon city office in Yangon on 10 Jan, 2013. Matsuoka has been in Yangon since April 2012 to teach local people ways to improve the biggest Myanmar city's water service. KYODO NEWS

Campaigners call for ban on "killer robots"

LONDON, 25 April—Machines with the ability to attack targets without any human intervention must be banned before they are developed for use on the battlefield, campaigners against "killer robots" urged on Tuesday.

The weapons, which could be ready for use within the next 20 years, would breach a moral and ethical boundary that should never be crossed, said Nobel Laureate Jody Williams, of the "Campaign To Stop Killer Robots".

"If war is reduced to weapons attacking without human beings in control, it is going to be civilians who are going to bear the brunt of warfare," said Williams, who won the 1997 peace prize for her work on banning landmines.

Weapons such as remotely piloted drones are already used by some armed forces and companies are working on de-

veloping systems with a greater level of autonomy in flight and operation. "We already have a certain amount of autonomy," said Noel Sharkey, professor of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics at the University of Sheffield.

"I think we are already there. If you asked me to go and make an autonomous killer robot today, I could do it. I could have you one here in a few days," he told reporters. But the technol-

ogy is a long way off being able to distinguish between a soldier and a civilian. "The idea of a robot being asked to exercise human judgment seems ridiculous to me," Sharkey told Reuters.

"The whole idea of robots in the battlefield muddies the waters of accountability from my perspective as a roboticist," he added.

The British government has always said it has no intention of developing

such technology. "There are no plans to replace skilled military personnel with fully autonomous systems," a Ministry of Defence spokesman told Reuters. "Although the Royal Navy does have defensive systems, such as Phalanx, which can be used in an automatic mode to protect personnel and ships from enemy threats like missiles, a human operator oversees the entire engagement," the spokesman added.

But the organizers of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots say Britain's rejection of fully autonomous weapons is not yet watertight. "We're concerned that there is a slide towards greater autonomy on the battlefield and unless we draw a clear line in the sand now, we may end up walking into acceptance of fully autonomous weapons," said Thomas Nash, director of non-governmental organization Article 36.—Reuters



A robot is pictured in front of the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey as part of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots in London on 23 April, 2013.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH



An EA-6B Prowler, assigned to the 'Eagles' of Electronic Attack Squadron One Two Nine (VAQ-129), lands aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan in the Pacific Ocean in this 18 May, 2005 handout photo courtesy of the US Navy.—REUTERS

Arms makers boost earnings, but revenues weakening

WASHINGTON, 25 April—Top weapons makers reported higher-than-expected profit and improved margins for the first quarter, even as revenue began to taper off after more than a decade of sharp growth in US military spending.

Boeing Co's defence division, Northrop Grumman Corp and General Dynamics Corp on Wednesday followed the lead of top Pentagon supplier Lockheed Martin Corp in reporting higher earnings and lower revenue.

Operating margins remained steady or improved across the sector, ranging from 10.3 percent to 12.4 percent.

"Weaker revenues and strong earnings are typical of this point in the defence spending cycle. However, the erosion in revenues is

probably a leading indicator of where earnings are headed," said defence analyst Loren Thompson of the Virginia-based Lexington Institute.

"Earnings eventually will erode as the impact of sequestration is fully felt," he said, referring to across-the-board federal spending cuts.

Northrop Grumman, which builds unmanned planes and a range of other defence equipment, said it was focused on executing programmes, cash deployment and tweaking its portfolio as US defence budgets start to feel the bite of the mandatory spending cuts.

The company reported net earnings of \$489 million, or \$2.03 a share, compared with \$506 million, or \$1.96 a share a year earlier. Revenue dipped to \$6.1 bil-

lion from \$6.2 billion.

"Looking ahead, we recognize that we are operating in an uncertain and constrained budget environment," said Northrop Chief Executive Wes Bush.

General Dynamics, which builds ships, tanks and Gulfstream business jets, reported slightly higher first-quarter earnings, far exceeding analysts' forecasts, but revenue fell short of expectations. General Dynamics said net earnings rose to \$571 million, or \$1.62 per share, from \$564 million or \$1.57 per share, a year earlier. Revenues dipped to \$7.4 billion from \$7.58 billion.

Boeing, the second-largest US weapons maker, said its defence earnings rose 12 percent to \$832 million, while revenue slipped 1 percent to \$8.1 billion.

Reuters

WHO says new bird strain is "one of most lethal" flu viruses

BEIJING, 25 April—A new bird flu strain that has killed 22 people in China is "one of the most lethal" of its kind and transmits more easily to humans than another strain that has killed hundreds since 2003, a World Health Organization (WHO) expert said on Wednesday.

The H7N9 flu has infected 108 people in China since it was first detected in March, according to the Geneva-based WHO.

Although it is not clear exactly how people are being infected, experts say they see no evidence so far

of the most worrisome scenario — sustained transmission between people.

An international team of scientists led by the WHO and the Chinese government conducted a five-day investigation in China, but said they were no closer to determining whether the virus might become transmissible between people.

"The situation remains complex and difficult and evolving," said Keiji Fukuda, the WHO's assistant Director-General for health security.

"When we look at influenza viruses, this is an

unusually dangerous virus for humans," he said at a briefing.

Another bird flu strain — H5N1 — has killed 30 of the 45 people it infected in China between 2003 and 2013, and although the H7N9 strain in the current outbreak has a lower fatality rate to date, Fukuda said: "This is definitely one of the most lethal influenza viruses that we've seen so far."

Scientists who have analyzed genetic sequence data from samples from three H7N9 victims say the strain is a so-called "triple reassortant" virus with a mixture of genes from three other flu strains found in birds in Asia.

Recent pandemic viruses, including the H1N1 "swine flu" of 2009/2010, have been mixtures of mammal and bird flu — hybrids that are more likely to be milder because mammalian flu tends to make people less severely ill than bird flu.

Pure bird flu strains, such as the new H7N9 strain and the H5N1 flu, which has killed about 371 of 622 the people it has infected since 2003, are generally more deadly for people.—Reuters



A farmer walks past baskets of newly hatched ducklings in a hatch room at a poultry egg trading market in Wuzhen town, Tongxiang, Zhejiang Province on 18 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Japan to introduce countermeasures against H7N9

TOKYO, 25 April—A health ministry panel on Wednesday compiled countermeasures against the H7N9 strain of bird flu.

Under the steps, prefectural governors will be authorized to recommend that patients or suspected patients be hospitalized and to impose restrictions on work.

The Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry aims at introducing the measures in early May by revising government ordinances under the Infectious Disease Law and the Quarantine Law, ministry officials said.—Kyodo News



Photo shows quarantine officers monitoring arriving passengers at Narita Airport, the main international gateway to Tokyo, on 8 April, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

Japan's top 3 automakers log record overseas output in FY 2012

TOKYO, 25 April—Japan's top three automakers — Toyota, Nissan and Honda — all produced record high numbers of vehicles overseas in the past business year through March, due partly to increased production in North America and emerging Asian countries on robust demand, according to data released on Wednesday.

Toyota Motor Corp, Asia's largest automaker, produced a record 5.20 million vehicles overseas, up

17.8 percent from the previous year. Toyota group global production — which includes output by small-car maker Daihatsu Motor Co and truck-making unit Hino Motors Ltd — also hit an all-time high of 9.72 million vehicles, up 13.4 percent. Nissan Motor Co's production outside Japan expanded 2.6 percent to a record 3.73 million vehicles, reflecting a 16.3 percent increase in production in the United States.—Kyodo News

Ford profit beats estimates as North America shines

DETROIT, 25 April—Ford Motor Co posted a higher-than-expected first-quarter profit on Wednesday as its North American unit posted its best quarter in more than a decade on the strength of new models.

Revenue in North America, the company's largest market, shot up by one-fifth during the quarter and Ford added that its European restructuring was on

track. The second-largest US automaker reported a pretax profit of \$2.1 billion, or 41 cents per share for the quarter, down from about \$2.3 billion a year earlier. But the results exceeded the analysts' average estimate of 37 cents per share, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

The strong performance in North America was the result of "recovering vehi-

cle demand in the US, lower wage costs, and factories that are running close to capacity," Edward Jones analyst Christian Mayes said in an email.

"A recovering housing market is also helping to spur demand for F-Series trucks, which carry higher profit margins than some of the smaller cars Ford sells," Mayes added.

Ford still expects to

lose \$2 billion in Europe this year. Chief Financial Officer Bob Shanks told reporters that recent economic data in the region painted a cloudy picture of when Europe would eventually rebound.

He added that automakers "seem to be running along the bottom now" in Europe. The industry may see some stabilization toward year-end or early 2014, he added.—Reuters



A Ford logo is seen on a car during a press preview at the 2013 New York International Auto Show in New York, on 28 March, 2013.—REUTERS

WORLD

Russia plans to deploy fighter jets, base in Belarus

MINSK/MOSCOW, 25 April—Russia plans to deploy fighter jets in Belarus this year and eventually establish an air base in the former Soviet republic, Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Tuesday. The moves would increase Russia's military presence in Belarus, viewed by Moscow as a buffer between Russia and NATO, and could unnerve neighbouring members of the Western alliance.

Russia agreed in 2009 to set up a joint air defence system with Belarus and talks were held before then on establishing an air base there, but few concrete steps have been taken. "We have begun considering the plan to create a Russian air base with fighter jets here,"

for the first fighter jets to arrive in Belarus this year. Russian aviation regiments normally consist of roughly 60 warplanes. While Russian and NATO officials say armed conflict between the former Cold War adversaries is all but unthinkable, relations are strained and former Soviet satellites are particularly wary of the Russian military. An anti-missile shield the United States is deploying in Europe together with NATO nations is a chief source of tension.

