

The New Light of Myanmar

THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

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President U Thein Sein felicitates South African counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa, on the occasion of the Freedom Day of the Republic of South Africa, which falls on 27 April, 2013.—MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives former US Assistant Secretary of State

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun met a delegation led by former US Assistant Secretary of State and CEO of Asia Group Co Dr Kurt Campbell, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

They held discussions on cooperation in the sectors of investment and economy, extension of Yangon International Airport and airport service, technical cooperation with Myanmar Airways and electricity generation by solar energy.

Also present at the call together with the Vice-

President were Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw, U Han Sein and U Set Aung and departmental officials. MNA

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun poses for documentary photo together with former US Assistant Secretary of State and CEO of Asia Group Co Dr Kurt Campbell.

MNA



Myanmar U-23 to play friendly match against Vietnamese counterpart 11 June

YANGON, 26 April—As a warming up for XXVII SEA Games, Myanmar U-23 team will play friendly match against Vietnam U-23 team in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on 11 June.

Myanmar U-23 team

will leave Yangon on 9 June according to the invitation of Vietnam Football Federation. Myanmar U-23 will play another friendly match against Vietnamese club in Vietnam.

Myanmar U-23 led

by Head Coach Park Sung Wha will be 10-day camp in Taunggyi starting from 21 May before the friendly matches.

Myanmar U-23 will play a friendly match against Kanbawza FC (or) selected

Myanmar team or MNL All Star team.

Then, they will come back to Yangon on 31 May and will continue an international friendly match on 4 June.

Kyemon

Hole in one at Shwemantaung Golf Course

YANGON, 26 April—While playing golf together with U Sai Kyaw Htin, U Aung Zaw Win, U Aung Htwe and U Sai Naing Tin on 18 April at Shwemantaung Golf

Course in Mandalay, U Sein Tun scored an ace of titleist Pro-V1 ball No 1 striking with Katana Iron No.7 from 144 yards at hole No 6.

NLM

Low-priced SIM card makes Myanmar public happy



Sales of SIM cards in progress in Seikkan Township.

Myanmar's first-ever mobile system Analog AMPS 800 Cellular mobile phone system was introduced in Yangon, Mandalay and Sagaing Regions in Myanmar in 1993. It was upgraded into

Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) Radio Phone in 1997. Since 2000, Global System for Mobile Telephone (GSM) has been launched like other global nations.

In 2010-11, CDMA 800/450 MHz and GSM mobile phones were sold in K 500,000 and GSM/CDMA in K 200, 000 and 250,000 per SIM card in 2012.

Low-priced SIM cards worth K 1500 each were available on 24 April 2013. The low-priced SIM cards were sold through lucky draw program under the supervision of township/ward administrators on 23

April. It is learnt that people are appreciated having an opportunity to get SIM cards within a short period of time. Moreover, China-made low-priced handset dealers are doing a brisk trade.

According to mobile shops, affordable handsets are being in place in the market for ordinary people. Dagon Myothit Seikkan Township was allotted 1900 SIM cards. U Chit Lun, lucky draw winner for SIM card, 51, said that he was very, very glad to have a chance to acquire a low-priced SIM card. He expressed thanks for the government's effort to realize the sale of low-priced SIM card. He

continued that some people did not apply for SIM cards as they could not afford to buy a handset.

Ma Myo, 35, also



I am very pleased to see vendors who have access to mobile phones. (Ma Myo)

shared her happiness that she was very pleased to see vendors who have access to mobile phones like those in Korean soap opera.

Mobile phone used to be a luxury item for rich people. With a better telecommunications network, it has become a public communication tool. As people were allowed to have mobile phone access with a certain price they have never expected, it can be said that it is a significant milestone in the time of the new government which was elected by the people two years ago.

Kyemon: 25-4-2013

Trs: YM

Two tourists wearing Myanmar *Thanatkhar* near Sule Pagoda

YANGON, 26 April—Two damsels wearing Myanmar traditional *Thanatkhar* and lighting up a smile on their face are not Myanmar young girls. They are globetrotters. On their arrival at Sule bus-stop near Sule Pagoda, they were attracted by children wearing *Thanatkhar* at the bus-stop. So they happily tried wearing *Thanatkhar*.

Bystanders spoke words of praise, saying that they were very good and very



beautiful. That's why, I made a request to photograph them

and they posed for this photo. — Kyemon

Two men stabbed with 10-inch long needles at Thiri Mingala new market

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April— Two men were admitted to Yangon Hospital as they were fatally stabbed by a man while they had a big argument with him at Thiri Mingala new market in Hline Township on 18 April.

While they were having a quarrel with Kayin (a) Tin Maung at vegetable stalls of the market, he stabbed them with two 10-inch long needles and they got stab wounds to their back, head and arm. Padauk chaung

police station filed a lawsuit against Kayin (a) Tin Maung, 36, of Yamethin street in ward-16 of Hlinethaya Township for his big needle attack and investigation is ongoing.

Kyemon



Photo shows a newly-built decorated water fountain at Shwe Thamin roundabout in Muse. — KYEMON

Snatchers taken into custody

YANGON, 26 April — Police Inspector Tin Tun Naing and party arrested Maung Maung (a) Kalarlay, 20, of Kanbe railway station street in Yankin Township and Aung Khant Thu (a) Hmway Ni, 18, of Hinthada Township who were snatching money from Thingyan revelers in front of Shwe Padauk water-throwing pandal on Kandawgyi ring road

in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 16 April.

While conducting a search of suspects, three K 1000 notes were discovered and seized from Maung Maung (a) Kalarlay. Investigation revealed that Aung Khant Thu snatched the money from a merry-maker and relayed it to Kalarlay. The two suspects are being taken into police custody

at Mingala Taungnyunt Township police station.

Kyemon

Fingerlings, cattle set free in Pathein

PATHEIN, 26 April— Families of shop-keepers at Shwemawdaw Pagoda market of Ward-4 in Pathein set free more than 60000 fingerlings worth K 1.5 million into Pathein river

and three cows worth K 1 million at Phayargyikon monastery on Myanmar New Year Day. Shop-keepers and ward dwellers happily took part in the ceremony.

Kyemon

Man charged with human trafficking in Hpa-an

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April— Myoma police station filed a lawsuit against U Pann Son who is accused of committing a case of human trafficking and investigating into the case is ongoing.

Ma Sann Myint of Thudhama Myothit of Thaton sued U Pann Son for human trafficking,

opening a case at Myoma police station in Hpa-an on 10 April. According to Ma Sann Myint, she lived together with U Pann Son of Hsinkyon village at the house of Than Naing in Naung Kalar village for five days as she was persuaded into getting married by U Pann Son. Then they went to

Bangkok of Thailand where she was given a job at a garment factory and U Pann Son left for Myanmar. She was convinced that she had fallen victim of trafficking at the time of payday. So she ran away from the factory and sued him for human trafficking.

Kyemon

Squall of rain uproots trees, lamp posts in Sagaing Township

SAGAING, 26 April— Sagaing Township got caught in a sudden vicious squall of rain at 8.20 pm on 22 April. The high wind caused trees fallen on the houses and uprooted trees and lamp posts.

Due to the impacts of strong wind and heavy rain, a 20-foot long wall of Aung Myay Lawka Pagoda on Strand street in Podan ward of the township was destroyed as an uprooted tree in the compound had fallen on it, three concrete lamp posts and a tree on Strand street under Inwa Ayeyawady river crossing bridge were uprooted, uprooted trees fell down on J Icon computer shop at the township administrator's office, a vehicle packed in front of a house in Podan ward and Shwe Minthar Shan

traditional noodle shop, CI sheets roofed the Pabedan ward administrator's office were blown away, trees fell down onto ground and some houses and lamp posts were uprooted across the township.

According to Sagaing District Meteorology and Hydrology Department, the

squall of rain with 30 miles per hour hit the township.

Local people, staff of development affair department, firemen and police members carried out clearing debris and fallen trees. There were no casualties in the incident, but the strong wind caused much damage. — Kyemon



Self-immolation of psychotic disorder in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 26 April — A 38-year-old woman with mental illness set herself alight at Chanmyathaya ward of Pyigyidagun Township in Mandalay on 23 April.

The woman committed suicide by burning herself after pouring petrol on her body. Although her mother and neighbours put out the fire and sent her to the

hospital, she died of serious injuries at Mandalay General Hospital.

Police opened a case and investigation into the case is ongoing.

Kyemon

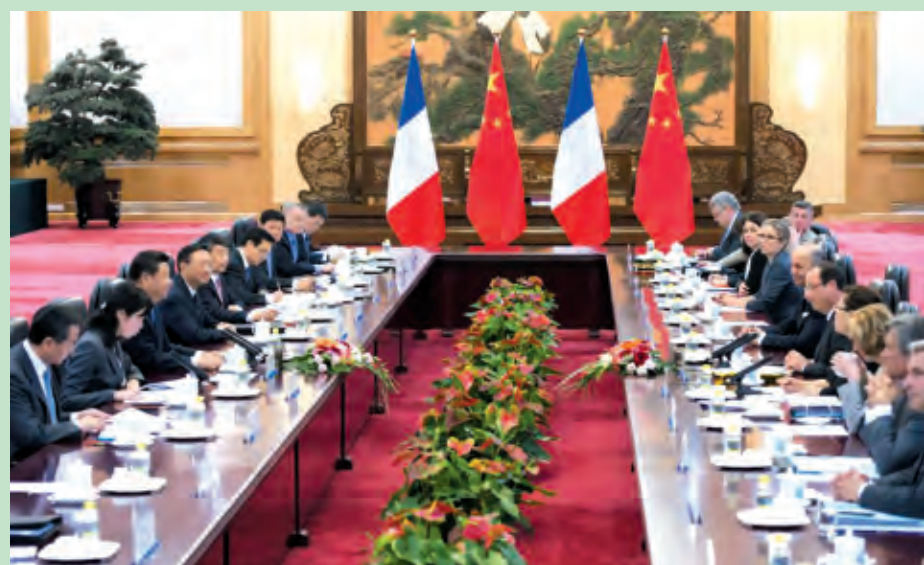
Health education given at relief camp in Meiktila



MEIKTILA, 26 April— Health education on use of potable water was given at Shante temporary relief camp in Meiktila BEHS (5) on 22 April. Meiktila District Medical Officer Dr Myin Aye, Meiktila In-charge of Myanmar Red Cross Society U Nay Oo and Daw Theingi Han of Save the Children explained dos and don'ts on use of drinking water, stressing the need of keeping purified drinking water containers at clean places, and washing hands before touching water containers and cups to be free from waterborne diseases.

Kyemon

WORLD



Chinese President Xi Jinping (3rd L) meets with French President Francois Hollande (5th R) in Beijing, capital of China, on 25 April, 2013.—XINHUA

ASEAN leaders satisfied with progress of AEC

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 26 April—The ASEAN leaders took note of and expressed satisfaction at the progress towards setting up an ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by the end of 2015, according to the Chairman's statement of the 22nd ASEAN Summit on Thursday.

The two-day summit under the theme "Our People, Our Future Together" opened at the Prime Minister's Office here on Wednesday, where leaders of the 10 member states gathered to review and deliberate on the economic integration efforts, and a host of regional and international issues of common

concern. According to the statement, 259 measures, or 77.54 percent of the AEC Blueprint, have been implemented as of now.

The leaders agreed to enhance ASEAN's competitiveness by better facilitating trade and investment, leveraging upon on-going work to establish the AEC. They also recommended rolling out a roadmap to set out initiatives to ease the way of doing business and address investment impediments in the region. Official statistics show that since the adoption of the Blueprint in November 2007, per capita income in the region has risen from 2,267 US dollars to 3,759 US dollars in 2012.

The total trade of the 10-nation bloc grew by 16.8 percent, from 2.05 trillion US dollars in 2010 to 2.4 trillion US dollars in 2011, as intra-ASEAN trade reached 598 billion US dollars from 520 billion US dollars, an increase of 15.1 percent year-on-year. The ASEAN region has also continued to attract foreign investors, generating a record foreign direct investment inflow of 114 billion US dollars in 2011, a 23 percent rise from 2010. Established in 1967, ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.—Xinhua

ASEAN experts meet in Manila to draft anti-human trafficking pact

MANILA, 26 April—Experts from member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations began on Thursday a two-day meeting in the Philippine capital to draft a binding mechanism and a plan of action to combat the problem of human trafficking.

Philippine Justice Undersecretary Jose Vicente Salazar said participants from the regional bloc, of which only Myanmar did not send a delegate, aim to produce a working draft of the proposed ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons, which is the legally binding framework, and a Regional Plan of Action to complement the former. Salazar told reporters after the opening ceremony of the meeting, which is the third since 2011, that they hope to have both the ASEAN Convention and the RPA in place on or before the time the ASEAN Economic Community is established in 2015.

