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NAY PYI TAW, 4 May—A ceremony was held to donate cash to the fund for supply of potable water to the regions where water is scarce in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Regions, at Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, yesterday afternoon.

On the occasion, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt said that the people in dry regions of Myanmar are facing social difficulties due to shortage of water in the summer. He continued that they spend the whole day just to get a barrel of water, at place four or five miles from their residences. That is why he said that they miss the chance to do their regular works for basic needs, to take personal hygiene due to shortage of water and suffer from dysentery, diarrhea and eye complaints. The Union Minister said that in accord with the assignment of the Union Government, the personnel of Development Affairs Department made field trips and collected the list of water-shortage villages in 1999 and there were 8042 villages facing shortage of water in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay regions and 15,183 villages in other regions and states. After the collection, they noted that it was necessary to

supply safe water to 23,225 villages across the nation. Therefore, the department sank 1669 artesian wells and 1491 tube-wells in Sagaing Region, 900 artesian wells and 969 tube-wells in Magway Region and 3530 artesian wells and 2321 tube-wells in Mandalay Region, totaling 10880 artesian and tube-wells in three regions.

Moreover, he continued that a total of 11915 artesian wells and 1902 tube-wells could be sunk in other regions and states, so 18014 artesian wells and 6683 tube-wells, totaling 24697 have been sunk across the nation.

Sinking of artesian and tube-wells were funded through K 10407.62 million by the Union government, K 10485.20 million by Development Affairs Committee, K 2696.62 million and US\$ 88734 by foreign donors, US\$ 7.26 million and ¥ 1399.62 million, by cooperation with international community, amounting to K 23589.44 million, US\$ 7.34 million and ¥ 1399.62 million. So far, a total of 2552 wellwishers have donated cash to the fund for water supply at 19 such ceremonies, he added.

Despite sinking wells in the water shortage villages to supply safe water to the people, it is necessary to sink one to three tube-wells in each village depending

Wellwishers join hands with government for supply of safe water to people



Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt delivers an address at the ceremony to donate cash to the fund for supply of potable water to the regions where water is scarce in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Regions.—MNA

on growing number of population and houses, he noted. He thanked 37 wellwishers for their K 711.2659 million donations at the ceremony.

Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thane, in his address, said that due to increasing world's population, the people are facing shortage of water, energy and food. The world

people will enjoy prosperous life if they overcome these difficulties, he said. He noted that water is crucial than other things in some places. He added that seeking the water is a waste of the labour of the nation. At present, he said that the ministries concerned cooperate with region government for sinking wells so as to solve the problems of shortage

of water. Later, the Union minister expressed thanks for wellwishers.

The Chief Ministers of Mandalay and Magway

Regions reported on undertakings for supply of safe water to the people in the respective regions.

(See page 9)

Monthly Weather Forecast for May, 2013 Bay of Bengal Condition

NAY PYI TAW, 4 May—Southwest Monsoon Onset may advance in the Southern Myanmar Areas during 2nd Dekad of May and in the Deltaic Areas and Central Myanmar Areas during 3rd Dekad of May. A low pressure area may form over the Bay of Bengal and likely further intensify into depression. During the period, Southwest Monsoon intensity will be moderate to strong condition. Weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Rainfall condition and Rainy Day

Rain conditions will be above normal rainfall of May in Taninthayi Region, Kachin and Mon States, below normal rainfall of May in

Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Chin and Kayah States and about normal rainfall of May in the remaining Regions and States.

Rainy Days are expected about (18-20) days in Taninthayi Region, Kachin and Mon States, (15-17) days in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States and (7-9) days in the remaining Regions and States.

Day Temperature

Day temperatures will be above average temperature of May in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Yangon Regions and about average temperatures of May in the remaining Regions and States.

NLM



Photo shows distribution of potable water by using bullock-cart in rural area.—MNA

LOCAL NEWS

Transparency for good democratic practice



YANGON, 4 May — A group of people staged a demonstration, enjoying the freedom of assembly, at the entrance to Maha Bandoola Park in front of Yangon City Hall in Kyauktada Township, here, on 29 April. Presence of police members

at a place that is neither very close nor very far away from the demonstration caused no embarrassment to their freedom of expression.

Two different scenes occurred in the park at the same time as some people who were there for

relaxation were sitting and lying on the grass next to dancing water fountains while the demonstration was in progress. In shaping a disciplined-flourishing democracy, it is required to exhibit good democratic practices. — *Kyemon*

High-voltage fault sparks fire in Bahan Township

YANGON, 4 May — A high-voltage fault sparked a fire at a house on Sasana Yeiktha Street in Sasana Yeiktha Ward of Bahan Township, here, at about 12.45 pm on 2 May.

It is learnt that the fire started at the fuse of a fluorescent lamp upstairs. A woman at the house was awakened by a foul smell of

burning something and she noticed fumes coming out of the fuse of the lamp.

As fire crews rushed there in time and put out the fire, the fire could not spread to nearby houses. The fire engulfed only upstairs of the two-storey RC building, destroying belongings worth K 2.7 million.

Kyemon



Lightning kills Indaw man

INDAW, 4 May — A man was struck by lightning and killed when strong winds hit Indaw Township of Katha

District in Sagaing Region on 1 May.

Before he was killed by lightning strike, U Soe

Naing, 42, was listening to radio at his house in Lepyin village of Maukone village-tract in Indaw Township

while strong winds with several flashes of lightning occurred outside.

At Meza region, south of Indaw Township, roofs of houses in some villages were blown off and some shops collapsed in high winds.

Kyemon

Two killed, two others hurt in brake failure-related car crash in Lashio

LASHIO, 4 May — A crash involved a 12-wheeled truck, a six-wheeled truck and three motorbikes occurred in Lashio of Shan State (North) at about 3.15 pm on 2 May.

A 12-wheeled truck carrying 17 tons of iron rods driven by Thein Shwe of Namhsam from Mandalay to Lashio plunged off the road and hit a concrete lamp post on the left side of the road at sector-5 of ward-1 on Lashio Union Highway that crosses downtown Lashio due to its faulty brakes. Then the truck swerved into the opposite lane and crashed into the

rear part of a six-wheeled truck driven from Hsenwi road to the Union Highway and a motorbike driving behind the six-wheeled truck.

Due to excessive speed, it also hit two stationary motorbikes by the road and overturned in the compound of a house at the end of the road.

The crash claimed lives of Thein Shwe, 12-wheeled truck driver, and motorcyclist Thet Naing Oo, 31. Khin May Thin, 24, on board the 12-wheeled truck and Ni Ni Lwin, 29, motorbike rider, of Lashio had got serious

injuries and they were taken to Lashio People's Hospital for intensive care.

Aung Naing, 12-wheeled truck conductor, took an interview, saying that their truck was loaded with 17 tons of iron rods for a shop in Lashio.

His driver said that the brakes were not working properly after their truck passed through the roundabout at the entrance to Lashio; he jumped out of the truck before the crash as his driver shouted at him to leave the car; and he felt very sorry for the fatal car accident.

Kyemon



Woman run over, killed in Natmauk

NATMAUK, 4 May — A 53-year-old woman was run over and killed in front of Zaw Gyi fuel shop on Natmauk-Pyawbwe motorway in Natmauk at about 3.20 pm on 27 April.

According to witnesses,

Daw Hme Tar of Wayon Kone village was run over by a six-wheeled truck driving out of the shop after filling fuel while she was sitting on a brick block in front of the shop. She was pronounced dead on the spot at the

incident.

Police members of Natmauk police stations rushed there and filed a lawsuit against truck driver Soe Tint of Chaung Nat village.

Kyemon

Three family members die of mad dog bites in Myinmu Township

LASHIO, 4 May — Two over 70-year-old man and women and their four-year-old great grand child died after being bitten by a dog with rabies at Gayu village in Myinmu Township of Sagaing Region.

U Chit Shwe, 72, his wife Daw Khin Shwe, 73, and their great grand child

Pyae Phyto Wai (a) Pyay Ti Oo, 4, died of bites from the infected dog that was kept their house.

According to investigations, the mad dog gave a bite to the four-year-old child on 25 April and it bit U Chit Shwe and Daw Khin Shwe on 26 April. They died of rabies at 4 pm, 8 pm and

9 pm on 29 April.

Now surveillance measures are being taken by Myinmu Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and TawchaungU police station after culling of other infected dogs that were bitten by the mad was carried out.

Kyemon

Drinking water for local people in Taungdwingyi

MAGWAY, 4 May — For 3367 local people of 796 households who are under water stress at Ohndaw

ward-2, 3, 4 and 5 of Taung-dwingyi Township in Magway Region, 10000 gallons of drinking water donated by wellwishers per day are being transported to them by Tatmadawmen

of local battalions with the use of water bowzers. On 29 April, each household were supplied with four buckets of water.

A local townselder said that ward dwellers expressed thanks for contribution of Tatmadawmen in supplying drinking water to them.

Kyemon

Young man stabs girlfriend before killing himself with insecticide

YANGON, 4 May — A young man stabbed his girlfriend and then committed suicide by taking insecticide at Shwe Paukkan Myothit in North Okkalapa Township on 29 April.

According to information that a young couple was picking a quarrel at a cold drink shop on Bagan street in Shwe Paukkan Myothit, officials concerned rushed there at about 4 pm on that day. In the incident, Aung Myint Tun, 27, of Ward-21 of Shwe Paukkan Myothit

stabbed his girlfriend Su Su Win, 21, GTC final year student of University of Technology (Hmawby), of Shwe Paukkan Myothit with a knife, leaving her severe wounds to neck, left chest and both arms. She was taken to North Okkalapa Hospital and is being treated with intensive care there.

Then, Aung Myint Tun collapsed unconscious after taking two small bottles of insecticide he brought. He died while he was sent to North Okkalapa Hospital at about 5.50 pm. — *Kyemon*

WORLD

Japanese journalist killed in Syria named as World Press Freedom Hero



**Japanese video journalist
Mika Yamamoto**

TOKYO, 4 May—Japanese video journalist Mika Yamamoto, who was killed while covering the civil war in Syria in 2012, has been named as a winner of the 2013 World Press Freedom Hero award, along with an American journalist, according to the International Press Institute.

Yamamoto who worked for *The Japan Press*, a Tokyo-based independent media group, and was an award-winning journalist known for her coverage of conflict zones such as Afghanistan and Iraq, died during clashes in Aleppo, northern Syria, in August 2012 at the age of 45.

The award was also given to Marie Colvin, a veteran correspondent for the London-based *Sunday Times*, who was killed in the besieged Syrian city of Homs in February 2012 aged 56. The announcement of the awards for Yamamoto and Colvin coincided with World Press Freedom Day on Friday. The two women journalists won the awards for their bravery and professionalism in covering the ongoing conflict in Syria and other conflicts,

the IPI said. Yamamoto received the Vaughn-Uyeda Memorial Prize for contributions made by Japanese journalists in the field of international affairs in fiscal 2003. She was the second Japanese national to be given the honour, after the late Shiro Hara, who received it posthumously in 2000. Hara was a former city news editor and vice president of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, a major Japanese newspaper, who dedicated his life to exposing social injustice. He died aged 81 in 1989. The World Press Freedom Hero award, instituted in 2000, is given to journalists who contribute to the fight for press freedom while facing danger. By 2012, 63 World Press Freedom Heroes had been named.

Kyodo News

Prosecutor in Bhutto assassination case shot dead

ISLAMABAD, 4 May—Gunmen on a motorcycle on Friday shot dead a prosecutor investigating the 2007 assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, one of the most shocking events in the country's turbulent history. Police sources said Chaudhry

Zulfikar was shot in his car after he left home and headed to a hearing in the case, a reminder of Pakistan's instability just a week before general elections. "He was killed by unknown gunmen. Twelve bullets were fired," said a police source.

Zulfikar was also the

prosecutor investigating the 2008 attacks on India's commercial capital, Mumbai, in which 166 people were killed. India said militants based in Pakistan were behind the three-day rampage. The attack on Zulfikar left glass and blood stains on the front seats of his car. Security expert Amir Rana said Zulfikar was probably a marked man because he had been prosecuting militants who were jailed in connection with Bhutto's death, or other cases. Bhutto's assassination is shrouded in mystery.