Shoigu's remarks coincided with a meeting in Brussels at which Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov told NATO that Moscow still wants guarantees the system would not be used



A Belarussian army Sukhoi Su-27 fighter jet releases flares during a military exercise in Domanovo, about 200 km (124 miles) southwest of Minsk, on 21 Oct, 2008.—REUTERS

Shoigu said at a meeting with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko in the capital, Minsk. "We hope that in 2015 there will be a regiment of warplanes (in Belarus) which will serve to defend our borders," Shoigu said in a portion of the meeting shown on Russian state television.

Shoigu said the plan is

against Russia, despite a recent decision to scale it back. Ruslan Pukhov, director of the Moscow defence think-tank CAST, said the deployment of fighters in Belarus would do little to increase security and would be seen by Russia's Western neighbours "as a display of hostility".

Reuters

Ex-Australian POW to apply for A-bomb health-care certificate

NAGASAKI, 25 April—A former Australian prisoner of war, who survived the 1945 US atomic bombing of Nagasaki, will apply for a special health-care certificate for victims of the attack that will entitle him to medical allowances, a group supporting atomic-bomb survivors abroad said on Wednesday.

Allan Chick, 93, who lives in the state of Victoria, southern Australia, is believed to be the last living atomic-bomb survivor among former Australian POWs, according to

66-year-old Nobuto Hirano, co-head of the support group. He will seek the certificate through the Japanese Consulate General in Melbourne.

So far, 10 former POWs who survived the atomic bombing of Nagasaki in southwestern Japan have been given the health-care certificate, according to the Nagasaki city government. Most recently, a former Dutch POW was granted the certificate in 2009. Chick told Hiroko Sakaguchi, a 63-year-old member of the support

group, that he hopes to be certified as an atomic-bomb survivor. According to Sakaguchi, who visited the former POW last week, Chick was taken prisoner in Southeast Asia and moved to a camp in Nagasaki in 1944 during World War II.

He was among 24 Australian POWs at the prison camp who were exposed to the atomic bombing on 9 Aug, 1945. Sakaguchi said it is significant to support Chick, who had a "double whammy" as a POW and atomic-bomb survivor.

Kyodo News

Morsi's legal adviser tenders resignation

CAIRO, 25 April—Egypt's Presidential Adviser for legal affairs Fouad Gadallah has tendered his resignation on Tuesday. "My resignation came for a number of reasons. First, there is not a clear vision for running the country and planning the future of Egypt," state-run Al-Ahram news website quoted Gadallah as saying. Besides, there is persistence

China eyes cyber security cooperation with US

BEIJING, 25 April—China hopes to cooperate with the United States on cyber security, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said on Wednesday. Cyber security is a global problem, Hua Chunying said at a daily news briefing after media reports that the US government is considering more aggressively confronting China over cyber security issues.

"We hope the international community will make joint efforts to safeguard peace, security, openness and cooperation regarding cyberspace in the spirit of equality and mutual respect," said the spokeswoman. Cyberspace should be a new field where China and the United States cooperate rather than face conflict with each other, she said. Hua said the recently announced establishment of a China-US cyber security working group is designed to increase dialogue and boost cooperation between the countries. Earlier this month, China and the United States agreed to set up this group when US Secretary of State John Kerry visited Beijing.

Xinhua

to keep the current government of Prime Minister Hesham Qandil regardless of its failure in politics, economy and security, he further said. There are also attempts to assassinate the judicial authority, ruin its independence and reject its verdicts, Gadallah added.

Gadallah announced his resignation after an interview with an independent local newspaper published on Tuesday, in which he criticized the recent massive anti-judiciary protests of Islamists, the main supporters of President Mohamed Morsi. Gadallah argued that the judicial authority should be treated as an independent, sacred institution like the armed



Egypt's Presidential Adviser for legal affairs Fouad Gadallah.

forces, stressing interference of the president's supporters in judicial affairs was against the country's best interest.

A draft law submitted to the country's legislative body by the Muslim Brotherhood's Freedom and Justice Party seeks to lower retirement age for judges to 60 instead of 70, which observers see

as an Islamists' attempt to control the judiciary by appointing Islamist-oriented judges to replace more than 3,000 judges above the age of 60. "It is unsuitable at this critical stage to attempt to pass an amended law concerning the judicial authority," added Gadallah in his resignation letter to Morsi.

Xinhua

Iranian held in Nepal for possible terror links

KATHMANDU, 25 April—Nepalese police are investigating an Iranian national's possible terror links after he was frequently spotted around the Israeli Embassy in Kathmandu and later also found to be holding a fake Israeli passport, police said on Wednesday. Police arrested the man identified as Mohsin Khosravian last week after officials at the Israeli Embassy in Kathmandu alerted the police of his suspicious movements in the embassy area.

Khosravian, who initially showed police an Israeli passport, was later found to be holding an Iranian passport as well. "Investigations revealed that he is Iranian. His Israeli passport does not have security features, and is therefore a fake," Kesh Bahadur Shahi, chief of Nepal's Central Investigation Bureau that is investigating Khosravian, told *Kyodo News*. "We have asked Interpol to provide us with information about this man," Shahi added.

Quoting investigation sources, the *Himalayan Times daily* reported that Khosravian entered Nepal on 3 April using a fake Israeli passport that he acquired in Kuala Lumpur, which he entered on 31 March using his Iranian passport. Khosravian has reportedly told police that he has lived in Bangkok since 2004. Last year, there were a series of attempted attacks on Israeli embassies and tourists in several Asian cities. Israel has blamed the attacks on Teheran.

Kyodo News

Boston bombs were detonated by remote used for toy cars

WASHINGTON, 25 April—The two bombs that went off at the Boston Marathon, killing three people and wounding 264, were detonated with the kind of remote device used to control a toy car, US investigators told a House of Representatives panel on Wednesday. "It was a remote control for toy cars," US Representative Dutch Ruppersberger, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, told

reporters after officials from the Department of Homeland Security, FBI and National Centre for Counterterrorism briefed the committee.

"Which says to me, and brother number two has said, they got the information on how to build the bomb from *Inspire* magazine," Ruppersberger added. *Inspire* was created by the American-Yemeni preacher Anwar al-Awlaki, a leader of al-Qaeda's af-

filiate in Yemen who was killed in a US drone strike. Ruppersberger said the article on bomb-building in *Inspire* was headlined: "How to build a bomb in your mom's kitchen."

Police say two brothers, Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, planted and detonated two pressure-cooker bombs near the finish line of the Boston Marathon on 15 April. Tamerlan Tsarnaev, 26, was killed in a shootout with police. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, lies wounded in a Boston hospital and has been providing some information to authorities.

Ruppersberger also confirmed that at least some of the explosives used in the attack had come from a fireworks shop in New Hampshire. "One of the brothers, the oldest brother, went to a shop in New Hampshire ... and asked for the most volatile explosives, so that you'd 'get the best bang,'" Ruppersberger said.—Reuters



Well-wishers leave a shirt at a make-shift memorial on Boylston Street a day after two explosions hit the Boston Marathon in Boston, Massachusetts on 16 April, 2013.

REUTERS

NATIONAL

Letpadaung Copper Mining...

armed with sticks, swords stones and culprits gathered



Security forces attempting to disperse villagers at Latpadaungtaung copper mine project.—MNA

(from page 16)
today. Though the head of Monywa District police force warned the crowd off the land about three times because the land is the area under curfew, they continued staying there.

Some of Yangon Public Service Network members instigated the villagers to commit harsh acts against security forces assigned duties. Due to their instigation, the crowd started throwing stones at the security forces. Therefore, three were arrested for throwing stones at the security forces. But, due to non-stop throwing stones, three warning shots were fired to stop throwing stones at them. After the warning shots, the villagers withdrew about 100 feet

back. The violence left a total of 10 members of the security forces injured.

Furthermore, around 20 villagers including some members of Yangon University of Arts and Science Students Union from Moegyobyin Ale Village harrowed in their farms to the west of the Block No. 8 MCC around 9.15 am. Policemen headed by the township Police Force chief and the head of immigration and national registration department then tried to settle dispute peacefully just to face their hostile responses. Five policemen were injured as they were beaten by the villagers while attempting to detain them.

Nearly 200 Sete villagers

in the east of Block N8 MCC around 10 am to grab back the detainees. Though the division Police Force chief called them to disperse, the villagers advanced to the police forces and the two villagers even attacked with stick and sword. Though the policemen fired warning shots, the crowd even made harsher attacks toward the policemen.

While unrest and violence were rife, a police member was captured by three villagers and taken away by force, but he was rescued after firing four shots in the air. As villagers attacked throwing handmade fire bombs against police, three shots were fired using rubber bullets. So the

villagers moved back and left for Hsete old village and the mob was dispersed at about 10.40 am. Three villagers were wounded in the incident and they are being treated at Monywa People's Hospital, but they are not in critical condition.

The investigation commission chaired by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was formed by the government to expose real situations regarding Latpadaungtaung

unrest and violence emerged to jeopardize communality peace and tranquility, law and order and the rule of law. Officials concerned warned them to abide by law while implementations are underway in accord with the report, but the situation has worsened. So, warning shots were fired. Regarding the incidents, punitive actions will be taken against those who were taken into custody for their anarchic acts and

those who committed unrest and violence will be exposed and taken into custody.

