

Union Minister pledges assistance from governments and UN for Kachin IDPs

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-Making Work Committee Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min called the entire national people for cooperation with the government in peace process as he visited IDP relief camps this morning, pledging assistance from the State, region and state governments and UN for rehabilitation of IDPs.

The Union minister, while visiting relief camps in Waingmaw and Myitkyina townships together with work committee members Union ministers U Ohn Myint and U Win Tun, Lt-Gen Myint Soe from Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, lawmakers U Khet Htein Nan and Daw Dwe Bu, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Mr Vijay Nambia from UN, announced the bilateral agreement on homecoming of the displaced persons soon, adding that the two sides are consulting on how to fulfill best the security, economy, education, health and social requirements in undertaking



Vice-Chairman of Union Peace Making Work Committee Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min presents aids to local people at relief camps in Kachin State.—MNA

reconstruction works.

Lt-Gen Myint Soe promised the all-out efforts of the military for assisting in public security and rehabilitation works. Mr Vijay Nambia, Kayin State chief minister, lawmakers U Khet Htein Nan and Daw Dwe Bu elaborated on rehabilitation measures, calling for the trust and cooperation of locals.

Families in relief camps

spoke of their wishes, requirements and difficulties facing them. The state chief minister and personnel attended to the needs.

Personnel provided the families and students there with cash assistance, rice, school uniforms, raincoats, slippers, backpacks, note books and stationary.

At the camp, K 1,132,000 million, 500 bags of rice by the Border

Affairs Ministry and over K 80 million worth school uniforms, raincoats, slippers, backpacks, note books and

stationary were presented to displaced families taking shelters in relief camps.

MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

Manaung	3.94 inches
Hkamti	3.19 inches
Pathein	2.90 inches
Myaungmya	2.87 inches
Homalin	2.18 inches
Kyauktaw	1.85 inches
Kyaikkhame	1.65 inches

Tonkan-Metmung Road emerges to provide smooth transportation between Myanmar, China



For smooth transportation from Myanmar to its neighbouring countries, roads are being constructed in rural areas. The new and upgraded ones would shorten the time for transportation between the countries and would speed up the development of Myanmar.

Myanmar and China, one of its neighbouring countries, have been cooperating in building roads to provide a smooth transportation between the two countries, and Tonkan-Metmung (Kyinsinkyaw) Road and Shweli-Kyaukpyu Road have emerged to link the two countries.

Tonkan-Metmung

(Kyinsinkyaw) is located in Yunnan Province of China and it is 10.34 km long. The road is linking Tonkan and Metmung (Kyinsinkyaw) towns passing through Honaung and Loi-in towns in the province.

The road has been upgraded, and trucks, passenger buses and private cars are using the road daily.

Winding Economic Zone Management Committee in Yunnan Province has upgraded the road at a cost of 48.1993 million RMB and handed over it to the Ministry of Construction of Myanmar on 7 April, 2012.

As the road is linked with Myanmar's border town Muse, the road has

become the direct road from Tonkan in Yunnan Province to Muse in Myanmar.

Besides, it can lead to northern economic corridor of the Greater Mekong Sub-Region after passing through Kunming and Shweli and to Muse-Mandalay-Tamu Road.

Hence, Tonkan-Metmung (Kyinsinkyaw) Road not only provides a road link between Myanmar and China but also has become a part of the road network for the regional countries, benefiting the trade sector of Myanmar.

Myanma Alinn:

29-5-2013

Trs: AMS

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Japan-Australia free trade talks end inconclusively in Paris



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Hline Township performs preventive measures against DHF



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New Ngamwagon village primary school handed over



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Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe

Hline Township performs preventive measures against DHF

YANGON, 31 May — As more than 500 DHF cases had been reported during the previous four months in Yangon, health staff, YCDC staff, ward administrators and party under the leadership of Yangon Region Health Department performed preventive measures against

DHF in 12 wards of Hline Township, here, on 28 May. The campaign against DHF in the township aimed at reducing the rate of DHF cases and preventing the disease in order not to reoccur.

“The dengue fever is mostly common among



27th branch of YMBA formed in NyaungU

NYAUNGU, 31 May — In accord with the motto of Young Men's Buddhist Association (YMBA) in Yangon to undertake lineage, religion, Sasana and education tasks, examination centre branches are being extended in the regions and states. On 30 May, a ceremony to set up 27th branch of YMBA was held at Zetawun Monastery in NyaungU Township.

Branch comprises U Thein Aung as Chairman, U Shwe and U Maung Kyan as Vice-Chairmen, U Aye Maw as auditor, U Hla Tun as treasurer and U Kyaw Than as Secretary totaling 15 members.

It was attended by YMBA Chairman U Kyaw Thein, Vice-Chairman U Sein Hla and members and invited guests.

Kyemon-Ye Thura

NyaungU YMBA Aung



CRIME

Hit-and-run car accident suspect identified after he hands himself into police

YANGON, 31 May — Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township police station said that a man who is believed to have fled from the scene after knocking down a 59-year-old man was charged after he handed himself into police.

U Hsan Lwin, 59, on a bicycle was fatally struck by a vehicle at the top of Mya Nanda street on Bago river road in Dagon Myothit

(Seikkan) Township and pronounced dead on the spot due to serious injuries to his head, waist and legs at about 8 am on 26 May.

The suspect who drove away from the scene when he got in the fatal road accident can be identified as Thiha Thet Tin after he handed himself into police.

Kyemon -Kyin Maung

HEALTH

the children. So preventive measures of spraying insecticide and putting abates into the water at schools are being given priority,” says a health staff.

Preventive measures against DHF were carried out at BEPS No (18), BEHS No (3) and Maha Myaing monastic education school on that day. According to the office of Hline Township Executive Officer, more preventive measures will be made at the remaining schools in the township.

Kyemon-Maung Thon Nya

Side-by-side crash between truck and motorbike kills one rider

NYAUNGLEBIN, 31 May — A fatal crash happened to a vehicle and a motorbike with three riders on it near Tawwi village in Nyaunglebin Township of Bago Region at about 3 pm on 24 May, causing one rider dead.

The tragic road accident involved a

motorbike driven by Than Soe Oo, 23, of Shwekyin Township together with Sandar Win, 16, and Zin May Hlaing and a 12-wheeled truck driven by Tin Zaw Moe, 42, of Pyuntaza occurred at a place between mile post Nos (102/7) and (103/0) on Yangon-Mandalay

Highway, eight-mile north of a police station in the township while competing each other to overtake a stationary car by road. The motorbike veered onto the roadside and overturned as its handlebars crashed into the front tyre of the truck.

The motorcyclist sustained injuries to his right

left while Sandar Win, one of two female riders, died of head injury on her way to Nyaunglebin hospital.

Regarding the road fatality, Nyaunglebin police station charged Than Soe Oo and Tin Zaw Moe with dangerous driving.—*Kyemon-Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)*

Two men killed as truck ploughs into tree on Yangon-Mandalay Highway

PYINPONGYI, 31 May — Excessive speed led to a road fatality on Yangon-Mandalay Highway near Pyinpongyi village in Bago Township, claiming lives of two men on board a 22-wheeled container truck.

The truck at speed en route from Yangon to Toungoo veered onto the right side of the road and ended up crashing into a tree at a place between mile post Nos (68/1) and (68/2)

on the highway. Driver Min Naing Soe, 45 died of head injury in the driver's seat while Kyaw Kyaw Win, 30, truck conductor, found dead near the edge of the drain. He is believed to have been thrown out of the truck. The crash caused severe damage to the front part of the truck.

Phayagyi police station filed a lawsuit against Min Naing Soe (dead) for reckless driving.

Kyemon-Sann Wai



Green light given to five private insurance companies

YANGON, 31 May — It is learnt that a supervisory committee for insurance of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue had decided to give the green light to five private insurance companies.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue

Dr Maung Maung Thein handed over documents that allow to run insurance services to responsible persons of KIBZ Insurance Co., Ltd, Grand Guardian Insurance Public Co., Ltd, Aung Thitsar Oo Insurance Co., Ltd, Citizen Business Insurance Public Limited

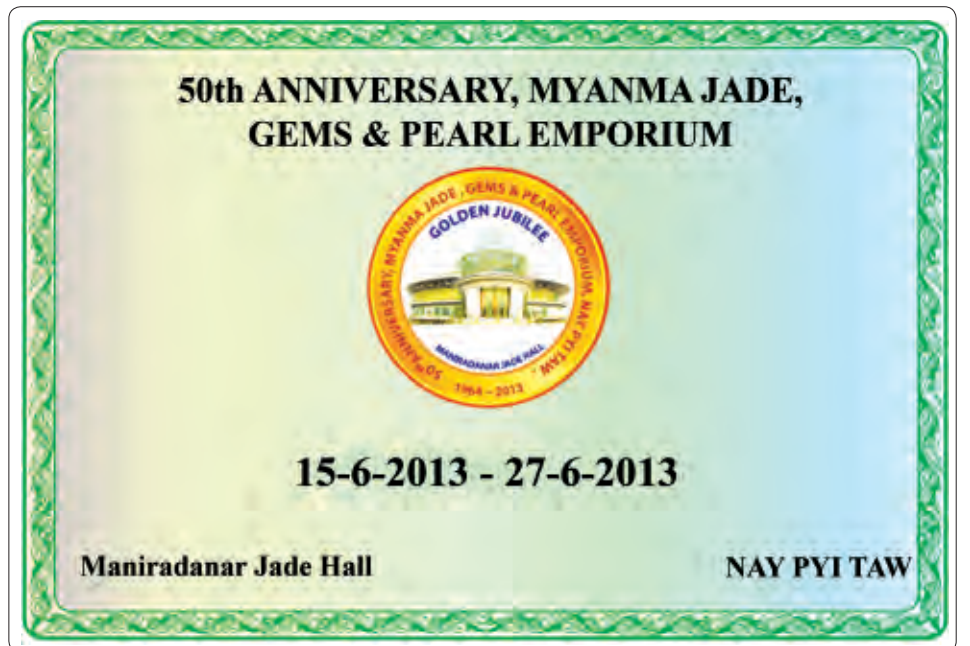
and Aung Myint Moh Min Insurance Co., Ltd.

Life insurance, fire insurance, vehicle insurance and cash safety insurance are among the six categories of insurance allowed to these granted private insurance companies.

It is the very first time

of establishment of private-run insurance services during more than 50 years in Myanmar. Of 12 private insurance firms, five have been licensed so far. More private companies are expected to be given the green light in future.

Kyemon -Thaw Zat



ACCIDENT

Brake failure blamed for truck rollover accident in Lashio



LASHIO, 31 May — A rollover crash happened to a six-wheeled truck near Lashio People's Hospital on south Yaykan street in ward-4 of Shan State (North) at about 8 am on 27 May.

The truck driven by Aung Myint Oo, 32, of sector-9 in ward-4 in Lashio apparently lost control after its brake failure at a turn into the street and hit a stationary motorbike and a pedestrian, Aung Htwe, 33, of sector-9 in ward-5 in Lashio. The truck then

continued slamming into the front part of a shop on the street and overturned on a vehicle, Sunny pickup, after swerving into the opposite lane.

The accident caused the pedestrian injured and damage to the motorbike and goods on display at the shop, but no damage to the pickup.

No (1) Traffic Police in Lashio filed a lawsuit against Aung Myint Oo for reckless driving.—*Kyemon-Zarni Aung (Lashio)*

BUSINESS

WORLD

US Secret Service says threatening letter sent to Obama

WASHINGTON, 31 May—Authorities intercepted a threatening letter addressed to US President Barack Obama that was similar to ones sent to New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, the Secret Service said on Thursday.

Letters sent to Bloomberg and his gun control group contained material believed to be the deadly poison ricin and contained a reference to gun control, New York police said on Wednesday.

A Secret Service official said the letter sent to the White House was similar but did not elaborate. The White House mail screening facility turned it

over to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Secret Service official said on condition of anonymity.

Authorities have stopped several ricin-laced letters in recent weeks. A Tupelo, Mississippi, man was charged last month with sending poison-laced letters to Obama and two other public officials. Everett Dutschke was being held on charges of developing and possessing ricin and attempting to use it as a weapon, according to the Justice Department.

Authorities also intercepted a letter sent to US Senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi. Preliminary tests showed it contained

ricin.

Separately, federal authorities last week arrested a Washington state man, Matthew Ryan Buquet, who they suspect mailed a letter containing ricin to a US District judge in Spokane. Buquet, 37, was charged with mailing threatening communications.