She was killed in a gun and suicide bomb attack carried out by a 15-year-old boy after an election rally in the city of Rawalpindi, weeks after she returned to Pakistan from years in self-imposed exile.—Reuters



Security officials inspect the damaged car, which prosecutor Chaudhry Zulfikar was travelling in, when he came under attack by unidentified gunmen, in Islamabad on 3 May, 2013.—REUTERS

Obama blesses Mexican security plan, eyes deeper business ties

MEXICO CITY, 4 May—US President Barack Obama gave his blessing on Thursday to a new security arrangement with Mexican leader Enrique Pena Nieto, in which Mexico will make reducing violence a priority over hunting drug cartel kingpins in the war against organized crime. The two presidents said they also want to step up trade and business ties that have been overshadowed by the battle against drug trafficking.

"It is obviously up to the Mexican people to determine their security structures and how it engages with other nations including the United States," Obama said at a joint press conference with Pena Nieto.

At the start of a two-day visit to Mexico, Obama sought to draw attention to the emerging might of Latin America's No.2 economy, even as worries about containing drug-trafficking and related violence remained an inescapable subtext. The two leaders pledged to begin

holding cabinet level meetings focused on boosting business between the two countries and to expand educational changes. The first high-level meeting is set for the fall.

The US president pledged support for Pena Nieto's new policy of restricting contacts with the United States on drugs and drug-related violence to a single point, Mexico's Ministry of the Interior.

He acknowledged that the United States can play a role with its own domestic policies. "We look forward to continuing our good co-operation in any way," he said. "I also reaffirmed our determination in the United States to meet our responsibilities to reduce the demand for illegal drugs and to combat the southbound flow of illegal guns and cash."

Mexico's new "single-door" policy would be an abrupt change from the wide latitude the US government enjoyed in working with Mexican officials across



US President Barack Obama (3rd R) alights from Air Force One as he begins his visit to Mexico City on 2 May, 2013.—REUTERS

agencies under Pena Nieto's predecessor, Felipe Calderon.

The change has raised questions about Mexico's commitment to combating drug trafficking and drug-related violence.

Pena Nieto plans to shift the weight of combating organized crime from the military onto a new militarized police force, but has made few concrete changes so far, instead seeking to focus public attention on the

economy rather than violence.

The Mexican government has said that killings linked to organized crime fell 14 percent in the first four months of Pena Nieto's presidency, but 4,249 people still were killed during that period. More than 70,000 people are estimated to have been killed in drug violence in Mexico since 2007, and gang-style murders continue to provide lurid headlines.

Reuters

Japan requests cap on Panama Canal transit fees

PANAMA CITY, 4 May—Japan on Thursday requested that transit fees for the Panama Canal be capped as the waterway is of increasing importance to Japan as it imports natural gas from eastern and southern parts of the United States.

The request was communicated when Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida held talks with his Panamanian counterpart Fernando Nunez Fabrega and President Ricardo Martinelli in Panama on Thursday morning.

It is the first visit to Panama by a Japanese foreign minister. In the talks with the top Panamanian officials, Kishida conveyed the concerns of shipping companies about successive spikes in the transit fees and called for a dia-

logue with the shipping industry, according to a Japanese official.

Nunez was quoted as telling Kishida that it is very important to listen to what users of the canal have to say, suggesting a forward-looking stance about communicating with the shipping industry.

Kishida also said Japan has started a study on loans to finance a rail project Tokyo is hoping to sell to Panama in order to alleviate traffic jams in Panama City, the Japanese official said. He also urged Panama to place orders with Japanese businesses.

Martinelli reiterated the need for Japanese loans and said that if the rail system is built it will be a symbol of Japan's infrastructure projects in Latin America.

Kyodo News



Thai Customs officials display seized goods during a Press briefing at Thai Customs Department in Bangkok, capital of Thailand, on 3 May, 2013. Thai Customs seized more than five kilograms of ice worth 19 million Thai baht (about 650,000 US dollars) on Friday. Ice was concealed in baggage.—XINHUA

Death toll from Bangladesh building collapse passes 500

DHAKA, 4 May—The death toll from last week's collapse of an eight-story factory outside the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka rose to 507 on Friday, the authorities said.

Rescuers on Friday recovered 52 more bodies from the wreckage of Rana Plaza using heavy earth-

removing machines, the sources added.

"Most of the recovered bodies are badly decomposed and very difficult to identify," said one of the volunteers engaged in the rescue operation.

Earlier Friday, rescue team operation chief Maj

Gen Chowdhury Hasan Sarwardi said that the bodies which were recovered on Friday have been sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue.

He also mentioned that so far 2,437 people have been rescued alive from the debris of the building in Savar, 30 kilometers north

of the capital.

It remains unknown exactly how many people were at their workplaces at the time of collapse, but according to local people more than 3,000 people had come to work when the building collapsed on 24 April.

Kyodo News

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Solar-powered plane takes off for flight across US

SAN FRANCISCO, 4 May—solar-powered airplane that developers hope to eventually pilot around the world took off early on Friday from San Francisco Bay on the first leg of an attempt to fly across the United States with no fuel but the sun's energy.

The plane, dubbed the Solar Impulse, departed shortly after 6 am local time from Moffett Field, a joint civil-military airport near the south end of San Francisco, heading first to Phoenix on a slow-speed flight expected to take 15 to 20 hours.

The spindly looking plane barely hummed as it took flight in the still northern California morning as the sun was just beginning to peek out over the Santa Cruz Mountains to the east.

After additional stops in Dallas, St Louis and Washington, DC, with pauses at each destination to wait for favorable weather, the flight team hopes to conclude the plane's cross-



The Solar Impulse aircraft takes off from Moffett Field to begin the first leg of its 2013 Across America Mission in Mountain View, California on 3 May, 2013.

REUTERS

country voyage in about two months at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York.

Swiss pilots and co-founders of the project, Bertrand Piccard and Andre Borschberg, will take turns flying the plane, built with a single-seat cockpit, with Piccard at the controls for the first flight to Arizona. He is tentatively scheduled to land in Phoenix at 1 am local time on Saturday.

The project began in 2003 with a 10-year budget of 90 million euros (\$112 million) and has involved engineers from Swiss escalator maker Schindler and research aid from Belgian chemicals group Solvay - backers who want to test new materials and technologies while also gaining brand recognition.

The aircraft runs on about the same power as a motor scooter, propelled

by energy collected from 12,000 solar cells built into the wings that simultaneously recharge batteries with a storage capacity equivalent to a Tesla electric car.

In that way, the Solar Impulse can fly after dark on solar energy generated during daylight hours, and will become the first solar-powered aircraft capable of operating day and night without fuel to attempt a US coast-to-coast flight.

But the plane, which from a distance resembles a giant floating insect in the sky, is unlikely to set any speed or altitude records. It can climb gradually to 28,000 feet and flies at an average pace of just 43 miles per hour (69 km per hour).

The current plane was designed for flights of up to 24 hours at a time, but the next model will have to allow for up to five days and five nights of flying by one pilot - a feat not yet accomplished.—Reuters

BlackBerry devices approved for use on Department of Defence

NEW YORK, 4 May—BlackBerry said Department of Defence (DoD) has approved its new line of devices powered by the revamped BlackBerry 10 operating system to be used on DoD networks.

The approval allows all Department of Defence customers to use the BlackBerry Z10 and Q10 smartphones, and BlackBerry PlayBook tablets on DoD networks.

This comes after a Pentagon spokesperson said on

Wednesday that the Pentagon is expected to clear Apple Inc, Samsung and BlackBerry mobile devices for use on Defence Department networks in the next few weeks.

The Pentagon unveiled a plan in February aimed at giving the military services a much broader range of choices among mobile devices. The department has 470,000 BlackBerry users, 41,000 Apple users and 8,700 people with Android devices.—Reuters



A new BlackBerry Z10 smartphone is displayed at a store in New York, March 22, 2013.

REUTERS

Astronomers see “shockingly bright” gamma-ray burst

WASHINGTON, 4 May—Astronomers have witnessed a record-setting blast of gamma rays from a dying star in a distant galaxy that produced the highest-energy light ever detected from such an event.

The eruption, which is classified as a gamma-ray burst (GRB), and designated GRB 130427A, occurred just after 3:47 am EDT (0747GMT) on April 27, U.S. space agency NASA said in a statement on Friday.

NASA's Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope recorded one gamma ray with an energy of at least 94 billion electron volts (GeV), or some 35 billion times the energy of visible light, and about three times greater than the telescope's previous record.

The GeV emission from the burst lasted for hours,

and it remained detectable by the telescope for the better part of a day, setting a new record for the longest gamma-ray emission from a GRB. The burst subsequently was detected in optical, infrared and radio wavelengths by ground-based observatories. Astronomers quickly learned that the GRB was located about 3.6 billion light-years away, which for these events is relatively close.

“We have waited a long time for a gamma-ray burst this shockingly, eye-wateringly bright,” said Julie McEnery, project scientist for the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. “The GRB lasted so long that a record number of telescopes on the ground were able to catch it while space-based observations were still ongoing.”

Gamma-ray bursts are the universe's most luminous explosions. Astronomers think most occur when massive stars run out of nuclear fuel and collapse under their own weight. As the core collapses into a black hole, jets of material shoot outward at nearly the speed of light.

The jets bore all the way through the collapsing star and continue into space, where they interact with gas previously shed by the star and generate bright afterglows that fade with time.

If the GRB is near enough, astronomers usually discover a supernova at the site a week or so after the outburst. Ground-based observatories are monitoring the location of GRB 130427A and expect to find an underlying supernova by midmonth.—Xinhua

LG Electronics begins sales of world's 1st curved OLED TV

SEOUL, 4 May—South Korea's consumer electronics giant LG Electronics said Monday that it began sales of curved organic light-emitting diode (OLED) TV for the first time in the global industry.

LG began accepting pre-orders for its 55-inch Curved OLED TV in South Korea through more than 1,400 retail stores of the company, with deliveries to start next month, according to an e-mailed statement.

The premium TV, priced at 15 million won (around 13,500 US dollars), would give LG a significant lead in the OLED segment that was expected to grow to 7 million units by 2016, the company said.

“Our Curved OLED TV is not only the proof of LG's unmatched leadership in next-generation displays but also a testament to LG's commitment to bringing to market the most exciting TV technology available today,”

said Havis Kwon, chief executive of LG's home entertainment division.

After spending more than five years on research for the optimum curvature, LG developed the industry's very first curved screen that is equidistant from the viewer's eyes. The technology eliminated the problem of screen-edge visual distortion and loss of detail, the company said.

Xinhua

New species of meat-eating dinosaur found in China

WASHINGTON, 4 May—Biologists said on Friday they have discovered the fossil remains of a baby dinosaur in China that represents a new species of small theropod, or meat-eating dinosaur.

Named Aorun zhaoi after the Dragon King in the Chinese epic tale Journey to the West, the youngster lived more than 161 million years ago, in the earliest part of the Late Jurassic Period.

Its small, numerous teeth suggest that it would have eaten prey like lizards

and small relatives of today's mammals and crocodilians.

In a research paper published in *the Journal of Systematic Paleontology*, researchers explained that they were able to recover the skull, mandible and partial skeleton of the dinosaur in 2006, in a remote region of Xinjiang in China. It measured just one meter long and weighed about 3 pounds, or about 1.3 kilograms.

“All that was exposed on the surface was a bit of the leg,” said Professor

James Clark at the George Washington University in a statement. “We were pleasantly surprised to find a skull buried in the rock too.”

Microscopic details of Aorun's bones showed that the animal was less than a year old when it died on the banks of a stream, the researchers said.

This is the fifth new theropod discovered at the Wucuiwan locality by the team, co-led by Clark and Xu Xing of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Xinhua



British photographer Dale Morris spent time with the charismatic primates sifaka lemur during a visit to Madagascar, the African Island, and captured the curious creatures in action. — XINHUA

BUSINESS & HEALTH

JPMorgan CEO Dimon to meet with OCC examiners

NEW YORK, 4 May—JPMorgan Chase & Co (JPM.N) CEO Jamie Dimon is scheduled to meet next week with bank examiners from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency in a meeting the bank requested, *the Wall Street Journal* reported on Friday.