During the incident, fifteen police members and three rioters were injured. Under the close supervision of Sagaing Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs, security measures are underway by police members led by Sagaing Region Police Commander and No (16) police battalion.

MNA



Photo shows a police who is protecting himself from stones being thrown by villagers.—MNA

Negligent fire destroys 75 houses in KhinU Township

KHINU, 25 April—A negligent fire engulfed 75 houses in Chaungson Village of Magyeeton Village-tract in KhinU Township.

At 12.35 pm on 11 April, Ma Bi Bi ironed the clothes while tailoring. The ember from the iron started outbreak of fire, engulfing the houses.

The fire rendered 97 people from 75 houses homeless.

The Commander of District Police Force, the

head of District Fire Services Department, Township Administrator U Yazar Aye, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Than Win, Township Police Station Commander IP Ye Khaung Myint and fire fighters from YeU, Shwebo and Sigon (Kanbalu) fire stations together with local people put out the fire with the use of fire engines.

The local people supplied foods to the fire victims.

Myanma Alinn

Free medical treatment provided to patients in Bago

BAGO, 25 April—Myat Myitta Cetana free clinic located near the Ward 14 administrative office in Oktha Myothit of Bago Township provided surgical operations to the patients from 21 to 23 April.

Surgical specialist Dr Saw Hsai Mon Bae and party gave treatment to the people with the sponsorship of Myat Myitta Cetana Chairman Saya Saw Hsay He and party, said member of the clinic committee



U Kyaw Paing. Anyone from various regions of the country can receive surgical

treatment at the clinic free of charge.

Myanma Alinn

Quality Thanakha marketable in Pakokku



PAKOKKU, 25 April—Thanakha market in Pakokku is located in the precinct of Panswetaik Monastery in Ward 8 to distribute various sizes of Thanakha to all the parts of the country.

Cuttings of Thanakha are sold from Myaing,

Pauk, Kyaukhsaung and Shinmataung regions. If it is not real cuttings of Thanakha, the sellers will not be allowed to join the market, and action will be taken against the cheats.

“Thanakha market is opened here 15 years

ago. Depending on quality of cuttings, the price of Thanakha will be different. Wholesale price is cheaper than that of retail price. Buyers should not worry about the cuttings of Thanakha whether it is real or not. It is because any seller

must supplicate to the Abbot that they pledged to sell real products of Thanakha at the market. At present, crowds of sellers and buyers are evidence for real sales of Thanakha cuttings,” said a Thanakha merchant.

Myanma Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 26 April, 2013

Build a green city

With the rapid development of science and technology, the world is now facing the challenges such as environmental degradation and pollution. Environmental degradation has the great impacts not only on the present people of current age but also on our future generation. It is assumed that urbanization mostly causes environmental degradation. Excessive tapping of natural resources, sewage, use of energy, excessive use of water, disposal of drainages and carbon emission cause severe damages to the environment.

So, we need to set up Green Urbanism that can equalize human beings and environment. Sustainable development of urban areas is of great importance. As the vast majority of world population is living in urban areas, urban development programme has become the first priority for every government. With the growing number of world population, urbanization of developed and developing countries had rapidly increased.

To establish green cities, basic infrastructures such as public transportation, energy-saving buildings, water consumption and litters disposal system are to be built. Establishment of green cities also includes the construction of new cities and upgrading of current cities into the environmental-friendly ones. In addition, the governments need to persuade their citizens to take energy-saving practices such as walking and cycling.

Draft Printing and Publishing Draft Law briefed in Mawlamyine

Deputy Minister U Pike Htwe elaborates on Printing and Publishing Draft Law and Public Service Media Law in Mawlamyine.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—A ceremony to elaborate on the Draft Printing and Publishing Draft Law was held at Ngew Moe Hotel in Mawlamyine of Mon State yesterday morning, with an address by Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htwe who sought recommendations from those present.

The deputy minister explained the purposes of drafting the Printing and Publishing Law and Public Service Media Law and Director-General U Ye Tint of Information and Public Relations Department, detailed facts in every chapter of the Printing and Publishing Draft Law. The deputy minister and the

The world sets to celebrate International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26 June as the world nations are addressing the issue through their respective programmes.

Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Central) under the Ministry of Home Affairs of Myanmar is as ever preparing to organize the annual ceremony. Commemorative short fiction, article, poem, song, photo, computerized poster, painting, cartoon, and poster contests have reached 16th anniversary milestone. Campaigns for raising public awareness will be organized nationwide.

Titles of this year's contests are "Avoid drug for healthy and happy living", "Thank Health, Not Drugs", "Say No to Drugs but Sports", "Avoid Drugs, Seal Victory", "Invaluable Youthfulness without Drug" and "Avoid Drugs for Better Family Environment".

The drug poses threat to the entire world, either

developed countries or developing countries. Once tested, it could turn anyone into an addict. Medical professionals call it "chronic elapsing disease".

If the drug addiction overwhelms youths who are regarded as future leaders of a country, the country will suffer from loss of human resources for running and safeguarding the nation. They themselves become disgraced opium eaters. That's why the world countries are bringing down opium cultivation, drug production, trafficking and abuses in their own ways.

It is common knowledge that Myanmar, with nationalistic vision, has paced up combat and elimination against drug trafficking with the international help and cooperation with neighbours, ASEAN fellows and organizations with which Myanmar share same objectives. Anti-narcotics special squads under the Ministry of Home Affairs are cooperating with related local and international agencies to fight against the drug trafficking. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Welfare are also opening rehabs (youth rehabs) to help ex-addicts return to the community after curing their "drug addiction".

Field trips are made to educate growers to cultivate substitution crops. The drug trafficking is effectively cracked down by MANA's special squads with the help of combined teams of other government agencies, Myanmar Tatmadaw, ethnic armed groups and the public. The government's anti-narcotics activities are proved yearly by incineration of seized drugs in the presence of UN reps, international diplomats and media.

The activities against drug abuse initiated by the government have won support of the entire people. "Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association" the only social organization in Myanmar specialized in the field will organize

article, short story, poem and extempore contests in commemoration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Trafficking at MANA HQ in Kyundaw street in Kamayut Township as of April with the aim to eliminate drug abuses.

Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (MANA) is raising public awareness for reduction of drug abuses. It is working in cooperation with local and international organizations that share the same objectives with.

The vision of MANA is the establishment of "drug-free society". It is also working for drug-related harm reduction. To curb drug-related HIV/AIDS transmission, MANA is initiating public awareness campaigns and rehabilitation in wide cooperation with district and township

teers join MANA with the nationalistic vision for the nation and the people.

Drug is manufactured from opium and chemicals. Myanmar was once a country free of opium cultivation which was brought to the soil by the colonialists. Myanmar kings sentenced producers of opium and other drugs to death. Similarly, successive governments have legislated anti-narcotics efforts and cracked down drug production fiercely. When Kumington invaded North-East and Eastern Myanmar in reign of Myanmar Socialist Programme Party, they led the opium cultivation and trade in the region.

Myanmar Tatmadaw then waged various operations to ward off the invaders from Myanmar

Khin Maung Tun (Lanmadaw)

Information and Public Relations Departments under the Ministry of Information, and other religious and social organizations.

MANA is not prosecution mechanism bringing "those guilty of drug abuses and related charges" to justice, but the educative organization promoting public awareness to curb drug abuse through rehabilitation.

Since its establishment, it has been formed with senior government officers, retired doctors, retired education officers, professionals, other respected individuals as chairman and executives. Region/state and district/township branches are also formed in the same way. In cooperation with Myanmar Motion Picture Association, Myanmar Music Association and Myanmar Thabin Organization, Academy Ko Lu Min, singer Dr Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein, actress-cum-singer Dr Chit Thu Wai and traditional dancer Ko Moe Min are appointed as 'anti-narcotics' ambassadors. They extend their helping hands to MANA's activities and delivered talks on 'dangers of drugs' in townships, colleges and universities. Educative measures have gathered pace. All volun-

soil with the help of ethnic people, sacrificing many lives. The opium plantations and factories set up under their umbrella in these remote border areas could be destroyed in many operations. Later, Myanmar Police Force, departments and ethnic armed groups have continued to crack down the drug trade, risking their lives.

The government is striving to turn the country into a drug-free country as a national task. We must build up "drug-free Myanmar" by combating opium cultivation, trade and abuses through combined efforts of the entire people and responsible organizations.

If the issue of "drug abuses" looms large, it would destroy human resources and the youths who would lead the nation in the future. So, the onus is on all citizens to eliminate drug abuses. I would like to conclude my article in commemoration of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking with the call for elimination of drug abuse through short-term and long-term plans for the government.

Translation: HKA

NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein calls...

(from page 1)

He pointed out the regular progress of ASEAN economies amid global economic uncertainties, citing the 5.5 per cent growth.

Myanmar is focusing on meeting the goals of ASEAN Economic Community and has so far achieved the 84 per cent of the goals, said the President calling for redoubling efforts for complete realization of ASEAN Economic Community.

Though the ASEAN could overcome Asian financial crisis, SARS and disasters, conventional and

unconventional security matters are facing the bloc, noted the President who spoke of the need for collaborative preparation to tackle the challenges. He tipped the green growth technology and green economy as the best solution to climate change, calling for seriously considering environmental conservation in adopting national economic plans.