Saying that victims of human trafficking, mainly for purposes of forced labour and sexual exploitation, are estimated to be in millions, and that "the ascent of trafficking in persons" has become "the most expansive form of trans-



national crime in this day and age," Salazar urged the meeting participants to be "unfazed and undaunted as we dissect the features and issues of the Convention and the Plan of Action." "The partnership requires that we open our door to one another in the effort to synchronize our methods and processes of law enforcement and adjudication. The spirit of co-operation and collaboration allows for that," Salazar said in his keynote address at the meeting.

Philippine Undersecretary Felizardo Serapio, head of the country's Centre on Transnational Crime, said the ASEAN Convention may include criminalization of trafficking in persons, protection of victims, and regional cooperation and mutual legal assistance on investigation and prosecution. "The regional convention will promote and consolidate regional cooperation and initiatives to combat, prevent and sup-

press trafficking in persons, particularly women and children. It will also serve as the regional framework to enhance regional efforts to protect and assist the victims of trafficking and other similar forms of exploitation," he said.

The Regional Plan of Action, on the other hand, "will be a strong impetus to enhance regional cooperation and coordination on this issue." "One without the other will already be beneficial, but it would not be as robust an effort compared to when both are determinedly pursued by all," Serapio said. Salazar said the meeting's output will be submitted to the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting in Vietnam in June this year, and hopefully, will subsequently be elevated to the ministerial level. ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.—Kyodo News

Gunmen attack Philippine mayor's convoy ahead of polls, 12 dead

MANILA, 26 April—Gunmen in the Philippines opened fire on a mayor of a town campaigning for local elections, killing 12 people including his daughter, security officials said on Friday. The Philippines is awash with weapons and crime and political violence, especially during elections, is common.

Abdul Malik Manamparan, mayor of Nunungan town, was leaving a campaign rally in a village late on Thursday when the gunmen attacked his convoy. He was wounded. "The motive is believed to be politics or rido," said Brigadier General Daniel Lucero, an army commander in the region. Rido is a Philippine term for clan war.

Manamparan is a member of a party allied with the country's ruling coalition. The presidential palace condemned the

attack which police said was the bloodiest in the run-up to the 13 May elections. Filipinos will elect 12 senators, 289 representatives of the lower chamber of Congress, and fill more than 17,000 local positions around the country in the elections.

Reuters

Dozens feared dead in Russian psychiatric hospital fire

RAMENSKY, (Russia), 26 April—At least 36 people were feared dead after a fire raged through a psychiatric hospital north of Moscow on Friday, killing some patients in their beds and others who were trapped by barred windows. The fire broke out in the early hours and swept through a single-storey building at the hospital in woods in the village of Ramensky, officials said.

Twelve bodies had been

found by mid-morning, the Emergencies Ministry said, as grey smoke billowed from the charred yellow-brick building. Andrei Vorobyov, interim governor of the Moscow region, said a nurse had led two patients to safety. He said 36 others were believed to have been in the hospital when the fire broke out, but another local official said 38 were feared dead. "Those who were in there said it happened in a flash.



A Russian emergency service worker sprays water at the site of a fire at a psychiatric hospital in the village of Ramensky, north of Moscow on 26 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Dozens rescued but Bangladesh building toll soars towards 300



Rescue workers look for trapped garment workers at the collapsed Rana Plaza building in Savar, 30 km (19 miles) outside Dhaka on 26 April, 2013.—REUTERS

DHAKA, 26 April—Rescuers pulled dozens of survivors from the rubble of Bangladesh's worst industrial accident on Friday, but the death

toll rose towards 300 after the collapse of a building housing factories that made low-cost garments for Western brands. Almost miraculously, 62 people trapped beneath the rubble since the eight-storey building collapsed on the outskirts of the capital, Dhaka, on Wednesday were rescued alive overnight, police and government officials said.

However, there were fears between 300 and 400 people were still inside. "Some people are still alive under the rubble and we

are hoping to rescue them," deputy fire services director Mizanur Rahman said. Junior local government minister Jahangir Kabir Nanak said the death toll had reached 292 and H T Imam, an adviser to Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, said it could top 350. Anger over the working conditions of Bangladesh's 3.6 million garment workers, the overwhelming majority of them women, has grown steadily since the disaster, with thousands taking to the streets to protest on Friday.

Reuters

The nurse opened the door to the room and there was smoke, and even when she saw the fire she could not get to the fire extinguisher. It all happened very quickly," he told Russia 24 television. He said some windows had been barred to meet regulations while others had not, so the investigators would be able to determine whether they had prevented people from escaping. "Obviously, all the patients were sleeping and they were sick people ... so they would have needed help to get out," he said, adding that the nearest fire station was a 40-minute drive away.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Twitter settles dispute with analytics firm over data access



SAN FRANCISCO, 26 April — Twitter Inc and Peoplebrowsr Inc, a social media analytics firm, reached a settlement that would allow Peoplebrowsr to continue to buy Twitter's data until the end of 2013, the two companies announced on Thursday.

Beginning next year, Peoplebrowsr will have to purchase access to the full "firehose" of 400 million daily tweets through one of Twitter's authorized data

resellers, according to the settlement's terms.

Peoplebrowsr, based in San Francisco, sifts through Twitter and resells social media "intelligence" to clients that include media organizations and the US Department of Defence.

The legal dispute between the two companies flared last late year, when Twitter, which has been ramping up its operations as it approaches a widely anticipated initial public

offering, began to exercise greater control over its content. Although Twitter contends that individual users retain intellectual ownership over their tweets, the company has moved aggressively to block some firms from profiting off of its data.

Peoplebrowsr had been purchasing data from Twitter directly, rather than through a reseller, on a month-to-month basis before Twitter sought to end the arrangement last July.

Peoplebrowsr Chief Executive Andrew Grill said the settlement gave Peoplebrowsr the eight months it needed to "technically and commercially" figure out how to continue providing the same kind of analytical services. "We got out of this settlement what we needed," he said. Financial details of the settlement were not disclosed.—Reuters

US researchers develop device giving robots human sense of touch

WASHINGTON, 26 April — US researchers have fabricated arrays of piezoelectric transistors capable of converting mechanical motion directly into electronic controlling signals, a step that could help give robots a human sense of touch.

The arrays made from bundles of vertical zinc oxide nanowires include more than 8,000 functioning piezoelectric transistors, each of which can independently produce an electronic controlling signal when placed under mechanical strain.

"These touch-sensitive transistors — dubbed 'taxels' — could provide significant improvements in resolution, sensitivity and active/adaptive operations compared to existing techniques for tactile sensing," said US Georgia Institute of Technology researchers in a statement. "Their sensitivity is comparable to that of

a human fingertip." The research was made available on Thursday in the journal *Science* online, and will be published later in a print version of the journal.

"Any mechanical motion, such as the movement of arms or the fingers of a robot, could be translated to control signals," explained Zhong Lin Wang, a Regents' professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology. "This could make artificial skin smarter and more like the human skin. It would allow the skin to feel activity on the surface."

In their laboratory, Wang and his colleagues fabricated arrays of 92 by 92 transistors. The array density is 234 pixels per inch, the resolution is better than 100 microns, and the sensors are capable of detecting pressure changes as low as 10 kilopascals — resolution comparable to

that of the human skin, said Wang.

The arrays are transparent, allowing them to be used on touch-pads or other devices for fingerprinting. They are also flexible and foldable, expanding the range of potential uses.

Because the arrays would be used in real-world applications, the researchers evaluated their durability. The devices still operated after 24 hours immersed in both saline and distilled water.

"This is a fundamentally new technology that allows us to control electronic devices directly using mechanical agitation," Wang said. "This could be used in a broad range of areas, including robotics, micro-electromechanical systems, human-computer interfaces and other areas that involve mechanical deformation."—Xinhua

Sea shells offer possible answer to acid pollution from mines

WELLINGTON, 26 April — A humble shellfish could hold the solution to cleaning waterways of the acid and metals pollution caused by drainage from mining sites around the world, New Zealand scientists said Friday. University of Canterbury researchers said they are investigating an environment-friendly treatment system using mussel shells to neutralize the contaminants, which can kill most natural life in some waterways.

Thousands of kilometers of streams and rivers around the world were severely affected each year by acid mine drainage.

"Polluted mining water impacts aquatic systems downstream from a mining site. Streams affected by

acid mine drainage typically support little if any living organisms are unsuitable for recreational water activities," researcher Benjamin Uster said in a statement from the university.

No synthetic products or any chemical reagents were used in this treatment system so the mussel shell treatment was a relatively sustainable strategy and could provide an alternative to quarried limestone, which was commonly used to treat acid mine drainage, he said. "I hope to confirm by the end of the year that the use of mussel shells in treatment systems similar to engineered wetlands are an efficient and sustainable way for treating acidic waters in New Zealand," Uster said.—Xinhua

Sprint posts narrower loss, weak subscriber numbers



People talk on their cell phones as passers-by walk past a Sprint store in New York, on 15 October, 2012.

REUTERS

LONDON, 26 April — Sprint Nextel Corp, an acquisition target of both Japan's SoftBank Corp and Dish Network Corp, on Wednesday posted a smaller-than-expected quarterly loss, but its customer growth suffered as its Nextel network winds down.

While Sprint, the No 3

US mobile service provider, recorded higher-than-expected revenue, it said the Nextel network shutdown was also stunting growth in its remaining network because large business customers were leaving.

Sprint added 12,000 customers to its network, compared with the average

estimate of almost 198,000 from five analysts contacted by Reuters. Their expectations ranged from 110,000 to 275,000 net additions.

The company's top priority was to convince Nextel customers to move to the Sprint network ahead of the final shutdown at the end of this quarter. Some Nextel business clients also canceled subscriptions to Sprint's remaining network, Chief Executive Officer Dan Hesse told analysts on a conference call.

Including the Nextel network defections, Sprint lost 560,000 subscribers, compared with the analysts' average estimate of a loss of almost 525,000.

By contrast, top US mobile provider Verizon Wireless, a joint venture of Verizon Communications and Vodafone Group Plc,

added 677,000 subscribers in the quarter, and second-ranked AT&T Inc added 296,000.

Macquarie analyst Kevin Smith said Sprint was also facing tough competition from a new marketing push by smaller rival T-Mobile USA, a Deutsche Telekom unit.

"The AT&T and Sprint results confirm that T-Mobile USA has been taking share in the last few months," Smith said.

However, he said he was impressed that Sprint's first-quarter loss narrowed to \$643 million, or 21 cents per share, from \$863 million, or 29 cents per share, a year earlier. Analysts expected a loss of 33 cents per share, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

Reuters

HP launches "world's fastest" Officejet Pro X500 series of printers

NEW DELHI, 26 April — HP India has announced the launch of Officejet Pro X500 series of printers, that are recognised in the Guinness Book of Records for the 'fastest time to print 500 sheets by an office colour desktop printer'.

Powered by HP PageWide Technology, company's next-generation inkjet platform, the HP Officejet Pro X Series of devices can deliver documents at up to 70 pages per minute in General Office

mode. The series includes four devices - two printers and two multi-function devices.

The HP Officejet Pro X451dw and HP Officejet Pro X551dw printers are priced at Rs. 31,499 and Rs. 37,999 respectively, while the HP Officejet Pro X476dw MFP and HP Officejet Pro X576dw MFP are priced at Rs. 43,999 and Rs. 50,499 respectively. HP claims that all four devices deliver documents at up to twice the speed and half the

cost of colour lasers.

These devices are targeted at work-teams with up to 15 users printing up to approximately 4200 pages a month. Users can also print from virtually anywhere with the latest mobile printing technologies such as HP ePrint and AirPrint.

Commenting on the launch of the new series of printers, Nitin Hiranandani, Director, Printing Systems, PPS, HP said, "The HP Officejet Pro X Series leads HP's inkjet innovation



for businesses by offering manageability, professional colour printing at breakthrough speed at up to half the cost of laser printers. We at HP continue to advance inkjet innovation to help businesses succeed."

HP also unveiled Officejet Pro Black & White all-in-one inkjet printers at the same event.

PTI



China successfully sent high-definition earth observation satellite "Gaofen-1" into space at 12:13 pm Beijing time on 26 April.

XINHUA

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Yahoo Chairman Fred Amoroso resigns

SUNNYVALE, 26 April —Yahoo Inc Chairman Fred Amoroso is resigning effective immediately, the struggling Internet company announced on Thursday.

Amoroso will be replaced in the chairman role by director Maynard Webb Jr. on an interim basis until the company's annual shareholder meeting on 25 June.

Amoroso, a former IBM Corp executive, will remain on the board of directors until the meeting, Yahoo said.

In a statement on Thursday, Amoroso said

he had informed the Yahoo board when he became chairman in May 2012 that he intended to serve only one year "in order to help Yahoo during a critical time of transformation."

Since that time, he noted that the company has hired former Google executive Marissa Mayer as its chief executive, revamped its management team and released new products.