On Thursday, the FBI's Seattle office said in a statement that a similar letter containing ricin was sent from Spokane to Obama and postmarked 13 May. The letter Buquet is accused of sending to the judge in Washington state was postmarked the same day.—Reuters

IMF deputy chief expresses hope for Japan's economic growth strategy

TOKYO, 31 May—The International Monetary Fund's deputy chief on Thursday expressed hope that Japan will draw up a growth strategy to give market participants the impression that the country's economy will change, a Finance Ministry official said.

IMF First Deputy Managing Director David Lipton also said during 30-minute talks with Finance Minister Taro Aso that the world's third-largest economy should carry out fiscal rehabilitation for the nation's future growth, the Japanese official said.

Lipton's remarks came as financial markets have fluctuated widely amid

growing skepticism that Japan's policies, centering on drastic monetary easing and massive fiscal spending, will really shore up the real economy while fiscal discipline is maintained.

The growth strategy, one of the "three arrows" of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's economic policies dubbed "Abenomics," will be adopted by the Cabinet in mid-June, with the aim of galvanizing the economy through private investment, wage hikes and higher employment.

The Washington-based lender will continue to support "Abenomics," Lipton was quoted by the official as saying during the meet-

ing.

The two did not exchange views on recent financial market developments, the official added.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average dived more than 5 percent to its lowest level in about one month on Thursday in Tokyo. On 23 May, the index plummeted about 1,140 points, or over 7 percent, down at its steepest pace since 17 April, 2000.

Japan's fiscal health is the worst among developed countries.

Lipton is visiting Tokyo for annual consultations on the nation's economy, fiscal and monetary policy.—Kyodo News

US says Russia has vital role in ending Syria conflict

WASHINGTON, 31 May—The United States said on Thursday it was important to partner with Russia to help bring Syria's warring sides together for a proposed peace conference despite Moscow's financial and military backing for President Bashar al-Assad.

Assad told Lebanon's Al-Manar television that Russia is committed to implementing a 2010 contract for S-300 air defence missiles. A Russian defence ministry source said the missiles had not been sent yet. "This is something that is concerning ... but at the same time we recognize that the role the Russians play here are as an important partner in helping bring the regime to the table," State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki told reporters.

"We are not claiming to agree with the Russians on every issue, and not every is-

sue on Syria, but we see them as an important partner on moving to a conference and moving to a political transition and there is no reason, we have to believe, that they don't want to be a partner in that," she added.

The United States, France and Israel have called on Russia not to deliver the missiles. Israel worries the air defence system threatens its security and has signalled it will act to prevent Assad from putting it into operation. US Secretary of State John Kerry expressed his concerns privately to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov several days ago during talks on a peace conference, Psaki said.

Russia and the United States are trying to bring together Syrian government and opposition officials for talks on a transitional government.

Reuters



People participate in the first National Drill of Earthquake and Tsunami 2013, in the city of Lima, capital of Peru, on 30 May, 2013. The drill was conducted, simulating an emergency before a one-minute-long eight-magnitude earthquake on the Richter scale.

XINHUA

Pakistan, US agree to continue work for Afghan peace

ISLAMABAD, 31 May—Pakistan and the United States on Thursday reaffirmed their desire to work closely for consolidation of bilateral relations and partnership in all spheres of co-operation including peace and stability in the region, the Foreign Ministry said.

The US special envoy for Pakistan and Afghanistan James F. Dobbins called on Foreign Secretary Jalil Ab-

bas Jilani in Islamabad and discussed bilateral relations and regional situation including latest developments in Afghanistan, the Foreign Ministry said. They also agreed to work for peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. The two sides exchanged views on several actions to be taken in the realm of bilateral cooperation.

The foreign secretary also briefed the new US spe-

cial representative about the steps taken by Pakistan for peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan and reiterated Pakistan's commitment to remain positively engaged in supporting the peace process.

This is the first visit to Pakistan by James F. Dobbins after his appointment as AfPak envoy this year.

The US envoy has also visited Afghanistan and held talks with the leaders on security issues.

The visit came at a time of tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan over cross-border firing and the alleged constructions by Pakistani forces on the Afghan side of the border.—Xinhua

Iran more active in sponsoring terrorists

WASHINGTON, 31 May—The US State Department said on Thursday that Iran has become more active in its state sponsorship of terrorism and that more than half of the world's terrorist attacks in 2012 occurred in three countries—Pakistan, Iraq and Afghanistan.

"A marked resurgence" was noted in Iran's state sponsorship of terrorism through the Ministry of Intelligence and Security and the Lebanon-based Shiite militant group Hezbollah, the Country Reports on Terrorism in 2012 said.

Iran was involved in terrorist attacks or attempted attacks in India, Thailand, Georgia and Kenya, and

provided extensive support to the regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in its brutal crackdown that has resulted in the deaths of more than 70,000 civilians, the report said. The department has designated Iran and Syria as state sponsors of terrorism.

The core of the al-Qaeda terrorist network has been "significantly degraded" as a result of ongoing worldwide efforts against it, but the group "seeks to establish a long-term presence" among rebels in Syria, the report said. The number of terrorist attacks came to 6,771 last year resulting in the deaths of 11,098 people, the report said.—Kyodo News



A citizen registers her fingerprint information at a police station in Shanghai, east China, on 30 May, 2013. The Shanghai police announced on Thursday that the city will start collecting fingerprint information of its citizens for ID card recognition across the region as of 1 July, which can help better protect the legal rights of the citizens and also safeguard state safety and social stability. The city has by far started the programme in 233 police stations and has registered the fingerprint information of 10,756 citizens.—XINHUA



People remove the fallen trees after a sudden rain in Hyderabad, India, on 29 May, 2013. The monsoon rains, crucial for India's agriculture, are expected to set over southernmost Kerala state next 3 to 4 days, according to the India Meteorological Department.—XINHUA

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Rounded pebbles suggest ancient flowing water on Mars

WASHINGTON, 31 May—Observations by US Mars rover Curiosity have revealed areas with rounded pebbles which indicate a stream once flowed on the red planet, a study said on Thursday.

The finding, published in the journal *Science*, represents the first on-site evidence of sustained water flows on the Mars landscape, and supports prospects that the planet could once have been able to host life, researchers from the *Curiosity* rover mission said.

The accomplishment comes from *Curiosity*'s exploration during its first 100 "sols," or Martian days, the equivalent of about 103 days on the Earth, on the Mars surface last year.

During that time, *Curiosity* traveled about 400 metres from its landing site, examining multiple outcrops of pebble-rich slabs. The rover took high-resolution images of these pebbles at three locations known as Goulburn, Link and Hottah and then sent them back to the Earth for further analysis.

Researchers now said



A photo from the Mars Curiosity Rover reveals what appears to be a small animal or lizard on Mars. The photo was taken on 20 Feb, 2013 by Curiosity's MASTCAM and a high resolution copy is available on NASA's JPL/Caltech website. The image was originally discovered by a Japanese researcher in March and uploaded to Youtube on 14 May.—XINHUA

the pebbles' grain size, roundness and other characteristics suggest that they had been transported by water over long distances.

When rocks are worn by wind, they become angular and rough, but when they are moving in a mixture of flowing water and sand, the corners and edges of the rocks eventually be-

come smooth and rounded, they explained.

"We could see that almost all of the 515 pebbles we analyzed were worn flat, smooth and round," said Asmus Koefoed, a research assistant in the Mars Group at the University of Copenhagen in a statement.

There are both light and dark rocks in various

shades and colours, much like the original rocks on Earth and Mars, the researchers said.

Knowledge of the pebbles' size and shape led the researchers to make a more direct estimate of how fast water there moved and how deep it was.

"In order to have moved and formed these rounded pebbles, there must have been flowing water with a depth of between 10 cm and 1 metre and a flow rate of about 1 metre per second—or 3.6 kilometers per hour—slightly faster than a typical natural Danish stream," said Morten Bo Madsen, head of the Mars research group at the University of Copenhagen.

Apart from running water, investigations with *Curiosity* since its landing last August have shown that there were a pH-neutral environment and minerals that microbial life could use for nourishment. *Curiosity* has thus achieved one of its objectives, namely to investigate whether there are areas on Mars that could have been habitable for microbial life, the researchers said.—Xinhua

Rogers, Videotron extend reach with network-sharing deal

TORONTO, 31 May—Rogers Communications Inc and Quebecor Inc's Videotron wireless arm plan to build and operate a shared high-speed wireless network in and around Québec, a cost-saving arrangement that is expected to stoke competition in the French-speaking Canadian Province.

Rogers, the nation's largest wireless provider, now spends far more on its network than its main rivals, Telus Corp and BCE Inc's Bell unit, do on their shared network.

The pairing with Videotron, announced late on Wednesday, means Rogers will narrow that gap. The deal will also help Quebecor's Videotron arm broaden its range of wireless services and perhaps increase market share in Québec, where the three national operators already have a head start in wireless.

"Quebecor with this deal gets a lot of tools to become more competitive," said Desjardins analyst Maher Yaghi, adding that the deal could eventually lead to an even broader asset sharing arrangement between the two sides.

The 20-year network sharing deal will help the companies expand a high-speed wireless network using technology known as long-term evolution, or LTE, in Québec and the Ottawa region. The two sides

will continue to compete for customers.

"It's going to save both on operating costs and capital requirements to maintain and evolve that wireless network," said Izabel Flis, a buy-side research analyst with Bissett Investment Management, which owns Rogers stock.

Over 10 years, Videotron is set to pay Rogers C\$200 million (\$194.20 million), and Rogers will pay Videotron C\$93 million, based on the fair value of the services each is providing.

Quebecor shares jumped 4.1 percent to C\$46.59 in afternoon trading, while Rogers stock was down 0.3 percent at C\$47.80. The companies also said Rogers would pay C\$180 million to buy Videotron's unused spectrum in the greater Toronto area. Videotron bought those airwaves in a 2008 auction in which the federal government set aside some airwaves for new entrants, including Videotron.

The deal on spectrum puts pressure on the government, whose attempts to foster competition within the sector have been stymied as the small players have struggled. Telus ear-

lier this month bid C\$380 million bid for Mobilicity, an upstart that is now fighting to stave off insolvency.

The three major telcos are scrambling to buy up smaller competition or obtain their airwaves, the lifeblood of mobile providers, as demand explodes for speedy mobile streaming of video and other data-heavy applications.

"Ottawa is in a tight position," Bissett's Flis said. "It's a challenge for them because they really wanted more players ... and it doesn't seem like that's going to be the case, except for Québec, where Videotron is pretty strong."

Asked to comment on the Rogers-Videotron transaction, the government said all spectrum transfer requests remain subject to its approval. It is currently reviewing a recent Rogers deal to buy spectrum from Shaw Communications, as well as its broader policy on the transfer of spectrum licenses.

Shaw, a dominant cable company in Western Canada without a mobile telephone business, had bought set-aside spectrum in 2008 but later nixed plans to build a wireless network.

Reuters

Samsung unveils Galaxy S4 mini phone to target mid-tier market

SEOUL, 31 May—Samsung Electronics Co unveiled a stripped down version of its flagship Galaxy S4 smartphone on Thursday, aiming to grab a bigger share in the mid-tier segment as growth in the high-end market slows.

The Galaxy S4 mini, which follows the debut of the S4 just a month ago, will have a 4.3-inch screen—still bigger than Apple Inc's 4-inch iPhone 5—and a 8-mega pixel rear-facing camera.

By comparison, the original S4, which hit the 10 million-sale mark last week to become Samsung's fastest selling smartphone, has a bigger 5-inch full high-definition screen and a 13-mega pixel camera.

Samsung did not announce a price for the phone or give a launch date, but the market estimates the smaller type will be priced at around \$350.

The launch comes ahead of the widely speculated low-priced iPhone later this year and as Samsung, the world's top smartphone maker, looks to widen its lead with products spanning both the high and cheap-and-cheerful ends of the market.

Samsung is also expected to unveil more varieties of the S4 in the upcoming mobile event in London next month including a model with optical camera zoom functionality as well as a phone with water-proof features.—Reuters



Samsung flags are set up at the main entrance to the Berlin fair ground before the IFA consumer electronics fair in Berlin, on 28 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

Glu Mobile dips toe in US real-money games

SAN FRANCISCO, 31 May—Mobile Inc will allow US players to win cash in one of its mobile games starting next month, betting that cash-based contests will be a winning formula to expand revenue in the fledgling but potentially high-growth mobile gaming sector.

The fast-growing mobile game developer, which has struggled to report a profit since it went public in 2007, said it entered into a partnership with San Francisco startup Skillz that provides technology enabling real-money earnings from skill-based mobile games through cash tournaments.

With smartphones and tablets going mainstream and delivering gaming to a new, broader set of consumers, the mobile gaming sector is growing rapidly and attracting gamers away from console games made by publishers such as Electronic Arts Inc.