He invited dialogue partner countries and IMF to participate in ASEAN Integration Megaproject to boost interaction among organizations and peoples of ASEAN countries. He also

spoke of the need for active public participation in establishing genuine ASEAN Community to pave the way for people-centered community.

ASEAN countries are to avoid extremism and promote patience and religious concord, stressed the President who vowed to join hands with fellow countries

to achieve social objectives.

The President expressed his delight for the ASEAN's special focus on family values and sharing in setting up the ASEAN Community, calling for reducing the development gap among ASEAN countries.

He stressed the need for close cooperation in combating illegal drug

trafficking, piracy, human trafficking and addressing the issues of immigrant workers. He also spoke of his support for six basic principles of South China Sea and agreements between ASEAN and China as well as his concerns of a new flu virus strain in China, calling for preventive measures.

He expressed his special thanks to fellow countries for their support in convincing EU to end economic sanctions on Myanmar. He hoped the remaining sanctions would also be lifted soon. The Brunei King hosted a dinner to the heads of State/Government after the summit.

MNA

Myanmar, Japan to cooperate in education, natural disaster preparedness, research

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by Mr Daisuke UEDA, adviser to the Technology and Higher Education Branch of Human Resources Development under the Japan International Cooperation Agency of Japan at the Amyotha Hluttaw hall, here, at 2 pm today.

Also present at the call were the Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Chairmen of Amyotha Hluttaw Committees U Zaw Myint Pe, U San Tun and Col Maung Maung Htoo and officials of the Hluttaw Office. They focused on



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint receives Mr Daisuke UEDA, adviser to the Technology and Higher Education Branch of Human Resources Development of JICA.—MNA

cooperation in development of education sector, natural disaster preparedness, and

industrial research works between the two countries and other sectors, and further

strengthening of bilateral relations between Myanmar and Japan.—MNA

Australian Senator John Joseph Hogg to pay visit to Myanmar

At the invitation of Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, a delegation led by John Joseph Hogg, member of Australian Senate, will pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar from 27 April to 1 May.

The biography of

an official with the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees Association (SDA) from 1976 to 1996. The SDA is one of the leading unions supporting the right-wing faction of the Labor Party. In 1978 he married Susan Mary Lynch, and subsequently raised two daughters and a son.

Hogg joined the ALP in 1976 and became an active member in the organization, attending the Queensland State Conference as a delegate in 1981 and the National Conference in 1984. He became a member of the ALP's Administrative Committee in 1982 and eventually a representative on the National Executive. He continued to rise within the party, eventually becoming the Chair of the ALP National Policy Committee (Government Administration) in 1991. He was preselected as first candidate on the ALP ticket for the Queensland Senate to replace retiring Gerry Jones in 1996. A member of the Labor Right faction, he defeated the Socialist Left candidate Jeff Slowgrove 76 to 72. He was elected and took office as Senator on 1 July 1996. In August 2002 Hogg was elected Deputy President of the Senate and Chairman of Committee. After the ALP won government in 2007, Hogg was elected to replace Alan Ferguson as President of the Senate. On 10 August 2012, Senator Hogg said that he would be retiring from politics at the end of his current term in June 2014, and not contesting the 2013 federal election.



Senator John Joseph Hogg is as follows:-

John Joseph Hogg (born 19 March 1949) is an Australian politician, and has been a member of the Australian Senate for the state of Queensland since July 1996, representing the Australian Labor Party. He was elected the 23rd President of the Senate on 26 August 2008.

Hogg was born in Brisbane to Francis Patrick and Catherine Frances Hogg. He attended St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace and then the University of Queensland, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science. He later completed a Diploma in Primary Teaching at Kedron Park Teachers College, part of the Queensland University of Technology, and he has taught at both primary and secondary schools. He was

USAID to help Union Attorney-General's Office

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin held talks with Senior Governance & Rule of Law Advisor from USAID at his office here this morning. The two focused on fields of cooperation in the short and long run as the advisor has observed the functions of the office of the Union Attorney-General to give necessary assistance. The advisor also said they would seek fields of potential cooperation on the ground in Myanmar.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General U Kyaw Hsan and personnel from Office of the Union Attorney-General.

MNA

Survey to be conducted for integrated transport master plan

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein met personnel and private entities at the ministry today to coordinate for conducting surveys as part of national integrated transport master plan.

The plan being adopted with JICA's assistance with feasibility



Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin holds talks with Senior Governance & Rule of Law Advisor from USAID.—MNA

studies under negotiation to single out priorities in respective sectors. Experts from JICA, in cooperation with Suntac Co Ltd, will conduct surveys on highway truck terminals, airports, river ports, railway stations, toll gates, bus terminals and expressway entrances in regions and states, it is reported.—MNA

Education Ministry seeks English language proficiency of students

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye held talks with President Mr Nicholas J Randall and party at his office this morning on conducting

of English language courses for improving the English language proficiency of teachers and students in basic and higher education sectors.

MNA

Junior Golf Myanmar Tourney 2-3 May

YANGON, 25 April—Under the supervision of Myanmar Golf Federation, Junior Golf Myanmar will organize the 1st Junior Golf Myanmar Tournament 2013 at Yangon Golf Club, here,

on 2 and 3 May.

Junior Golf Myanmar plans to organize the golf tournament monthly for turning out of outstanding golfers.

NLM

LOCAL NEWS

Over 1000 units of SIM cards sold at Thazi

THAZI, 25 April—Buyers queued for low-priced CDMA 800 MHz SIM cards yesterday in Thazi Township, Meiktila District, Mandalay Region as over 1000 units of SIM cards are being sold for the first batch there.

The Township General Administration Department supervised the sales of SIM cards at the township sports ground with the help of ward/village administrators and social organizations to ensure the reach of end users.

Buyers need to submit application form attached with original and a copy of household registration, original and a copy of



SIM card buyers seen at township sports ground in Thazi.

citizenship scrutiny card and two colour photos. The quota is set at one unit of SIM card for each household.

SIM cards are sold to those meeting the requirements as the priority. No.1 Ward in Thazi Urban area got 99

units of SIM cards, No. 2 Ward 25, No. 3 42, No. 4 59, No.5 17, No.6 27 and No.7 31.—Kyemon

SIM card buyers chosen by lots in Mayangon Tsp

YANGON, 25 April—As Mayangon Township gets its share of 3200 cards of MECTEL CDMA-800 MHz for the first time,

Township Administrator U Than Win and townsellers together with Deputy Head of Township Immigration Department U Myo Naing

conducted the sale of SIM cards in line with the rules at Phahtanmyatgon Dharmayon at the corner of Tabin Shwe Htee and Alaung

Phaya Streets in the township yesterday morning. Buyers were chosen by lots as the number of applicants (3336 heads) is more than allocated cards (807 cards) for each ward of the township.

Lucky applicants were sold SIM cards at the Ward Administrator's Office at 10 am today.

Kyemon

Plan to rebuild houses of fire victims in NyaungU



NYAUNGU, 25 April—A fire broke out in Yanhsan Village of NyaungU Township in NyaungU District at 1 pm on 20 April.

A ceremony to present K 271,800, bags of rice, clothes and other equipment donated by departmental personnel and local people

to fire victims was held at the relief camp of the village monastery.

It was attended by departmental officials of NyungU District and Township departmental officials, members of social organizations, ward administrators and personnel

of Royal Bagan Foundation.

Wellwisher U Myo Min Oo-Daw The Myintzu Myint (Royal Bagan Foundation) will donate cash to the fund for reconstruction of 19 houses. "We came here to donate clothes, bags of rice and cash to the fire victims. We have no plan to rebuild the houses. When we arrived here, we knew that most of the fire victims are older persons and they would not afford to rebuild their houses. Now is dry and hot season. I thought that the older persons would not endure the hot season. So we decided to rebuild the houses for them," said wellwisher U Myo Min Oo.

The houses will be of same type. A plan is set to spend K 840,000 on each house. Due to hot season, the construction will be carried out as quickly as possible.

Kyemon

Kengtung sees two fire outbreaks in single day

KENG TUNG, 25 April—Kengtung Township saw two fire outbreaks in a single day. The first incident happened yesterday morning at Mingala Street, Suntaung Arkha Village in No. 4 Ward. The kitchen fire was due to negligence of tenant Maung Na Ta Lel, which burnt down the one-storey iron-roofed house of owner U Ar Khay.

The second one happened around 12 pm at

the house of U Sai Lon in Yan Hoke Village, Kattaung Village-tract. It was also reported to have been the kitchen fire. Thanks to the efforts of Kengtung Township Fire Brigade and public co-operation, fire could be put out within minutes in both incidents. The Kengtung Township Police Force has brought the both cases to trial, it is reported.

Kyemon

Fire breaks out at old guest house

YANGON, 25 April—A fire broke out on the first floor of Lamineain guest house on Baho road in Ywama East Ward of Insein Township on 22 April. The fire was sparked by welding and spread to wafer pieces.

Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Tun, Township Police Commander Police Major Kyaw Win, Head of Township Fire Services Department

U Zaw Win and fire brigade members rushed to the scene and extinguished the fire with four fire engines. The fire was under control at 3.30 pm.

The fire destroyed a teak door there. Insein Police Station filed a law suit against welder Thura Win, aged 25, who resides at No.60 Natsingone Village, Thanlyin Township under Section 285.—Kyemon



A house collapses in strong winds that hit Humon Village in Ward 12 of Lashio at 6.30 pm on 22 April and at 3.15 pm on 23 April. Due to strong winds, CI sheets of some houses were blown off, trees fell down and power and telephone lines cut out in Lashio.—KYEMON

Squad arrests soccer betting

YANGON, 25 April—The gamblers were arrested by officials for soccer betting at a betal shop on Ywalee street of Sintgu Ward in Insein Township, here, on 21 April.