Shares of Yahoo, which have surged roughly 60 percent since Mayer became CEO, were down 8 cents to \$25.12 in after-hours trading on Thursday.



The Yahoo logo is shown at the company's headquarters in Sunnyvale, California on 16 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Yahoo, once one of the Web's most successful companies, has seen its revenue stall in recent years as consumers and advertisers favor rivals such as Google Inc and Facebook Inc.

Following the completion of Amoroso's term at the annual meeting, the Yahoo board will consist of 10 members, the company said.

Reuters

Asian shares rise on US data, regional earnings eyed

TOKYO, 26 April — Asian shares rose on Friday, tracking global equities higher after upbeat US labour market data, while the dollar eased slightly on currency markets that were otherwise watching for the strength of signals coming from a Bank of Japan policy review. In the share markets, investors turned attention toward regional corporate earnings to assess the outlook for growth.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan, MIAPI-0000PUS was up 0.3 percent after reaching a six-week high earlier, and was set for a weekly gain of 2.4 percent for its best such showing in five months.

Hong Kong shares .HSI advanced 1 percent, with robust quarterly earnings spurring gains, while a sharp rise in gold prices

helped underpin Australian shares .AXJO which rose 0.2 percent. Australian shares were also benefiting from their relatively high yields compared to other countries.

An inflow of capital due to offshore demand from Japanese institutions and insurance firms to Australia's high-yielding shares in telecommunications and banks has helped lift the market in recent sessions, said Tim Radford, global analyst at Sydney-based advisor Rivkin.

"Yield outside of Australia has been pushed quite low," he noted.

South Korean shares .KS11 edged down 0.2 percent, however, as the market took a breather from the week's relief-rally after the country's top exporters posted better-than-expected results.—Reuters



Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) employees work at the bourse at TSE in Tokyo on 24 April, 2013. — REUTERS

Heavy use of herbicide Roundup linked to health dangers

NEW YORK, 26 April — Heavy use of the world's most popular herbicide, Roundup, could be linked to a range of health problems and diseases, including Parkinson's, infertility and cancers, according to a new study.

The peer-reviewed report, published last week in the scientific journal *Entropy*, said evidence indicates that residues of "glyphosate," the chief ingredient in Roundup weed killer, which is sprayed over millions of acres of crops, has been found in food.

Those residues enhance the damaging effects

of other food-borne chemical residues and toxins in the environment to disrupt normal body functions and induce disease, according to the report, authored by Stephanie Seneff, a research scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Anthony Samsel, a retired science consultant from Arthur D Little, Inc. Samsel is a former private environmental government contractor as well as a member of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

"Negative impact on the body is insidious and manifests slowly over time as inflammation damages

cellular systems throughout the body," the study says.

We "have hit upon something very important that needs to be taken seriously and further investigated," Seneff said.

Environmentalists, consumer groups and plant scientists from several countries have warned that heavy use of glyphosate is causing problems for plants, people and animals.

The EPA is conducting a standard registration review of glyphosate and has set a deadline of 2015 for determining if glyphosate use should be limited. The study is among many

comments submitted to the agency.

Monsanto is the developer of both Roundup herbicide and a suite of crops that are genetically altered to withstand being sprayed with the Roundup weed killer.

These biotech crops, including corn, soybeans, canola and sugarbeets, are planted on millions of acres in the United States annually. Farmers like them because they can spray Roundup weed killer directly on the crops to kill weeds in the fields without harming the crops.

Reuters

Resident doc hours not tied to patient deaths

NEW YORK, 26 April — Restricting the number of hours doctors-in-training are allowed to work without rest hasn't led to more patient deaths, according to a new study. Researchers found no increase in deaths over the three years following a rules change that restricted resident doctors to working a maximum of 80 hours per week. In fact, the team reports a decline in deaths during the fourth and fifth years. "This study is nice, because it shows that late after the 2003 changes

there seems to be an improvement in mortality," said Dr Sanjay Desai, director of the residency programme at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

"But we don't know if this outcome is because of these changes or despite these changes. I think we need to know that to inform these types of decisions," Desai, who was not involved with the new study, told *Reuters Health*.

In 2003, concerns over errors caused by sleepy residents at hospitals led

the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) to restrict doctors-in-training to working a maximum of 80 hours per week.

The ACGME again restricted residents' working hours in 2011, when it said shifts can last no longer than 16 hours for the least-experienced doctors. But reducing work hours for residents increases the number of times a patient's care changes hands, and there were concerns that would lead to more errors.

"Every time that occurs - just like every communication that occurs — there is some loss of information," said Desai. "The more hand offs there are, the more risk for an error to occur." The new study's authors write in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* that the new rules didn't have a great effect on the number of patients who died immediately after the change, but no one had looked at hospital death rates years later.

For the new study, the researchers - led by The University of Pennsylvania's Dr Kevin Volpp in Philadelphia - used US hospital data from before the first rules change in 2003, and compared that to data for the years 2003 to 2008. Volpp and his colleagues looked at records for about 14 million people on Medicare, the government-run health insurance for the elderly and disabled, who were admitted to the hospital for heart attack, heart failure, gastrointestinal bleeding or surgery.—Reuters

Vietnam's stock market continues sluggish trend with poor liquidity

HANOI, 26 April — Shares on Vietnam's stock market continued the sluggish trend during the week with poor liquidity.

The upcoming five-day holiday from the coming Saturday is also a factor contributing to the fluctuation of the market as investors are trying to take profit.

Declining liquidity remained to be a major concern as it seriously affected the overall market sentiment, said analysts.

Investor confidence was eroded as the market lacked news to boost confidence, they said, adding that investors had sold off shares amid fears of further slumps.

The VN-Index of the south Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City Stock Exchange (HoSE) went down 2.08 points or 0.44 percent to close at 474.51 points on Friday.

During the week, VN-Index gained 1.3 point or 0.27 percent against last

week's closing session. The index experienced two ups and three downs, posting the highest level of 476.59 points on Thursday and the lowest level of 468.43 points on Monday. Last week VN-Index ranged from 473.21 points to 483.99 points.

A total of 31.271 million shares worth 484.359 billion VND (23.23 million US dollars) changed hands at the HoSE on Friday, a decrease of 18.66 percent in volume and 16.45 percent in value against Thursday.

VN-30 index, the new benchmark index for the HoSE which has been applied since Feb. 6, 2012 and tracks the 30 leading shares by both market capitalization and liquidity, closed at 537.37 points on Friday, up 0.14 points, or 0.03 percent against the previous trading day. A total of 8.607 million shares were traded, worth 256.4 billion VND (12.29 million US dollars).

Xinhua

New graphic cigarette packaging, released by the US Food and Drug Administration on 21 June, 2011, shows a varied collection of dead bodies, diseased lungs and a man on a ventilator were among the graphic images for revamped US tobacco labels, unveiled by health officials who hope the warnings will help smokers quit.

REUTERS



WORLD

Chinese, Russian officials meet on strategic cooperation

BEIJING, 26 April—China's top political advisor Yu Zhengsheng said here on Thursday that China is ready to advance its relations with Russia in a comprehensive way. Yu, Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), made the remark when meeting with Nikolai Levichev, leader of the Russia of Justice party and deputy

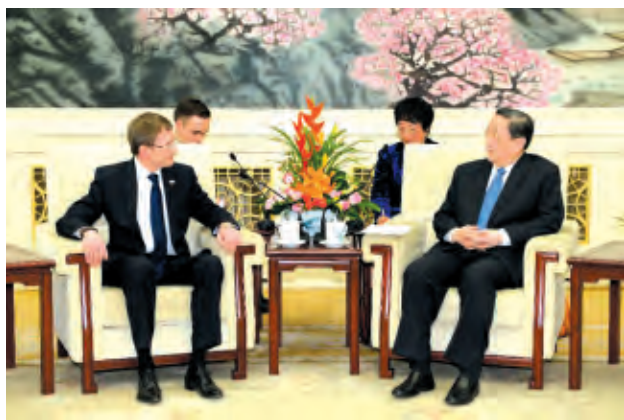
chairman of the State Duma. Yu thanked Russia for offering condolences and support to China after a strong earthquake jolted Lushan county, Sichuan Province. He noted that Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Russia shortly after assuming office in March. According to Yu, Xi and the Russian side reached fresh consensus on a series of major issues during the visit. "The China-Russia

partnership of comprehensive strategic cooperation is at a new historic starting point," the top political advisor said.

Yu, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said exchanges between political parties and parliaments constitute an important part of China-Russia relations. He said that the Chinese side is ready to further deepen friendly cooperation with the Russia of Justice party and the State Duma so as to make new contributions to the comprehensive and in-depth development of bilateral links.

Levichev spoke highly of the significance of President Xi's visit to Russia. He stressed that the Russia of Justice party firmly supports strategic cooperation between the two countries and will make its own efforts in this aspect. CPPCC National Committee Vice Chairman Wang Jiarui was present during the meeting.

Xinhua



Yu Zhengsheng (R), chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, meets with Nikolai Levichev, leader of the Russia of Justice party and deputy Chairman of the State Duma, in Beijing, capital of China, on 25 April, 2013.—XINHUA

Nearly 50 killed as sectarian violence flares in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 April—At least 15 policemen and 31 Sunni Islamist militants were killed in clashes on Thursday in the northern city of Mosul, sources said, on the third day of the most widespread violence in Iraq since US troops withdrew in December 2011. Gunmen attacked Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, on Wednesday night and seized western parts of the city after using a mosque loudspeaker to rally Sunnis to join the battle.

Military sources said federal police and the army regained control after surrounding a police headquarters seized by militants, who were holding 17 hostages. The federal police chief said 31 militants had been killed in the fighting. A source at a

local morgue said they had received the bodies of nine militants and 15 policemen but others had yet to be recovered. Troops and tanks also encircled the town of Suliaman Pek, 160 km (100

miles) north of Baghdad, awaiting the arrival of special forces to drive out militants who took control overnight. The highway between Kirkuk and Baghdad was closed.



A man fires a gun during a funeral for protesters who died during a clash between Iraqi forces and Sunni Muslim protesters in Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad on 24 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Marubeni's purchase of US Gavlion gets China's conditional approval

TOKYO, 26 April — Japanese trading house Marubeni Corp.'s plan to acquire US commodities trader Gavlion Holdings LLC has received approval by China's approval on condition that the two companies keep separate their respective soybean operations for China, according to an announcement on Wednesday by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce.

The ministry said Marubeni could enhance its grip on the imported soybean market in China after acquiring the US company and thereby curb competition. China imported 58.38 million tons of soybeans in 2012, according to the Chinese Ministry of Commerce.

Marubeni handled 10.5 million tons of the total, far outpacing other Japanese

traders in exporting the commodity to China. It is a tough condition to swallow for Marubeni as it was aiming to bolster cereal exports to emerging markets such as China after the acquisition.

"We would like to withhold any comments while we are taking a detailed look at the conditions presented by the Chinese authority," a Marubeni pub-

lic relations official said. Marubeni had announced that it would buy Gavlion for around \$3.6 billion in May last year and the Japanese company was hoping to complete procedures by the end of September the same year.

The move was delayed because it could not obtain approval by the Chinese government.

Kyodo News

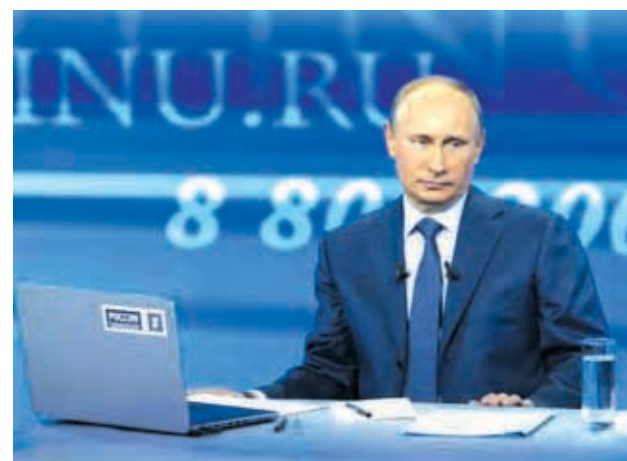
Putin says Boston shows need for security ties with US

Moscow, 26 April — President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday the Boston bombings proved his tough line against militants in the North Caucasus was right and showed Russia and the United States must step up cooperation on security.

After receiving almost 2 million questions from the Baltic Sea to Russia's far east, Putin used his annual "hotline" call-in to present the image of a man still in control a year into his third term and not afraid of criticism at home and abroad.

"If we truly join our efforts together, we will not allow these strikes and suffer such losses," he said of the bombings in the four-and-three-quarter-hour phone-in, which critics say now looks outdated as he fields predictable questions from loyal factory workers, airforce pilots and struggling mothers.

But this time he made sure there were critical voices in the audience, with a liberal journalist asking



Russian President Vladimir Putin takes part in a live broadcast nationwide phone-in in Moscow on 25 April, 2013. Putin played down differences with his government over economic policy on Thursday and signalled he was not about to respond to calls to dismiss his prime minister.