According to the Journal, the meeting provides a rare opportunity for more junior examiners to talk

to Dimon and will be held in the style of a town hall meeting.

A spokesman for JPMorgan declined to comment.

The meeting comes as JPMorgan faces a host of regulatory woes including potential market manipulation charges and continuing scrutiny by federal investigators over the events leading up to its \$6.2 billion trading loss last year.

Dimon, meanwhile, is dealing with calls from shareholders to relinquish his role as chairman of the bank's board.

Analysts were speculating on Friday the regulator of US power markets was likely to pursue manipulation charges against JPMorgan after *the New York Times* described a 70-page report by the regulator, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,

detailing how the bank transformed "money-losing power plants into powerful profit centers.

The OCC is also expected to issue a cease-and-desist order against the bank for failing to conduct adequate due diligence on Bernard Madoff. According to a source familiar with the matter, the order will require JPMorgan to improve its anti-money laundering controls.—Reuters



JPMorgan Chase & Co CEO Jamie Dimon speaks about the state of the global economy at a forum hosted by the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) in Washington on 10 October, 2012.—REUTERS

Berkshire profit rises 51 percent, shares at record high



Berkshire Hathaway CEO Warren Buffett attends the Allen & Co Media Conference in Sun Valley, Idaho on 12 July, 2012.—REUTERS

OMAHA, 4 May—Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc on Friday said quarterly profit rose nearly 51 percent on a solid performance in insurance and by many of its other businesses, as well as gains from investments and derivatives.

The results topped expectations and were released after Berkshire shares closed at a record high.

Berkshire's more than

80 businesses are benefiting from a strengthening economy, as illustrated by increased traffic on its Burlington Northern railroad unit, new customers for its McLane food distribution business, and stepped-up demand for its Forest River recreational vehicles, to name just a few.

Profit from insurance operations, including the Geico car insurance unit and

a business that provides protection against major catastrophes, roughly doubled.

"The happy fact right now is that the growth areas in the economy are right in Berkshire's wheelhouse," said Jeff Matthews, founder of the RAM Partners LP hedge fund and author of "Pilgrimage to Warren Buffett's Omaha."

Berkshire released its results a day before Buffett and Berkshire Vice Chairman Charlie Munger will field five hours of shareholder questions at the company's annual meeting in its hometown of Omaha, Nebraska.

Net income increased to \$4.89 billion, or \$2,977 per Class A share, from \$3.25 billion, or \$1,966 per share, a year earlier.

Quarterly operating profit rose 42 percent to \$3.78 billion, or \$2,302 per share, from \$2.67 billion, or \$1,615 per share.

Reuters

Most women back over-the-counter birth control pill

NEW YORK, 4 May—Close to two-thirds of women favour making contraceptive pills available over the counter, according to a new nationally-representative survey.

In addition, about 30 percent of women using either no birth control or a less effective method — such as condoms — said they would likely take the Pill if it was sold without a prescription, researchers found.



An illustration picture shows a woman holding a birth control pill at her home in Nice on 3 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

"Of course it's a hypothetical question, and it remains to be seen how this would play out in reality," said Dr Daniel Grossman, from the University of California, San Francisco and the nonprofit Ibis Reproductive Health, who led the new study.

But the finding "gives us some indication that making the Pill over the counter could help improve use of more effective contraception and help women use the method they'd like to use," Grossman told *Reuters Health*.

It could also potentially reduce unplanned pregnancies, he noted.

"There's mounting evidence that this is safe, this is effective and women really want it."

The results come amid news on Wednesday that the US Food and Drug Administration is appealing a court order directing the agency to make the "morn-

ing after" emergency contraceptive Plan B available over the counter to women of any age.

Late last year, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists published a statement recommending that birth control pills be available over the counter.

For the new study, researchers surveyed just over 2,000 women aged 18 to 44 about their attitudes toward over-the-counter access to the Pill. None of those women was pregnant or trying to become pregnant, and all had been sexually active with men in the past year.

About 31 percent of participants each said they were "strongly" or "somewhat" in favour of women being able to buy birth control pills without a prescription, according to findings published in the journal *Contraception*.

Reuters

Supplement builds strength in fibromyalgia trial

NEW YORK, 4 May—Creatine, a supplement favoured by bodybuilders, modestly boosted muscle strength in patients with fibromyalgia, Brazilian researchers report.

Apart from helping with muscle weakness, though, the treatment had little effect on other symptoms of the mysterious disorder, such as chronic pain, fatigue, memory loss, depression, anxiety and sleeplessness.

"The improvements in muscle function did not reflect improvements in general symptoms as we hypothesized," said senior study author Bruno Gualano, a professor at the University of São Paulo School of Physical Education and Sports in Brazil.

As many as one in 50 Americans suffers from fibromyalgia, according to

the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. The condition typically strikes in middle age, affects women more often than men and is thought to be triggered by stress.

Current treatments for fibromyalgia symptoms include three FDA-approved drugs — antidepressants Savella and Cymbalta, plus the nerve-pain medication Lyrica — along with anti-epileptic drugs and sedatives. Experts noted, however, that the drugs are not very effective and come with many side effects.

Non-drug treatments for fibromyalgia include exercise, massage and meditation.

Previous research has found that brain and muscle tissues in fibromyalgia patients have reduced levels of creatine — a chemical critical to cells' ability

to generate energy - which might explain the weakness and neurological symptoms, Gualano and his colleagues note in the journal *Arthritis Care & Research*.

One study found that creatine supplements improved general fibromyalgia symptoms, but the research was not rigorously done, which made the results difficult to interpret.

So Gualano's team conducted a 16-week double-blind, randomized, controlled trial, the gold standard for medical research, in which fibromyalgia patients daily consumed either creatine (15 patients) or placebo pills (13 patients).

Neither the trial staff nor the patients knew who was getting the real supplement, or even what substance the supplement was supposed to be, until after the study period was com-

plete.

At that point, the creatine-supplemented group showed modest strength improvements when tested on leg presses (10 percent improvement) and chest presses (8 percent improvement).

But, participants were also surveyed on an array of other symptoms, including their pain levels, moods and sleep, and those in the supplement group didn't report any changes in overall quality of life.

"It was a well-done study, but not very exciting," said Dr Don Goldenberg, rheumatology chief at Newton-Wellesley Hospital in Boston, who was not involved in the study.

Most researchers consider fibromyalgia a disease of the nervous rather than muscle system, Goldenberg said.—Reuters

Urologists echo call for discussion before PSA test

NEW YORK, 4 May—Urologists fell in line with other doctor groups on Friday in recommending careful consideration and discussion when it comes to screening for prostate cancer, rather than a gungho approach.

At its annual meeting in San Diego, California, the American Urological Association (AUA) recommended against screening average-risk men under age 55 or any man over 70 using prostate-specific antigen, or PSA, blood tests.

A year ago, the US Preventive Services Task Force, a government-backed panel, created controversy by recommending against prostate cancer screening for average-risk men of all ages.

Since then, other professional organizations

have taken a skeptical but less decisive view toward PSA testing.

Last month, for example, the American College of Physicians said that for men in their 50s and 60s, doctors should base screening decisions on the patient's risk for prostate cancer, his general health and preferences and on a discussion of screening's potential benefits and harms.

Evidence suggests that screening with PSA tests is tied to a small reduction in deaths — about one per 1,000 men screened over a decade, the AUA reported.

But some results are also false-positives and spur unnecessary further testing and treatment, which can leave men impotent and incontinent.

Reuters

WORLD

Israel has conducted airstrike in Syria

WASHINGTON, 4 May — Israel has conducted an airstrike in Syria, apparently targeting a building, a US official said on Friday. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, declined to elaborate. CNN quoted two unnamed US officials as saying Israel most likely conducted the strike “in the Thursday-Friday time frame” and that Israel’s warplanes did not enter Syrian airspace.

CNN said the officials did not believe Israel had targeted a chemical weapons facility. CBS News cited US sources as saying Israel targeted a warehouse.

There was no official confirmation. Syrian UN Ambassador Bashar Ja’afari told *Reuters*, “I’m not aware of any attack right now.” A White House spokeswoman referred questions on the CNN report to the Israeli government. The Pentagon declined comment.

In Jerusalem, an Israeli military spokeswoman said, “We do not comment on reports of this kind.” A spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Washington said, “We cannot comment on these reports, but what we can say is that Israel is determined to prevent the transfer of chemical weapons

or other game-changing weaponry by the Syrian regime to terrorists, especially to Hezbollah in Lebanon.” Hezbollah fought a 34-day war with Israel in 2006.

The CNN report said that during the time frame of the attack, the United States had collected information showing Israeli warplanes overflying Lebanon. In January this year, Israel bombed a convoy in Syria, apparently hitting weapons destined for Hezbollah, according to diplomats, Syrian rebels and security sources in the region.

Reuters

Dozens dead as Assad’s forces storm coastal village



Smoke rises after what activists said was shelling by forces loyal to Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad in Homs on 29 April, 2013. Picture taken on 29 April, 2013. — REUTERS

BEIRUT, 4 May — State forces and militias loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad stormed the coastal village of Baida on Thursday, killing at least 50 people including women and children, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. The pro-opposition monitoring group said the final death toll was likely to exceed 100. Many of those killed appeared to have been executed by shooting or stabbing, it said, and other bodies were found burned.

Activist reports on the killings could not be independently verified as the Syrian government restricts access for independent media. Hours earlier, rebels had attacked a busload of pro-Assad militiamen, known as shabbiha, killing at least six and wounding 20. In response, government forces and shabbiha surrounded Baida and nearby Maqreb, near the city of Baniyas, and pummeled them with mortar fire before raiding Baida.

Assad’s forces have mounted a string of attacks reaching from the capital Damascus and the central city of Homs out to the

Mediterranean coast, homeland of the Alawite minority sect to which Assad himself belongs. The two-year uprising against four decades of Assad family rule has been led by Syria’s Sunni Muslim majority, and sectarian clashes and alleged massacres have become increasingly common in a conflict that has killed more than 70,000 people.

Reuters



This combined photo shows blooming peach blossoms in Pinggu District, on the outskirts of Beijing, capital of China, on 3 May, 2013. Pinggu is one of the biggest fruit producing areas of the capital and specializes in growing peaches of over 40 varieties. — XINHUA

Hamass rebuffs Arabs for softening Israeli-Palestinian peace plan

GAZA, 4 May — Islam-ist Hamas’s leader in the Gaza Strip on Friday rejected a revised Middle East peace initiative put forward by the Arab League, saying outsiders could not decide the fate of the Palestinians. In meetings this week in Washington, Arab states appeared to soften their 2002 peace plan, acknowledging that Israelis and Palestinians may have to swap land in any eventual peace deal.

The United States and the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank praised

the move. But speaking to hundreds of worshippers in a Gaza mosque, senior Hamas official Ismail Haniyeh said it was a concession that other Arabs were not authorized to make. “The so-called new Arab initiative is rejected by our people, by our nation and no one can accept it,” said Haniyeh, prime minister of the Hamas government in the coastal enclave. “The initiative contains numerous dangers to our people in the occupied land of 1967, 1948 and to our people in exile.”

He was referring to the partition of British-mandate Palestine in 1948 when the United Nations voted to divide the territory into a Jewish state and an Arab state, and to the 1967 war when Israel captured the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza.

Hamas refuses to recognize Israel’s right to exist and claims all the territory between the Mediterranean and the Jordan river as rightfully Palestinian. It never accepted the Arab plan which was first presented in 2002. — *Reuters*

EU to propose punitive duties on Chinese solar panels

BRUSSELS, 4 May — The EU’s trade chief will recommend placing punitive import duties on billions of euros of solar panels from China, people close to the matter say, in a protectionist move that risks upsetting Beijing.

The case, the biggest the Commission has

launched, is a delicate one for Brussels. Europe wants to protect its manufacturers such as Germany’s SolarWorld against cheap imports but also needs China, the EU’s second largest trading partner, to help the bloc emerge from recession.

Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht is expected to tell his fellow EU commissioners on Wednesday that Brussels should levy the tariffs to guard against Chinese production that quadrupled between 2009 and 2011 to more than the entire global demand.