According to a tip-off from a member of the public, a squad led by SIP Zaw Min Oo of Special Crime Unit from Office of the Commander of Yanogn North District Police Force,

SIP Aung Myint Thein of Insein Police Station and Police Sergeant Aung Soe searched the betal shop and arrested two men namely Min Kyi (a) Phoe Thein and Ko Ko Hlaing (a) Shwe Yin Aye who were engaged in gambling with K 74,500 and related materials.

Insein Police Station filed a lawsuit against the two gamblers.

Kyemon

Ammunition unearthed in Bago

BAGO, 25 April—Two 36 grenades and 32 rounds of 303 rifle ammunition were found in Bago on 23 April. The rusty ammunitions were reported to have been unearthed from the 50-foot-deep well at Yangon-Mandalay High-way in Oattha Myothit, Bago and then transferred to Bago No.1 police station.

Likewise, a grenade was found while digging the earth

for construction works in Yongyi Ward at the corner of local office street and hospital street on 21 April. According to the investigation by organizations concerned, the grenade was found to be 36 propelled one and no more explosive. Bago No.1 Police Station concerned has seized the grenade and taking actions to transfer it to the battalions under the law.—Kyemon



Under the supervision of Executive Officer U Maung Maung Win of Muse Township Development Affairs Committee, officials and staff carry out sanitation at landscape at the junction of the road to District Court in Muse on 25 April.—KYEMON

REGIONAL

Senior US military officer visits Chinese Army



The Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey

BEIJING, 25 April—The Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey visited Chinese army aviation forces and the University of National Defence here on Wednesday.

The senior US military officer watched a performance of gunships and exchanged views with Chinese military instructors and trainees, according to the Chinese military. Following the visits, Dempsey gave a Press briefing to reporters. He said that his conversations with the Chinese side were “dy-

namic.”

Dempsey said he would like to believe that his first trip to China has contributed to greater understanding, but added that there are still some things the two sides have to continue to work on over time.

Dempsey arrived in Beijing on Sunday for a five-day visit. President Xi Jinping and other government and military leaders exchanged views with Dempsey on bilateral ties and other issues of common concern.

Xinhua

Indonesia signs investment MOU with China's Anhui Province

JAKARTA, 25 April—Indonesia's Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) on Wednesday signed an investment memorandum of understanding (MOU) with China's Anhui Province, in an effort to promote the investment cooperation between the two sides.

Under the MOU, the east China province with 60 million populations agreed to establish an economic and trade cooperation zone in Indonesia to accommodate factories and companies from Anhui Province.

However, neither BKPM nor Anhui mentioned the total investment value. Speaking at the signing ceremony, BKPM deputy chairman Achmad Kurdiani said the signing of the MOU marks the establishment of investment promotion partnership between Anhui Province and Indonesia. “It will be an effective endeavor in increasing investment activities of Chinese investors from Anhui Province into Indonesia and vice versa,” Achmad said.

Cao Yong, Director-General of the Department of Commerce of Anhui Province of Commerce of Anhui Province, said In-

donesia is a very dynamic country with huge natural resource and the Anhui government encourages its companies and entrepreneurs to invest in Indonesia. “The establishment of the economic and trade cooperation zone in Indonesia will surely promote more companies from Anhui to invest here and get developed with Indonesia,” Cao said.

According to Cao, the economic and trade cooperation between Anhui Province and Indonesia has been experiencing an rapid increase in recent years, with the total import and export trade volume reaching 1.07 billion US dollars in 2012, up 106 percent from a year earlier.

Zhang Baoshun, secretary of Anhui Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China, attended the signing ceremony, who led an economic and trade delegation to investigate Indonesia's investment environment.

Anhui Conch Cement Co, China's largest cement manufacturer has also reached an investment intention with South Sulawesi's Maros County government at the signing ceremony.—Xinhua

Student to walk 700 km for post-disaster park reconstruction survey

ISHINOMAKI, (Japan), 25 April—A Waseda University student has walked some 400 kilometres through northeastern Japan on a field survey to choose a path for a Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park, to be created by rebuilding parks damaged by the earthquake and tsunami of 11 March, 2011. “I wanted to contribute to support for disaster-damaged areas one way or another,” Shunsuke Goto, 22, said, explaining why he had applied for participation in the survey solicited by a consulting firm in Tokyo on behalf of the Environment Ministry.

The selection of the 700-km coastal path, called “Tohoku Kaigan Trail,” from Hachinohe, Aomori Prefecture, to Soma, Fukushima Prefecture, is a core project for the national park scheme as a symbol of reconstruction in the disaster-ravaged northeastern Japan region of Tohoku. Goto began walk-

ing with ministry officials and others from Kabushima in Hachinohe on 1 December last year. While commuting between his whereabouts on the route and Tokyo, he has walked 400 km thus far.

“A fisherman let me stay at his home and I talked with construction workers I met at an inn,” Goto said. “I really enjoy getting to know people.” On a Monday in mid-February, Goto left Minamisanriku, Miyagi Prefecture, under powder snow at 9 am. He dropped by a restaurant in the town and ate a bowl of noodles and other local meals served by Eiko Narisawa, 58, even though it was before she opened her restaurant. “People in Tohoku are very warmhearted and help me at all times,” Goto said. Goto kept walking on the coastal national road with mountains of rubble set aside.

At one point, he turned into a forest trail covered with knee-high snow and

reached a mountain path, with an altitude of around 300 meters, on the border between the town and the city of Ishinomaki after two hours of walking. From the snow-blanketed path, he looked down at the port and residential areas still show-

ing scars of the disaster. Descending from the mountain path, Goto reached his goal for the day at the mouth of the Kitakami River in Ishinomaki. He walked 16 km for seven and a half hours including break time.

Kyodo News



Shunsuke Goto, a Waseda University student, looks at the mouth of the Kitakami River in Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture, on 25 Feb, 2013, during a field survey commissioned by the Environment Ministry to choose a 700-kilometre natural path called “Tohoku Kaigan Trail.” The selection of the coastal path from Hachinohe, Aomori Prefecture, to Soma, Fukushima Prefecture, is a core project for a Sanriku Fukko (Reconstruction) National Park to be created by rebuilding natural parks damaged by the earthquake and tsunami of 11 March, 2011.—KYODO NEWS

Panda cubs are fed at the Bifengxia Panda Base, located about 20 km from the epicentre of a 7.0-magnitude earthquake on 20 April, in Ya'an City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 24 April, 2013. Giant panda habitats near the epicentre of the earthquake that jolted Lushan County of Ya'an City have suffered only minor effects from the natural disaster. All 61 giant pandas at Bifengxia Panda Base are safe, according to local authorities.

XINHUA



Senior Chinese official emphasizes partnership with Vietnam

BEIJING, 25 April—China is ready to advance its comprehensive, strategic and cooperative partnership with Vietnam, a senior Chinese official said here on Wednesday. Wang Qishan, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with a Vietnamese dele-

gation headed by Ngo Van Du, head of the Communist Party of Vietnam's (CPV) discipline arm.

During the meeting, Wang said the CPC is ready to work with the CPV to step up exchanges and cooperation as well as mutual learning, so as to advance the China-Vietnam comprehensive, strategic and cooperative

partnership in a stable and healthy way.

Du, a Politburo member and head of the CPV Central Committee's Commission for Inspection, said the CPV is ready to further strengthen communication with the CPC and learn from each other's experience on combating corruption and developing a clean government.—Xinhua

Philippine military augments forces in south to pursue leftist rebels

MANILA, 25 April — The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has recently sent a Marine battalion to southern Province of Misamis Oriental to augment the local government troops who have been pursuing the leftist rebels there, a senior

government official said on Wednesday.

Philippine Presidential Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda, in a news briefing, said that the government forces have intensified their operations against the New People's Army (NPA) who

ambushed the convoy of Gingoog City Mayor Ruthie Guingona last Saturday. Gingoog City is part of Misamis Oriental. “There was a Marine battalion that's moved to the 4th Infantry Division, which covers Misamis Oriental.—Xinhua

Japan may see nuclear reactors resume operating from fall

TOKYO, 25 April—Industry minister Toshimitsu Motegi said on Tuesday that some of the country's idled nuclear reactors might resume operating this autumn at the earliest after undergoing a new safety assessment process. The Nuclear Regulation Authority plans to introduce new safety requirements for nuclear power plants in mid-July, opening the door for utilities to apply for permits to put their reactors back online.

Motegi told reporters the new requirements will take effect “in the summer,” so the schedule for the resumption of reactors will be “autumn at the earliest.” It is the first time that the economy, trade and industry minister referred to the timing of the restart of a reactor.

Of the 50 commercial reactors in Japan, only two are currently online amid safety concerns over the use of nuclear power in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima Dai-ichi plant disaster. Utilities hope to restart idled reactors once the new regulations come into force as they are struggling with increasing fuel costs for thermal power generation to make up for the loss of halted nuclear power generation.—Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**Centre for Human Resource Development
(Yangon University of Foreign Languages)****Invitation for Application to
Foreign Language Courses**

The Centre for Human Resource Development (Yangon University of Foreign Languages) will open evening courses on Chinese, English, French, French (Translation and Interpretation), German, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Thai and Myanmar as a Foreign Language.