REUTERS

whether a clampdown on opponents since his return to the Kremlin last May echoed the repressions of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin. Putin denied the accusation, but told the editor that Russia needed order and discipline.

Former finance minister Alexei Kudrin also took him to task over the country's slide towards re-

cession but Putin dismissed him jokingly as a "slacker".

There was even one written question seeking advice on how to handle a wayward son. This prompted a laugh but may have pleased Putin, who sees himself as the father of the nation and spoke of traditional and conservative values throughout the call-in.

Reuters

Kurdish militants to begin withdrawal from Turkey in May

QANDIL MOUNTAINS, (Iraq), 26 April—Kurdish militants who have fought for autonomy in Turkey for decades will begin withdrawing to Iraq within two weeks, their commander Murat Karayilan said on Thursday. The Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) chief told a news conference in the group's mountainous stronghold of Qandil in northern Iraq that the pull-out would begin on 8 May. A Kurdish website had earlier given a date of 5 May.

"The withdrawal is planned to be done gradually in groups and targeted to be completed in the shortest possible time," Karayilan said. "Our withdrawing forces will come and be based in southern (Iraqi) Kurdistan." Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan has taken a huge political risk in pursuing negotia-

tions with the PKK despite fierce nationalist opposition before elections next year.

The announcement bolsters a peace process launched some six months ago, in which jailed PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan has been in talks with Turkish intelligence agents on his island prison near Istanbul to end a conflict that has cost some 40,000 lives. The struggle has wrought huge human, social and economic damage in NATO member Turkey since the PKK took up arms in 1984 with the aim of carving out a Kurdish state in the southeast.

The fighting has stunted development of the economy in the mainly Kurdish region, while tens of billions of dollars in military spending has long burdened state coffers.

Reuters



A Turkish soldier runs down a hill at a small military outpost in the mountains of Cukurca near the Iraqi border in southeastern Turkey, where thousands of Turkish troops have launched a ground and air offensive against PKK fighters on 21 Oct, 2011.

REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Fund set up for medical treatment of members of the Sangha

MOHNYIN, 26 April—A ceremony to set up the medical fund for patient members of the Sangha was held at Mohnyin Hospital (100-bed) of Mohnyin District in Kachin State on 10 April.

Patron of the board of trustees U Than Nyunt accepted the cash donations.

The Sangha Ramma Hospital was built by Mohnyin Maha Thatipathana

East Yeiktha Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kheminda and disciples with K 30 million contribution and handed over to the Ministry of Health.

The Sayadaw donates K 100,000 to the fund annually. From 2008-2009 to 2013, a total of 82 wellwishers donated K 3,133,000.

Those wishing to make donations may dial 074-60097.—*Myanma Alinn*

WY brand stimulant tablets seized in Momauk



MOMAUK, 26 April—Bhamo Anti-Drug Special Squad and Momauk Police Station commander seized stimulant tablets from a motorcyclist near the concrete bridge at the entrance to Momauk of Bhamo District in Kachin State.

IP Aung Ko Naing and party of Bhamo Anti-Drug Special Squad, IP Han Mhwe and surveillance members of Momauk Police Station checked the motorcycle driven by Soe Myint Thaung (a) Thargyi leaving Lwejel for Bhamo

at 4 pm on 19 April near the concrete bridge to the town. In the presence of witnesses, the policemen searched the motorcycle and seized 4000 stimulant tablets from the polyethylene bag weighing 400 grams and 4950 stimulant tablets weighing 495 grams.

All the stimulant tablets were pink colour with WY brand.

Momauk Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Soe Myint Thaung (a) Thargyi of Bhamo under the law.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Strong winds victims get cash assistance

MONGHSAT, 26 April—Heavy rains and strong winds hit Mongkhok Sub-Township of Monghsat District of Shan State on 8 April. A total of 26 households fell victims to strong winds.

A ceremony to provide cash assistance for the strong winds victims was held at Basic Education Primary School in Wamkaung Village of Mongkhok Sub-Township on 19 April morning. The Shan State government presented K 1 million to the victims through village administrator.

The Commander of

Triangle Region Command had donated 400 CI sheets, the commander and regiments of No 14 Operations Control Command K 406,000, regiments and units of Mongkhok Sub-Township K 150,000, departmental personnel K 295,000, wellwishers from three wards K 980,000, Wamkaung Village administrator 300 CI sheets and villagers K 1,302,000 for the first time.

For the second time, the district and township General Administration Departments had donated K 100,000 to the victims.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Socio-economic Development Work Committee for Ensuring Peace and Stability and Implementation of Development in Rakhine State meets



NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—First meeting (1/2013) of Socio-economic Development Work Committee for ensuring Peace and Stability and Implementation of Development in Rakhine State was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Industry, here, on 23 April,

with an address by Chairman of the Committee Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint.

In his speech, the Union minister said officials concerned are to make necessary coordination for social harmony between the two communities, mutual understandings,

sympathy and tolerance. Socio-economic standards of local people would be promoted when Rakhine State sees the rule of law and peace and stability. He also highlighted sheltering of victims, rehabilitation and resumption of agriculture, Livestock breeding and fisheries sectors in the state.

Secretary of the Committee Deputy Minister U Thein Aung and State Electric Power and Industry Minister U Thar Lu Chay also presented the reports. Those present and representative from Myanmar Development Research Institute (MDRI) Dr Tin Maung Than held discussions.—*MNA*

Painting, cartoon contests mark International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

KAWLIN, 26 April—The painting and cartoon contests to mark the 16th International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Thazin Hall of Basic Education High School in Kawlin of Sagaing Region

on 19 April morning.

In the township level cartoon contest, Maung Banya Kyaw (Taung-in BEPS) secured the first prize at the primary level; Maung Yan Shin (BEMS) stood first at the middle school level painting contest, Maung

Thet Naing Tun (BEMS) second and Maung Aung Zaw Myo (BEHS) third.

Maung Lin Let Ko (BEMS) won the first prize, Maung Kyaw Zin (BEHS) second and Maung Htet Naing Aung (BEHS) third

in the middle school level cartoon contest.

Maung Zaw Min Paing bagged the first prize and Maung Khant Htet first prize in the high school level cartoon contest.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Principal's statue unveils at Shwebo Youth Development Centre



SHWEBO, 26 April—Shwebo Youth Development Centre, opened in 1963 by Principal Dr U Than Tun (Shwebo) turns 50 in 2013. So, the golden jubilee anniversary will be held soon. The school had been under the name of Orphanage, but it was renamed with Youth Development Centre.

While taking care of the children, the principal compiled research treatises, various subjects of books, articles in Myanmar and English versions and interviews with radio and

TV.

The principal compiled the stone inscriptions of Brick-made Tiered Roof Building of King Alaungphaya who established the Third Myanmar Empire, the stone inscription of Maha Nanda Lake and the stone inscription of Shwebon Yadana Mingala Royal Palace.

At present, the principal is 74 years old. The supervisory committee of the centre unveiled the statue of the principal in honour of his historical performances at 9 am on 21 April.—*Kyemon*

MPF launches emergency, complaint-handling phone lines

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs has put hot lines into place at Myanmar Police Force HQ and region/state police stations to enable the public to submit tip-offs and complaints over illegal acts, mis-appropriation and corruption.

The public may reach the numbers for their information and complaints but are requested to avoid manners causing disruptions to these phone lines.

Myanmar Police Force HQ, Nay Pyi Taw Police Force, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan State Police Forces, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Region Police Forces, Offices of Commanders of East, West, South and North District Police Forces in Yangon Region, No (1) Police Station in Taunggyi, Office

of Deputy Commander of State Police Force in Lashio, and Kengtung Police Station in Kengtung have emergency numbers of 199.

Phone numbers receiving complaints from the public are Myanmar Police Force HQ (067-412222 and 067-412444), Nay Pyi Taw Police Force (067-550333), Kachin State Police Force (074-21444), Kayin State Police Force (058-23355), Sagaing Region Police Force (071-24996), Taninthayi Region Police Force (059-23998), Bago Region Police Force (052-23999), Magway Region Police Force (063-28099), Mandalay Region Police Force (02-61444), Mon State Police Force (057-24987), Rakhine State Police Force (043-22833), Yangon Region Police Force (01-2302199), Shan State Police Force (081-2125455) and Ayeyawady Region Police Force (042-23844).—*MNA*

ARTICLE

Thabyey (Eugenia)

Botanically Thabyey is genus of clove plant. It is named after Eugene who was the Prince of Savoy [1663-1736]. It grows wild or cultivated anywhere in Myanmar. It has different species and different shades of green and sizes of leaves and branches depending upon place, soil, rainfall and climate.

Culturally Thabyey is like laurel in Hellenistic civilization of Ancient Greece. Laurels are hardy leaves of a laurel tree made into a crown to honour victors on battlefields, outstanding performers in arts, science, music literature, gymnastics, and sports. In Olympic games, winners were crowned with laurel leaves. Hence, to-day all Olympic symbols and awards have laurel motifs.

Thabyey sprigs are also symbols of victory, success, awards for exceptional performances, in Myanmar culture and civilization there are many Myanmar old sayings and rhymed couplets about Thabyey — “အောင်သပြေ၊ ညောင်ရေလောင်းလို့ ဆုတောင်းပါ့မယ်” [would pray for your success by pouring lustral water on the Bodhi Tree from the water pot with Thabyey sprigs]. “သပြေခက်နဲ့၊ ရေပက်ကြိုဆိုမယ်” [We’ll welcome you with Thabyey sprigs to spray lustral water at you]. “သပြေပန်းနဲ့၊ ရေချမ်းကို လောင်း၊ မေတ္တာဆုတောင်း” [Greeting loving kindness to all by pouring lustral water out of the pot with Thabyey sprigs].

Legends of Thabyey go far back into Myanmar tradition even before the advent of Buddhism to the country. In Myanmar traditional cosmography, each Universe is composed of one highest mountain called “Meru” in the centre of the Universe. Around Meru are four big islands at four cardinal points—(1) Pubbavideha, the East Island, where the sun rises (2) Apragoyana,

the West Island, where the sun sets, (3) Uttara, the North Island, where the guiding star Ukhar shine and (4) the South Island is not called Dekhina in the true sense of Pali name but the South Island is called Jabudipa, because on this South Island only that the most auspicious “Jabu-Thabyey trees grow and all Buddhas had revealed and all future Buddhas would be revealed on this South Island. Therefore the South Island is auspiciously called Jabudipa “the place where Jabu Thabyey trees” grow.

Around Mt. Meru are encircled clockwise by seven mountain ranges, seven rivers

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja
Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

and seven oceans. In the ocean is the largest aquatic creature “Fish Ananda” which eats the fruits of Jabu Thabyey trees. The falls of Jabu Thabyey fruits into the water produce seven tones of music and Fish Ananda swallowing Jabu Thabyey fruits also produces seven tones of music. Therefore Thabyey is revered, respected and culturally high valued, by the Myanmar.

Thabyey has pride of place in Myanmar visual, and performing arts and literature. Many eulogizing adjectives are prefixed to Thabyey—such as Aung Thabyey meaning victorious Thabyey, Aung Pan [Flower or sprig of victory or success] Aung Nameik Pan [Auspicious Symbol of up-coming victory] sheer presenting of a sprig of Thabyey to a friend who is anticipating victory or success speaks volumes of your regard for him.

In Myanmar New Year Festival Thingyan, people pour on splash lustral water out of the Thingyan atar water pot in which springs of leaves or flowers each representing one day of the week. (1) Ohn let [coconut leaves] representing Sunday, (2) Gantgaw [Iron wood, Measua ferrea

Linn] representing Monday, (3) Sein pan [gold mohur, Poinciana regia] representing Tuesday, (4) Ywet Hla [Croton, Codium variegatum] representing Wednesday, (5) Myey Zar [couch grass, Cynodon dactylon Pers] representing Thursday, (6) Thi [wood apple tree, Feronia elephantum Corres] representing Friday and (7) Dan [Henna, Lawsonia inermis Linn] representing Saturday are arranged in order in the atar pot. Also sprigs of Thabyey [Eugenia jambolana Lamk] are also added to the atar pot as symbolic leaves of victory.

At the libation ceremony

held after the performance of religious deeds or events [initiation of novice monk, ordination of fullfledged monk, offering robes, food etc, building pagodas, monastery, etc] holy water is dripped drop by drop from the silver cup with sprigs of Thabyey and at the end of religious chanting, and water dropping, all sentient beings are called upon to take share of the good religious deed just carried out. The next responds in unison “Sadu” [well done] three times, expressing appreciation. So Thabyey is a must in religious ceremonies.

Similarly at wedding ceremony, the groom and bride each holds sprigs of Thabyey to pay homage to the Buddha, the Dhamma, the Sangha, both parents, the teachers and the guests they bow three times while the master of ceremonies chants mantras and sprinkles with Thabyey leaves lustral water from the white conch shell he is holding on the heads of the wedding couple and he empties all water into the silver bowl.