Glu will use the Skillz platform, currently only

available for games running on Google Inc's Android operating system, to introduce cash tournaments in its hunting simulation "Deer Hunter Reloaded", the company told Reuters. It will expand to other Android titles in the second half of 2013.

Gamers will pay a fee to compete for cash prizes and Glu, which derives about half its revenue from the United States, hopes this paves the way for a new revenue stream in mobile gaming, CEO Niccolo de Masi said in an interview.

Real-money gaming competitions have been popular for several years through online websites such as WorldWinner and King.com but are only now moving to the mobile realm.

Those games focus on skill-based contests such as "Scrabble" and "Wheel of Fortune," as opposed to casino-style games of pure chance.

Reuters



A woman walks by a sign at the Rogers Communications headquarters building on the day of their annual general meeting for shareholders in Toronto, on 25 April, 2012.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

P&G to regroup products into four sectors

NEW YORK, 31 May —Procter & Gamble Co (PG.N) is working to regroup its countless products and brands into four sectors, each led by a president reporting to chief executive AG Lafley, who returned to the helm last week, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

The elevation of four executives to the new roles would publicly identify candidates most likely to succeed Lafley, who is expected to step aside in two or three years, the *Journal* reported citing people familiar with the matter.

Lafley stepped down as CEO in 2009 but returned last Thursday to replace Bob McDonald as chairman and chief execu-

tive of the world's largest household products maker, which is undergoing a major restructuring to improve productivity and flexibility.

P&G currently organizes its products, ranging from Gillette razors to Duracell batteries, into two global business units — beauty and grooming and household care. The composition of the four new sectors was not immediately clear, the *Journal* said.

The two vice chairmen, Werner Geissler and Dimitri Panayotopoulos, are not seen as likely to become CEO and are not in the running to head the new sectors, the business daily said. Candidates for the four spots include Melanie



Procter & Gamble's Gillette shaving foam can be seen on display at a new Wal-Mart store in Chicago, on 24 Jan, 2012.—REUTERS

Healey, group president of North America; David Taylor, group president of global home care; Martin Riant, group president of global baby care; Giovanni Ciserani, group president of global fabric care; and Deborah Henretta, group president of global beauty

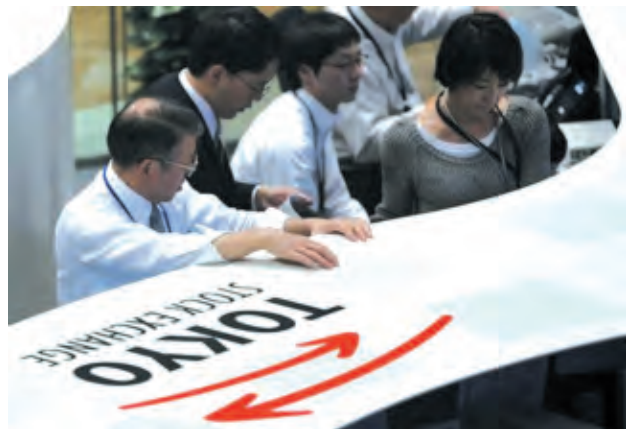
care, the paper said.

The four presidents would not be the only aspirants for the top job, the business daily reported.

P&G could not be immediately reached for comment outside of regular US business hours.

Reuters

Asian shares, Nikkei recover as soft US data sees QE staying on



Employees of the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) work at the bourse in Tokyo on 20 May, 2013.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 31 May—Asian shares recovered but the dollar stayed pressured on Friday after lackluster US data eased concerns about an early end to the Federal Reserve's strong

stimulus programme which has sharpened investor appetite for risk.

Global markets rose overnight as US GDP grew a slightly less-than-expected annualized 2.4 percent

in the first quarter, new jobless benefits claims rose in the latest week, and pending home sales grew far less than expected in April, pointing to a fragile economy which still requires support from monetary policy.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan <.miapj-0000pus> steadied from the previous day's drop to a six-week low. With a fall of about 4 percent so far in May, the index was set for its worst monthly performance in a year.

Australian shares (.AXJO) inched up 0.1 percent after touching their lowest in nearly two months the previous session while South Korean shares rose

0.3 percent.

"The market is slowly gathering upside momentum, helped by a view that the likelihood of the US Federal Reserve abruptly pulling its stimulus program is small," said Han Beam-ho, a market analyst at Sinha Investment Corp, of Seoul shares.

Bourses in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Jakarta and Manila Philippines were lower.

Japanese equities also staged a rebound after tumbling more than 5 percent to a five-week low on Thursday as exporters took a hit from the dollar's fall against the yen. The Nikkei stock average (.N225) gained 1.6 percent after sliding sharply last week from a 5-1/2-year peak. Analysts said the recent correction presents an opportunity for investors to re-enter the market at better levels.—Reuters

Diabetes rate soars in Chinese-Canadians

TORONTO, 31 May—Chinese-Canadians may be at a higher risk of being diagnosed with diabetes even with their lower rates of obesity, according to a new study released on Thursday.

Researchers from the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) in the Canadian city of Toronto found that the incidence of diabetes increased 15-fold between 1996 and 2005 among Canadians of Chinese origin, while it only went up 24 percent in European-Canadians.

Published in the American journal *Diabetes Care* on Thursday, the study was conducted to explore a change they were noticing in the Chinese-Canadian population, the study's co-author Dr Baiju Shah said in a phone interview. The findings were surprising, he said, mainly because they weren't traditionally seen

to be particularly vulnerable to the disease.

"Historically, most of the data in Canada and elsewhere suggested that Chinese-Canadians don't have a particularly increased rate of diabetes," he said.

Shah and his team analyzed the health surveys carried out by Statistics Canada between 1996-2005, and also used information gathered from people who identified themselves as either being of Chinese or European origin, those who were living in Ontario and didn't have diabetes at the time. The team tracked those 77,000 people over a five-year period.

The results revealed only a slight bump in cases of diabetes in European-Canadians over time. But the same couldn't be said for Chinese-Canadians. "It grew really rapidly," Shah said about the Chinese pop-

ulation.

The incidence of diabetes in Chinese-Canadians grew from 1.3 cases per 1,000 people to 19.6 over a nine-year period. Some of that could be attributed to the increasingly unhealthy life-style Chinese-Canadians have taken up, Shah suspected. For one, the large migration of Chinese-Canadians into the suburbs have resulted in a more sedentary lifestyle.

"When the main Chinatown was downtown, that's a very urban area you can walk... you walked to the stores, walked to the parks, everything is close by," said Shah. "Now that much of the Chinese community has moved to the suburbs, they're much more car-dependent communities where you have to go into the car just to go get a pint of milk."

Xinhua

Double dose of Tamiflu proves no better in severe flu

LONDON, 31 May—There are no benefits from giving patients with severe flu a double dose of Roche's drug Tamiflu, despite calls by some experts for the use of higher doses in the most serious cases.

That verdict from the first randomized clinical trial to study the issue has implications for global guidelines on stockpiling drugs for a potential flu pandemic, researchers said on Friday.

"Our findings do not support routine use of double doses to treat severe flu infections, which could help to conserve drug stocks in the event of a pandemic," said Jeremy Farrar, director of the South East Asia Infectious Disease Clinical Research Network.

Flu experts are on alert for a potential pandemic, with concerns centered on

be able to develop resistance to Tamiflu rapidly.

Previous studies have shown that early treatment with Tamiflu, known generically as oseltamivir, helps speed recovery in seasonal and pandemic flu. It also improves survival in patients hospitalized by the virus, leading some health authorities to recommend double doses in bad cases.

Results of the latest Tamiflu study were published in the *British Medical Journal*, following a study of 326 patients with severe flu infection in Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam who were given either a standard dose or double dose of the drug for five days.

The researchers found no difference in virus levels or clinical outcomes between the treatment groups.



Four capsules of Tamiflu are pictured on a Tamiflu box in Burbank, California, on 31 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

the new H7N9 strain of bird flu that has killed 36 people in China.

So far H7N9 has not been able to spread easily from person to person and cases of the disease are receding, although experts are concerned that H7N9 may

The study, which took place between April 2007 and February 2010, was funded by the Wellcome Trust, US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the Singapore National Medical Research Council.—Reuters

Boeing says new 737 model will burn less fuel than expected



The Boeing logo is seen at their headquarters in Chicago, on 24 April, 2013.—REUTERS

SEATTLE, 31 May—Boeing Co (BA.N) said on Thursday it is confident its new 737 MAX passenger jet will burn 13 percent less fuel than current 737 models, a figure that exceeds earlier estimates.

At a Press briefing,

Boeing said its forecast is based on computer models and wind tunnel tests. The plane is due to enter production in 2015 and be delivered to customers in 2017. The 737 MAX is the latest narrow-body plane by Boeing and competes with

the A320neo made by Airbus (EAD.PA).

Boeing said it expects to publish a "firm configuration" for the MAX in July. The planemaker is already reorganizing the massive 737 factory in Renton, Washington, to make room for production of initial 737 MAX test planes in 2015. The first flight and flight testing are scheduled to occur in 2016. Airbus launched its aircraft about nine months before Boeing and has about 2,125 firm orders for its A320neo family of planes, compared with 1,376 firm orders for the 737 MAX.—Reuters

WORLD

Kawasaki Heavy devises low-cost method to turn rice straw into fuel

TOKYO, 31 May—Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd has developed a technology to produce ethanol from rice straws at 40 yen (39 cents) per liter, about the same level of production cost as the sugar cane-based bio ethanol made in Brazil and elsewhere.

Kawasaki, which has been undertaking research and experiment at a plant built in Katagami, Akita Prefecture in 2009, is planning to sell facilities to produce bio fuel for cars worldwide, it said on Thursday.

Its technology only uses hot water to break down raw materials, realizing low-cost production by eliminating the need to rely on sulfuric acid and enzymes to do the job under conventional methods involving rice straws, it said.

Kyodo News

Japan-Australia free trade talks end inconclusively in Paris

PARIS, 31 May—Free trade negotiations between Japan and Australia failed to produce an agreement on Thursday at a ministerial meeting in Paris as the two sides were unable to overcome differences over beef tariffs.

Japanese farm minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and Australian trade minister Craig Emerson met on the sidelines of an unofficial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and decided they will continue the negotiations that are in the final stages.

Hayashi told reporters after the meeting that many of the issues dealt with in the negotiations have “boiled down” and little remains to be discussed.

But negotiations on the remaining issues are expected to be tough as both countries gear up for national elections this summer, making it increasingly difficult for them to offer concessions.



Japanese farm minister Yoshimasa Hayashi (L) and Australian trade minister Craig Emerson shake hands in Paris, France, on 30 May, 2013. Free trade negotiations between Japan and Australia were held on the sidelines of an unofficial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.—KYODO NEWS

Australia is seeking to expand exports of beef and other agricultural goods through the free trade accord, while Japan is aiming to retain tariffs it imposes on farm products imported from Australia. The negotiations in Paris did not cover the elimination of tariffs Australia imposes on vehi-

cles imported from Japan.

Aside from the bilateral free trade talks, Japan requested Australia's help in obtaining information on the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations as Japan is set to become the 12th member of the talks from July.

Kyodo News

Antigua and Barbuda makes progress in hunger eradication plan

SANTIAGO, 31 May—Antigua and Barbuda has achieved progress in a UN-supported programme to eradicate hunger and extreme poverty, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s regional Office in Chile said on Thursday.

Family gardens were built, school food improved and food education programmes implemented within the framework of the “Hunger Zero Challenge” programme, the office said.

Deep Ford, the FAO's representative to the Caribbean, said in a statement that the FAO has identified and supported the first 150 vulnerable homes to build family gardens, which allow them to earn income by sell-

ing the surplus.

The programme, launched last February by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, also includes food and nutrition education, focusing on school-aged children, to guarantee the preparation, distribution and intake of healthy, harmless and nutritious food.

It was supported by the FAO, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the Pan American Health Organization and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Caribbean country's government has pledged to eradicate hunger and extreme poverty in less than two years.—Xinhua

US loosens sanctions on Iran for mobile phones, gadgets

WASHINGTON, 31 May—The United States relaxed sanctions on Iran on Thursday to allow American companies to sell mobile phones, software and other technology used for personal communications to Iranians.

The move announced by the US Treasury Department allows Iranians to get access to the latest Apple phones and newest software that have only been available on Teheran's black market since sanctions were first imposed in 1992.

Also on Thursday, the Treasury Department said it had blacklisted Iranian gov-

believes Iran is enriching uranium to levels that could be used in nuclear weapons, but Teheran says its programme is for peaceful purposes.

The easing of sanctions on technology may be an attempt by the US government to develop goodwill with Iranian citizens before the Iranian national elections next month.