Commencement date of course : 13-5-2013

Commencement date for : 7-5-2013

submission of applications

Closing date for applications : 10-5-2013

(For English language the day on which the targeted number of applicants is reached)

Application to be submitted to : Yangon University of Foreign Languages

Days on which classes held : Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

Time : 5:20 - 7:00 p.m.

Documents required : Certificate of Matriculation (or) Marks Certificate (or) Degree Certificate (Both Original and copy are required)

Enquiry : Student's Affairs Section, YUFL

Phone : 514372 (Ext-*809)

Application must be submitted in person.

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MVMALACCA HIGHWAY VOY NO (167)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MALACCA HIGHWAY VOY NO (167) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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: SEALS CO LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV CHANG QIANG VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CHANG QIANG VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: BRIGHT SAIL SHIPPING LTD
CHINA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

Combined photo taken on 23 April, 2013 shows that volunteers present the costumes, the mascot and the mascot-related products designed for the volunteers of the ninth China (Beijing) International Garden Expo at a Press conference in Beijing, capital of China. The mascot for volunteers is given a nickname of "Little V Bee" as V stands for victory and bee is a symbol of diligence in Chinese culture. A total of 51,096 people have so far registered for the volunteer service during the expo.—XINHUA

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GREAT CREATION VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GREAT CREATION VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S STX PAN OCEAN**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (001)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 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 MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (334)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (334) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.4.2013 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (84)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (84) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 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 WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIP-
PING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (340N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (340N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVER GREEN SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MVBIENDONG NAVIGATOR VOY NO (050)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG NAVIGATOR VOY NO (050) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 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 ORINET OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**Kansai Airport to start solar
power generation**

OSAKA, 25 April — Photovoltaic panels will be installed at Kansai International Airport serving Osaka to produce electricity for sale to Kansai Electric Power Co, New Kansai International Airport Co said on Tuesday.

Under a project jointly undertaken with Solar Frontier KK and financed by the government-backed

Development Bank of Japan, panels will be laid out in idle land of the offshore airport island. They will have an output capacity of 12,000 megawatt hours per year with their operations scheduled for inauguration in January 2014. They are designed to generate power enough to supply around 4,100 households, the companies said.—Kyodo News

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ER TURKU VOY NO (016)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ER TURKU VOY NO (016) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.4.2013 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.

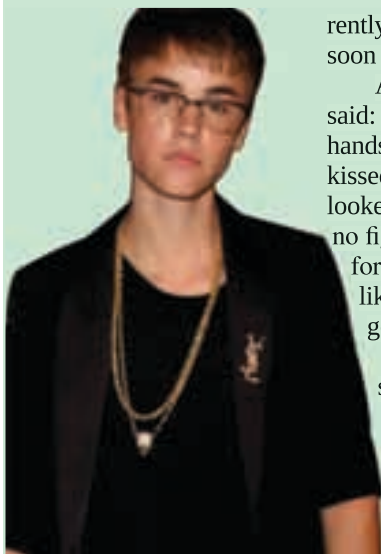
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S HANJIN SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Justin Bieber, Selena Gomez back together?



rently on tour, and they were soon spotted kissing.

A source previously said: "They were holding hands, hugging and they kissed on the lips. They looked really in love, like no fights ever happened before. It definitely looked like they were back together."

Pals recently insisted that despite their on/off relationship, the pair — who split late last year — can't stay away from each other and have an intense connection.

Justin and Selena

LONDON, 25 April—Justin Bieber has hinted he and Selena Gomez are officially back together.

The 19-year-old Beauty and a Beat singer — who was dumped by the brunette beauty in December after a tumultuous two year relationship — briefly posted an uncaptioned new photo of them cuddling up together on Saturday (20.04.13) but he quickly deleted it.

The Spring Breakers actress flew to Norway earlier this week to see the Baby hitmaker, who is cur-



Richa Chadda finds Madhuri Dixit perfect combo of actor-dancer

MUMBAI, 25 April—Madhuri Dixit is an ideal combination of a good actress and dancer, says Richa Chadda and adds that the Bollywood diva is like a mirchi.

"Madhuri Dixit is like a mirchi. She can dance and act equally well. So she is very fit to be an actress," said Richa, who made her acting debut in 2008 with Dibakar Baneerjee's Oye Lucky! Lucky Oye!

But Richa grabbed attention after her work in Gangs Of Wasseypur.

She will next be seen in Farhan Akhtar's home production Fukrey and guarantees that it will entertain moviegoers.

Directed by Mrighdeep Singh Lamba of Teen Thay Bhai fame, Fukrey also features Pulkit Samrat, Manjot Singh, Ali Fazal and southern actress Priya Anand. Richa plays a mafia don in the film. "Fukrey is a young story and I am playing antagonist in the film. Since I enjoy playing different kind of characters, so you will enjoy watching Fukrey. I guarantee this," she said.—PTI



Singers Emily Magee (R) and Jonas Kaufmann perform on stage during a dress rehearsal of Richard Strauss' opera 'Ariadne auf Naxos' in Salzburg on 25 July, 2012.—REUTERS

Frankfurt, Kaufmann, Stemme top opera honours

LONDON, 25 April—Frankfurt Opera was crowned the world's best opera company on Monday at the inaugural International Opera Awards which were set up to promote opera to a wider audience as it comes under increasing financial pressure.

The award was one of 21 prizes announced at a ceremony in central London to kick off "The Operas", annual awards set up by Opera Magazine and British businessman Harry Hyman.

German Jonas Kaufmann, often described as the "new king of tenors", was crowned the best male singer after strong reviews from productions of "Carmen" and with his solo albums, Verismo Arias and Wagner, becoming bestsellers within weeks of release.

Swedish soprano Nina Stemme, who received raves in Munich, Milan and Paris for her Wagner, beat five others including Joyce DiDonato and Sarah Con-

nolly to be named best female singer.

Briton Antonio Pappano, music director of Britain's Royal Opera House, won the award for best conductor.

The winners list said that under its intendant Bernd Loebe, the Frankfurt Opera had established itself as one of Europe's best, with houses almost regularly filled to capacity for a mix of rarely performed works and more mainstream repertoire.

Opera Magazine editor John Allison said he hoped the awards would bring more recognition to opera at an economically tough time when many opera houses were struggling

due to a drop in private sponsorships and state subsidies.

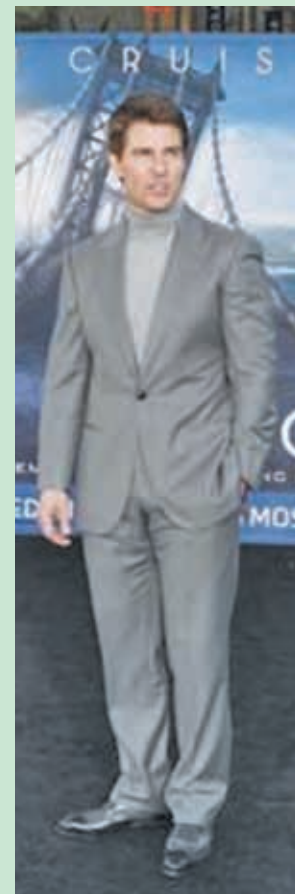
"Very few opera companies in the world are immune to the financial pinch," Allison said, adding that this could stifle creativity and tempt opera companies "to play it safe".

Hyman said the awards were intended to broaden the audience for opera and encourage new talent by creating bursaries.

"I hope they will become the Oscars of opera," he said. Reuters

Tom Cruise takes back US box office with "Oblivion"

LONDON, 25 April—Tom Cruise's post-apocalyptic thriller "Oblivion" wiped out the box office competition, racking up \$38.2 million (25 million pounds) in weekend ticket



Cast member Tom Cruise poses at the premiere of his new film "Oblivion" in Hollywood, California on 10 April, 2013.

sales during its US and Canadian debut.

The debut of "Oblivion" knocked baseball movie "42" into second place. The drama about Jackie Robinson, the first black player in the Major Leagues, earned \$18 million from Friday through Sunday after leading the charts a week ago. In third place, animated Stone Age comedy "The Croods" earned \$9.5 million during its fifth weekend in theatres, according to studio estimates.

Reuters



Richa Chadda

SPORTS

Clippers' Paul calls late-game heroics "just basketball"

LOS ANGELES, 25 April—Chris Paul drove right, stumbled forward, leaned back and banked in a game-winning shot that lifted the Los Angeles Clippers to a crucial playoff win on Monday and elevated his status as one of the game's top closers.

While Kobe Bryant, Kevin Durant and LeBron James are often noted as fourth-quarter assassins, it is the diminutive six-foot (1.83m) Paul who provided the signature moment of the National Basketball Association (NBA) playoffs thus far.

Paul's last-second jumper gave the Clippers a 93-91 victory and a 2-0 lead in their best-of-seven first-round series with the Memphis Grizzlies that left the home crowd buzzing.

"He's so stubborn and strong-willed. There's not too many players like that," Clippers forward Lamar Odom told *Reuters*, likening Paul's clutch play to former team mate Bryant.

"It's all about their mentality. He just didn't take no for an answer."

Paul finished with 24 points and nine assists, and got the final say in a duel



Los Angeles Clippers Chris Paul (R) hugs Blake Griffin (C) and Jamal Crawford after scoring the game-winning shot against the Memphis Grizzlies during Game 2 of their NBA Western Conference Quarterfinals basketball playoff series in Los Angeles, on 22 April, 2013.—REUTERS

with Grizzlies guard Mike Conley, who had a playoff-career-high 28 points and nine rebounds, but it was the timing of his points that made all the difference.