Thabyey sprigs were used in anointing the royal head at the time of coronation

and the crown. In all ceremonies of the court, Thabyey plays an important role. There is a typical rhyme “သပြေညှာနဲ့၊ ငွေခရုနဲ့၊ ဇေရတု” [with tender Thabyey leaves in silver white conch shell blessings Zey-yatu are showered]. When Myanmar armies, past or present, march out to battle fields or for parade, all on lookers offer sprigs of Thabyey to the marchers who respectfully keep the sprigs on their chests helmets or even wear it on their ears.

Thabyey occupies prominent place in all state crest, flags, medals, insignias, sports trophies, trademarks, brands, auspicious names for houses and shops even some boys’ and girls’ names are Thabyey.

Of all species of Thabyey, Jabu Thabyey seems the best. It has very pleasant scent. Its fruits are juicy black outside but dark scarlet inside—very nice to eat. There is a folk song about its fruits. “ဝါဆိုဝါခေါင် ရေတွေကြီးလို့၊ သပြေသီးမှည့် ကောက်နို့ကွယ်”

“Floods in Waso and Wakhaung [July and August]

Let’s go out to gather ripen Thabyey Fruits”

Myanmar herbalists recommend sniffing of Thabyey leaves and eating its fruits to relieve giddiness.

In Upper Myanmar, there is a special species of Thabyey called Padetha Thabyey. Keep a sprig in a water pot and change water every day, the sprig continuous to give out shoots into all direction giving a green atmosphere at home.

To-day in the morning bazaars, floral shops are selling a new type of Thabyey. ASEAN Thabyey they call it with SEA Games, Myanmar is hosting soon, the emergence of “ASEAN Thabyey” augurs well for Myanmar sports world.

Long live Thabyey!

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 27 April, 2013

Harmonious industrial relations

Foreign investments are poised to flow further into Myanmar following its wide-ranging economic reforms and lifting of all economic sanctions by EU. With western economies starting to turn their eyes on Myanmar, foreign investments have upped in recent months which saw the visits of some prominent figures of business circle to Myanmar.

Meanwhile, the large part of investment still goes into energy sector which is rather a capital-intensive one, virtually leaving the unemployment figures status quo. While the lack of human resources has contributed to employment of foreign technicians in large and important projects, there have been complaints that such projects employ fewer local workers to do some basic tasks.

Generally speaking, the ultimate aim of projects at national and subnational levels is to help improve the socio-economic status of people by boosting business opportunities. The point is local people should be the main or at least the partial beneficiaries of the profit-making projects and the advantages from the projects should outweigh the disadvantages. Transparency is one and the only solution for next projects to avoid delays, public outcry and alleged misuse of power as well as superstitiousness of the people.

Harmonious industrial relations are one of the key factors to success of an economy. Though the labour unions have sprung into existence, they need further reinforcement perhaps with the help of civil society organizations to help protect the rights of workers. At the same time, certain legislation would be needed to improve working condition, safety standards of workplace and welfare of the workers to an acceptable level.

The long-running practice of sparing jobs for the boys must be replaced immediately with merit-based system if some government offices are to improve their efficiency and productivity. Meanwhile, it should not be forgotten that while a bad workman may blame his tools, there are some who don’t even have proper tools and only the monkeys will come for bananas.

Seminar on aviation insurance held

YANGON, 26 April—Myanma Insurance under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue and Pana Harrison (Asia) Pte.Ltd based in Singapore held a seminar on aviation insurance, organized by the insurance supervisory committee, at Parkroyal Hotel, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue

Dr Maung Maung Thein addressed the seminar.

At the seminar, a total of 100 participants from the departments under the ministry of Finance and Revenue including Myanma Insurance, airlines and private insurance companies discussed procedures on aviation insurance in details.

MNA

Workshop on dairy cattle breeding and dairy products development held

NAYPYI TAW, 26 April—A workshop on dairy cattle breeding and dairy products development in regions and states took place at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, here, on 24 April morning.

In his address, Union Minister for Livestock and

Fisheries U Ohn Myint called for the focus on requirements and works to be done in regions and states and needs to be fulfilled by the ministry. He said that the ministry was seeking ways and means to acquire international assistance for development

of dairy cattle breeding. New Zealand offered to provide USD 6.5 million for the development the sector, and cooperation in capacity building of dairy breeders in private sector would be carried out, he added. The Union minister said that the ministry

was providing necessary assistance and conducting courses for dairy cattle breeding development. He called for public cooperation with the ministry.

Officials of the ministry, breeders who are dealing with dairy cattle breeding on a manageable and commercial scale and dairy product manufacturers took part in sector-wise discussions.—MNA

NATIONAL

Committee meets to proceed with report on Letpadaungtaung copper mine



Meeting of Committee on Proceeding with the report on Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—Committee on Proceeding with the report on Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project met at the President Office here this morning, attended by Committee Chairman Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun, committee Vice Chairman Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Union Ministers U Win Tun and Dr Myint Aung, deputy ministers and personnel.

According to Union Minister U Hla Tun, the committee is taking care of the suggestions in the report with four teams adopting short and long-term plans. He called for transparency

with a special focus on the rule of law and job creation for local people. He spoke of the urgent need to reclaim land, promote cottage industry, and build hospitals and schools and undertake environmental conservation measures for development of the region.

Next Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo elaborated on job creation for locals in project area and progress in regional development undertakings.

Union Ministers and officials reported on progress of respective welfare works for locals. Union Minister U Hla Tun in his concluding remark urged them to fulfill the immediate needs.

EIA and SIA works are being undertaken in mine area by Knight Piesold under contract. Plans are under way to grow over 114,000 saplings in coming monsoon as part of environmental conservation measures in three different zones in the mine area spending over 40 million kyats.

For socio-economic development, a station hospital and rural health care branches will be set up in the project area. It has been set to spend over 660 million kyats in 2013-14 FY from the copper mining project for construction of library, water supplies, schools and rural streets and sports grounds. A computer

course is being conducted in new Wethmay-Kantaw village to boost occupational opportunities of locals and arrangements are being made to open domestic tailoring course in Salingyi Township for 80 female trainees. In addition, auxiliary midwifery courses will also be conducted. Confiscated farmland scrutiny committee has given out the compensation of K 2054.1 million to 676 farmers for 2018 acres of farmland while reclaiming new farmland.—MNA

Purified drinking water donated to victims of relief camps in Meiktila



MEIKTILA, 26 April—With the assistance of International Committee of the Red Cross, Myanmar Red Cross Society and Save the Children started distribution of purified drinking water to victim families of relief camps in Meiktila on 22 April.

“We plan to distribute

sufficient drinking water to the victims from relief camps opened at No 5 Basic Education High School in Shande, BEMS No 2 and Central Transport and Telecommunication Training School. The other day, we will supply drinking water to four remaining relief camps,” said an official of Myanmar Red Cross Society. MRCS has

distributed one 20-litre water container to each family at relief camps and supplies water to them through water tank at all relief camps. The drinking water donated to the victims are being purified with the use of water from Meiktila Lake through modern water purifying machines.

Kyemon

MRCS and Save the Children donate drinking water to victims at relief camps in Meiktila.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one year probationary period.

Name	Appointments
(a) U Soe Hlaing	Director-General Agriculture Mechanization Department Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
(b) Daw Khin Kyi Pyar	Rector National Culture and Fine Arts University (Mandalay) Ministry of Culture

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Pro-rector Dr Thein Tun of Cooperative University (Thanlyin) of Cooperative Department under the Ministry of Cooperatives as Rector of the same university on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Union FM felicitates Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa

NAY PYI TAW, 27 April—On the occasion of the Freedom Day of the Republic of South Africa, which falls on 27 April 2013, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Ms. Maite M Nkoana-Mashabane, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa.—MNA

Israeli Chef Cooking & Contribution held in Yangon

YANGON, 26 April—A special event called Israeli Chef Cooking & Contribution, jointly conducted by Shwe Sa Bwe Hotel & Restaurant Training Centre (Yangon) and Dan Tel-Aviv Hotel, to mark 60th Anniversary Diplomatic Relations between Myanmar and Israel, was held at Shwe Sa Bwe Hotel & Restaurant Training Centre here today.

At the event, Mr. Oved Alfia, Executive Chef of Dan Tel-Aviv Hotel trained conducted cooking course to trainees at the SSB H&R Training Centre.

“The aims of our training centre is to provide young Myanmar nationals with 9 months & service courses training free of charge. Our training centre has its own professional pedagogical kitchen, training hotel and restaurant, which welcomes guests and allows students to acquire real-life experience under the watchful eyes of experienced teachers.

The students are selected based on their motivation and their willingness to stay and work in Myanmar. They want to prepare them for dynamic careers in the hospitality industry in their native country by providing them with an appropriate curriculum based on international standard. After they finished the course,

we will help them to get job opportunities”, Mr. French Guy, the owner of SSB H&R Training Centre.

Ambassador of the State of Israel to Myanmar Mr. Hagay Moshe Behar, the owner of SSB H&T Training Centre Mr. French Guy and guests attended the event.

Hein Tazear Myo



Mr. Oved Alfia of Executive Chef of Dan Tel-Aviv Hotel teaches the students from SSB H&R Training Centre during his visit to mark the 60th Anniversary diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Israel.—HEIN TAEZAR MYO

LOCAL NEWS



A flock of tourists visiting Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Budha Image on Mindhamma Hill in East Gyogon Ward of Insein Township on 24-4-2013.—KYEMON

YCDC sells low-priced SIM cards through lucky draw

YANGON, 26 April—Committee got a quota of 1900 low-cost SIM cards. Yangon City Development



Except 921 officers, SIM cards were allotted to 6987 staff by lot. But daily wage-earning workers have no chance to join in the lucky draws at their office and their wards.

SIM cards were sold to the staff from departments and offices under the YCDC by lot yesterday morning.

It is known that sale of SIM cards though quota system will be made monthly.

Kyemon

Books, journals donated in Mongkhat

MONGKHAT, 26 April—To promote reading habits of rural people, Laypyaynyin Library was opened in Moenyin Village-tract in Mongkhat Township, Kengtung District, Shan State (East), yesterday morning.

Deputy Director of Shan State (East) Information and Public Relations Department U Sai Sam Tit and Deputy Heads of Department Daw Nan Nweni Aung gave speeches. They carried out raising of reading habit. Later, they donated publications to the library.—Kyemon



Publications donated for Laypyaynyin Library.

KYEMON



Managing Director U Myat Zin of Myat Zin and Friends Machinery Co Ltd and Managing Director U Thaw Zin Oo of Golf Star Capital Pte Ltd donated K 3 million for selected Myanmar hockey players through Vice-President of MHF U Saw Lu Lu Htaw on 26 April.

REPORTER THAN SWE
(PABEDAN)

MFF President calls for never-say-die attitude of footballers

YANGON, 27 April—President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw called for never-say-die attitude as he met responsible persons of men/women football teams and futsal football teams to be participating in XXVII SEA

Games.

The MFF President met managers and coaches of the teams at the federation yesterday, urging them to make utmost efforts to clinch victories in each tournament in coming SEA Games to be held in December.

He also spoke of the need for other responsible persons to ensure systematic preparation for successful holding of the SEA Games, calling for cooperation and coordination with a sense of responsibility.

Kyemon

Computer course opened in Salingyi Tsp

MONYWA, 26 April—Computer Course for Vocational Purpose No 1/2013 was opened at Basic Education Primary School in new Wethmay-Kantaw Village in Salingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region on 23 April, with an address by Deputy Speaker of Region Hluttaw U Thawng Sein.

Principal of University of Computer Studies (Monywa) Dr Myo Hein Zaw explained purpose of conducting the course. Region Deputy Hluttaw Speaker U Thawng Sein, region social affairs minister Dr Myint Thein, region Hluttaw representative U Aung Zaw Oo viewed trainees learning computer lessons.

Five instructors from University of Computer Studies (Monywa) are teaching 36 trainees from new Wethmay-Kantaw and new Sete-Zitaw villages in Salingyi Township basic computer lessons and typing with 20 sets of core i7 computer from 23 April to 3 May.

Kyemon



Citizenship Scrutiny Cards issued in Nawnghkio

NAWNGHKIO, 26 April—Under the Moe Pwint 5 Plan, issuance of Citizenship Scrutiny Cards was carried out by Staff Officer U Yin Htwe Aung and staff from Immigration and National Registration Department in Nawnghkio Township of Kyaukse District in Shan State (North) at the Dhammayon in Bhuta Ward yesterday morning.

State Hluttaw Representative U Kyaw Mya



and officials also looked into the CSC issuance ceremony.

Kyemon

Bogyoke Road of Kalay broadened

KALAY, 26 April—Broadening of Bogyoke tarred road in Kalay of Sagaing Region is underway.