“As the Iranian government attempts to silence its people by cutting off their communication with each other and the rest of the world, the United States will continue to take action to

Ministers to meet to review NATO's cyber defences



NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen speaks following a meeting with Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg (not pictured) in Oslo on 8 May, 2013.—REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 31 May—NATO defence ministers hold their first review of cyber defence next week in a sign the issue is making its way to the top of the alliance's agenda as fears grow that Western infrastructure and military secrets are vulnerable to hackers.

Daily reports about government and private firms' computer systems coming under attack have highlighted the importance of defending NATO computer networks, particularly systems which are used to coordinate military actions among the 28 allies.

The Pentagon accused China this month of using cyber espionage to modernize its military, which Beijing denied. *The Washington Post* said this week that Chinese hackers have gained access to designs of more than two dozen major US weapons systems.

Electronic attacks could be used to knock out military communications and disable key infrastructure to soften a country up for a conventional military strike.

NATO systems face “regular” computer attacks, according to Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen.

“So far we have successfully protected our systems. And we will continue to develop and to strengthen our cyber-security,” Rasmussen said in March.

NATO defence ministers, including US Secretary Chuck Hagel, meet on the issue in Brussels on Tuesday and Wednesday.

“The challenge evolves all the time — probably more exponentially than any other type of threat that we face at the moment — and therefore we have to make certain that NATO keeps pace with that evolving threat,” said a senior NATO official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

NATO was alerted to the threat of cyber attacks in 2007, when NATO member Estonia's Internet network was paralysed by an electronic attack that Estonia blamed on Russia.

The incident prompted NATO to review its readiness to defend against cyber warfare.

Reuters

Tornadoes in Oklahoma, Arkansas injure at least five

LITTLE ROCK, (Arkansas), 31 May—Severe storms spawned a dozen reported tornadoes in Oklahoma and Arkansas on Thursday, injuring at least five people and sending residents scrambling for cover 10 days after a powerful twister killed 24 people in Oklahoma.

In western Arkansas, two people were injured in a tornado near Oden that destroyed a house and downed

power lines.

Three others were injured in a storm north of Amity, Arkansas, the state emergency management department said.

One tornado warning included Cushing, Oklahoma, a critical hub for the US oil markets northeast of Oklahoma City, but the storm passed through without damaging tanks that store more than 50 million barrels of oil, said Bob

Noltensmeyer, Cushing's emergency management director.

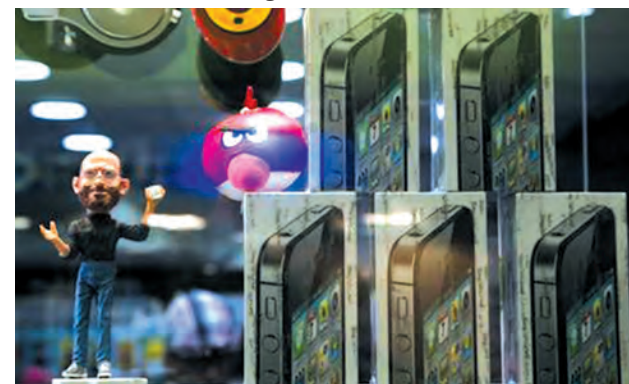
The storms were not expected to taper off until later on Thursday night and

more storms are expected on Friday, said Greg Dial, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Centre.

Reuters



Storm chasers follow a large cloud lowering between Perkins, Oklahoma and Cushing on 30 May, 2013, as storm systems moved across the state.—REUTERS



Reuters and other foreign media are subject to Iranian restrictions on leaving the office to report, film or take pictures in Teheran.—REUTERS

ernment groups and officials accused of abusing human rights, including a committee the United States said censors news and other information.

The United States has ramped up tough measures against Iran in recent years to slow development of the Islamic Republic's disputed nuclear programme, blacklisting a wide range of Iranian companies and government officials.

help the Iranian people exercise their universal human rights, including the right to freedom of expression,” Treasury said in a statement.

Social media played a big role in the wake of Iran's disputed 2009 presidential election, used by the opposition “Green Movement” to marshal global attention to their cause, and later inspiring protesters in the Arab Spring revolts of 2011.

Reuters

LOCAL NEWS

New Ngamwegaon village primary school handed over



Opening ceremony of new Ngamwegaon village primary school in progress.

MANDALAY, 31 May—A new Basic Education Primary School in Ngamwegaon village in Minsu village tract in Kyaukse Township in Kyaukse District in Mandalay Region has been handed over to the Ministry of Education.

The ceremony to hand over the school on 28 May morning was attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint who unveiled the stone inscription and delivered an address.

The ceremony was also attended by Kyaukse Township Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Thauang, Region Forestry and Mining Minister U Than Soe Myint,

lawmakers, region education officer U Soe Myint Tun, donor President of Yangon International Hotel and Japan Myanmar Culture Economic Friendship Association (JMCEFA) Mr Okio Nodita, district and township level departmental officials, teachers, students and local people.

The region minister for forestry and mining, donor and the region education officer formally opened the new school building. The chief minister unveiled the stone inscription of the school and officials sprinkled scented water on the inscription. The region chief minister delivered an address. The

donor explained purpose of donation. The region minister for forestry and mining read out the message of felicitations sent by the Myanmar Ambassador to Japan.

The donor then handed over documents related to the school to the township education officer who returned him a certificate of honour. One of the villagers spoke words of thanks. The donor and party then performed Aikido martial arts.—*MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay subprinting house)*

HRD

School enrollment activities launched in Kanpetlet

KANPETLET, 31 May—School enrollment activities were launched in Basic Education High School in Kanpetlet in Chin State on 27 May morning.

The launching ceremony was attended by the township administrator, departmental personnel,

townselders, social organizations members, parents and more than 200 students. Donors contributed about 200 dozens of exercise books at the ceremony. The school enrollment is accepted through 31 May.

MMAL-Township IPRD

School enrollment activities kick off in Theinni

THEINNI, 31 May—School enrollment activities for 2013-2014 academic year were launched in Basic Education High School in Theinni on 29 May morning.

The ceremony was attended by township administrator U Win Hlaing, departmental personnel, members of school board of trustees, Pyithu Hluttaw Re-presentative U Sai Win Khaing, Township Education Officer Daw Khin May Latt,

headmistress Daw Ni Ni Aung, teachers, students and parents.

The township administrator and the Pyithu Hluttaw representative delivered speeches at the ceremony. The township education officers elaborated on the school enrollment activities.

Wellwishers donated K 50000 and stationery worth K 931,000.

MMAL-Chit Hla (Theinni)

HEALTH

Educative talk on DHF organized in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 31 May—Under guidance of Kachin State government, an educative talk on Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever and Malaria was organized at Aye Mya Thida Hall in Basic Education High School No (1) in Myitkyina on 27 May morning.

Deputy Director (Admin/Finance) of Kachin State Education Office U Kyaw Aye and Head of State Health Department Dr Kyi Lwin delivered speeches at the ceremony.

State malaria control project manager Dr Zaw Rein, Pediatrician Dr Khin Win Yi delivered educative talks on the danger of DHF and malaria and preventive measures. Pamphlets were then distributed to those present at the talk. It was attended by headmasters/head-mistresses, teachers, health staff, and more than 500 students.

MMAL-Moe Kya (Myitkyina)

ACCIDENT

Two die in road accident in Mongphyat

MONGPHYAT, 31 May—Two on a motorbike were killed in a head-on clash with a truck on Union Highway in Mongphyat in eastern Shan State.

The driver of the bike Aik Khan died on the spot and the another rider Aik Pauk died on the way to hospital.

The Mongphyat has filed a case as regards the accident.

MMAL-Than Zaw (Mongphyat)



Photo shows damaged motorcycle in a traffic accident.

More than 200 cases of Potassium deprivation reported at Yamethin Hospital

YAMETHIN, 31 May—The number of Potassium deprivation cases from 1 May to 26 May amounted to 226 in Yamethin People's Hospital in Mandalay Region.

Residents in Nantlon village and its environs, Yamethin and Pyawbwe and goldminers in the area were diagnosed with the rare

disease.

The Potassium level is reduced to 2.5 which needs emergency treatment. The ordinary Potassium level of human body is between 3.6 and 5.0.

The symptoms of the fatal disease are weakness and losing appetite.

According to an official

of a lab in Yamethin, some 85 emergency cases are reported out of 226 diagnosed patients during the period.

The cause of the increased infection in the areas of gold mines is still unknown.

MMAL-Wathan Tun (Magway)

Preventive measures against DHF carried out in Tatkon

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—Preventive measures against Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever were taken in Anawrahta ward in Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 29 May afternoon.

The tasks were organized by Township Health Supervisory Committee with the cooperation of township Maternal and Child Welfare Association members, Township Women's Affairs Organization members,



Red Cross members.

Nay Pyi Taw Council Member Dr Paing Soe and party viewed and encouraged the efforts. He

also called for systematic measures to prevent against DHF.

MMAL-021

Sanitation tasks carried out in Hsipaw



HSHIPAW, 31 May—Hsipaw Township in northern Shan State is a beautiful town on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse

Union Highway and a tourist spot.

Hsipaw Township Development Affairs

Committee carries out sanitation tasks in the town daily and collects wastes with dump trucks under supervision of Executive Officer of Township Development Affairs Committee U Thein Htaik Oo.

"We are planning to add more dump trucks," U Thein Htaik Oo said.

He also said his committee is committed to sanitizing and beautifying the town.

MMAL-Sai (Hsipaw)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 1 June, 2013

To end poverty

UN has been urged to extend the 2015 deadline for meeting one of its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) — to end extreme poverty — until 2030. The MDGs sought to halve extreme poverty, defined as people earning less than \$ 1.25 a day, but the UN has been challenged to work toward a more ambitious goal over the following 15 years. So, can Myanmar, as a UN member, strengthen her position to reach this goal?

The civilian government just after taking the office has launched eight-point rural development and poverty alleviation scheme, focusing on socio-economic improvement of rural people, mostly the farmers who make up the 70 per cent of the population. However, it needs to ensure microfinance programmes of donor countries and organizations bring obvious benefits to the poor under proper management as the largest proportion of total household budget — up to 68 percent, according to UNOPS — is still spent on food.

Over two years into his administration, the President has repeated over and over his call for a shift in the mindset of the people including the government officials. Changes are tangible in almost all aspects but there is still room for improvement, especially in the way some officials are used to thinking and exercising leadership.

Traditionally leading an austere and easy-going life, Myanmar people, particularly the older generation, find entrepreneurship a strange thing. The same situation is still common in many government offices where innovation and out-of-the-box thinking are rarely allowed and supported with the superiors being reluctant to accept new ideas, reflecting the failure to recognize the youth along with their imaginations and ideas as the rising power of the workplace.

There should be a sense of urgency in the minds of the upper echelons of the administration to encourage entrepreneurship especially youth entrepreneurship as an integral part of poverty alleviation effort. To provide the people with access to small loans is a must, but it should be focused on generating income and making profits instead of turning the borrowers into passive recipients.

Three police killed in skirmish

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—Three policemen were killed in a skirmish with an armed group on Mantung-Namtu Road in Mantung Township, Shan State on 29 May.

Police Sergeant Soe Thein from Manpak Village microwave station outpost and two other police engaged with an armed group near mile post No. 7 on Mantung-Namtu Road around 8 pm while on patrol. The combined force of the military, police and militia,

having been informed the fight, rushed to the scene just to recover the bodies of the three police. The identity of the armed group is under investigation, it is reported.—MNA

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Maung Maung Thein makes a speech at the workshop on Extractive Industries Taxation.
MNA

UCSB Chairman receives Dutch, Norwegian delegations

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—Chairman of the Union Civil Services Board U Kyaw Thu received a delegation led by Mr Willem Kok, Former Prime Minister of

the Netherlands and Mr Kjell Magne Bondevik, the Former Prime Minister of Norway at his office, here, this afternoon.

During the call, they

cordially discussed and shared views on matters aiming at recruitment and training of civil service personnel, capacity enhancement programs

for mid-and senior-level government officials, private and public sector partnership endeavours being facilitated in Myanmar.

Also present at the call together with the Chairman were UCSB Member U Than Tun and departmental personnel.

MNA

World No Tobacco Day observed



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint addresses the celebration of World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) 2013.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May —“Smoking or abuse of tobacco if not effectively controlled would kill over 8 million people annually worldwide by 2030 and the four fifths of the possible dead is estimated from developing countries,” said Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint at the celebration of World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) 2013, held at the Health Ministry here this morning.

The use and abuse of tobacco is high in SEA countries including Myanmar and it contributes to the 25 per cent of worldwide death from tobacco abuse, said the deputy minister warning against the health effects of smoking and passive smoking of expectant mothers on themselves and their babies. WHO Framework Convention

on Tobacco Control was adopted at 56th WHO Conference with the unanimous approval of the member countries, he mentioned.