EU producers say Chinese companies have captured more than 80 percent of the European market from almost zero a few years ago, prompting the European Commission to act against what it terms dumping. Europe accounted for about half of the global solar market last year, which was worth \$77 billion, according to research firm IHS.

“De Gucht is ready to go ahead,” said one person



Employees carry solar panels at a solar power plant in Aksu, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region on 18 May, 2012. — REUTERS

close to the decision-making. “The Commission has a very solid case.”

The Commission started an investigation in September when it judged there were grounds to take up a complaint by a group of mainly German and Italian companies.

They accuse China of subsidizing its producers with easy credit to push output to more than 20 times the level of Chinese consumption. De Gucht now believes there is clear evidence of dumping on the EU market, and follow-

Japan, Turkey agree on civil nuclear cooperation

ANKARA, 4 May — Japan and Turkey reached a civil nuclear cooperation agreement on Friday that will enable Japanese companies to export atomic power generation technology to the fast-growing nation.

The agreement was reached during Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s trip to Turkey, the last leg of a weeklong trip that also took him to Russia, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. On Thursday, Japan signed a nuclear cooperation pact with the United Arab Emirates, the first such accord signed by Tokyo since the Fukushima nuclear crisis triggered by the devastating March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

In Saudi Arabia, Abe agreed with Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud to commence working-level talks aimed at starting negotiations on a bilateral nuclear accord. The Japanese leader is eager to promote exports of Japanese nuclear power technology despite the Fukushima nuclear disaster as a way to boost the country’s economic growth.

Kyodo News

Reuters

LOCAL NEWS

MCDC focuses on development of Mandalay City, living standard of dwellers



MANDALAY, 4 May—The Advisory Group and Mandalay City Development Committee held a coordination meeting at the hall of the MCDC on 30 April morning.

In his speech, Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs Mandalay Mayor U Aung Moun said the MCDC had a purpose in similar with the advisory group for ensuring rapid development of Mandalay City, convenience of the dwellers meeting high living standard and fulfilling the requirements.

He added that better suggestions given by the advisory group would be implemented for the city.

Stimulant tablets seized in Bamauk

BAMAUK, 4 May—SIP Maung Zaw and party of Shwedaw Police Outpost, acting on tip off, searched suspected Po Zaw on the road to Yayauk gold mine from Naungyaw gold mine in Bamauk Township of Katha District in Sagaing Region at 1 pm on 28 April.

The policemen seized 0.01 gram of what appeared to be heroin kept in the bottle, 25 red brown stimulant tablets packed with blue colour plastic and one red colour gas lighter from the bag of Po Zaw.

Action was taken against the drug possessor under the law.

Myanma Alinn

Car accident hurts seven passengers

LOIKAW, 4 May—A car accident occurred in Lawja Village of Pruhsa Township in Loikaw District of Kayah State at 10.45 am on 29 April.

A vehicle driven by

The committee made field trips to the grassroots levels for serving the interest of the local people, he said.

Leader of the advisory group U Po Myint submitted suggestions on development of the city and future tasks.

Departmental officials also participated in the

discussions.

Also present at the meeting were the secretary and the joint-secretary of MCDC, members of MCDC, heads of department and officials in addition to members of the advisory group.

Myanma Alinn

Inter-village production roads emerge in Kyikha, Tiddim townships



KALAY, 4 May—With the aim of developing Chin State, Tin Win Tun Company has constructed 13 miles long Kyikha-MarOwam-Twimang road, six miles long Kyikha-Sawngzan road and eight miles long Kyikha-Hkweban road in line with

the guidance of the Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry.

Thanks to the roads, the local people have easy access from one place to another.

The roads linking MarOwam, Twimang, Sawngzan and Hkweban

villages become production roads for the local people to send their domestic goods to Kyikha.

In the previous years, production roads were built to link 16 villages of Tiddim Township so as to contribute much to development of the region.

Myanma Alinn

Ambulance donated to social association in Thabaung

THABAUNG, 4 May—Daw Thaung Nyunt (Myat Yadana Gold Shop) donated one Super Custom ambulance to Myat Myitta Social Organization at Mansi Monastery in Thabaung on 24 April morning.

It was attended by the Township Administrator, the commander of Township

Police Force, departmental personnel and members of social organizations.

The wellwisher handed over documents related to the ambulance worth K 7.2 million to Treasurer U Kyaw Lin of the association who returned a certificate of honour.

Myanma Alinn

Over 3000 Buddha images consecrated at Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 4 May—A ceremony to consecrate over 3000 Buddha images to be conveyed to Kayin State and Bago Region was held at Htitar Chamber on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda on 29 April morning.

Members of the Sangha consecrated Buddha images. Wellwisher U Myo Aung, chairman of Sein Sagaing Co, and congregation

received the Five Precepts from members of the Sangha and shared merits gained for donations.

The company has donated over 100,000 Buddha images to the remote areas including Kayin State and Bago Region for public obeisance from 14 regions and states.

The Buddha images are nine inches high, made of

various dried flowers that had been offered to Shwedagon Pagoda.

The company sets an aim to donate 512,128 Buddha images for the public obeisance of the whole nation.

Those wishing to accept the Buddha images may dial 09-49666666 of the chairman of the company.

Myanma Alinn

Newly-repaved asphalt road commissioned into service

MON STATE U Ohn Myint, state ministers, departmental officials, members of the temple board of trustees and local people totalling about 200.

Member of the board of trustees U Hla Thein reported to the Chief Minister on construction of the repaved

road. The Chief Minister and officials formally opened the road. Next, they opened the Hindu temple festival.

The asphalt road was constructed at a cost of K 40.2 million contributions by the people and members of the temple board of trustees.—*Myanma Alinn*

Plan underway to set up natural disaster preparedness system

PATHEIN, 4 May—A coordination meeting on establishment of natural disaster preparedness system was held at the hall of Ayeyawady Region Government in Pathein of Ayeyawady Region on 25 April afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Ayeyawady Region Minister for Social Affairs Daw Khin Saw Mu,

departmental officials and responsible persons of Japan International Cooperation Agency.

They focused on selection of one model village for establishment of the natural disaster preparedness system and dissemination of the knowledge and experience to other rural areas.

Myanma Alinn

Saplings planted in Shwebo before rainy season

SHWEBO, 4 May—In commemoration of the May Day 2013, Shwebo District Arid Zone Greening Department, W.Com Computer Training

Shwebo Aungzayar Social Service Association grew saplings on both sides of the road leading to Shwebo Industrial Zone on 1 May.

They planted 150



People's Hospital to receive intensive care.

Action will be taken over the car accident.

Myanma Alinn

Centre, Hnaung Thit Youth Group, Shwebo Greening Tree Planting Group, Youth Ahman Social Development Group and

saplings on that day.

They plan to cultivate more shade saplings fed with fertilizers.

Myanma Alinn

NATIONAL

Pakokku literary awards presented

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 5 May, 2013

Sustainable tax culture

If each and every citizen fail to pay their fair share of income and corporate taxes, construction of schools, hospitals, roads and bridges and services such as the provision of water, supply of electricity, removal of garbage or protection of riverbank erosion that the government is responsible for would come to a halt.

The place of taxation in the nation-building endeavors of a certain country can be described as irreplaceable. For a country with an abundance of natural resources, wealth from god-given resources can be used to fund its development initiatives. But many resource-rich countries are not offered such kind of unique opportunity. Taxation serves as a strong tool for ensuring economic growth and national prosperity.

Building an effective and sustainable tax culture requires each and every citizen, whether individual or corporate, to bear the responsibility of paying their taxes. Sustainable tax culture can be brought about by the full support of loyal taxpayers.

If all citizens pay their fair share of taxes for the services they get and the government and its departments concerned join hand with the public to rid the country of the thieves and fraudsters who steal from the public purse and from the poor, a strong and sustainable tax culture can be built.

It is required to heighten the public awareness of a sustainable tax culture that encourages citizens to embrace voluntary compliance and civic responsibility and guarantees them to question the government which failed in its responsibilities as a government to the people. When loyal taxpayers are confident that their contributions are being spent on urgent social works in a smarter way and equity and fairness, enforcement and incentive are central tenets of the government's tax system, it will become easier persuading them to pay taxes.

Tax evasion of opportunist taxpayers and embezzling of public funds by any government officials can be seriously detrimental to development of tax culture. So, punishments for defaulters and fraudsters should be enforced while incentives are to be offered and rewards given to top taxpayers. Hence, to build a tax culture that is sustainable, adoption of the approach which is on carrot of incentive for loyal taxpayers and stick of punishments for tax avoidance and public funds embezzlement is needed.



Presentation of Pakokku literary awards and outstanding student awards in progress.—MNA

YANGON, 4 May—Pakokku literary awards, outstanding student awards and library awards for 2012 were presented at Traders Hotel here this morning. The fund for presenting awards was raised by late U Ohn Pe, widely known by his pen name as Pakokku U Ohn Pe.

It was attended by Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Swe, Yangon region ministers and departmental heads

from Information Ministry, the chairman of Myanmar Writers Association, the chairman of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Committee, the chairman of Pakokku Literary Award Fund Supervisory Committee, award winners and guests.

Union Minister U Aung Kyi said the aim of the ceremony was to provide motivation to the awardees to continue distributing their knowledge to fellow citizens. Though the writers have different reason and background in pursuit of

one's career as a writer, they are not doing it for our own sake. Ultimately, the writers, share same sentiments by helping young generation in the creation of new knowledge and providing better understanding of existing knowledge. Benefits of their knowledge sharing will not end there. It will provide better society and help our nation as a whole in achieving its objectives of promoting knowledge society. He said writers possess the capacity to provide "power" to the

young generation.

U Ba Than (U Ba Than-MA) won life-time achievement literary award. Maung Cheint won first prize in collected short stories genre, Maung Maung Nan Nwe in research genre and Shi (Ingyin) library book award. Prizes were also given for novel and treatise genres.

Prizes were also given to outstanding students. A total of 63 donors donated K 6.3 million and a researcher 200 copies of a book named "I hand it down".

MNA

Respects paid to doyen literati in Insein Township



YANGON, 4 May—The respect paying ceremony to the doyen literati was held

at the hall of the Township Writers Association in the combine office in Insein

Brokerage opened in Seikpyu

SEIKPYU, 4 May—A ceremony to open the brokerage building was held in conjunction with

the prize presentation of onion cultivation contest in Seikpyu of Magway Region on 26 April.

A vehicle driving from Yangon to Insein drug-ging a lamp-post after hitting it in front of Myanma Economic Bank on Yangon-Insein Road at 11.30 pm on 3-5-2013.

KYEMON

At first, Township Administrator U Kyi Myint made a speech, and Head of District Trade Promotion Department U Than Oo explained trade procedure.

Chairman of the brokerage U Maung Maung Latt briefed them on rules and regulations and presented prizes to the winner farmers.

Myanma Alinn

on 28 April morning.

Altogether 17 doyen literati attended the ceremony.

Chairman of the Township Writers Association U Phone Wai (Director Phone Wai) and responsible persons paid respects to the doyen.

They then presented K 10,000 and gifts to the doyen literati U Than Oo (Pyi Soe Min), Maung Lin Yon (Shan Pyi), Tekkatho Zaw Min, Shein Aung Bo and Maung Kyi Thant gave words of advice.

Myanma Alinn

Opium seized from woman in Yamethin

YAMETHIN, 4 May—The local authorities searched a suspected woman who was walking near Yamethin Basic Education High School (Myoma) in the evening of 22 April and seized opium.

SIP Hla Tun Naing, Cpl Ye Aung Win, Zaw Oo and members of the surveillance squad of Yamethin Township, SIP

Chan Tun and member of Mandalay Anti-Drug Special Squad and local authorities, acting on tip-off, searched Ma Wan Ti Htaw (a) Ma Tin Aye, 47, on Yanaungmyin Road of Watoe Ward.

The authorities seized suspected opium oil 1633 grams, 65.52 grams of opium latex from Ma Tin Aye.—Myanma Alinn

3rd Khami National Day observed

PONNAGYUN, 4 May—The Khami National Day was observed in Samtikyeinchaung Village of Ponnagyun Township, Rakhine State, on 27 April morning.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi Aung and departmental officials offered meals to members of the Sangha and paid respects to 37 older persons in commemoration of the significant day.

Myanma Alinn

NATIONAL

Wellwishers join hands with government...