The Bogyoke tarred road is the main road of Kalay with a population of about 400,000, which is also crossroads to Monywa, Tamu and Chin State.

About-12-feet extension is being added to either

side of the currently 24-feet wide tarred road. Upon its completion, the road would be 48 feet in width.

Starting from February, the extension work is being carried out from milepost Nos 3/1 to 8/3 on the road with a budget of K 140 million allocated in 2012-13 FY.

Kyemon

REGIONAL

Abe to visit Myanmar in late May for bilateral summit

TOKYO, 26 April—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe plans to visit Myanmar in late May to meet President U Thein Sein for his first summit with the Myanmar leader, with the aim of accelerating Tokyo's efforts to promote economic development and democratization in the Southeast Asian country, a government source said on Wednesday. It will be the first time in around 36 years for a Japanese prime minister to visit the country, after then premier Takeo Fukuda traveled there in August 1977.

Abe hopes his visit to

Myanmar, considered for 25 to 26 May, 2013. Abe is also considering meeting Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi again during the trip, after the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner visited Japan last week, according to the source. Myanmar has increasingly attracted foreign investments since its transition to a democratic government in March 2011, as it is widely seen as Asia's last frontier with relatively cheap and abundant labour.

The arrangement for Abe's visit to Myanmar got started to meet the premier's "strong wish," after it be-

came certain that a trilateral summit between Japan, China and South Korea, which was being prepared for 25 to 26 May in Seoul, will be put off due to chilly Japan-China ties amid a territorial row, the source said. At the summit with Thein Sein, Abe is expected to convey Tokyo's intention to help improve the investment environment and infrastructure in Myanmar for expansion of Japanese investments there, the source said.

Abe is also likely to announce the plan to strengthen support for Myanmar's ethnic minorities by build-

ing schools, giving technical assistance in farming and providing other forms of aid, if a national reconciliation is reached between the Myanmar government and the minorities to resolve conflicts, the source said. Since the launch of the civilian government, Japan has stepped up its efforts to promote democratization in Myanmar, helping the country construct utilities and ports, and fight poverty.

At the beginning of this year and only around a week after the launch of Abe Cabinet, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Taro Aso pledged Tokyo's support for Myanmar's efforts to establish genuine democracy in his meeting with President U Thein Sein in Myanmar's capital Nay Pyi Taw.

Abe, meanwhile, conveyed Japan's support for

the country in his meetings with Suu Kyi last week and with N'Ban La, chairman of the United Nationalities Federal Council, an umbrella group for 11 ethnic groups in Myanmar, earlier this month.

Kyodo News

Nemuro city promotes saury exports to Vietnam



Supplied photo shows Vietnamese people tasting saury from Nemuro, Hokkaido, at a trade fair held in Hanoi in January 2013 by the Nemuro city government.

KYODO NEWS

KUSHIRO, (Japan), 26 April—The city of Nemuro in the northernmost Japanese prefecture of Hokkaido, which boasts the nation's largest catch of saury, has been stepping up its efforts to export the fish to Vietnam. In a bid to expand its sales to Southeast Asia that it believes has high growth potential, the port city in the prefecture's northeastern part launched

a sales pitch to senior Vietnamese government officials with the support of the Japan External Trade Organization in April 2010.

The city said it chose Vietnam as its initial target as demand for imported sea fish has been growing gradually in the country over recent years as a result of improved distribution systems although more freshwater fish than sea fish are pre-

ferred there. In May 2010, Nemuro then founded an export promotion committee jointly with local business groups and fisheries cooperative associations. As part of such promotion efforts, the city took part in the Oishii Nippon Fair, a trade exhibition co-hosted by JETRO to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Japan-Vietnam diplomatic relations, being held in Ho Chi Minh from Tuesday through Sunday.

Among other recent related activities, Nemuro Mayor Shunsuke Hasegawa, along with other city offi-

cials, visited Hanoi and Da Nang to market the fish in January. We're hoping to let Vietnamese people know the authentic taste of our saury," said a senior official of the Nemuro city government. Saury is a popular and common fish in Japan due to its reasonable price, whereas in Vietnam, the fish is known as expensive and high-quality, and largely targeted at high-income households. The Nemuro brand is treated differently from saury imports from other regions such as Taiwan, according to the city government.

Kyodo News

Vietnam hosts 19th meeting of Asian Political Parties

HANOI, 26 April—The 19th meeting of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties' (ICAPP) Standing Committee convened in Vietnam's capital Hanoi on Thursday. The two-day event drew the participation of delegations representing ruling parties and major political parties in Asian countries as well as observers and organizations from 26 countries on five continents.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Hoang Binh Quan, head of the Commission for External Relations of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV)'s Central Com-

mittee hailed the role and the influence of the ICAPP over the past 13 years.

He said forums and conferences initiated by the ICAPP have actually enhanced mutual understanding, promoted cooperation among political parties both within and outside the region, which is an important factor helping strengthen linkages in the region.

In its foreign relations, the Communist Party of Vietnam attaches due importance to and has run a policy of proactively and actively participating in multilateral forums of political parties. Specifically for ICAPP, pro-

motion and consolidation of relations with the conference is a prioritized policy of the CPV, Quan said.

Jose de Venecia, founding chairman of the ICAPP said that as Vietnam is one of the most open economies in Asia, ICAPP believes that the country will attain its goal of modernization and industrialization by 2020. Established in 2000, ICAPP aims to promote exchange and cooperation between different political parties, deepening mutual understanding and trust between Asian countries for the sake of peace and prosperity in the region and the world.—Xinhua

Defence ministry confirms high-sea voyage of aircraft carrier

BEIJING, 26 April—A military spokesman confirmed on Thursday that China's first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, is set to conduct a voyage on the high seas.

When and in what waters the voyage will be conducted will be decided in accordance with overall conditions, Yang Yujun, spokesman of the Ministry of National Defense, told a Press conference. Song Xue, deputy chief of staff of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy, said

on Tuesday that China will have more than one aircraft carrier.

While speaking at a ceremony in Beijing to celebrate the 64th anniversary of the founding of the PLA Navy, Song said, "The next aircraft carrier we need will be larger and able to carry more fighters." Song also refuted some foreign media reports that China was building new aircraft carriers in Shanghai, saying such reports were not accurate.

Xinhua



Staff members operate a rescue robot in Ya'an City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 24 April, 2013. The deformable robot, created by Shenyang Institute of Automation of Chinese Academy of Sciences, has been put into use in assisting the search tasks during the Lushan Earthquake.—XINHUA

In the context of domestic and global economic difficulties, pepper remained in the list of Vietnam's top agricultural products with high export revenues. However, pepper export prices declined during the first quarter this year compared to the same period last year, with the average export price for black pepper reaching 6,266 US dollars per ton (92 dollars/ton lower than last year), and 8,869 US dollars per ton for white pepper (436 dollars/ton lower than last year). Despite all these, Vietnam exported pepper to more than 80 countries and regions, which accounted for only 30 percent of the world's pepper consumption, but up to 50 percent of the world's pepper trading amount. With this, Vietnamese pepper production sector has enjoyed a lot of prospects for development in the coming years, said VPA Chairman Do Ha Nam.

Major import markets of Vietnamese pepper are the United States (accounting for 21.13 percent of the country's pepper exports), Germany (11.6 percent), the United Arab Emirates (7.39 percent) and Singapore (6.77 percent).

According to VPA, about 40 percent of the total pepper output of this year's crop was exported with good prices, hence domestic pepper exporters could increase their export volume remarkably.

Since 1996, pepper cultivated areas have been expanded, with an increase of nearly 30 percent, reaching over 52,000 hectares at the end of 2004.

Xinhua

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China Eastern tests flight using biofuel

BEIJING, 26 April—China Eastern Airlines completed its first successful test flight of an aircraft powered by biofuel on Wednesday. The

company said it now plans to introduce biofuel for commercial flights to reduce carbon emissions, although it has not revealed a timetable.



Workers fuel a China Eastern Airlines airplane that uses biofuel for a trial flight early on Wednesday morning in Shanghai.—XINHUA

“Biofuel-powered aircraft make our flights more environmentally friendly,” said Captain Liu Zhimin, who piloted on Wednesday’s flight.

The jet, which used a palm oil biofuel made by China Petroleum and Chemical Corp, or Sinopec, Asia’s largest oil refiner, flew for 85 minutes after taking off from Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport.

Liu said he performed several extreme maneuvers, including diving above 12,000 metres, but found no significant difference between the Sinopec biofuel and gasoline. The plane’s left fuel tank was filled with gasoline to allow him to compare. “The performance of the biofuel during the takeoff was powerful,” the pilot added.

Sinopec is the first company in China to master the technology of turning palm oil and waste cooking oil into jet biofuel. “We have developed two kinds of biofuel, palm oil and waste cooking oil, and the fuel we used dur-

ing this flight was palm oil,” Huang Zhongwen, deputy director of publicity for Sinopec Zhenhai Refining and Chemical Co, told *China Daily*.

“We have the capability of turning waste cooking oil into jet fuel, although the cost will be higher than producing ordinary fuel,” he said, without providing specifics on the cost difference.

Waste cooking oil is dubbed gutter oil in China as illicit oil producers have recycled waste oil collected from gutters behind restaurants. The oil, which contains carcinogenic substances, is dangerous to human health.

Xinhua

Eisai to build new plant in China for injection products

TOKYO, 26 April—Japanese drug maker Eisai Co said Thursday it will build a new plant in Suzhou, eastern China, to make injection products.

The plant, which will be located in a production complex owned by Eisai China Inc, is aimed at cre-

ating a stable supply chain for injection products in the Chinese market, the parent company said.

Eisai expects demand to grow in China for its Methycobal injection for peripheral neuropathies. Eisai is also considering supplying those products

made at the Suzhou plant to emerging Asian markets as well as Central and South America.

Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2013 and be complete in the April-September first half of fiscal 2014, Eisai said.

Kyodo News

Briton gives makeover to bus stop in tsunami-hit Ohara District

TOKYO, 26 April—A bus stop bench, in a rather forlorn state, is situated against the backdrop of an idyllic, seaside landscape in Ohara, a remote area devastated by the 2011 earthquake-tsunami disaster. The sight of the small community on the Oshika Peninsula of Miyagi Prefecture in northeastern Japan was too sad for Caroline Pover, a British writer and publisher who has made Japan her home since 1996.

“Buses run but you don’t want to stand and wait there because water is coming up, and it’s cold and windy,” especially for the community’s mostly elderly residents, Pover, 41, said. “I wanted to do something for people probably looking forward to a bit quieter time in their later years and make it a bit easier for them.” Pover, who first worked in Japan as an English teacher and later launched a magazine for foreign women, discovered Oshika through a friend who volunteered there. At the time of the 11 March, 2011 catastrophe, Pover said she was in Saipan writing a book about love between Western women and Japanese men. She put that book on hold and immediately flew to Britain where she gave lectures about Japan and collected donations for the hard-

hit Tohoku region.

Two months after the tsunami, Pover was driving up to the peninsula with a friend and says she “fell in love with the place, which was beautiful even in the middle of all the debris everywhere,” and felt the trip was far from being a “one-time visit.” Pover, who is not part of a registered non-profit group, seeks support for charity work through her own network of friends. In Britain, she continues to give talks about Japan and matches donations to potential reconstruction projects in Oshika.

The Ohara Bus Stop was one such recent project. Thanks to donations from the Summerhill International School in Tokyo and carpenters from Saitama-based firm Kigumi Co., a new bus stop was constructed in early April on the side of the road opposite the bench. People can now wait inside it for buses running in either direction. Working under a tarpaulin, Pover and other volunteers braved a typhoon to build it within three days. The Ohara Bus Stop was just as she had imagined it — a cozy place with a sofa, stool, locals’ photos hanging, plants and a bookshelf. Outside is a patio.

Kyodo News



Photo taken on 6 April, 2013, shows Caroline Pover (3rd from L), a British writer and publisher who engages in charity work for the disaster-hit Oshika Peninsula, and other volunteers in front of a new bus stop they created in the Ohara area on the peninsula.—KYODO NEWS

ENTERTAINMENT

ABBA may return, says band member

BERLIN, 26 April—Agnetha Faltskog, a member of legendary Swedish pop group ABBA, said in an interview published by the German Press that she had not ruled out the possibility of reuniting the band's members for a concert.

"Perhaps a charity concert? I, at least, would not rule it out," the singer told Zeitmagazin, the magazine of the weekly Die Zeit.

Faltskog is promoting her new solo album, A, whose title was inspired by the fact that she was "one of the 'As' in ABBA".

The singer said she enjoyed listening to old ABBA hits, such as The Winner Takes It All.

ABBA, formed by Agnetha Faltskog, Bjorn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson and Anni-Frid Lyngstad, broke up in 1982 after years of cranking out hits.