WHO acting resident representative Dr Jigmi Singay read the message sent by the WHO SEA regional director. The deputy minister and guests

then viewed WNTD display.

The theme of WNTD this year is “bar tobacco advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship”.

MNA

Initial agreement on computerization of Central Bank of Myanmar reaches with Daiwa

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—Central Bank of Myanmar and Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd of Japan have entered into an initial agreement for computerization of the

Myanmar Central Bank.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Lin Aung spoke about the deal saying that it is intended for networking the entire banking system in

the catching-up effort of the government financial and monetary regulator.

Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and DIR Chairman Mr Takashi Fukai signed

the MoU on framework for installation of office computer system in Central Bank of Myanmar. The governor spoke words of thanks on the occasion.

MNA

Workshop on Extractive Industries Taxation held



NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—The workshop on Extractive Industries

Taxation jointly organized by International Monetary Fund, International Tax

and Investment Center and Norway Development Cooperation Agency took

place at the Golden Palace here on 27-30 May.

Present at the workshop were personnel from IMF, ITIC, NDCA, ministries, NGOs and foreign investors. In his concluding remark, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Maung Maung Thein called the extractive industries being crucial to the country, defining the taxation on extractive industries as taxation on exploitation of national heritage.

He announced the formation of five-member committee constituted with Union ministers for transparency of extractive industries, calling for effective management of natural resources for economic growth of the country.—MNA

LOCAL NEWS

HRD

Yangon Region organizes school enrolment day

AHLON, 31 May—The school enrolment day was observed at the hall of No. 4 Basic Education High School of No. 3 Basic Education Department of the Ministry of Education in Yangon Region for 2013-2014 academic year on 29

May.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe made a speech. The Chief Minister and party accepted cash donation by Yangon Region Government and wellwishers.

The ceremony was attended by Yangon region ministers, deputy commissioners of four Yangon districts and officials.

Kyemon-Tin Maung Oo (Ahlon)

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe accepts cash donations from wellwishers.



New library building opened in Karlay of Kholan Sub-Tsp

KHOLAN, 31 May—Opening ceremony of new library of Karlay Village in Kholan Sub-township, Loilem District, southern Shan State, was held in front of the building, here, on 26 May.

Firstly, Sub-township Administrator U Zaw Aung Lay, Head of Sub-township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Khin Lay Win and Village Administrator U Hla Oo cut the ribbons to open the library.



Then, handing over ceremony followed and the Sub-township Administra-

tor gave a speech on the occasion.

The Head of Sub-town-

ship IPRD explained the purpose of the opening library.

A total of 30 books were donated by Sub-township Administrator, 130 books by the Head of Sub-township Information and Public Relations Department, 30 books by U Naing Win (Sa Sa Sa) and 30 books by the head of Sub-township Development Department.

The library was built at a cost of K 2.3 million—K 1 million by the State and K 1.3 million by the people.

Kyemon-Moe Lwin Oo (Loilem)

World Economic Forum on East Asia

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5-7 June, 2013

မြန်မာ

Myanmar



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Sharing Prosperity

TRAFFIC NEWS

Traffic rules surprise checks conducted in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 31 May—Mandalay Region Road Transport Minister U Kyaw Hsan led the surprise checks of traffic in Mandalay on 23 May.

The team which checked whether drivers followed traffic rules in the night was composed of Police Captain Zaw Lwin and members of traffic police corps, staff of General Administration Department and staff of Road Transport Administration Directorate.

Actions were taken against owners of unlicensed cars, drink drivers

and others that did not abide by traffic rules.

Fifty eight died and 179 injured in 133 traffic accidents in seven townships in Mandalay Region in the first quarter of 2013. A total of 76 were killed and 111 injured in the same period last year.

Out of 113 accidents, 55 accidents took place between 6 pm to 12 pm, prompting the Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee to conduct surprise checks in the night time.—MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Management Committee assigned duties of the plans to township administrators of Meiktila, Mahlaing,

Wundwin and Thazi townships and district level officials.—Kyemon-Chantha (IPRD)

CITIZENSHIP

Household registration skills course organized

MAGWAY, 31 May—Household registration skills course organized by Immigration and National

Registration Department was opened at Magway Basic Education High School yesterday morn-



ing, attended by Director of Magway Region Immigration and National Registration Department U Tun Wai and district/township INRDs.

U Tun Wai spoke on the occasion and followed by the first lessons of the

course. A total of 156 staff from INRDs of 25 townships and one sub-township in Magway Region are attending the one-day course which is aimed to ensuring the accurate numbers of households.

Kyemon-Tin Tun Oo

Duties assigned for implementation of plans

MEIKTILA, 31 May—A ceremony to assign duties of implementing the plans for 2013-14 fiscal year was held in Meiktila District, Mandalay Region at 10 am on 30 May.

District Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung

Soe, chairman of District Management Committee, delivered an opening speech.

And then, U Win Aung, Head of District Planning Department explained facts about the plans. Next, the Chairman of District

CRIME

20 kilograms of ICE seized

TACHILEK, 31 May—A combined team of Tachilek anti-drug special squad, township police force, immigration and customs officials seized

20 kilograms of ICE from Toyota Hilux automobile bearing number plate 1/Ka..... with Sanpa at the wheel in Lwetawkham checkpoint en route to Monghsat from Tachilek on 27 May evening.

Twenty packages of ICE—one kilogram in each package, worth the estimated market price of K 32 million in total, was uncovered on the car and the driver from Wengne Village of Monghsat has been brought to trial.

Kyemon-Myint Mo (Tachilek)



Baghdad bombs kill 25 in Sunni-Shi'ite bloodletting

BAGHDAD, 31 May —A series of bombs battered Shi'ite and Sunni Muslim neighbourhoods across Baghdad on Thursday, killing at least 25 people in the worst wave of sectarian violence since civil war five years ago.

The bloodletting reflects increasing conflict between Iraq's majority Shi'ite leadership and the Sunni minority, many of whom feel unfairly marginalised since the 2003 fall of strongman Saddam Hussein, a Sunni.

The latest surge in violence began in April when Iraqi forces raided a Sunni protest camp in the northern town of Hawija, angering Sunni leaders and triggering clashes that spread

across the country.

Civil war in Syria between Sunni rebels and President Bashar al-Assad, whose Alawite sect derives from Shi'ite Islam, has aggravated the strife in Iraq. Sunni and Shi'ite Iraqis have been crossing the border to fight on opposing sides in Syria.

No group claimed responsibility for Thursday's attacks, but Sunni Islamist insurgents and al-Qaeda's Iraqi wing have increased their operations since the beginning of the year as part of a campaign to exacerbate inter-communal tensions. The violence prompted the United Nations envoy in Baghdad to warn about the risk of a broader confrontation



Residents gather at the site of a car bomb attack in Baghdad on 30 May, 2013.—REUTERS

if the country's political leadership does not negotiate to ease sectarian tensions at the heart of the crisis. "Systemic violence is ready to explode at any moment if all Iraqi leaders do not engage immediately to pull the country out of this mayhem," United Nations representative Martin Kobler said.

Early on Thursday, a car bomb exploded in the mainly Sunni District of Binoog in north Baghdad, killing at least four people. Throughout the day, at least six more bombs killed another 20 people in mainly Shi'ite and Sunni districts across the capital, police said.

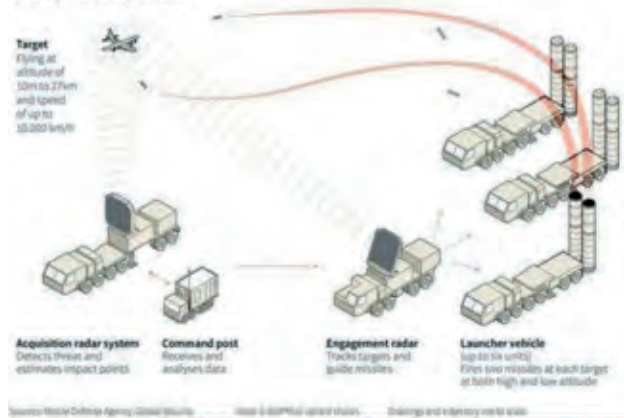
Reuters

Israel could swoop on S-300 missiles in Syria, but with risks

Russian's S-300 defence system

Here is typical S-300 air defence system works. Russia plans to deliver the system to Syria despite US, French and Israeli objections.

S-300 system components



JERUSALEM, 31 May—Israel could overcome advanced S-300 anti-aircraft missiles if they were deployed in Syria but any strikes on the system would be difficult and risk alienating its supplier, Russia.

Israel has pledged to take preventive action, seeing a future Syrian S-300 as a "game-changing" threat to its own airspace as well as to the relative free rein

with which it now overflies its northern foe and neighbouring Lebanon.

Experts agree that Israeli sabotage or open force to disrupt delivery by Russia is extremely unlikely — a view seemingly shored up by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's announcement on Thursday that the first missiles had arrived.

That leaves Israel lobbying Moscow to slow

down the shipment in hopes it would be overtaken and scrapped if Assad fell to a more than two-year-old rebellion, and in parallel preparing counter-measures to neutralise the S-300 on the ground in Syria.

The Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* quoted National Security Adviser Yaakov Amidror as warning European diplomats that Israel would "prevent the S-300 missiles from becoming operational". That may be achieved by ensuring Assad does not get the full system, experts say, or by disabling it militarily if he does.

"The S-300 would be the pinnacle of Russian-supplied arms for Syria," Colonel Zvika Haimovich, a senior Israeli air force officer, told *Reuters* in an interview. "Though it would impinge on our operations, we are capable of overcoming it."

He said Israel's "red line" on the S-300 was

"between Syria and others". This was a hint Israel might hold off on bombing the batteries as long as they did not appear set on shooting down planes within Israeli airspace, of being transferred to Lebanese Hezbollah guerrillas or to Iran — both staunch allies of Assad and enemies of Israel, or of being looted by Islamist rebels.

The Israelis excel in electronic warfare. In 1982, they "blinded" Soviet-supplied Syrian anti-aircraft units in Lebanon, then destroyed 19 of them without Israeli losses.

Similar technologies helped Israeli jets destroy a suspected nuclear reactor in Syria in 2007 and, this year, to hit Syrian targets on at least three occasions to prevent what intelligence sources called attempts to move advanced weaponry to Hezbollah.

Reuters

Italy's ruling party divided over order for F-35 combat jets

ROME, 31 May—Italian opposition parties and some lawmakers from the ruling Democratic Party called on the government on Thursday to abandon its plans to buy 90 Lockheed Martin F-35 fighter jets.

Italy's total planned investment in the new Lightning II Joint Strike fighters (JSF) exceeds 10 billion euros (8.5 billion pounds) even though it cut its order last year to 90 aircraft from the 131 it had originally pencilled in to buy more than a decade ago, a move it said would save 5 billion euros.

The opposition 5-Star Movement, the Left Ecology Liberty (SEL) and 13 members of Prime Minister

spending and create jobs."

With Italy mired in recession and struggling with public finances, the money saved by eliminating a single F-35 could be used to build 387 day care centres or renovate 258 schools, according to a motion signed by 158 parliamentarians in the lower house Chamber of Deputies.

The PD said it wanted to cut spending on the programme during the campaign for national elections last February, but has since formed a government with Silvio Berlusconi's People of Freedom (PDL) party, which supports the F-35.

The F-35 investment "should be revised, just as we all said in the election



Enrico Letta's Democratic Party (PD), one of two main components of the right-left coalition, now want to scrap the order completely.

"We can easily do without the F-35," said Giulio Marcon, an SEL lawmaker. "The government should make a responsible gesture and use these resources to increase welfare

campaign," Giuseppe Civat, one of 13 PD members who signed the motion, told *Reuters*.

Civat, a frequent critic of his own party, accused the PD and former prime minister Mario Monti's Civic Choice party of renegeing on campaign promises to cut spending on the jet.—*Reuters*

UN praises Belarus for combating human trafficking

MINSK, 31 May—The United Nations appreciated Belarus' efforts in combating human trafficking, a senior UN official said here on Thursday.

UN Under Secretary General Yury Fedotov, also

executive director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, told Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko that the United Nations thanks the country for its constant support in the fight against human trafficking.

Lukashenko said Belarus is strongly determined to fight all kinds of crime, adding that it is quite a challenge for Belarus, as the country is located at a crossroads of important routes.