(from page 1)

At today's ceremony, donation of entrepreneurs, companies and ministries amounted to K 712.7659 million, and Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt, U Soe Thane, Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win, Region Chief Ministers U Ye Myint and U Phone Maw Shwe and Deputy Ministers U Thant Shin and U Pike Htwe accepted the cash donations.

At the ceremony, United Amara Bank Ltd donated K 150 million, Shwedaung Group of Companies K 100 million, U Ko Ko Gyi-Daw Moe Moe, Managing Director of Capital Diamond Star Co Ltd K 100 million, U Aung Moe Kyaw of Maha Meik Beer Co Ltd K 60 million, New Day Energy Co Ltd and U Aung Myat of Mother Trading & Construction K 50 million each, U Aung Kyaw Moe of Pyae Phyao Aung Co Ltd and U Zaw Win Shein of Victoria Hospital K 30 million, U

Aung Min, First Top Co Ltd and U Win Lwin-Daw Myat Myat Maw of Kyaw Thar Co Ltd K 25 million each, U San Lin, SSS Car Dealing and Dr Sai Sam Tun of Loi Hein Co Ltd K 10 million each, U Soe Nyi Nyi of Feel Family, Dr Maung Maung Aye-Daw Khin Mi Mi Hlaing of Moe Htet Gabar Co Ltd, U Zaw Win Oo-Daw Su Su Shwe family and U Sai Ko Ko Aung of Khit Thit Oo Co K 5 million, U Banyar Zaw of ZMH Universal Trading Co Ltd, U Mya Han of Fortune International Co Ltd and U Aung Soe Tha of Myanmar Combis Co Ltd K 3 million each, U Kyaw Lin of LOP Co Ltd, U Maung Maung and family (Chairman) Chu International Co Ltd, U Htin Lin Aung-Ma Htet Htet Aung, and U Min Lwin Aung of Theinga Yadana Co K 1 million each, U Kyaw Naing Soe-Daw Thin Thin Hset of Princess Amara Car Rental Service K 500,000, Ministry of Home Affairs K 12.5 million,

Ministry of Industry K 10 million, Ministry of Construction K 4 million, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation K 2.6659 million, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry K 2 million, Ministries of Border Affairs, President Office (3), Finance and Revenue and Rail Transportation, Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Electric Power



U Than Win Swe, CEO of United Amara Bank Ltd responds to questions.—MNA

K 1 million each, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Science and Technology K

300,000 each and Ministry of Communications and Information Technology K 500,000.

After the ceremony, U Win Lwin of Kyaw Thar Co Ltd explained the purpose of cash donation to supply safe water to the people. After that, interviews were made with officials and wellwishers.

U Ye Myint, Chief Minister of Mandalay Region

At present, we all are participating in the water supply tasks. We heartily welcome the donations. Now, it needs assistance for the water supply. So, the Union government is placing emphasis on supply of safe water in cooperation with the people. Thanks to wellwishers, the tasks will be accomplished ahead of the schedules. So, we can attend to the needs as quickly as possible.

In the previous year, we spent the fund on supply of water due to drought. Now, we are spending the fund on the similar tasks. With regard to next year's task, we will focus on supply of water, spending K 4.2 billion—K 2.6 billion on construction of dams and reservoirs and K 1.6 billion on sinking tube-wells. Now, the projects are ongoing. But, it is yet to be sufficient. Plans are underway to sink more tube-wells in the future.

U Kyaw Thu Aung, Deputy Director of Department of Progress of Rural Region

The department is undertaking rural water supply in 14 regions and states, six self-administered zones, totaling 20. In 2012-2013 fiscal year, the department implemented over 600 projects. In 2012-2013 FY, the department joined hands with JICA in water supply tasks, sinking 20 tube-wells. We had held the cash donation ceremonies

Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint replies to questions at the cash donation ceremony for supply of safe water to people from dry regions.

MNA



20 times. This year, the people suffered from climate change and shortage of water across the nation. The department joined hands with the international organizations for water supply tasks. We invited wellwishers for waterworks. The 21st cash donation of wellwishers was purposed for seeking contributions of wellwishers so as to supply safe water to the needy places.

Wellwishers may donate cash to the funds for water supply by dialing 067-409211 of Director-General U Soe Ko Ko of Department of Progress of Rural Region, 067-409357 of Deputy Director-General U Myint Oo and 067-409407 of Water Supply and Sanitation Branch of the department. The wellwishers may express date for donation, type of donation and amount of money. We heartily welcome the wellwishers.

U Than Win Shwe, Chief Executive Officer, United Amara Bank Ltd

We set two aims based on religious and social outlooks. With regard to the religious outlook, water is most important. We are pleased with donation to

supply safe water to the needy places. Our banks will make more donations for the similar activities.

U Tun Yin, Director of Capital Diamond Star Co Ltd

As we are residing in the water-sufficient places, we make donations as much as possible for the people from water shortage regions. Now, we join the activity of cash donation ceremony organized by ministries concerned. We have heartily felt happy for donations to supply safe water in our bit to the water shortage areas.

In the future, we will make more donations as much as possible to rural regions, less developed areas, water shortage places and natural disaster-hit areas.

Daw Yi Mon Soe Win, Director of SSS Automobile Assembling Industry

Some people are suffering from shortage of water due to climate change. We are pleasure for donations to the supply of water to those people. We will donate more cash and kind at the similar programmes. Especially, we felt happy for the donation ceremony to supply safe water to the regions with shortage of water.—MNA



Sinking of tube-well for tapping underground water in progress at dry region.—MNA

Flocks of globetrotters still visit Bagan in hot season

NYAUNGU, 4 May—As Anya region (dry region) is still hot in summer, flocks of tourists arrive there one after another, according to an officials of the Hotels and Tourism Services of NyaungU.

"The most arrival period of tourists in Bagan is from November to January yearly. In the previous year's tourism season, about 70,000 tourists arrived in Bagan," Assistant Manager U Myat Soe explained.

"Globetrotters visit Bagan from September to February. However, the visit of tourists in Bagan is the highest in cold season. In summer, some number of tourists still visits there. When they arrive in Myanmar, the globetrotters try to tour Bagan as their one of destinations. Their purpose to arrive in Myanmar is to pay visits to Bagan. Although this summer is in high temperature, they visit Bagan," said U Myat Soe.

Most of the tourists stay in Bagan to observe ancient pagodas. Tour agencies manage chartered vehicles for them. Some tourists visit Bagan by bicycle or pony cart. When they arrive in Bagan, the globetrotters enjoy scenic beauty of sunset in Bagan.

From the platform of Pyadthatgyi Pagoda, tourists can enjoy panoramic scenes of Bagan region. Scenic beauties of toddy palms and neem trees attract the tourists.—Myanma Alinn

A flock of globetrotters visiting Bagan, one of tourist destinations in central Myanmar.



LOCAL NEWS

Rice offered to Sangha to mark Fire Brigade Day in Chanayethazan



MANDALAY, 4 May—A 67th Anniversary Myanmar communal meal-offering Fire Brigade Day at ceremony was held to mark Eindawya fire service station

in Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay today.

Firefighters from five townships in Mandalay gathered to offer morning meal and offertories to members of the Sangha and shared merits gained. Firefighters together with local residents offered rice to a total of 130 monks.

Kyemon

Illegal beef seized in Ngathainggyoung

NGATHAINGGYOUNG, 4 May—Pieces of dried beef were seized in Ngathainggyoung Sub-township of Yekyi Township on 30 April.

Police on patrol seized Illegal dried beef from a

powered trailer with three persons on it on Paya Street in Shaehasung Ward. A total of 189 viss of dried beef were seized from the powered trailer and actions are being taken against the offenders.

Kyemon



Car fire in Bago Township

BAGO, 4 May—According to the news that a car was on fire on the Yangon-Bago road near Letpanwin Village in Bago Township yesterday, Head of Intagaw Police Station IP Kyaw Tin Oo and members rushed to the scene.

The UD Nissan car loaded with fiber sheets and steel frames slipped roadside. The fire was triggered by electric shocks from the car's head. The driver run away from the accident.

Head of Bago Township Fire Services Department U Than Myint and fire brigade members, head of Intagaw Police Station and members and local people put out the fire. The fire was under control in 40 minutes. There was no causality in the accident.

The accident totally damaged the head of the car, causing a loss of K 10 million. The police Station filed a lawsuit against the driver.

Kyemon



Strong winds hit Kyaukme

KYAUKME, 4 May—Strong winds and dissident rain with hailstones hit some regions in Kyaukme yesterday.

The disaster destroyed houses and lampposts and fell trees and caused power

cut.

Likewise, the villages in Kyaukme township were hit by strong winds on 2 May, destroying homes, schools and leaving some people homeless. Youth volunteers donated 100 CI sheets,

clothes and foodstuff to the victims.

Social organizations, political parties and authorities concerned are preparing to provide relief aids to them.

Kyemon

Concrete blocks put to ease traffic congestion

YANGON, 4 May—The increase in number of car ownership has resulted in serious traffic congestions on urban and main streets in Yangon.

Yangon City Development Committee (road/bridge division) in its attempt to ease traffic jam has been constructing overpasses and taking other

measures. One of its efforts was the concrete blocks put on centre of Laydauntkan Road to reduce the traffic congestion.

Kyemon



No traffic jam on Maha Bandoola Street

YANGON, 4 May—Authorities concerned are making constant efforts for reducing traffic jams in commercial hub Yangon. Roadside vendors on 25th Street and 26th Street on Maha Bandoola Street are systematically selling goods on platform. Thanks to it, there is no traffic jam there. Drivers thank officials concerned for it.—*Kyemon*

Tractor skill demonstrated

KATHA, 4 May—A tractor skill was demonstrated by members of Sugarcane Producers Association (Katha Zone) at the office of SPA headquartered in the residence of U Pho Thoun in Indrant Village in Katha Township of Katha District on 1 May.

It was attended by district/township departmental heads, farmers and enthusiasts.

A departmental official extended greetings and a marketing manager from Mahindara agricultural mechanized farming equipment (tractor) of Bandoola Co. Ltd., explained quality of tractors and accessories. The operators demonstrated

tractor skill to sugarcane farmers and officials from that Co., responded to the questions raised by the farmers.—*Kyemon*

High yield paddy harvested in Nattalin Township

NATTALIN, 4 May—A ceremony to harvest summer high yield Palethwe and Yadanatoo paddy strains was held on the model plot of farmer U Myo Nyunt Lwin in Tagundaing Village of Nattalin Township, Thayawady District, Bago Region, yesterday morning.

The model plot produced 160 baskets of



Palethwe paddy in dry status and 110 baskets of Yadanatoo paddy.

The harvesting ceremony was attended by Township Administrator

U Zaw Lwin, Head of Township Agriculture Department U Myint Shwe, departmental personnel and local people.

Kyemon



REGIONAL

Gridlocked Jakarta launches subway project, 20 years late

JAKARTA, 4 May — Jakarta's popular new governor, who threatens to shake up Indonesian crony politics, has launched the first mass transit railway project to help end the gridlock that brings the capital to a near halt during rush hour. It is also the first major test of Joko Widodo, popularly known as Jokowi, who swept to office seven months ago with the promise to sweep away the corruption and inefficiency that has long been the hallmark of Indonesian politics and the way the world's 17th-largest city has been

run. The project, announced late on Thursday and which has been delayed for over two decades, would mark a rare bright spot in Indonesia's growing infrastructure bottleneck which threatens to throttle what have been record levels of investment in Southeast Asia's biggest economy.

"Jokowi has no choice but to build the MRT (Mass Rapid Transit railway) to satisfy the emerging middle class," said Marco Kusumawijaya, head of Rujak, a Jakarta-based urban planning think-tank. "But this will not solve the traffic

problems of the city in the long run because the backlog of demand for public transport here is so huge.

Reuters

Joko Widodo, 48, a former furniture salesman who was recently elected mayor of Jakarta takes part in a Batik carnival in Solo, Central Java on 28 June, 2009.
REUTERS



Philippines gov't promises to erase impunity culture in journalist-murder cases

MANILA, 4 May —The Philippine government said on Friday that it will work hard to remove the culture of impunity in journalist-murder cases after it remained as the third worst country in the world in the number of murdered journalists and unpunished killers. Philippine Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Herminio Coloma blamed the 2009 Maguindanao massacre for the "continuing stigma on the Philippines' culture of impunity."