The band's members have ruled out a reunion for years. Ulvaeus and Andersson, however, have worked together on other projects, including Mamma Mia, the hit musical and film, and the anthem for the 2013 Eurovision Festival, which will be held 14-18 May in Malmo, Sweden. We Write the Story, the title of the song by Andersson and Ulvaeus, features an arrangement by Swedish producer and DJ Avicii, and will be performed for the first time during the festival's May 18 grand finale.—PTI

The band broke up in 1982.



Selena Gomez's friends upset about her reconciliation with Justin Bieber

LONDON, 26 April—Selena Gomez's friends are "furious" that she has reconciled with Justin Bieber. The Spring Breakers actress flew to Norway last week to spend time with Justin, 19, even though they split up last year and her friends are desperately trying to persuade her not to give him another chance.

A source told RadarOnline: "Selena's friends are furious that she's giving Justin another chance. 'They've been trying to warn her that he's no good for her and that she should stay away from him, but she just loves the attention he gives her.'"

While Selena, 20, has been trying to spend as much time as possible with Justin recently, pals are hoping since they are not officially back together that she will come to her senses soon.

The insider added: "They've been spending a lot of time together, secretly, over the last couple weeks. But nothing is official between them."

"Being with Selena is good for him, but her friends are adamant that he's bad for her." Friends previously explained the brunette beauty initially dealt well with the split because she was busy promoting Spring Breakers with Ashley Benson and Vanessa Hudgens but after the movie premiered last month, Selena had time to reconsider her feelings and reportedly decided she wanted to see the Beauty and a Beat hit-maker again.

A source said: She didn't actually have to think of him cause she was with her girls doing major promotion."—PTI



Shakira didn't expect parenthood to be so "hard"

NEW DELHI, 26 April—36-year-old singer Shakira and her boyfriend Gerard Pique welcomed son Milan into the world in January, and though she says he is a "great baby", she admits her experiences haven't been "idyllic".

She said: "I didn't expect babies to need so many diapers! Nobody told me they needed to be changed so often."

"I mean he's a great, great baby. He's an easy one, I think. But nobody told me it would be this hard. It takes a lot of energy from you. But I love it, I'm really enjoying every bit of it. It's

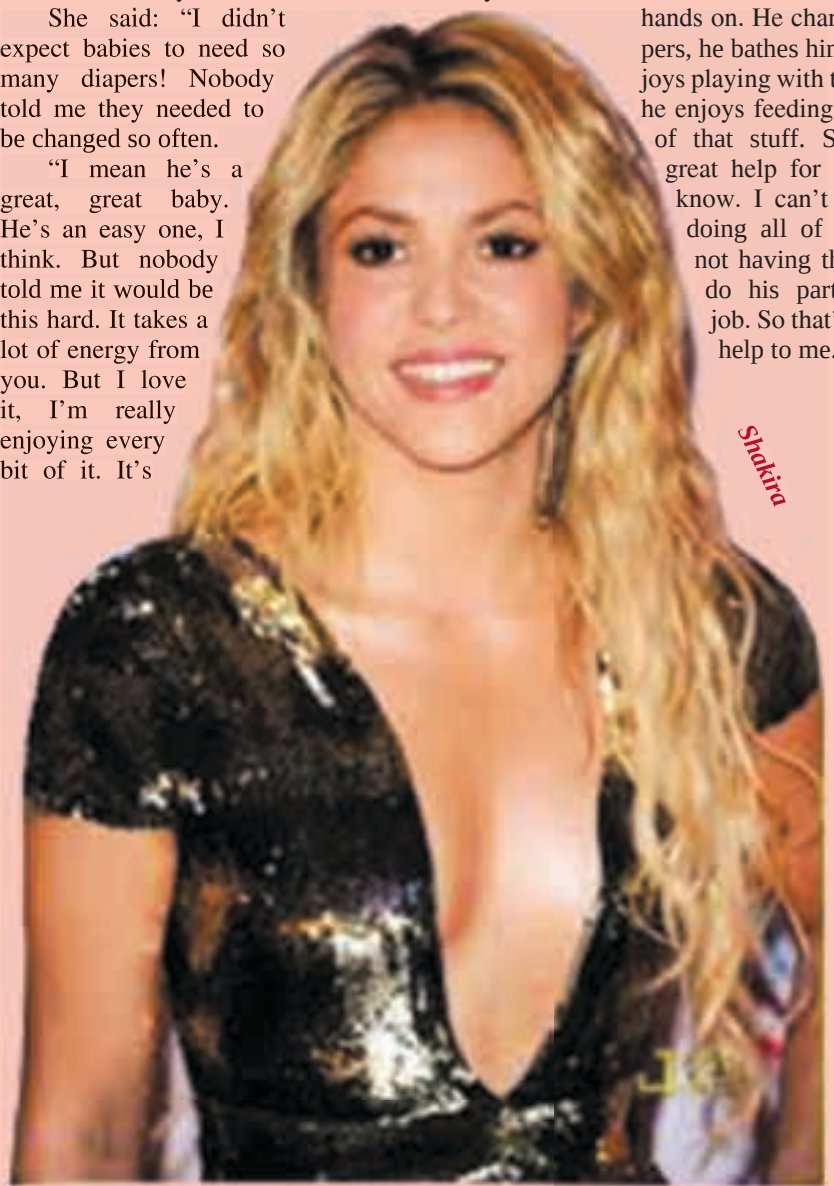
just that it's not as idyllic as everybody tells you, but also not as horrible as everyone tells you."

The Voice coach is also thankful to have Gerard's support as she says the 26-year-old Barcelona soccer star is a very hands-on

parent.

She told Us Weekly magazine: "Thank God the father is very involved. He has been amazing."

"The baby spends as much time with me as he does with his dad. He's the kind of dad who's full hands on. He changes diapers, he bathes him, he enjoys playing with the baby, he enjoys feeding him, all of that stuff. So that's great help for me, you know. I can't imagine doing all of this and not having the father do his part of the job. So that's a huge help to me."—PTI



SPORTS

Late Luiz lifts Chelsea, Fenerbahce edge Benfica

LONDON, 26 April—Brazilian David Luiz scored deep into stoppage time to keep Chelsea on track for a second successive European final after a 2-1 victory at Basel in their Europa League semi-final, first leg on Thursday.

Fenerbahce, who wasted a first-half spot-kick, also gained an advantage by beating Portuguese club Benfica 1-0 in Istanbul with a 72nd-minute header from Egemen Korkmaz.

Chelsea, Champions League winners for the first time in 2012, made a tame defence of their continental trophy earlier in the season, exiting in the group stage, but have found the Europa League more to their liking.

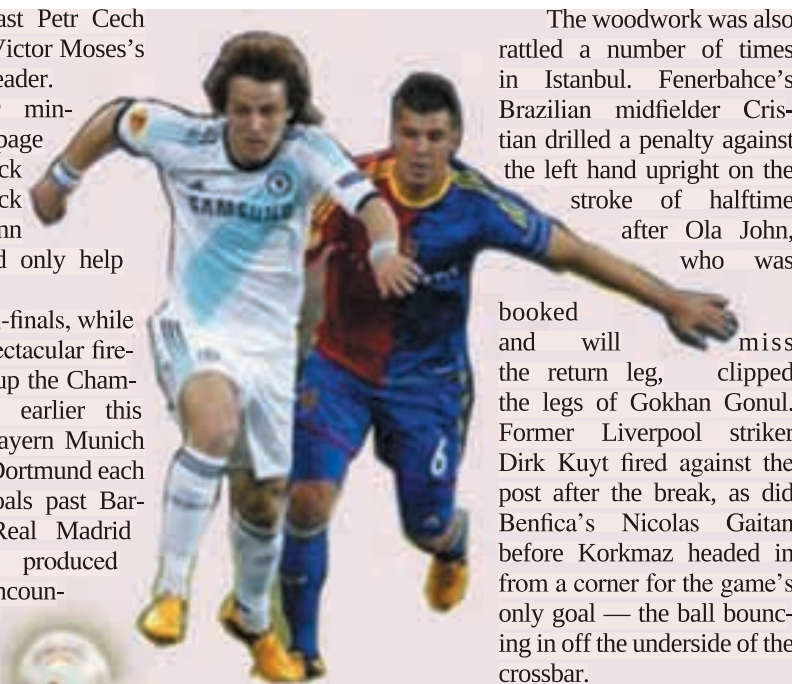
The Premier League side appeared to have been denied victory by Basel, cheered on by Swiss tennis great Roger Federer in his hometown, when Fabian Schaer struck an 87th-minute

penalty past Petr Cech to cancel out Victor Moses's 12th-minute header.

But four minutes into stoppage time Luiz struck a low freekick that keeper Yann Sommer could only help into the net.

Both semi-finals, while lacking the spectacular fireworks that lit up the Champions League earlier this week when Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund each struck four goals past Barcelona and Real Madrid respectively, produced entertaining encounters.

Basel, who knocked out Premier



FC Basel's Aleksandar Dragovic runs for the ball with Chelsea's David Luiz (L) during their Europa League semi-final first leg soccer match at St Jakob Park stadium in Basel on 25 April, 2013.—REUTERS

League side Tottenham Hotspur in the quarter-finals, struck the post early in the

second-half, as did Chelsea striker Fernando Torres a few minutes later.

The woodwork was also rattled a number of times in Istanbul. Fenerbahce's Brazilian midfielder Cristian drilled a penalty against the left hand upright on the stroke of halftime after Ola John, who was

booked and will miss the return leg, clipped the legs of Gokhan Gonul. Former Liverpool striker Dirk Kuyt fired against the post after the break, as did Benfica's Nicolas Gaitan before Korkmaz headed in from a corner for the game's only goal — the ball bouncing in off the underside of the crossbar.

The second legs take

Van Persie will get respect on Arsenal return

LONDON, 26 April—Manchester United striker Robin van Persie will be treated with respect on his return to Arsenal, his former manager Arsene Wenger said on Thursday.

Van Persie, who quit Arsenal last year after eight seasons at the club,

returns to his old stomping ground on Sunday as a Premier League champion after his hat-trick helped his new team wrap up the title against Aston Villa on Monday.

The achievement meant the Dutch international, along with the rest

of the United squad, will be clapped on to the pitch by the Arsenal players in a guard of honour, a gesture that is likely to rankle the home fans still angry about his departure.

Wenger, however, said the player who quit the club for a reported fee of 24 million pounds (\$36.64 million) would not be shunned by his former employers.

"We will respect the players that have played for us a long time as we always have done and treat them well before and after the game," Wenger told reporters. "As a champion or not as a champion it is exactly the same."

"What I want is for us to have a good game and to beat them, it doesn't matter what kind of status they come with."

Van Persie has been at the heart of United's title push, rising to the top of the Premier League scoring charts with 24 goals, and Monday's second strike against Villa was a spectacular highlight.

The first-time volley that had United fans rifling through their memory banks for a finer goal scored at Old Trafford was typical of the type of finish that Van Persie produced in his final season at Arsenal.

Reuters

Barnes sets record-tying pace in New Orleans

LONDON, 26 April—Long-hitting American Ricky Barnes made a welcome return to form after two months of struggle as he charged into a one-shot lead in Thursday's opening round of the Zurich Classic of New Orleans in Avondale, Louisiana.

The 32-year-old, who is bidding for his first victory on the PGA Tour, took advantage of receptive, rain-softened conditions at the TPC Louisiana to fire a sizzling eight-under-par 64.

With players permitted to lift, clean and replace golf balls on the fairway after more than an inch of rain had saturated the layout on Wednesday, Barnes birdied six of his last eight holes to tie the course record.

Boo Weekley and former US Open champion Lucas Glover also made the most of the low-scoring conditions with opening 65s, finishing a stroke in front of fellow Americans D.A. Points and PGA Tour rookie Morgan Hoffmann.

Four-times major winner Ernie Els was among a group of 10 players on 67, while defending cham-

pion Jason Dufner, who clinched last year's title in a playoff with South African Els, launched his defence with a level-par 70.

China's 14-year-old prodigy Guan Tianlang also flourished in the opening round, upstaging several big names as he rebounded from two early

bogeys to card a level-par 72.

Competing this week on a sponsor's exemption, Guan has been one of the biggest talking points in golf after becoming the youngest player to make the cut in a major championship at the Masters earlier this month.

Barnes, however, commanded most of the early spotlight as he shrugged off memories of seven missed cuts in his last eight starts on the PGA Tour after beginning the season in reasonably good form.

He eagled the par-five second before reaching the turn in two-under 34, then stormed home in six-under 30 to surge to the top of the leaderboard.—Reuters



Ricky Barnes of the US watches his tee shot on the 15th hole during the second round of the Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 3 June, 2011.—REUTERS

Nadal faces busy Friday after rain hits Barcelona Open

BARCELONA, 26 April—Rafael Nadal may have to play two matches at the Barcelona Open on Friday after his third round clash against Frenchman Benoit Paire was postponed by rain on Thursday.