He said the country's transit location exposes it to certain threats, from illegal migration to smuggling of narcotic drugs and radioactive substances. "It puts us in the forefront of fight against these crimes," the president said, adding that Belarus has made tremendous efforts to combat those crimes.—*Xinhua*

EU official urges legislation on tobacco packaging

BRUSSELS, 31 May—The European Union's health and consumer policy commissioner Tonio Borg on Thursday urged the European Parliament and health ministers from member states to support a legislative proposal on tobacco packaging aimed at discouraging youth from smoking.

"Tobacco products should not look like toys

or cosmetics, or taste like vanilla or chocolate... We must strive to make tobacco products and smoking less attractive to young people," the commissioner said in Brussels, on the eve of the World No Tobacco Day.

Last December, the Commission adopted a proposal on updating the current Tobacco Products Directive with initiatives of discouraging young people

from starting to smoke. It suggested that 75 percent of the front and back of cigarette packs should be covered with pictures and texts of health warning.

According to a Eurobarometer survey in 2012, 76 percent of Europeans were in favour of putting health-warning pictures on all tobacco packs and 63 percent were in favour of banning flavors.—*Xinhua*



A fair to promote Japanese business in Africa and showcase African products and culture begins in Yokohama, near Tokyo, on 30 May, 2013, ahead of an international meeting on African development.

KYODO NEWS

REGIONAL



Tachi lovers practise at the Yangling National Forest Park in Chongyi County, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 29 May, 2013. Chongyi County, located in southwest Jiangxi Province, is well-known for its high forest coverage rate, which reaches 88.3 percent, and its slower pace of life.—XINHUA

Vietnam's PM to start 2-day visit to Singapore

SINGAPORE, 31 May—Vietnam's Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung is scheduled to be here in Singapore for a two-day visit from Friday to Saturday, the city-state's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Thursday.

He is invited to deliver the keynote address at the 12th International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Shangri-La Dialogue here, an annual forum attended by defense ministers and security experts from across the Asia-Pacific region.

The ministry also

said Dung's visit will be "a highlight in a series of events commemorating the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Singapore and Vietnam."

Besides, the Vietnamese PM will call on Singapore's President Tony Tan Keng Yam and Prime Minister Lee on Friday, while on Saturday, he is scheduled to attend a breakfast meeting with representatives from Singapore companies with key business interests in Vietnam.—Xinhua

Gov't orders TEPCO take measure to halt radioactive water increase

TOKYO, 31 May—The government told Tokyo Electric Power Co on Thursday to take action to prevent radioactive water from further increasing at its Fukushima Daiichi complex by building shielding walls in the ground by freezing the soil around the crippled reactor buildings.

The frozen soil, to be created by circulating coolant underground, is intended to block massive amounts of groundwater from seeping into the reactor buildings, where it gets contaminated by radioactive substances. The government expects the system to be in use from the first half of fiscal 2015.

According to a report compiled by a government panel on Thursday, there are no previous examples of walls to intercept water, created from frozen soil, being used for longer than a few years, making the project at the Fukushima plant "an unprecedented challenge in the world."

Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Toshimitsu Motegi told TEPCO President Naomi Hirose that the project is "very challenging" but drastic measures should

be taken to address "one of most serious problems" in the process of decommissioning the plant's four units, which is expected to continue up to 40 years or so.

About 400 tons of groundwater seep into the reactor buildings every day, flowing into the lengthy and complicated water circulation loop that keeps the plant's damaged reactors cool. This means that the total volume of toxic water is increasing by the same amount daily. TEPCO once considered building walls to intercept water after the plant was crippled by a huge earthquake and tsunami in March 2011, but it abandoned the idea due to fears that change in water pressure could lead contaminated water accumulating inside the reactor buildings to flow onto the soil outside.

The risks will remain even after the creation of walls with frozen soil, a method originally proposed by a contractor Kajima Corp, so TEPCO would have to control the level of water inside the reactor buildings such as by installing pumps.

To create frozen soil,

pipes to run coolant will be inserted around the reactor buildings. The wall is expected to be 1.4 kilometres long and could be 30 metres deep in some areas, the industry ministry officials said.

According to one of the officials, the costs for creating the system will not become clear until details are worked out, but tens of billions of yen may be needed.

Motegi said the government will financially support the project's feasibility study by allocating part of the funds earmarked for research and development related to reactor decommissioning in the fiscal 2013 budget.

The problem of keeping massive amounts of radioactive water at the plant has drawn renewed attention after TEPCO recently found some underground water storage pools had leaked contaminated water and had to find a secure storage space.

The government also requested TEPCO to build tanks to secure a total of 800,000 tons of water storage capacity by the end of fiscal 2016, compared from the current 330,000 tons.

Kyodo News

Indonesian ethnic group prizes women with large feet

JAKARTA, 31 May—While women with small feet are considered more attractive in most cultures, new research published on Thursday shows that an ethnic group living in the northern part of Indonesia's Sumatra Island prefers women with large feet.

In the research published in the journal *Human Nature*, Geoff Kushnick, an anthropologist of the University of Washington, said that men tend to choose women with an hourglass figure or smooth skin and smaller feet as those criteria reflects a potential mate's youth and fertility.

"As a woman ages and bears children, the size of her foot increases," Kush-

nick said in the research.

However, data he collected among the Karo Batak ethnic group from North Sumatra Province, who mostly live in rural villages, revealed the contrary: Its men prefer women with big feet.

He showed five drawings of a barefoot woman to 159 Karo Batak male and female adults. All of the participants judged the drawing of the woman with the largest feet to be the most attractive and the woman with the smallest feet the least attractive.

Kushnick found out later that the preference of Karo Batak men for big feet is linked to their ecological context—living in rural areas and involvement

in agricultural work—and limited exposure to Western media.

In contrast, urban societies with more exposure to Western media desire to see women with small feet.

"Cultural and social influences play a stronger role in mate choice than some evolutionary psychologists are willing to accept," the anthropologist said. During his research, he said a male Karo Batak respondent was overheard saying, "Why would anyone like a woman with small feet? How would she work in the rice fields?" It showed that for the Karo Batak ethnic group, large feet translate to strength and greater productivity in the rice fields.—Kyodo News



People greet a giant panda at Wusu International Airport in Taiyuan, capital of north China's Shanxi Province, on 30 May, 2013. The panda pair from the Bifengxia Panda Base in southwest China's Sichuan Province arrived in Taiyuan by airplane Thursday, starting their one-year sojourn at the Taiyuan Zoo.—XINHUA

New Zealand to push for FTA progress with India

WELLINGTON, 31 May—New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully will be looking to boost trade, including a free trade agreement (FTA), and other links on a visit to India and Sri Lanka next week.

McCully, who will depart on Monday, said he would meet India's ministers for external affairs,

sports and commerce to discuss ways to further strengthen the bilateral relationship and review progress in the bilateral FTA, which is under negotiation.

In Sri Lanka, he would meet the ministers of external affairs and economic development to discuss that nation's hosting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in

November, as well as prospects for New Zealand's dairy exports, which were valued at 250 million NZ dollars (202.31 million US dollars) a year, McCully said in a statement on Friday. "I also intend to discuss progress towards reconciliation following the end of the civil war and human rights issues," he said.

Xinhua

Toxic gas exposure leaves one dead, two seriously ill in Japan

OSAKA, 31 May—A man died and two other people were critically ill on Thursday after they were exposed to a toxic gas at a fish processing plant in the southwestern Japanese prefecture of Nagasaki, local officials said.

The incident happened at the seafood processing

plant in Sasebo City of the prefecture minutes before 9:30 am local time when employees of the seafood processing plant were cleaning drains and underground tanks for storage of scales of fish, which are located in the centre of the factory, according to Sasebo City Fire Bureau.

The spokesperson for the fire department said to Xinhua that after it received an emergency call from the plant, its rescue teams carried three men to hospitals in the city. But the spokesperson added a man in his 40s was later confirmed dead and the other were in life-threatening conditions.—Xinhua

A member of provincial rescue personnel stands on a rigid hull inflatable boat in Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City, the Philippines, on 30 May, 2013. The Philippine National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council distributed multiple rigid hull inflatable boats and other rescue equipments to flood and disaster-prone provinces in preparation for typhoons.—XINHUA



ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V POSITIVE PIONEER VOY NO (75)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV POSITIVE PIONEER VOY NO (75) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1322)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1322) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-
SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Chilean towns almost evacuated on volcano alert

SANTIAGO, 31 May—Some 1,400 Chilean residents near Copahue Volcano have been evacuated after an alert was issued on a possible imminent eruption, a local official said on Thursday. "Nearly 1,800 people must be evacuated from around the Copahue Volcano, of which 80 percent have been moved to three shelters built for them," said Nivaldo Pinalo, mayor of Alto Biobio in southern Chile.

Pinalo said that those residents staying to look after their cattle and other farm animals will be evacu-

ated by Friday.

All residents within a 25-kilometre radius of the volcano in Chile were required to evacuate, an area inhabited mostly by an indigenous group known as the Pehuenche.

Residents have been reluctant to leave the cattle behind, their principal source of livelihood until the government decided to evacuate the animals by army trucks. Agriculture Minister Luis Mayol said the government is also sending tons of food to the evacuees on a daily basis.

Xinhua



People walk next to a traditional long carpet made of salt and sawdust prior to the Corpus Christi celebration, in Santana de Parnaiba, Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 30 May, 2013.—XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HYOKI NO. 8 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HYOKI NO. 8 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADEING
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

Invitation of Expression of Interest (EOI) for Cooperation Joint Venture in Cement Factories under No(3) Heavy Industries Enterprise, Ministry of Industry
No(31) Heavy Industry(Thayet), No(32) Heavy Industry (Kyangin) and No(33) Heavy Industry (Kyaukse) under the No(3) Heavy Industries Enterprise of Ministry of Industry are intended to cooperate with Local and Foreign entrepreneurs as JV in it.

As a first step, Companies who interested in those co-operation are required to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) **not later than 3 PM(Myanmar Standard Time), on July 5th, 2013 to Material Planning Department, No (3) Heavy Industries Enterprise, Ministry of Industry, Office No (41), Nay Pyi Taw, Republic of The Union of Myanmar.**

Interested entities can take over the EOI Form and other indications at above office commencing from (3.6.2013) by presenting document of company profile.

Document of Company Profile

- Valid Certificate of Incorporation
- Records and Regulation of Company
- Name of Foreign's Technical Cooperator

(For more information : 067 408160, 067 408208)

Nearly 80,000 orphans receive free health insurance

BEIJING, 31 May—About 80,000 orphans were given free insurance contracts on Friday to cover the costs of treating 12 critical illnesses, as a joint insurance programme supported by the government and a charity organization has expanded.

The latest beneficiaries are from the cities of Beijing and Tianjin, as well as Qinghai and Henan Provinces.

An insurance fund that was raised through donations will be accessible for one year starting from 1 June, or Children's Day, according to Dr Heidi Hu, managing director of the China Children Insurance Foundation (CCIF).

"The insurance contracts are our best gift for them (the orphans)," she said.

Differing from previous years, in which funds was mainly raised by large enterprises, Hu said online micro-donations now account for a greater share of the fund and have helped to keep the project sustainable.

The foundation launch-

ed the joint program in co-operation with the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA) in 2009 to provide free insurance for the children of poor families and 712,000 orphans under the age of 18 who are registered with the MCA.

"We have distributed about 750,000 insurance contracts to children in more than 20 provincial regions, including the quake-hit province of Sichuan and the plateau areas of Qinghai and Tibet," Hu said.

Each insured child is covered for 100,000 yuan (about 16,181 US dollars) at a premium of 50 yuan a year. The 12 major illnesses covered include malignant tumors, illnesses requiring organ or stem cell transplants, acute kidney failure, aplastic anemia, acute hepatitis and infantile paralysis, she said.

Insured children will be notified about their coverage by local civil affairs departments, which will act on behalf of the CCIF in distributing specially designed insurance cards, according to the doctor.

Xinhua

Invitation for open tender

Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited

With the intention to be obvious of modern development of business in line with the international standards, required for the country and its citizen, and the development of employment opportunities, the open tender for leasing and operating, with Annual Management Service Agreement for 15 years term, of the whole building of the under mentioned Commercial Centre, built by Forest Joint Venture Commercial Centre Co., Ltd, a subsidiary company of Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited is invited to all local private entrepreneurs:-

1. The building to be leased and its address
Forest Joint Venture Commercial Centre
No. 422-426, corner of Botahtaung Pagoda Road and Strand Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon Region
2. Tender form and terms can be bought for K 100,000 (Kyat One Hundred Thousand Only) at the above mentioned address within office hour from 28 - 5 - 2013 to 6 - 6 - 2013.
3. Detail information and tender terms can be inquired at the address under the above para (1), and telephone number: 01-201839.