According to Coloma, from 2001 to 2011, a total of 39 journalists were killed in the country. He said that in the Maguindanao massacre alone, which is considered as the worst election-related violence in the country, of the 58 dead in the incident, 31 of them were journalists. "We will resolutely pursue the prosecution of the Maguindanao massacre case as we are determined to erase the culture of impunity in our country," Coloma said.

The Committee to Protect Journalists, an independent international group, has ranked the Philippines third in its 2013 Impunity Index.

This was the fourth straight year that the country was among the top three, next to Iraq and Somalia.

The Philippines has a rating of 0.580 unsolved journalist murders per million inhabitants.—Xinhua

Indian's Singh to visit Japan in late May



Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

NEW DELHI, 4 May — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will travel to Japan on 27 May for a three-day official visit, Indian government sources said on Friday.

Speaking to *Kyodo News* in New Delhi, the sources said that Singh

would be accompanied by a high-level delegation including National Security Adviser Shiv Shankar Menon and Foreign Secretary Ranjan Mathai.

Among the issues that are likely to be discussed during Singh's meeting with the Japanese leadership would be civil nuclear energy, defence, countering global terror, natural disaster management, and infrastructure development. "All issues of bilateral concerns would be taken up during the meetings. The agenda is being drafted and will be formally announced soon," one of the sources said.

Singh's scheduled visit to Japan in November last year was postponed in the wake of "political develop-

ments" in the archipelago nation. During the visit, the Indian premier will also likely discuss with the Japanese leadership the possibilities and probabilities of introducing Japan's high-speed railway system to India.

Notably, India and Japan are fast emerging as allies in terms of countering China's growing assertiveness in Asia. Both India and Japan have border disputes pending with China, and accuse Beijing of intruding into their respective territories. On Thursday the two countries held a crucial meeting — the forth trilateral dialogue — with the United States in Washington.

Kyodo News

ASEAN-plus-3 boost economic ties amid discord in E Asia

GREATER NOIDA, (India), 4 May —The Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus Japan, China and South Korea agreed in India on Friday to enhance the region's financial cooperation, despite the absence of the finance ministers of China and South Korea. At the so-called ASEAN-plus-three meeting involving East Asia's three largest economies, the countries agreed to elevate the region's first economic and financial surveillance body to the status of an international organization, with the aim of strengthening the regional financial safety net.

With the decision at the ASEAN-plus-three meeting, the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office, or AMRO, will be raised to the same level as financial institutions such

as the Asian Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund. AMRO was established in April 2011 to oversee the operation of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization, a multilateral currency swap agreement launched in 2010. Amid heightened political tensions among the three East Asian nations, the Chinese and South Korean finance ministers as well as the governor of the People's Bank of China skipped the meeting, with vice finance ministers attending instead, according to government officials of the two countries.

The meeting on the sidelines of the ADB's two-day annual meeting starting on Saturday in India would have been the only opportunity for the finance and central bank chiefs of Japan, China and

South Korea to meet during the event, after a trilateral meeting was cancelled.

A South Korean finance ministry official told *Kyodo News* that the country's Finance Minister Hyun Oh Seok was absent as he was "busy" with domestic issues and Hyun was "disappointed" that he was not able to attend the meeting.

China's Finance Minister Lou Jiwei was not able to attend the gathering due to "a domestic meeting," according to a Chinese government official.

The Chinese vice finance minister, who attended the meeting instead, said at a press conference afterward that the absence of China's finance minister and central bank chief had nothing to do with diplomatic issues.

Kyodo News

Malaysia's general election remains a neck-and-neck race

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 May — Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak expressed confidence on Friday that his ruling coalition will be returned to power in Sunday's general election, while the opposition is equally confident of victory but concerned about the coalition resorting to dirty tricks to stay in power.

"I can report to you that the people still accept Barisan. Come on 5 May, Barisan will return to power in Putrajaya," Najib, 59, said in a campaign rally near Putrajaya, the federal administrative capital. Barisan is the Malay name for the 13-party National Front coalition that has ruled the country since independence in 1957. After two weeks of campaigning, the stress is beginning to show on Najib, who spoke with a hoarse voice. The stakes are high as this time, Barisan is facing a strong challenge from the opposition led by the

charismatic Anwar Ibrahim, 65.

A survey by independent pollster Merdeka Centre said both are "neck and neck in the race to the finishing line." Anwar has been widely credited with pulling together the ideologically disparate opposition into a united three-party alliance called Pakatan Rakyat, or the People's Alliance. The three parties are his own multi-racial People's Justice Party, the predominantly ethnic Chinese Democratic Action Party and the fundamentalist Pan Islamic Party.

Where previously the three parties used to battle each other alongside Barisan during the elections, in the last 2008 election, they teamed up to force a straight fight with Barisan and succeeded in breaking the psychological barrier that is Barisan's traditional two-thirds control of the federal parliament.

Kyodo News



Japan marks 66th anniversary of Constitution enforcement as Abe eyes change

TOKYO, 4 May —Japan on Friday marked the 66th anniversary of the pacifist Constitution coming into force, at a time when Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is determined to amend the country's supreme law. Abe, whose Cabinet has been riding high in opinion polls since its launch last December, is keen to rewrite the current war-renouncing Constitution and create stronger defence forces, much to the dismay of neighbouring China and South Korea that suffered Japan's wartime aggression.

The hawkish Prime Minister views the current Constitution as having been drafted under the strong influence of the United States during the postwar occupation of Japan. The Constitution has not been revised since it came into force in

1947. Abe, however, needs to clear a set of challenges, including gaining greater public support for revising Article 96 to make it easier to rewrite the Constitution, before eventually rewriting the war-renouncing Article 9. A *Kyodo News* survey late last month showed that 46.3 percent opposed Abe's push to ease the process for amending the Constitution, while 42.7 percent expressed support.

Abe is seeking to make revising Article 96 a key issue during the House of Councillors election in the summer. Article 96 states that any initiative to revise the Constitution must be backed by at least two-thirds of the members in each house of parliament, before an "affirmative vote of a majority of all votes cast" in a referendum.—Kyodo News

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1318)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1318) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.5.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Wind farms to lure back German lobsters decimated by WW2

BERLIN, 4 May—New wind farms off Germany's North Sea coast will provide an ideal habitat that could help restore the lobster population near Heligoland after British bombing during and after World War II drove them away.

Biologists at the Alfred-Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research are breeding 3,000 lobsters to be released next year into the Borkum Riffgat off-shore wind farm near the island 70 km off the German-Dutch coast.

The 1.5 square km island had a thriving fishing industry before it became a Nazi fortress in the war, pounded by Allied bombs, and then later used for target practice. It is now a tourist resort.

Billions of euros of investment in wind turbines as part of Germany's ambitious transition to renewable energy has given the scheme impetus. Lobsters, whose local population is 90 percent smaller than it was 70 years ago, need a

firm seabed to thrive.

"The new wind parks mean lobsters may settle in a new habitat, because the stony foundations offer a favorable environment," project leader Heinz-Dieter Franke said.

The 700,000 euro (\$923,500) scheme is funded by compensation paid to the state of Lower Saxony by utility EWE for any potential ecological damage caused by the construction of its wind park. The money will fund breeding, reintroduction and monitoring of the lobsters for roughly two years.

"With Germany's shift to renewables, we could have 5,000 wind farms by 2030, so if it works, this kind of project could have a huge effect on the lobster population," Franke said. He estimated that wind farms could help increase the lobster population to as many as 300,000 lobsters in the area around Heligoland in the long run from 50,000 to 100,000 now.

Reuters



A European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) is pictured in a breeding station at the Alfred-Wegener institute (AWI) on the German island of Heligoland, about 46 kilometres away from the German coastline, on 30 April, 2013.

REUTERS

Secular Turks see red over airline's lipstick ban

ISTANBUL, 4 May—Turkey's national airline has barred female flight attendants from wearing red lipstick and nail polish, striking a nerve among secular Turks worried the country is becoming more Islamic.

Turkish Airlines, Europe's fourth-biggest carrier, said the ban was aimed at keeping crews "artless and well-groomed with makeup in pastel tones", as a natural look improved communication with passengers.

"As a consequence of our current cabin uniforms not including red, dark pink, et cetera, the use of lipstick and nail polish in these colours by our cabin crew impairs visual integrity," the statement said.

Turkish Airlines declined a request for further comment. The guideline follows other restrictions on

employees' appearance and on serving alcohol.

Critics say they reflect the influence of the government's conservative religious values at the fast-growing state-run airline, one of Turkey's most recognized brands.

"This new guideline is totally down to Turkish Airlines management's desire to shape the company to fit its own political and ideological stance," Atalay Aycin, president of the airline's Hava-Is labor union, told Reuters.

"No one can deny that Turkey has become a more conservative, religious country." Turkey is 99 percent Muslim but the NATO state and European Union candidate has a secular constitution. Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan's ruling AK Party, which traces its roots to a banned Islamic party, has relaxed the



A Turkish Airlines plane prepares to take off at Ataturk International Airport in Istanbul on 30 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

state's control over the expression of religion, such as once-strict limits imposed on wearing the Islamic-style headscarf.

Such restrictions were aimed at reining in Islamism and improving women's rights, but effectively prevented many devout women from studying at university or taking gov-

ernment jobs. Turkish Airlines scrapped its own ban on the headscarf more than a year ago, and covered women now work at check-in counters and at other positions in the company, Aycin said. Other Turkish carriers also have guidelines on the appearance of cabin personnel.

Reuters

EC says Italy likely to exit deficit procedure

ROME, 4 May —The European Commission (EC) on Friday forecast Italy's budget deficit would be under the 3 percent limit set by the European Union, which facilitates the closure of a deficit-infraction procedure, though there were no signals of recovery. According to EC estimates, the Italian budget deficit will be 2.9 percent in 2013 and will continue to fall to 2.4 percent next year.

Economy Minister Fabrizio Saccomanni is expected to report to the EC in the next weeks enabling Italy to be cleared at a summit scheduled in the end of June. However, Italian GDP, which is experiencing its longest recession in 20 years, was expected to drop by 1.3 percent this year and 0.7 percent in 2014. National debt is projected to exceed the 130-percent threshold to reach 131.4 percent this year and 132.2 percent in 2014, according to the EC estimates.

Unemployment, especially among the youth, was also forecast to reach record heights of 11.8 percent this year and 12.2 percent in 2014. According to a recent study, suicides that can be linked to the economic crisis and unemployment in Italy have increased by 20 to 30 percent in the last four years. Earlier this week, newly-appointed Prime Minister Enrico Letta travelled to Berlin, Paris and Brussels to reassure European partners that his government would pursue economic recovery in the framework of budget consolidation.

His unprecedented left-right coalition, featuring politicians and institutional figures backing from across the political spectrum, will face the tough challenge of how to reduce debt without raising taxes and how to fund the ambitious reforms it has outlined. — Reuters



College students are seen during a job fair in Taiyuan, capital of north China's Shanxi Province, on 3 April, 2013. A job fair especially for the college students was held here one day prior to the China Youth Day, which falls on 4 May.

XINHUA

Guantanamo camp burns through \$900,000 a year per inmate

WASHINGTON, 4 May —It's been dubbed the most expensive prison on Earth and President Barack Obama cited the cost this week as one of many reasons to shut down the detention center at Guantanamo Bay, which burns through some \$900,000 per prisoner annually.

The Pentagon estimates it spends about \$150 million each year to operate the prison and military court system at the US Naval Base in Cuba, which was set up 11 years ago to house foreign terrorism suspects. With 166 inmates currently in custody, that amounts to an annual cost of \$903,614 per prisoner. By comparison, super-maximum security prisons in the United States spend about \$60,000 to \$70,000 at most to house their inmates,

analysts say. And the average cost across all federal prisons is about \$30,000, they say. The high cost was just one reason Obama cited when he returned this week to an unfulfilled promise to close the prison and said he would try again.

Obama also said that the prison, set up under his Republican predecessor George W Bush and long

the target of criticism by rights groups and foreign governments, is a stain on the reputation of the United States. "It's extremely inefficient," said Ken Gude, chief of staff and vice president at the liberal Center for American Progress think tank, who has followed developments at Guantanamo Bay since 2005."