As Los Angeles let a 12-point advantage slip away in the fourth quarter, Paul scored the last eight points for his team in what has become a familiar occurrence for the Clippers.

Blake Griffin's scene-stealing athleticism is the high point of a deep and exciting roster, but when it comes to the last 12 min-

utes of a close game the offense begins and ends with point guard Paul.

"Any time we get in those positions, he's our closer and we look for him to close games out," said Clippers guard Chauncey Billups, nicknamed 'Mr. Big Shot' for his own ability to make crucial buckets during his career.

"All great players are not clutch. Chris has proved to be one of the best clutch players in the NBA."

It is that intangible of Paul's that has resuscitated

the Clippers franchise and helped them steal some billing from the crosstown rival Lakers.

When the Clippers traded for the All Star guard prior to the 2011-12 NBA season they were looking to reverse a painful history of losing.

Paul quickly cured that with his fierce competitiveness and fearlessness in the closing stages of games. The Clippers beat the Grizzlies to reach the second round of the playoffs last year and captured a maiden Pacific Division crown this season.

"I don't think it's that dramatic," said Paul, of the big moment. "It's just basketball."

It certainly felt that dramatic to everyone else Monday when Paul blew past Memphis defender Tony Allen, lofted a shot over Darrell Arthur and raised his reputation to yet a new height.

Even opponent Conley felt the weight of the play.

"That's what great players do," Conley said. "We did our best to defend him. He just hit a tough shot."

Reuters



Marco Fu from Hong Kong of China competes against Matthew Stevens of Wales during their first round match of World Snooker Championship at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, Britain, on 24 April, 2013. Marco Fu won 10-7.—XINHUA

England's Pietersen ruled out of Champions Trophy

LONDON, 25 April—England batsman Kevin Pietersen will not be ready for the one-day series with New Zealand and June's Champions Trophy after a further scan on his injured knee on Wednesday, fueling speculation he could be an Ashes doubt.

"Kevin Pietersen has been ruled out of the ICC Champions Trophy following a repeat MRI scan on his right knee earlier today," the England and Wales Cricket Board said in a statement, adding he would also skip the New Zealand one-dayers which precede the tournament.

The 32-year-old had already been told he would miss the two-match test series against New Zealand next month because of the injury.

He suffered the knee problem during fielding practice in the away series in New Zealand last month and was unable to play in the third and final test.

The home five-test Ashes series against Australia starts in Nottingham on 10 July with the Champions Trophy one-day tour-

namment taking place from 6-23 June, also in England.

Pietersen remains England's most explosive batsman and any sign he will miss all or part of the Ashes offers encouragement to Australia, who named their squad earlier on Wednesday and are seen as underdogs after losing the last two series.

"Pietersen will now start a graduated rehabilitation programme with a view to resuming full training by the middle of June," the ECB statement added.

Reuters



England's Kevin Pietersen reacts as he walks off the ground after being dismissed for 73 runs during the second day of the second test against New Zealand at the Basin Reserve in Wellington on 15 March, 2013.

REUTERS

Ferrer shocked in Barcelona, Nadal eases through

BARCELONA, 25 April—Top seed David Ferrer summed



David Ferrer

up his error-strewn defeat by qualifier Dmitry Tursunov as "one of the worst I have played" after falling at the first hurdle at the Barcelona Open on Wednesday.

The Spaniard lost 7-5, 3-6, 6-1 to the Russian but seven-time champion Rafa

Nadal eased past Carlos

Berlocq 6-4, 6-2.

Four-time finalist Ferrer had pulled out of the Monte Carlo Masters event last week with a thigh muscle injury picked up when losing in the Miami final to Andy Murray last month.

"It was a game to forget, one of the worst I have played," a downcast Ferrer told reporters after his defeat in blustery conditions.

"I wasn't good in tennis terms, mentally, or with

my attitude. It affects me personally because my opportunities to win here are getting fewer as I get older," said the 31-year-old.

"Tursunov's been very good, better than me, and in the end that's why he won."

Second seed Nadal, who beat Ferrer in last year's final, started his bid for an eighth Barcelona title with a tough workout against Argentine Berlocq.

Reuters

Liverpool's Gerrard faces likely shoulder surgery

LONDON, 25 April—Liverpool and England captain Steven Gerrard is likely to need shoulder surgery at the end of the season, the Premier League club said on Wednesday.

If the 32-year-old, who has been ever present in this season's league campaign, has surgery in the close season he could miss England's friendlies against Ireland at Wembley on May 29 and away to Brazil on 2 June.

"It's looking more and more likely that he might require surgery," first team coach Mike Marsh told the club's website (www.liverpoolfc.com).

"He has been playing with a shoulder injury for quite a while now. We'll try to find the right time for him to get it fixed properly."

"It's not ideal timing, it's going to take quite a while for him to heal... If it



England's Steven Gerrard sits on the bench before their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match against San Marino at the Serravalle Stadium in San Marino on 22 March, 2013.—REUTERS

needs repairing, it needs repairing and when he's back fit, he's back fit. There's not much we can do about it." The midfielder, who is due to have a testimonial match against Greek champions Olympiakos at Anfield on 3 August, has scored nine league goals this season.

He has made 628 appearances for the Merseyside club where he has spent his entire career after coming through the youth ranks, scoring 159 goals.

Reuters

Rare breakage blamed for Alonso wing problem

LONDON, 25 April—The rear wing problem that wrecked Fernando Alonso's hopes of winning in Bahrain last weekend was due to a rare component failure within the DRS



Ferrari Formula One driver Fernando Alonso of Spain drives during the Bahrain F1 Grand Prix at the Sakhir circuit, south of Manama on 21 April, 2013.—REUTERS

system, Ferrari said after an investigation.

"It's the first problem of its kind on this system seen on the three years dur-

ing which it has been used," the Italian team said on their website. "The failure is not something that causes concern for the long term."

The DRS (drag reduction system) is a driver-oper-

ated adjustable flap that can be opened to provide more speed for overtaking in certain designated zones on the circuit.

Ferrari team principal Stefano Domenicali said Sunday's failure had prevented the Spaniard, who had been in second place, from fighting Red Bull's eventual winner Sebastian Vettel for the victory. Alonso, who won the previous race in

GENERAL

Early flying dinosaur can catch fish



Residents visit an exhibition at the Campo Marte Park in Lima, Peru, on 20 April, 2013. The Jesus Maria governor organized the exhibition "Party of Astronomy" to celebrate the coming Astronomy Day.—XINHUA

VANCOUVER, 25 April—The new evidence of Microraptor's hunting ability came from fossilized remains in China, in which the stomach content of fish was easily identified, said Scott Persons, a paleontology graduate student at the University of Alberta. "Now we know that Microraptor operated in varied terrain and had a varied diet," said Persons. "It took advantage of a variety of prey in the wet and forested environment" in the current China terrain during the early Cretaceous period, or 120 million years ago.

Further analysis of the fossil revealed that its teeth were adapted to catching slippery, wiggling preys like fish. Dinosaur researchers have established that most meat-eaters had teeth with serrations on both sides, which helped the predator saw through meat like a steak knife.

But the Microraptor's teeth were serrated on just one side, and were angled forward. It is another evidence that shows Microraptor's adaption to impale fish on its teeth. "With reduced serrations, the prey wouldn't tear itself apart while it struggled," said Persons. "Microraptor could simply raise its head back; the fish would slip off the teeth and be swallowed whole, no fuss, no muss."

Xinhua

Japanese director Kawase chosen as Cannes festival jury member



Japanese film director Naomi Kawase.

TOKYO, 25 April—Japanese film director Naomi Kawase has been selected as a member of this year's Cannes film festival jury, according to the festival's official website.

She will be the first Japanese member of the jury that decides the festival award winners since designer Eiko Ishioka in 1996. "This is a great honour and I am delighted," Kawase said. "I intend to face the

works chosen from across the world in a sincere manner."

At Cannes, Kawase won the Camera d'Or for the best new director award in 1997 for "Moe no Suzaku," her first film made for theater screening, and won the Grand Prix in 2007 for "Mogari no Mori" (The Mourning Forest).

Director Steven Spielberg will serve as head of the jury for the 66th Cannes film festival

to be held from 15 to 26 May in the southern French city, while the jury will also include actress Nicole Kidman and director Ang Lee.

Kyodo News

Brazil booed by own fans in 2-2 draw with Chile

LONDON, 25 April—Brazil were booed by their own fans after stumbling to a 2-2 draw with Chile in their first friendly at a 2014 World Cup stadium on Wednesday.

The match at the newly refurbished Mineirao in Belo Horizonte was coach Luiz Felipe Scolari's last test before naming his squad on 14 May for the Confederations Cup to be held at six venues in Brazil in June. The friendly, in which Chile were attempting to win in Brazil for the first time in 26 appearances, was also a chance for the local World Cup organising committee to test the venue, the second to be ready for the 15-30 June tournament.

Despite a good turnout with a crowd of over 53,000 and a pre-match party, the demanding home fans booed their team and shouted 'Ole' when the Chileans exchanged a string of passes.