Tender Working Committee

Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited



Soldiers search for landmines near Lasinja, a village 40 kilometers south of Zagreb, capital of Croatia, on 29 May, 2013. Croatia is clearing 667 square kilometres of minefields in 12 counties, 93 cities and municipalities. These areas are thought to contain approximately 90,000 land mines left over since the Croatian War in early 1990s.—XINHUA

Spanish study relates 20 pct of all cancers to smoking

MADRID, 31 May—Smoking is directly responsible for 20 percent of all cancers, not just lung and throat cancer, a study developed in the Catalan Institute of Oncology and the Hospital Duran I Reynals showed on Thursday. The study followed 441,211 people over a period of 11 years and of these 14,563 developed a tumor directly related to their smoking habits. The study, which is published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology, said that 80 percent of the lungs and larynx as well as between 20 and 50 percent of tumors related to respiration, digestion or the urinary tract are also related to smoking.

Meanwhile 25 percent of liver, 14 percent of ovary and 8 percent of cases of kidney cancers are as a result of smoking, said the study, which was published ahead of Friday's World Anti-Tobacco Day. The methodology of the study saw investigators compare the number of cases of cancer which appeared among smok-

ers or former smokers and those who have never smoked in their lives.

Spain sees 200,000 new cases of cancer reported every year and it is estimated that around 40,000 of these cases are linked to tobacco in a country where a ban on smoking in bars, restaurants and other public spaces only came into effect in January 2011. Meanwhile, with their new data in hand, the authors of the study calculate that tobacco is directly responsible for 270,000 new cases of cancer in European countries including Italy, Spain, Britain, Greece, Germany and Denmark every year. This Spanish study forms part of the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition Study (EPIC), which is being carried out in 23 centers in 10 European countries and which looks at the effect of various habits, diet, tobacco and alcohol consumption, exercise, etc on the health of the continent.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT



Singer-actress Selena Gomez.

Selena Gomez reconciles with Justin Bieber for a trial period

LONDON, 31 May— Singer-actress Selena Gomez is said to have re-kindled her romance with Justin Bieber but this time plans to treat the relationship more carefully to avoid fights. A source said that the couple are officially together and are taking the relationship more maturely, reported *Digital Spy*.

“Justin and Selena are dating but they are taking things slow,” a source said. Gomez, who broke up with Bieber several times, didn’t want the current relationship hurt her again. “Selena is keeping her heart from being broken, so she is definitely looking at this as a trial period in their relationship,” the source added.

The source added that Gomez and Bieber would learn from the mistakes they made in the past, saying, “When they first started to date, it was amazing but they were too young and it was too much. They didn’t even know what love was and she got all mixed up.”

PTI

Angelina Jolie to miss aunt’s funeral

BEIJING, 31 May—Angelina Jolie will be unable to attend the funeral of her late aunt Debbie Martin because she will be at the London premiere of ‘World War Z’ with her fiancé Brad Pitt. Angelina Jolie will miss her aunt’s funeral because it clashes with the premiere of Brad Pitt’s new movie ‘World War Z’.

The ‘Salt’ actress — who recently revealed she underwent a double mastectomy after she was identified as carrying the BRCA1 cancer gene — lost her aunt Debbie Martin, 61, over the weekend following

a battle with breast cancer but Angelina cannot make the funeral in San Diego on Sunday because she will be in London.

Debbie’s husband Ron told *E! News*: “We are making the final arrangements for the funeral as we speak. But we expect it to be this Sunday at noon at El Camino Memorial in Sorrento Valley near our home.” “Angelina will be in London on Sunday so she won’t be able to attend but she has been in touch with us and with various other members of the family, which has obviously been lovely and has

meant a lot to us.”

Ron also revealed the family are hoping to start a charity to raise money for BRCA genetic testing. He said: “We are currently in the process of setting up a foundation in Debbie’s memory and we are hoping to raise money for women who can’t afford to get BRCA testing. “We are hoping to work with a charity called the Clarity Foundation so that every woman in America will have access to BRCA testing that could save her life—no matter how much money she has.”

Xinhua



Angelina Jolie.

Arnold Schwarzenegger to Pump iron on TV



Arnold Schwarzenegger

BEIJING, 31 May—Arnold Schwarzenegger is set to return to bodybuilding in new TV series ‘Pump’, set in the 70s and based around a gym in California’s Venice Beach. The former politician and Hollywood star has sold the rights for the TV series to US cable network Showtime. An hour-long drama is being made into a pilot, set in 1970s Venice Beach, California, tracing the origins of the present-day fitness industry and “culture of body worship” to one gym called Pump.

If a series then gets the go-ahead, Arnold is planned to become a recurring character. Executive producer Eric Tannenbaum

said he was excited when the idea was brought to him by writer Michael Konyves. He told *The Hollywood Reporter*: “We loved it, but I said the only way you can really tell this story is if we can get Arnold involved. “The birth of the fitness/bodybuilding revolution can literally be traced back to the days when Arnold arrived in the US.”

Arnold, 65, started weight training aged 15 and moved to the US in 1968, a year after winning the amateur Mr Universe bodybuilding title. He then went on to win the professional Mr Universe title three times, and the Mr Olympia title seven times.

Xinhua

Mariah Carey, Nicki Minaj leaving ‘American Idol’

LOS ANGELES, 31 May —Pop singer Mariah Carey and rapper Nicki Minaj will leave “American Idol” after just one season as judges on the singing contest show, following on the heels of longtime judge Randy Jackson who left amid a TV ratings slump. “Thank you American Idol for a life changing experience! Wouldn’t trade it for the world! Time to focus on the Music!!!” Minaj said on her Twitter page on Wednesday.

Carey’s departure was also announced on Twitter by her public relations firm PMK BNC, which said the singer “says goodbye 2 idol” as she prepared to embark on a world tour. Carey, 43, joined the judging panel with Minaj, country singer Keith Urban and Jackson, a music producer, for the show’s 12th season. Carey reportedly earned \$18 million while Minaj’s salary was reported to be \$12 million and Urban’s was at \$8 million for the season.

Carey and Minaj, 30, grabbed headlines throughout the season for their on-camera arguments and off-camera feuding, with Carey saying in January that she had hired extra security following threats reportedly made against her by

Minaj. Despite the added star power of Carey, Minaj and Urban, the show’s ratings slumped to the lowest in 12 seasons, with the 16 May season finale of “Idol” drawing 14.2 million to see vocal powerhouse Candice Glover win the competition. Fox released statements following the announcements of both judges.

“Mariah Carey is a true global icon — one of the most accomplished artists on the planet — and we feel extremely fortunate that she was able to bring her wisdom and experience to the ‘American Idol’ contestants this season,” Fox said. “Nicki Minaj is a superstar who brought a level of honesty and passion to ‘American Idol’” and who had a tremendous positive impact on so many contestants this season. Given her extreme-

ly busy career, we understand and respect her decision and wish her the best,” the network added after Minaj’s announcement.

Jackson announced this month he would not return to the show next season. It was unclear whether Urban would. Pop singer and actress Jennifer Lopez and Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler left “Idol” in 2012 after two seasons and used their increased visibility from the show to relaunch their music careers. Fox, which is owned by News Corp, will also lose reality programming chief Mike Darnell, who said last week he would leave at the end of June. Darnell shepherded “American Idol” into a ratings juggernaut since its debut in 2002.

Reuters



Singer Jon Bon Jovi performs with his band Bon Jovi during the 2012 iHeart Radio Music Festival at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada on 21 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Bon Jovi cuts price of Spanish tickets for cash-strapped fans

MADRID, 31 May—US rock band Bon Jovi has waived its fee for a concert in recession-hit Spain next month so that cash-strapped fans can afford tickets, the band’s publicist said on Thursday.

Tickets for the 27th June tickets are priced at 18-39 euros (\$23-\$50) each to cover costs, the publicist said. The concert has sold out already. Tickets for the Stuttgart leg of “Because We Can: The Tour” cost 77 euros in comparison.

The lead singer of band, 51-year-old Jon Bon Jovi, told *El Mundo* newspaper that Madrid was originally left off the list of tour venues because organizers feared seats would not be filled at a time of deep recession and high unemployment.

But the band decided to perform anyway in order not to let down Spanish fans. “We didn’t want to let down fans that have supported us for 30 years in a country that I love,” he told the paper.

Reuters

Randy Jackson (C) is embraced by Mariah Carey (L) and Nicki Minaj (R) as he finishes his final season as a judge during the Season 12 finale of “American Idol” in Los Angeles in this 16 May, 2013 file photo.

REUTERS

SPORTS

Bayern's Dante and Luiz Gustavo to miss German Cup final



DFB Cup (German Cup)

BERLIN, 31 May—Bayern Munich's Dante Gustavo and Luiz Gustavo will miss the DFB Cup final (German Cup) and the chance to wrap up a historic title treble in one season as they are forced to join the Brazilian soccer team for the Confederations Cup, following lengthy discussions on Thursday.

Two days ahead of the German Cup final in Berlin the Brazilian Bayern duo will head to their home country to meet the official deadline for the Confederation Cup preparations on Saturday. After lengthy discussions, trying to find a joint solution with the Brazilian Football Association and the FIFA, the German giant and Champions League winner had to bite the bullet when they have

been ordered to release the players for the "Selecao".

"We're releasing the players. They'll travel to Rio this evening," Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge said on the club's official homepage. In accord with international FIFA statutes clubs must release their players 14 days ahead of a tournament therefore the Bavarians released the Brazilian internationals to evade legal actions and consequences for future call ups for both players.

Rummenigge added: "You have a clear impression that a form of psychological terror is being used against the two players. I find the pressure being applied inhumane and unscrupulous. More than anything else, I think it's very unfair, because the players are being forced into a position that I believe is unacceptable."

Nonetheless, the Selecao encounters Japan on 15 June for the opener of the Confederations Cup in Brasilia whereas Bayern Munich face Stuttgart at the German Cup final on June 1 to round off a possible historic season.

Xinhua

Tiger 'tamed' by good friend Couples at the Memorial

DUBLIN, (Ohio), 31 May—Tiger Woods had plenty of fun playing with good friend Fred Couples in Thursday's opening round of the Memorial Tournament, but was frustrated after failing to capitalize on good ball-striking in tough conditions.

While PGA Tour veteran Couples surprised himself with his own good play on lightning-fast greens that became increasingly bumpy for the late starters, Woods had to settle for a one-under-par 71 after mixing five birdies with four bogeys. "It was probably the highest score I could have shot today," five-times Memorial champion Woods told reporters after launching his title defense with a total of 30 putts on a hot, muggy and breezy afternoon at Muirfield Village Golf Club.

"Didn't capitalize on a few opportunities I had. Short irons, I didn't hit them close enough. All in all it was a pretty high score. "But I played a lot



Tiger Woods of the US watches his tee shot on the second hole during the first round of the Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 30 May, 2013.—REUTERS

better than my score indicates. Hopefully tomorrow I can clean up, make a few more putts and get a roll." Woods, who has clinched four victories in just seven starts on the 2013 PGA Tour, is considered one of the best putters of all time but he struggled on greens he described as "a little crusty and a little bumpy".

He added: "I just didn't make anything today. I

Watertight Djokovic stays on course, Li sinks

PARIS, 31 May—Novak Djokovic had a simple solution to the rain showers that continued to play havoc at Roland Garros on Thursday—win quickly—but the weather got into the works of former women's champion Li Na as she was bundled out at a soggy Roland Garros. World number one Djokovic needed just an hour and 26 minutes to dispose of Argentina's Guido Pella, winning 6-2, 6-0, 6-2 to reach the third round



Novak Djokovic of Serbia hits a return to Guido Pella of Argentina during their men's singles match at the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris on 30 May, 2013. Djokovic beat Pella 6-2, 6-0, 6-2.—REUTERS

after a long wait to get on court.

China's Li, winner in 2011, was bundled out by American Bethanie Mattek-Sands, a player whose grand slam appearances are usually memorable more for her outlandish

outfits. Sixth seed Li was twice forced off court during lengthy rain delays and when the third installment of the match began she lost seven games in a row during a 5-7, 6-3, 6-2 defeat. Slate grey clouds hung over Roland Garros for much of the day with tournament organizers forced to cancel matches for the second time in three days. Four second round ties will now be played on Friday when the third round is scheduled

to start. Former runner-up Samantha Stosur of Australia needed two periods of play on Chatrier Court to get past plucky Frenchwoman

Kristina Mladenovic 6-4, 6-3. Djokovic was also interrupted in mid-flow, although such was his dominance of 23-year-old Pella, ranked 101st in the world, that his opponent could have been excused for opting to remain in the locker room after yet another shower moved away. After some closely fought rallies early on, Djokovic, trying to complete his career grand



slam here after falling in the final last year to Rafa Nadal, decided enough was enough. Placing the ball almost at will in the corners, he carved through the next 11 games, showing no mercy with the threat of further rain lurking on the Parisian skyline. Djokovic will face more of a test in the third round where he will face 26th seed Grigor Dimitrov who became the first Bulgarian man to reach that stage of a grand slam since tennis turned professional in 1968. Dimitrov, who stunned Djokovic in

Samantha Stosur of Australia serves to Kristina Mladenovic of France during their women's singles match at the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris on 30 May, 2013.—REUTERS

Madrid this year, put out French wildcard Lucas Pouille 6-1, 7-6, 6-1, ending the run of the last remaining teenager in the men's draw.