Reuters



An unidentified prisoner reads a newspaper in a communal cellblock at Camp VI, a prison used to house detainees at Guantanamo Bay US Naval Base, on 5 March, 2013. — REUTERS

ENTERTAINMENT

Victoria Beckham plans UK store as juggles family and fashion

LONDON, 4 May—British fashion designer and former Spice Girl Victoria Beckham said life as a working mother is a struggle but she relishes the challenge and plans to expand her empire with a retail store in London.

As mother to three boys — Brooklyn, 14, Romeo, 10, and Cruz, 8 — and to 21-month-old daughter Harper, Beckham said balancing her family life and career was a constant juggle.

“The children are my priority and always have been and always will be so it’s a little bit of a juggling act,” she told the Vogue Festival at London’s Royal Festival Hall on Sunday.

“I really enjoy being a mum, I love my kids more than anything, but I love doing what I do as well and it’s just getting the balance right which is not easy, at all.”

With her second son Romeo appearing in the latest Burberry campaign and football star husband David Beckham fronting an underwear campaign for H&M, 39-year-old Beckham is busy.

But she said she was keen to build further on her success in fashion with plans to open her first retail store in London.

“This is where I want to have my first store ... I’d like to do something that is really new, really fresh. Something a little bit conceptual but not too much,” she said without giving any more details.

Beckham, who made her name as pop singer Posh Spice in the 1990s British all-girl band, entered into fashion in 2004 with American denim brand Rock and Republic, co-designing jeans, skirts and knitwear before launching her own line in 2006.

As a model she has also appeared in campaigns for designers Marc Jacobs and Dolce and Gabbana.

She introduced her Victoria Beckham collection of dresses in 2008 which was well received by the fashion industry and is now a regular fixture on the New York Fashion Week circuit.

Beckham, whose designs are worn by actresses Gwyneth Paltrow, Anne Hathaway as well as singer Beyonce Knowles, said she wanted women to be empowered and confident in her clothes.

“A lot of thought goes into everything I design to make a women feel the best that she can feel,” she said.

“Women are always going to feel a little bit insecure. There is a lot of pressure on women to look a certain way and I want to help women feel good about themselves.”

Beckham’s comments on body image came ahead of a debate on body size at the festival where models Daisy Lowe and David Gandy shared their experiences of working in fashion.

Earlier this month British Vogue magazine signed a 10-point agreement with trade union Equity to ensure that models will not work more than 10 hours a day and to ensure their working conditions in a studio or on location are healthy.

This comes as part of a wider initiative by the fashion industry to encourage a healthier approach to body image.

In February, the Council of Fashion Designers of America issued new guidelines at New York Fashion Week to stop the use of underage and underweight models from walking the runways.

Reuters

Designer and former Spice Girl Victoria Beckham



Reese Witherspoon says it's important for successful women to be confident

LONDON, 4 May—The 37-year-old actress — who was arrested for disorderly conduct earlier this month after drunkenly asking police if they knew who she was when they stopped her husband Jim Toth for driving under the influence (DUI) — believes there is still a tendency for high-achieving females to be too modest when they should be proud of their accomplishments.

She said: “As women, we shrug and smile and say, ‘Oh ... me?’ Because it makes it socially acceptable for us to be successful. But there is a balance between being an arrogant jerk and being someone who is proud of their accomplishments. We need to let successful women show off and support them. Because men don’t spend any time putting themselves down. They don’t waste their breath.”

“You have to be the best version of yourself and, if that means you have to be a bit self-promoting, then it’s OK. It really is. Because who’s going to believe in you more than yourself? Other than, maybe, your mother.”

The Mud actress also

admitted her memory has suffered since she gave birth to son Tennessee, her first child with Jim, six months ago.

Reese — who also has daughter Ava, 13, and son Deacon, nine, from her marriage to Ryan Phillippe — added in an interview with the new issue of Red magazine: “Ever since I had the baby, I can’t remember anything. Serious, this child stole my brain.”

“I’m losing friendships over forgetting to get back to people. But you can’t keep up with everything. I’ve got a 13 year old, a nine year old and a baby.”

“It’s like CNN ticker tape running through my mind at all times, ‘Where is Ava? She’s OK. Good. Where is Deacon? He’s OK. Good. Where is Tennessee? Is he OK? Yes. Great. Back to Ava...’ It doesn’t stop.”—PTI

“You have to be the best version of yourself,” says Reese.



Kristen Stewart named world's best dressed woman

LOS ANGELES, 4 May—Kristen Stewart has been named the world’s best dressed woman.

The 23-year-old actress has beaten Emma Watson and the Duchess of Cambridge to the title for the second year in a row in an annual poll by Britain’s *Glamour* magazine. The *Twilight* star was praised for her “personal rock-chick style” and daring red carpet looks, despite regularly sporting scruffy off-duty clothes.

Kristen has joked in the past: “I go outside, and I’m wearing a funky T-shirt

and my hair is dirty, and people say, ‘What’s wrong with her? She needs to invest in a hairbrush’.”

Harry Potter actress Emma, 23, held on to second place once again. The starlet has made a name for herself in recent years by ditching her schoolgirl persona and embracing a pixie crop and adventurous evening dresses. It comes as no surprise the Duchess of Cambridge rounded out the top three, gaining one place from last year. The royal beauty is admired worldwide for her sophisticated

and demure outfit choices, and has an unprecedented power to sell out high street garments. The *Amazing Spider-Man* star Emma Stone and country singer Taylor Swift placed fourth and fifth respectively, with Keira Knightley, Kate Moss and Duchess Catherine’s sister Pippa Middleton all ranking in the top 50. The style victory for Kristen is a welcome change after the actress was voted second most hated celebrity in *Star* magazine’s annual poll last month, with Gwyneth Paltrow narrowly beating her to the crown.

PTI



Kristen Stewart won the title for the second year in a row

SPORTS

Bullish Distin eyes Anfield win to soothe derby wounds

LONDON, 4 May—Everton's Sylvain Distin mocked Liverpool fans on Friday for "begging for a mistake" from the defender in this weekend's Premier League Merseyside derby.

Distin made a costly error in last season's FA Cup semi-final between the teams, under-hitting a backpass that allowed Luis Suarez to level the scores before Andy Carroll netted the winner to send Liverpool through.

The centre back admits he endured a "tough few weeks" after that during which he questioned his future in the game.

A year on, however, he is in a bullish mood.

Newcastle United's Papiss Cisse (R) challenges Everton's Sylvain Distin during their English Premier League soccer match in Newcastle, northern England on 2 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

"My red followers been very quiet this season. I wonder why. Now they beg me for a mistake to make them feel better. I'm feeling sad for them," Distin said on Twitter.

Everton sit five points

clear of Liverpool in the Premier



1937. While last April's defeat left Distin with a few mental scars, he says he prefers to use it as a motivation heading into Sunday's game.

"It's strange because when people ask me for my highlight of last season I often mention the semi-final," he said on the club website (www.evertonfc.com).

"Some people don't understand why I'd say that but I learned a lot about myself and my team mates, the

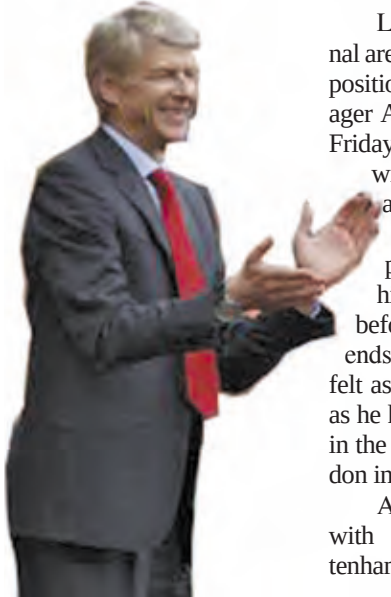
staff here and the fans. You see what people really feel. Also you learn a lot about yourself.

"Things like that will happen to a player during their career; big game, big mistake. I came out strong-

League and victory at Anfield on Sunday would maintain their hopes of European football next season.

It will also guarantee that they finish above their rivals for successive seasons for the first time since

Arsenal's future is looking bright says Wenger



Arsenal's manager Arsene Wenger reacts during the English Premier League soccer match against Manchester United at Emirates Stadium in north London 28 April, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 4 May—Arsenal are in a "very, very strong position for the future", manager Arsene Wenger said on Friday as an eighth season without a trophy reaches a nervy conclusion.

Wenger also played down any talk of him leaving the Gunners before his current contract ends next year and said he felt as committed to Arsenal as he has done since arriving in the red half of North London in 1996.

Arsenal are in a fight with their arch-rivals Tottenham Hotspur and Chel-

sea for the two remaining Champions League places for next season as they seek to compete in the elite European competition for a 16th successive season.

They are currently fourth in the Premier League, two points above Tottenham and one behind Chelsea, and could consolidate their position on Saturday when they make the short trip across London to already-relegated Queens Park Rangers.

Spurs are at home to Southampton on Saturday while Chelsea travel to newly-crowned champions Manchester United on Sunday.

Talking to reporters at the club's London Colney training base in Hertford-

er.

"It wasn't easy. I had a tough few weeks with all sorts of thoughts going through my mind - even should I stop football? It went that far. But I came out stronger and that's the most important thing."

Liverpool, who come into the game unbeaten in their last five and on a high after crushing Newcastle United 6-0, have not lost to Everton at home in 14 years.

Their manager Brendan Rodgers, who will take charge of his first Merseyside derby at Anfield, played down the significance of overhauling their rivals in the table.

"It's very important to finish as high as we possibly can. Traditionally, over many years Liverpool have been the top team here in the city, there's no question about that," he told reporters.

"Last year Everton finished above ourselves, but for us this year it's really about finishing as high as we possibly can."—Reuters

shire, Wenger said: "We have gone through a period that was very sensitive, we are coming out of it now and everything is here to have a great future. "We have a good fan base, we now have a strong financial situation, we have good young players and a squad with a bright future with the quality of the young players we have."

"It is just to manage it well now." Wenger has been under some pressure during the past two seasons with Arsenal failing to mount a realistic title challenge and falling short of adding to the three Premier League titles or four FA Cups that he won between 1996 and 2005.

Reuters

No decision on my future yet, says Jose Mourinho

MADRID, 4 May—Real Madrid manager Jose Mourinho has still not made up his mind about his future and will only do so once the season has finished, he said on Friday.

"I have not taken any decision on whether I am going or not," said the Portuguese at a press conference ahead of Real's home clash with Valladolid on Saturday.

"I can confirm that there are still five matches left in the league and a Cup final to play and, after those games, I will sit down with the president and (the director general) Jose Angel (Sanchez) and we will speak about my future."

Mourinho had dropped a major hint as to his future in the immediate aftermath of Tuesday's Champions

League semi-final exit at the hands of Borussia Dortmund when he complained of being hated in Spain.

"I know that in England I am loved," he said at the time. "I am loved by the fans and the media who are fair with me. They criticise me and give me credit when I deserve it."

"I know I am loved by the clubs, especially one. In Spain it is different because people hate me," he added, referring to the media.

The former Chelsea boss, who is being heavily linked with a return to Stamford Bridge, responded to criticism of his reign at the Santiago Bernabeu, having so far failed to go beyond the semi-finals of the Champions League in three seasons.

PTI



Real Madrid manager Jose Mourinho

Rafael Nadal hits out at Puerto verdict to not name implicated athletes

MADRID, 4 May—Clay-court king Rafael Nadal has blasted the decision by a Spanish judge not to reveal the



ported on Friday.

On Tuesday, judge Julia Patricia Santamaria refused to allow the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) access to the sachets of blood that were seized in the Spanish police operation against Dr Eufemiano Fuentes, and even ordered that they be destroyed. Unless that decision is reversed,

it means the world may never know the names of the athletes implicated in the infamous Operation Puerto doping case, Spanish Press re-

Rafael Nadal

of those people who used Fuentes's services in order to gain an unfair advantage in their sport.

"I find it unfair that the names of the cheats are not given, whether they're Spanish or not," said Nadal, according to the AS and Marca newspapers.