The world number five and second seed, gunning for an eighth Barcelona title, will face Paire at 08:30GMT on Friday with either sixth seed Kei Nishikori or Albert Ramos waiting in the next round should Nadal avoid an upset.

Third seed Tomas Berdych was also frustrated by the weather and will play his third round against Spaniard Tommy Robredo on centre court on Friday.



Rafael Nadal

Boxer Amir Khan defends link up with drugs cheat Conte

LONDON, 26 April—British boxer Amir Khan defended his link-up with American drugs cheat Victor Conte ahead of his fight with Mexico's Julio Diaz on Saturday.

Conte was jailed in 2005 after pleading guilty to conspiracy to distribute banned steroids and his association with Khan has been criticised by UK Anti-Doping.

However, Khan said the controversial American, who was introduced to the boxer by trainer Virgil Hunter, had passed on a lot of invaluable tips. "The advice he's been giving me has been brilliant," Khan told the

"Virgil Hunter is my trainer and he's the one who's told me we are going to use Victor Conte as an assistant in a way, as he has a team of trainers who can teach you stuff."

"On the training methods he's brought so much good training into the game. He's introduced me to a lot of new trainers who have helped me on my running, sprinting, on my engine really, which is working my fitness, also breathing methods and telling me what to do and what not to do."

Conte was at the centre of the BALCO doping programme which included several

BBC's website. "I know he's had a bad background and has done things he shouldn't have.

high profile athletes like Marion Jones and Tim Montgomery.

Reuters



British boxer Amir Khan poses during a media opportunity at Ponce De Leon Boxing Club in Montebello, California on 11 Dec, 2012, for his upcoming WBC silver super lightweight title boxing match against Mexican American boxer Carlos Molina, scheduled for 15th December in Los Angeles.—REUTERS

GENERAL



Contestants of Miss Korea 2013 pageant. — XINHUA

IAAF to open blood test centre in Kenya

NAIROBI, 26 April — World athletics governing body IAAF will open a blood test center (BTC) in Kenya's Rift Valley town of Eldoret to cater for Kenyan and Ethiopian runners. IAAF are also seeking to collaborate with World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) to establish a laboratory to test samples collected in the region either in Nairobi or Eldoret, Athletics Kenya (AK) boss Isaiah Kiplagat said on Thursday. "In the next three months, we expect progress to have been made on the proposed BTC. IAAF came up with the idea after extensive discussions about the serious-

ness of doping cases in this country," he said.

"Currently, all samples collected here are sent to South Africa or Germany for analysis and having a lab here will keep us ahead in our fight to ensure that our athletes are clean," the chair added. The development comes hot on the heels of the Kenyan federation revealing that five runners had been sanctioned for various doping offences in the past two months. "The matter has received a lot of attention at the IOC, WADA and IAAF. From the BTC, we shall have biological passports for every athlete in Kenya and Ethio-

pia," Kiplagat said.

Biological passports monitor changes in the blood system and have been turned to in the global effort to identify cheats with high profile bursts such as the disgraced 2008 Beijing Olympics men's 1500m champion, Bahrain's Rashid Ramzy, among those who have been unearthed by comparing samples collected in different seasons. Kiplagat slammed the Kenyan Government for failing to get off the committee set up in January to investigate allegations of rampant doping amongst the country's runners.

Xinhua

61 injured in SW China quake

CHENGDU, 26 April — A total of 61 people were injured and 46,592 were affected when a 4.8-magnitude earthquake jolted Yibin City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on Thursday morning, local authorities said.

More than 29,000 houses had been destroyed or damaged in the quake as of 2:30 pm on Thursday, according to the Yibin municipal emergency response office.

About 14,000 people have been relocated. Direct

economic losses are estimated at 291 million yuan (46.7 million US dollars), according to the office.

The earthquake hit the juncture of Changning, Gongxian and Xingwen counties of Yibin City at 6:10 am Thursday, according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre.

A 7.0-magnitude earthquake that hit Lushan County, Ya'an City, Sichuan Province, on Saturday has claimed nearly 200 lives.

Xinhua

Chef's mistake leads to N China's food poisoning

HOHHOT, 26 April — A chef's mistake of adding pesticide instead of a sauce while cooking has left one person dead and two others in critical condition in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

Police in Baotou City told Xinhua on Thursday that the chef was among the 21 people who fell ill after eating lunch at the construction

site of the Beijing-Tibet Expressway expansion project in Baotou on Tuesday.

The pesticide, identified as carbofuran, was found in samples of the food. Police said evidence shows that the case was a crime of negligence. The workers are all migrant workers employed by the project contractor, the Inner Mongolia Highway Engineering Co.—Xinhua

Dortmund crush Real Madrid 4-1 in UEFA Champions League



Cristiano Ronaldo against Borussia Dortmund's defenders.—XINHUA

BERLIN, 26 April—Dortmund striker Robert Lewandowski scored all four goals against Real Madrid on Wednesday to ensure an advantageous position for the second leg of the Champions League semifinal in Bernabeu.

Lewandowski donated four goals at outsold Signal Iduna Park to become the first player to have scored four goals in a Champions League semifinal match.

Real Madrid were only able to restore parity before the break through Cristiano Ronaldo but Lewandowski forked out three goals within 17 minutes to flabbergast the visitors.

From the kickoff the hosts took the reins to press Madrid into their own territory. With seven minutes into the game Dortmund's Marco Reus dangerously approached Real's box to force keeper Diego Lopez to turn the shot around the far post.

Without further warning Dortmund broke the deadlock with their second chance as Polish international Lewandowski slotted home a cross by Mario Goetze at the far post at the eighth minute.

The visitors were unable to threaten Dortmund's defence although goalkeeper Roman Weidenfeller had to block a free kick by Ronaldo.

Nonetheless, Real Madrid shocked the hosts as

Gonzalo Higuain capitalized on an error by Dortmund defender Mats Hummels to set up with a square pass for Ronaldo, who scored the open goal two minutes before the break.

Juergen Klopp men remained unimpressed as they grabbed the lead again when Lewandowski made use of Reus assistance to beat Diego Lopez into the near corner from close range, five minutes into the second half.

The Germans were not done with the scoring as Lewandowski wrapped up his hat-trick at the 55th minute when he controlled the ball inside box to beat Pepe and Raphael Varane and hammered the ball into the top right corner.

Things changed from bad to worse when Real's Xabi Alonso was penalized for a foul play on Reus inside the box to invite Lewandowski, who made it 4-1 on the scoreboards when he slammed the penalty into the center of the goal at the 66th minute.

Real Madrid host Borussia Dortmund Santiago Bernabeu Stadium next week for the second leg of the semifinal.

"My team staged a brilliant performance today. However, the second leg wont be a walk in the park," Dortmund coach Juergen Klopp said after the victory.

Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(27-4-13 09:30 am ~ 28-4-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Malaysia Healthcare Expo Myanmar 2013 (Mandalay)
- * News
- * Music
- * News
- * Heritage and High-rise
- * Be dress in Politeness at the Holy Places
- * News
- * The Yangon River Sunset Cruise
- * Harmoniously join Hands in Agriculture Sector
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * "Myanmar Movies Impact" Flame of Hatred
- * News
- * Heritage and High-rise
- * Be dress in Politeness at the Holy Places
- * News
- * Tapestry: A Unique Combination of Painting and Craftsmanship
- * Myanmar Movies "Matchmaking Wreath"

Myanmar TV

(27-4-2013, Saturday)

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|---|--|
| 6:00 am | 3:25 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 19. Musical Programme |
| 6:25 am | 4:00 pm |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 20. News |
| 6:35 am | 4:45 pm |
| 3. Dance & Song of National Races | 21. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Third Year (Economic) |
| 6:50 am | 4:45 pm |
| 4. Documentary | 22. Song of Yester Years |
| 7:00 am | 5:15 pm |
| 5. News | 23. Traditional Game |
| 7:30 am | 5:35 pm |
| 6. Teleplay | 24. Dance & Song of National Races |
| 8:00 am | 5:45 pm |
| 7. News | 25. Road to 27th SEA Games (Sepah Pahraw) |
| 8:25 am | 6:00 pm |
| 8. India Drama Series | 26. News |
| 9:00 am | 6:30 pm |
| 9. News | 27. Documentary (Fashion Show) |
| 9:20 am | 6:50 pm |
| 10. How It's Works | 28. TV Drama Series |
| 9:50 am | 7:00 pm |
| 11. TV Drama Series | 29. News |
| 10:55 am | 8:00 pm |
| 12. Shwe Yin Khone Than | 30. News |
| 11:35 am | 8:35 pm |
| 13. Game for Children | 31. Documentary |
| 12:00 pm | 8:45 pm |
| 14. News | 32. Early TV Melodies |
| 12:25 pm | 9:00 pm |
| 15. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News | 33. News |
| 1:55 pm | 34. Myanmar Series |
| 16. Myanmar Movie (Part-1) | 35. TV Drama Series |
| 3:00 pm | 36. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn |
| 17. News | |
| 3:15 pm | |
| 18. Myanmar Movie (Part-2) | |

Electoral Stakeholders Roundtable Meeting held

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye promised to amend the electoral laws and bylaws as necessary to ensure free, fair and transparent general elections in 2015 as he addressed the electoral stakeholders roundtable meeting, at UEC Office here this morning.

The UEC Chairman admitted that there are still weak points in voter registration, pre-election voting, political campaigns and dissemination of electoral knowledge to voters and also mentioned the huge financial gap among political parties.

The UEC has been taking steps to get accurate voters lists in coordination with election sub-commissions, civil society organizations and government departments and political parties while



Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye addresses the electoral stakeholders roundtable meeting.—MNA

launching public education programmes.

UEC members U Win Kyi, Dr Daw Myint Kyi, U Myint Naing, U Nyunt Tin and U Win Ko discussed the topics of voter registration, financing of political parties, code of conduct for political parties, voter education, and status of observation for

civil societies.

Those from political parties and CSOs held discussions on holding free and fair multi-party general elections in 2015 from various aspects, which are assessed by the UEC Chairman who guaranteed necessary amendments to electoral laws and bylaws to

ensure free and fair general elections.

The meeting was attended by UEC members, chairpersons

and CEC members of 21 political parties, electoral stakeholders from nine CSOs, personnel from government departments,

reps from UNDP, USAID, EU, UKAID, Asia Foundation IDEA and IFES and media.

MNA

Union Commerce Minister meets economic delegations from US and Thailand



Union Minister U Win Myint makes a speech at the coordination meeting on economic and trade development in Kayah State.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 April—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received US delegation including US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Derek Mitchell and seven members led by Acting US Trade Representative Ambassador Demetrios James Marantis at the ministry, here, this afternoon. They discussed matters related to trade and investment of the two countries, US's offer for generalized system of preferences (GSP) in Myanmar, benefits of GSP and effective utilization of it, preparation and cooperation measures when Myanmar hosts ASEAN Summit, export of new items and value-added products through closer

relations between the two countries.

The Union minister also met with Permanent Second Secretary Mr. Nappandon Sarawa and party of the Ministry of Commerce of Thailand. Both sides discussed local manufacturing prospects and trade of the two countries and further extension of private sector.

Union Minister U Win Myint made a speech at the coordination meeting on economic and trade development in Kayah State

this afternoon. The Union minister said that plans are underway to open border trade camp in Maese region, bordering Kayah State and Mae Hong Song Province of Thailand for economic development.

The meeting was attended by Kayah State Planning and Economic Minister U Tot Yal and officials from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and brother associations.—MNA

Myanmar's significant reform processes found exciting and amazing



US Trade Representative Ambassador Mr. Demetrios Marantis speaking at the meeting with students and responsible persons of social organizations.

MNA

YANGON, 26 April—"The US government eased economic sanctions against Myanmar last year. During his visit to the US, President U Thein Sein invited US businessmen to invest in Myanmar. US President Barack Obama has aimed to perform trade and investments in developing countries and Asia-Pacific region. The US started the process of considering Myanmar for inclusion in Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)," says US Trade Representative Ambassador Mr. Demetrios Marantis in meeting with students and

responsible persons of social organizations at American Centre on Tawwin Street in Dagon Township, here, this morning.

Regarding the question about which sectors will be invested, he replied that the US government was seeking ways and means to invest in Myanmar. They found sweeping Myanmar reform processes that made significant progress exciting and amazing. Priority would be given to invest in sectors that could bring improvement in daily life of ordinary people.

He continued that the most important point was

to realize market economic system in Myanmar. Market liberalization was the key to economic development. The US government would carry out economic cooperation with Myanmar. Measures would be taken to boost bilateral trade. He expressed his belief that Myanmar market is very interesting one for businessmen.

The US Trade Representative's visit to Myanmar came out two days after EU's economic sanctions on Myanmar were lifted. He arrived here on 24 April and his visit will conclude on 27 April.—MNA

**Significant day
temperature
(26-4-2013)**

Aunglan

44°C