"One day you're booed, the next you're praised, football's like that," said striker Neymar, who put

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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- * News
- * Have Internet Cafes Dwindled Away?
- * A Way to revitalize your Mind
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- * Myanmar Mega Factory (Episode-II)
- * Myanmar Movies "Invisible Bond"

Myanmar TV

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- | | |
|---|--|
| 6:00 am | 2:15 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 19. Myanmar Movie (Part-3) |
| 6:30 am | 3:00 pm |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 20. News |
| 6:35 am | 3:15 pm |
| 3. Dance of National Races | 21. Musical Programme |
| 6:45 am | 4:00 pm |
| 4. Documentary | 22. News |
| 7:00 am | 4:15 pm |
| 5. News | 23. Dance of National Races |
| 7:20 am | 4:25 pm |
| 6. Teleplay | 24. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Second Year (History) |
| 8:00 am | 4:45 pm |
| 7. News | 25. Song of Yester Years |
| 8:25 am | 5:00 pm |
| 8. India Drama Series | 26. News |
| 9:00 am | 6:00 pm |
| 9. News | 27. News |
| 9:20 am | 6:15 pm |
| 10. How It's Works | 28. Amazing World |
| 9:45 am | 6:50 pm |
| 11. TV Drama Series | 29. TV Drama Series |
| 10:00 am | 7:00 pm |
| 12. News | 30. News |
| 11:00 am | 8:00 pm |
| 13. CLEVER | 31. News |
| 12:00 pm | 8:35 pm |
| 14. News | 32. People Talks |
| 12:25 pm | 8:45 pm |
| 15. Myanmar Movie (Part-1) | 33. Documentary |
| 1:00 pm | 9:00 pm |
| 16. News | 34. News |
| 1:15 pm | 35. Golden Music of Old Stars |
| 17. Myanmar Movie (Part-2) | 36. Nostalgia to Myanma Cultural Atrs |
| 2:00 pm | |
| 18. News | |

Brazil 2-1 up in the 54th minute from a pass by substitute striker Alexandre Pato. Defender Marcos Gonzalez, who plays his club football in Brazil for Flamengo, headed Chile into the lead from a free kick in the

eighth minute. Centre back Rever equalised for Brazil midway through the first half heading home Neymar's corner. Striker Eduardo Vargas, who plays for Brazilian side Gremio, gave Chile the draw with a superb shot

into the top corner from outside the box in the 64th.

"It's difficult with a team that only trained once. We tried but everyone knew it was going to be tough," Brazil captain Ronaldinho said. Brazil, who as World Cup hosts have been limited to playing friendlies, have won one, drawn three and lost one of their five games under 2002 world champion coach Scolari in his second spell in charge.

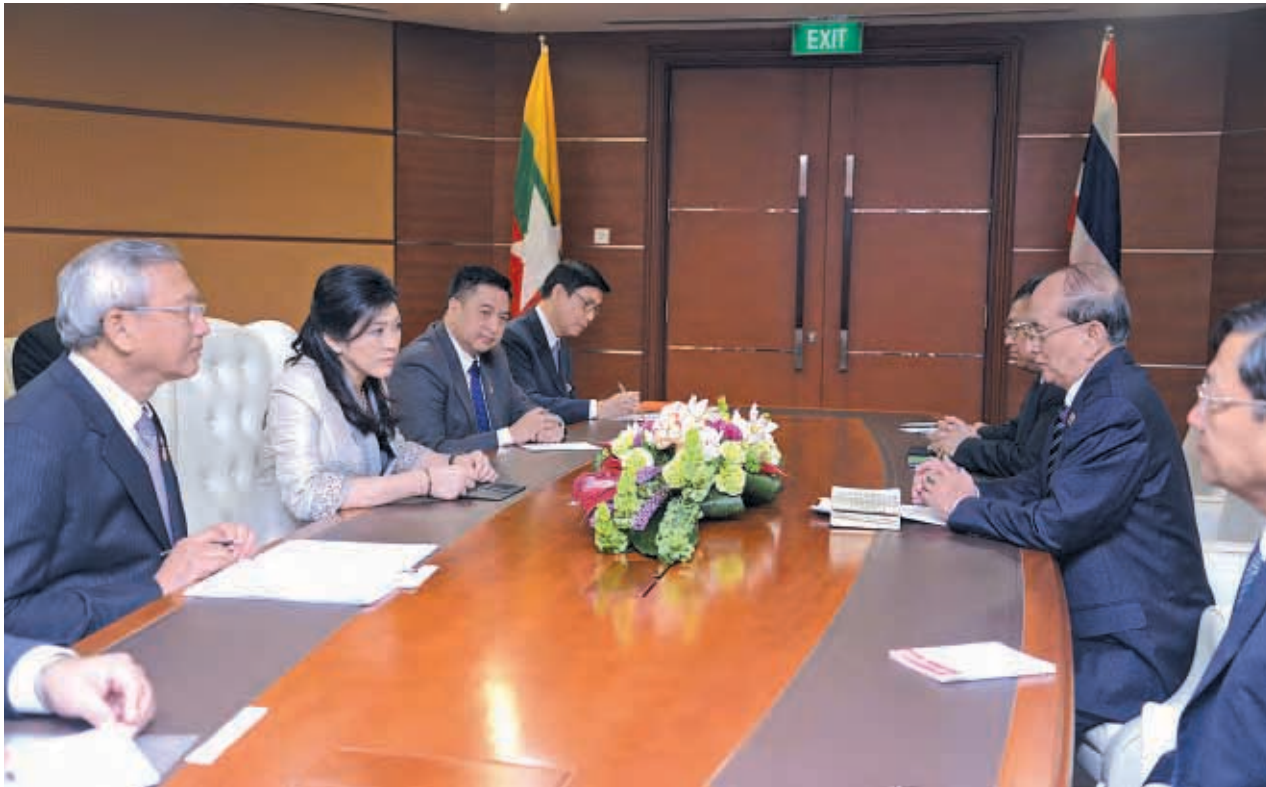
Reuters



Brazil's Alexandre Pato (R) challenges Chile's Marcos Gonzalez (C) and Jose Rojas during their international friendly soccer match in Belo Horizonte, on 24 April, 2013.

REUTERS

President U Thein Sein meets Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra



NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar who is on tour of Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei Darussalam held talks with Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, at the Prime Minister's Office in Bandar Seri Begawan, this afternoon.

They exchanged a cordial view on further promoting existing amity between the two countries, investment of Thai entrepreneurs, encouragement by the two governments for soonest completion of Dawei Special Economic Zone and its related projects, more cooperation in the sectors of trade, investment and

sector-wise cooperation and cooperation in rehabilitation of Myanmar citizens in refugees camps in Thai-Myanmar borders.

It was also attended by Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Ministers U Zin Yaw, Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay and Daw Sanda Khin, Myanmar Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam Daw Yin Yin Myint and departmental heads. The Thai Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Mr Niwattamong Boonsongpaisan and high-ranking officials.

MNA

President U Thein Sein holds meeting with Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra at the Prime Minister's Office in Bandar Seri Begawan.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein arrived back here by special flight of Myanmar Airways International this evening after attending the 22nd ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

The President and party arrived at Bandar Seri Begawan International Airport this evening via Emperor Hotel to leave for Myanmar. The President and party were seen off at the Airport by high-ranking officials from the Prime Minister's Office and Foreign Affairs Ministry of Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam Daw Yin Yin Myint, staff and families of Myanmar embassy.

The Myanmar

delegation were welcomed back at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, U Aung Kyi, U Thein Nyunt, U Kyaw Hsan, U Myat Hein, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Than Htay, U Win Shein, Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye and officials.

Delegation members Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Ministers U Zin Yaw, Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay and Daw Sanda Khin and departmental officials, also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

President U Thein Sein being seen off at the airport by officials in Bandar Seri Begawan.

MNA

President U Thein Sein arrives back in Nay Pyi Taw



Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project faces mob protests

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Nearly 30 villagers from Zidaw and Moegyobyin villages headed by Aung Soe, Ko Htet (Yangon Public Service Network), Thaug Htaik Oo (Yangon University of Arts and Science Students Union), and Zaw Naing and Win Kyaw of Moegyobyin Aleywa Village harrowed the cropland with eight cows to the north of Block No. 8 MCC of Letpadaungtaung

Copper Mining Project in Salingyi Township, Sagaing Region on 24 April morning and the chief of Salingyi Police Force and policemen and deputy township administrator of Salingyi General Administration Office then attempted to stop them from harrowing. Around 10 am, the number of villagers reached nearly 70 and the policemen had to rescue the deputy township administrator out of the

crowd who blocked him. The crowd continued harrowing and left the cropland around 11 am.

Likewise, a total of 70 villagers including some members of Yangon Public Service Network gathered near the land that belongs to Ko Khin Nyeint and Ma Yi Yi Win in Sintae Village (Old village) to the east of Lapadaung Taung Copper Project Area Plot at 8.40 am (See page 7)

Workshop on disaster risk reduction and gender equality at Nay Pyi Taw Amara Hotel

NAY PYI TAW, 25 April—Workshop on disaster risk reduction and gender equality, jointly organized by Relief and Resettlement Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Oxfam (Myanmar), took place at Fantastic Hall of Nay Pyi Taw Amara Hotel this morning.

On the occasion, Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat

Ohn Khin in her speech said that the ministry acts as a focal one for disaster management and preventing violence against women and girls. The world countries have paid special attentions to gender sensitizing. It is common knowledge that Women engagement and empowerment are to be added in the three pillars of government; legislature,

executive and judiciary.

The findings of the workshop and suggestions could be beneficial for Myanmar women's and girls' roles and capabilities for preventing violence against them, she added.

Next, Acting Director of Oxfam (Myanmar) explained the purpose of workshop. The workshop lasts till 26 April.—MNA