"The image that this verdict gives our country is not the best. "It seems to me to be a mistake not to reveal the names of the cheats so that at least they can feel the contempt of fellow sportsmen and feel ashamed."—PTI

Bayern leave four top players out of Dortmund clash

Munich, 4 May—Bayern Munich have left Franck Ribery, Arjen Robben, Philipp Lahm and Bastian Schweinsteiger out of their squad for Saturday's Bundesliga match at Borussia Dortmund, a dress rehearsal for this month's Champions League final.

Coach Jupp Heynck-



es, expected to make other changes for the awkwardly-timed match, said the quartet have minor injuries following Tuesday's 3-0 win at Barcelona in their Champions League semi-final second leg.

Bayern have wrapped up the Bundesliga and second-placed Dortmund are **Bayern Munich's players celebrate after their Champions League semi-final second leg soccer match against Barcelona at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 1 May, 2013.—REUTERS**

guaranteed a place in next season's Champions League group stage.

"As always, we'll prepare professionally and try to play in Dortmund the way we always play," said Heynckes on Bayern's website. (www.fcbayern.telekom.de). "The physical demands on the players are extreme, so they need longer to recover," he added, referring to his decision to rotate the team.

Bayern have won all 14 league matches since the winter break and are unbeaten away in the Bundesliga this season.—Reuters

GENERAL



Tara Teng (C), Miss World Canada 2012, and contestants from this year's pageant pose for photos during a media event in Vancouver, Canada, on 2 May, 2013. Miss World Canada 2013 will be held on 9 May in Richmond, British Columbia, and the winner will represent Canada at Miss World 2013 event in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia, in September.

XINHUA

Italian police arrest 29, investigate 57 in theft probe across airports

ROME, 4 May — Italian police arrested 29 people, including workers of the national flagship air carrier Alitalia, and put 57 under investigation on Friday in a probe into luggage theft at local airports, media reports said.

According to local prosecutors, the thefts took place onboard the aircraft during the luggage loading and unloading operations

in several airports of mayor cities throughout the country including Rome, Milan, Bologna and Naples.

Audiovisual tappings were reportedly carried out, for the first time in Italy, onboard the aircraft through which it was possible to identify those responsible for more than 100 thefts, attempted thefts and damage over more than a year.

Among the arrested and investigated there were 49 workers of the Italian flagship air carrier Alitalia, employed at Rome's Fiumicino international airport.

According to media reports, Alitalia was collaborating with prosecutors in the probe. Those responsible of the thefts face penalties of up to six years in prison as well as job loss.

Xinhua

Mickelson grabs Quail Hollow lead at halfway mark

NEW YORK, 4 May — Phil Mickelson, spotless with his putter, surged into a two-shot lead at Friday's halfway mark of the Wells Fargo Championship by firing a five-under-par 67 at Quail Hollow in Charlotte, North Carolina. The big lefthander made everything from inside 10 feet on the soft greens, making him 31-for-31 from those distances during the first 36 holes for a nine-under total of 135.

Phil Mickelson of the US watches his tee shot on the 12th hole during the second round of the Wells Fargo Championship PGA golf tournament at the Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, North Carolina on 3 May, 2013.

REUTERS



Tied for second on 137 were fellow Americans Nick Watney (70) and George McNeil (68), and Australian Scott Gardiner (67), who made four birdies in a row from the sixth in bouncing back after missing his last eight cuts on the PGA Tour.

Another stroke away was a group that included world number two Rory McIlroy (71) of Northern Ireland, Englishman Lee

Westwood, who shot a 68 despite feeling under the weather with a chest infection, and Australian Rod Pampling (69), the 10th and last alternate to join the field. Mickelson, who considers the course one of his favorites and has finished 12th or better seven times in nine appearances, took advantage of greens softened by rain and cool temperatures, including two putting surfaces resodded just seven days ago.

"They're slower so we can be more aggressive,

and I've made a concerted effort to give myself uphill putts which allows me to take a lot of the break out and be aggressive," Mickelson said after the round.

"On this course they have a lot of holes that are repelling, where if you miss it just a little bit it will kick the ball away. When the greens are firm and fast you have to respect that and play about 20 or 30 feet away. But with the greens softer we're able to fly it at the hole and stop it."

Reuters

At least 18 killed, 36 wounded in attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 4 May — At least 18 people were killed and 36 others injured in attacks on Friday in Iraq, including a car bombing near a mosque in the capital of Baghdad, Interior Ministry and police sources said.

The car bomb exploded near the Sunni mosque in northern Baghdad as worshipers were leaving Friday Prayers. At least

five of them were killed and 30 others wounded, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The blast also damaged several cars nearby, he added. Meanwhile, a total of nine policemen were killed and six others wounded in clashes between armed men and police in Mosul, some 400 km northwest of Bagh-

dad, a local police source told Xinhua. The armed men had attacked several police checkpoints around the city, he said.

Moreover, four gunmen were killed when they attacked a checkpoint belonging to the Iraqi army in western Mosul, the source added. Violence is still common in Iraq despite the dramatic

decrease since its peak in 2006 and 2007 when the country was engulfed in sectarian killings.

The UN Assistance Mission for Iraq said Thursday that the death toll among Iraqis from violence in April has hit its highest level since 2008, with 712 people killed in violence across the country.

Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(5-5-13 09:30 am ~ 6-5-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Process of Planet correlated with Horoscope for 12 Sign Ascendants (May, 2013)
- * News
- * The First Sale of 1500Ks. CDMA SIM Cards
- * The New Generations' Opinion on the Changing Media
- * News
- * Scenario of Domestic Footwear Industry
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- * Trip to Kan Bauk with Total E & P Myanmar (Part-1)
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- * Myanmar Movies "Twist of Fate"

Myanmar TV

(5-5-2013, Sunday)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 6:00 am | 3:00 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 17. News |
| 6:25 am | 3:15 pm |
| 2. Health Programme | 18. TV Drama Series |
| 6:35 am | 4:25 pm |
| 3. Documentary | 19. Dance & Song of National Races |
| 7:00 am | 4:35 pm |
| 4. News | 20. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Psychology) |
| 7:20 am | 4:50 pm |
| 5. Public Debate (Part-1) | 21. Performance With Song |
| 8:00 am | 5:15 pm |
| 6. News / International | 22. Sing & Enjoy |
| 8:25 am | 6:00 pm |
| 7. Amazing World | 23. News |
| 8:45 am | 6:20 pm |
| 8. Musical Programme | 24. Cartoon Series |
| 9:25 am | 6:50 pm |
| 9. How It's Works | 25. TV Drama Series |
| 9:50 am | 7:00 pm |
| 10. TV Drama Series | 26. News |
| 11:00 am | 7:15 pm |
| 11. Science and Environment | 27. TV Drama Series |
| 11:10 am | 8:00 pm |
| 12. Gitadagale Phintbaohn | 28. News / International / Weather Report |
| 12:00 pm | 8:35 pm |
| 13. News / International / Weather Report | 29. Public Debate (Part-2) |
| 12:25 pm | 9:00 pm |
| 14. Round Up Of The Week's International News | 30. News |
| 12:35 pm | 31. Documentary |
| 15. Myanmar Video | 32. Tamyetnar Takwetsar |
| 2:20 pm | 33. TV Drama Series |
| 16. Documentary (Farmer channel) | |



South Korean traditional dancers perform during the Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics Emblem launch ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, on 3 May, 2013.

XINHUA

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi back from Mongolia



*Chairperson
of Pyithu
Hluttaw
Rule of
Law and
Tranquility
Committee
Daw Aung
San Suu
Kyi being
welcomed
back at the
airport.*

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 May—Chairperson of the Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrived back here from Mongolia at 10.15 pm yesterday.

At the invitation of Mongolian President Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi paid a visit to Mongolia on 27 April.

She attended the 7th Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies (CD).

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was presented Geremek Award at the conference.

MNA

UEC receives party establishment application

NAY PYI TAW, 4 May—Those wishing to set up political parties have been submitting their applications to Union Election Commission which received the application of 19 persons including Daw San Thuzar to set up National Prosperity Party,

on 30 April.

The Union Election Commission has requested the line ministries to check whether those persons comply with provisions in Sections 4 and 6 of the Political Party Registration Law.

MNA

Significant day temperatures (4-5-2013)

Chauk	41°C
Gangaw	41°C
Hinthada	41°C
Bawlakhe	41°C

The Voice wins most awards at 2nd national press award presentation

YANGON, 4 May—Organized by National Press Award Committee of Myanmar Journalists Association, the prize presentation ceremony for 2nd National Press Award was held at National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, here, yesterday evening.

Five prizes were awarded at 1st National Press Award presentation ceremony and six prizes were awarded at 2nd National Press Award presentation ceremony.

The editorial “Differences and Change of Conflict” appeared on 1, November 2012 issue of Myanmar Independent Journal won best editorial prize; the news reporting “Big embezzlement of ministries” on 12-18 March, 2012 issue of The Voice Weekly Journal the best news award; the article “Will Myitsone Dam Project restart?” by Aung Bo Bo Shein and Kyaw Swa Soe on 26 March-1 April, 2012 issue of The Voice Weekly Journal

the best article award; the photo “Kayah State peace-building dialogue” by Zaw Min Naing on 7 March, 2012 issue of Monitor Journal the best photo award; the cartoon by Kyaw Thurein on No. 18, Volume.8 of The Voice Weekly Journal the best cartoon award; and the news broadcasting “mediagrip and young journalists” by MNTV the best news broadcasting award.

The chairman of CB Bank donated K 7 million,

Chairman of Tawwin Family Co U Ko Ko Htwe K 6 million, the chairman of Kanbawza Bank Limited K 1 million and DVB Channel K 500,000 for National Press Award Committee through Chairman U Win Nyein.

CB Bank Foundation also donated K 7 million and Tun Foundation Bank K 3 million for Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) through Chairman U Khin Maung Aye.

MNA

Myanmar Livestock and Fisheries Development Bank Ltd to be formed as public bank

YANGON, 4 May—A press conference on formation of Myanmar Livestock and Fisheries Development Bank Ltd as a public bank took place at the Bank in Pabedan Township, this evening.

Member of Board of Director U Kyaw Lwin explained the facts about the

bank. “Plans are under way to form it as a public bank on 25 June. The bank gets profits only and has over 60 branches. Branches will be extended to 100,” said Managing Director U Aung Myint. Officials replied to the queries raised by the media.

MNA

Palethwe paddy harvest demonstrates in Htantabin Township

YANGON, 4 May—With a view to benefiting farmers, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation disseminated knowledge on 14 points good agriculture patterns in growing paddy.

One acre Palethwe paddy plantation of farmer U Kyaw Zan Oo at field No

(333), holdings No (8/ka) in Mashwe U Village-Tract in Htantabin Township of Yangon North District was harvested on 30 April. Its dry per acre yield is 204.3 baskets of paddy.

As 100 baskets of paddy were sold for K 400,000 to Pinle Koethwe Co, farmer

U Kyaw Zan Oo earned K 550,000 in profits.

The cost of growing paddy on one acre farm is over K 250,000.

The ceremony was attended by officials from the departments, village administrators and farmers.

Kyemon



Departmental officials measure number of paddy plants on model plot of farmer U Kyaw Zan Oo.

Yangon car market remains cool

By Khin Yadana

Yangon car market is normal since Myanmar New Year festival.

“Car market is on average. And the car market not packed with buyers and sellers due to a new place and less buying and selling,” said Ko Kyaw Zeyar Tun from Thirimingalar car sales center.

“This is because of stable dollar prices, no change in Japan car auction and low demand,” broker Ko Aye

Min Tun said. Due to low demands, car markets and car sale centers have to sell their cars at lower prices.

The sale of cars is very cool. It is very difficult to expect what the car market happens. It is expected that the demand will be high only when more taxes are reduced,” said an owner of Car Sale Center in South Okkalapa Township. Car slips prices with owner’s name are around K 9 million

and without owner names, between K 8.3 million and K 8.5 million. The price is between K 8-7 million.

Car sale prices at Minyekyawswa Car Dealers Market are K 13.2 million for Honda Fit (2008 model), K 33.2 for (Crown 2003 model) and K 14 million for Toyota Belta 2008.

Myanma Alinn: 4-5-2013

Trs:MT