Defending men's champion Rafa Nadal and women's champion Maria Sharapova were both hoping to squeeze in their second round matches later or face a complicated route ahead. Stosur will next face 18th seed Jelena Jankovic in a repeat of their 2010 semi-final after the Serbian won 12 successive games to beat Spain's Garbine Muguruza 6-3 6-0.

Reuters

Nadal playing catch-up in French Open quest

PARIS, 31 May—The weather gods are conspiring against Rafa Nadal's hopes of winning a record-breaking eighth French Open title. Thursday's rain at Roland Garros left the Spaniard kicking his heels in the locker room and he now faces the prospect of winning six matches in 10 days if he is to retain his title.

Fierce rival and top seed Novak Djokovic got lucky and thrashed Guido Pella in the second round between the showers on Thursday but Nadal, who faces Slovakia's Martin Klizan, has not played for four days. It is not ideal, especially as Italy's dangerous claycourter Fabio Fognini is already through and waiting for defending champion Nadal having had an extra day's rest.

Klizan, who just missed out on being seeded, is a tall, powerful left-hander and an unknown

quantity for Nadal who has never faced him before. It should be a formality, but Germany's Daniel Brands proved on Monday that Nadal can be vulnerable before he starts firing on all cylinders at Roland Garros. Friday's schedule is a packed one with the remaining, and unfinished, second round matches vying for court space with third round ties,

the pick of which is second seed Roger Federer up against Frenchman Julien Benneteau. Women's top seed Serena Williams is also in third round action on Friday against Romania's Sorana Cirstea while home fans will have plenty to cheer with Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Gael Monfils and Marion Bartoli all on show courts.—Reuters



Rafael Nadal of Spain celebrates defeating Daniel Brands of Germany in their men's singles match during the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris on 27 May, 2013.—REUTERS

Indian weightlifters bag seven more medals

NEW DELHI, 31 May—Indian weightlifters continued to shine at the 15th Asian Youth Weightlifting Championships by bagging

seven medals, including two gold, on the third day in Doha today.

Sambo Lapung clinched two gold and a silver in boys

69kg category. He bagged a silver in snatch (119kg) before winning a gold each in clean and jerk (114kg) and total lift (263kg).—PTI

GENERAL

Sneijder ready to be at his best again in Asia

HOENDERLOO, (Netherlands), 31 May—The Dutch team started its preparation for the forthcoming friendlies against Indonesia and China with captain Wesley Sneijder, ready to leave a turbulent year behind him, he told *Xinhua* in an exclusive interview. The Netherlands set up its training camp in the woods of Hoenderloo to prepare for the matches against Indonesia on 7 June and against China on 11 June in Beijing.

"I am looking forward to it and with me all the others," Sneijder told *Xinhua* in an exclusive interview. "It's a beautiful experience. You don't visit these countries too often normally. If you can combine the visit with a trip like this, that is a bonus."

And for me certainly from the sporting perspective, it's a challenge. Since I have not been at the Dutch team too often recently, I like to play football again. I'm happy to go there." For Sneijder it will not be his first visit to China. In August 2011 he played the Italian Super Cup with Inter against AC Milan, scoring one goal but losing 2-1.

"That was a nice experience in Beijing," he said. "I know the city a bit now, we have been there for a



Wesley Sneijder

week. The atmosphere in the stadium and around the stadium was perfect. I think we are going to experience something like that again. It's nice to take that with me in my career." Sneijder must admit he does not know a lot of the forthcoming opponent, or about Chinese football in general. "Very little, but in the next few days we can prepare ourselves. We still have time. First we have to go elsewhere, to Indonesia."

The European Under 21 Championships will also be played in June and twelve regular players of the first Dutch team will be active at that tournament in Israel. For that reason

the choices of head coach Louis van Gaal were limited and he called up four debutants. However, with one year remaining before the World Cup the battle for a place in the squad has started and lack of motivation will be no issue.

"Many players are missing because they play at the European Championship with the Under 21 team," Sneijder explained. "That is more important than this trip, that is clear. So those guys are missing, but still all the other guys that are here, that are available, will go to China and Indonesia. We will be going there with a good team."

Xinhua

Industrial-size worm farm cuts Sydney waste

SYDNEY, 31 May—A worm farm trial in a Sydney eatery precinct has halved the total waste of a local restaurant and juice shop, saving on rubbish bills and producing fertiliser, the City of Sydney said Friday.

The Green Living Centre held a six-month trial of the farm using a 1,500 litre skip bin to house the worms at their office in Newtown, Sydney.

Over the six months the farm diverted 462 kilograms, the equivalent of 6,500 hamburgers, of food waste from two local businesses, said Project Manager Mithra Cox.

The 323 litres of organic fertilizer produced by the worms was given away to local residents, and is expected to produce about 40 kilograms of compost.

"The worm farm plays an important role in turning food waste into a valuable organic fertilizer, and diverting waste from landfill," said Cox. "This trial has shown that large worm farms can handle commercial quantities of food waste and halve the amount of waste going to landfill from restaurants and food outlets," she added.

Xinhua

US genetically modified wheat find threatens exports, stokes consumer fears



Karen Braun, a senior analyst for Lanworth Commodities, takes photographs of wheat during a study to determine how recent hail storms will effect upcoming crop yields on a farm near Effingham in southern Illinois, on 15 May, 2012.—REUTERS

TOKYO/BRUSSELS, 31 May—Unapproved genetically modified wheat found growing in the United States is threatening the outlook for US exports of the world's biggest traded food commodity, with importers keenly aware of consumer sensitivity to gene-altered food.

Major importer Japan has cancelled a tender offer to buy US western white wheat, while other top Asian wheat importers South Korea, China and the Philippines said they were closely monitoring the situation.

"We will refrain from buying western white and

feed wheat effective today," Toru Hisadome, a Japanese farm ministry official in charge of wheat trading, told *Reuters*.

The European Union is preparing to test incoming shipments, and will block any containing GM wheat. Chicago Board of Trade wheat futures fell 0.5 percent on Thursday.

GM wheat was discovered this spring on a farm in the west coast state of Oregon, in a field that grew winter wheat in 2012. USDA officials said on Wednesday that when a farmer sprayed the so-called "volunteer" plants with a glyphosate herbicide, some of them unexpectedly survived.

Scientists found the wheat was a strain field-tested from 1998 to 2005 and deemed safe before St Louis-based biotech giant Monsanto withdrew it from the regulatory approval process on worldwide op-

position to genetically engineered wheat.

No GM wheat varieties are approved for general planting in the US or elsewhere, the USDA said. The EU has asked Monsanto for a detection method to allow its controls to be carried out.

With high consumer wariness to genetically-modified food, few countries allow imports of such cereals for direct human consumption. However, the bulk of US corn and soybean crops are genetically modified.

The latest finding revives memories of farmers unwittingly planting genetically modified rapeseed in Europe in 2000, while in 2006 a large part of the US long-grain rice crop was contaminated by an experimental strain from Bayer CropScience, prompting import bans in Europe and Japan.

Reuters

Myanmar TV

(1-6-2013, Saturday)

6:00 am	3:00 pm
1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	17. News
6:25 am	3:25 pm
2. To Be Healthy Exercise	18. TV Drama Series
6:30 am	4:00 pm
3. Song & Dance of National Races	19. News
6:40 am	4:30 pm
4. Documentary	20. Song & Dance of National Races
7:00 am	4:25 pm
5. News	21. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Fourth Year (Law)
8:00 am	5:00 pm
6. News/ International News	22. News
8:25 am	5:15 pm
7. India Drama Series	23. Documentary
9:00 am	5:25 pm
8. News	24. Game for Children
9:20 am	6:00 pm
9. Mono Classical Songs	25. News
10:00 am	6:20 pm
10. News	26. Celebrity and Series
10:15 am	7:00 pm
11. TV Drama Series	27. News
11:00 pm	7:15 pm
12. Shwe Yin Khone Than	28. TV Drama Series
11:35 pm	8:00 pm
13. Games for Children	29. News
12:00 pm	8:45 pm
14. News	30. Hit Songs of Stars
12:25 pm	9:00 pm
15. Round Up of The Week's TV Local News	31. News
1:25 pm	32. Myanmar Series
16. Myanmar Movie	33. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

Aichi Steel to offer technical assistance to India's Usha Martin

NAGOYA, 31 May—Aichi Steel Corp has signed an agreement to offer technical assistance to Usha Martin Ltd of India for the production of specialty steel to meet an expected increase in demand from automakers.

Aichi Steel will assist in quality assurance

and provide technical guidance to Usha Martin, a leading producer of steel wire products based in Kolkata, West Bengal. Other details of assistance will be worked out in the days ahead, according to the Japanese company's press release on Thursday.

Kyodo News



Kern, managing director and CEO of Mercedes-Benz India, poses for photos during the launch of new Mercedes-Benz "A-Class" in Mumbai, India, on 30 May, 2013.—XINHUA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Lt-Gen Tarnchaiyan Srisuwan and party from Royal Thai Armed Forces

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—A delegation led by Lt-Gen Tarnchaiyan Srisuwan from Royal Thai Armed Forces who will attend the 2nd Myanmar-Thai Senior Staff Talk paid a call on Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, at 1 pm today.

They held comprehensive discussions on further cementing of friendship between the Myanmar and Thai armed forces in the time of new generation leaders, promotion of relations between the governments, armed forces and peoples of the two countries, holding

of Myanmar-Thai high-ranking military officials meeting and organizing of sport events for enhancing amity among ASEAN armed forces.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army). The Thai delegation was accompanied by senior military officers and Thai Military Attaché (Army) Senior Col Prachern Chaiyakit.

MNA



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Lt-Gen Tarnchaiyan Srisuwan from Royal Thai Armed Forces and party.—MNA

Comprehensive Education Sector Review to be carried out in three phases



Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye delivers an address at meeting on Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR).—MNA

YANGON, 31 May—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye called Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR) an important step in promoting the Myanmar's education standard to international level.

The Union minister, addressing the consultation seminar on the draft report for phase 1 of the CESR,

said the CESR, which is led by the Ministry of Education and involves educational personnel, spoke of the need to listen to the voices of people in designing a modern, comprehensive education system.

He said CESR aims at developing human resources and supporting the State's economic and social sectors. He invited

ideas and suggestions of the representatives from the various sectors of education in Myanmar.

He thanked the partners who supported the CESR process for helping to sketch the roadmap for promotion of Myanmar's education standard to regional level.

Deputy Ministers Dr Myo Myint and U Aye Kyu elaborated on assessment of higher and basic education sectors in the report. Next, CESR national advisor U Tin Nyo, secretary of work committee Director-General Dr Myo Thein Gyi gave suggestions, followed by discussions of participants.

Present on the occasion were Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Hluttaw speakers from regions and states, national advisors, departmental heads, social organizations, ethnic people, women, parents and reps

from community-based organizations.

The Education Ministry sought feedback on recommendations of Myanmar's education reforms presented at the clarification of rapid assessment of comprehensive education sector report phase-1 (draft) on 31 May, 2012.

The similar event was organized in Mandalay on 14 May. In phase-2, suggestions and recommendations will be sought on a wider scale from social organizations, administrative and legislative bodies, political parties, and religious organizations.

The assessment will be carried out in three phase. For details, contact CESR Office, No. 426, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon, email: cesr.mm@gmail.com; Ph: 95-12304285, Fax: 9512304282.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman receives officials of Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering

NAY PYI TAW, 31 May—Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman U Zaw Myint Pe and Committee member U Thein Win received a delegation led by Ms Sisilia Eteuati, Director of Technical Assistance and Training at Asia-Pacific Group on Money

Laundering at the meeting hall of Amyotha Hluttaw (1-20), here, yesterday afternoon. They discussed money-laundering, technical assistance and cooperation matters.

Also present at the call were officials of the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Myanmar bags two gold, six silver, 10 bronze in 2nd SEA Vovinam Championship

YANGON, 31 May—Myanmar bagged two gold, six silver and 10 bronze in the 2nd South East Asian Vovinam Championship 2013 held on 28-30 May in Siem Reap of Cambodia.

Ma Thida Lin secured the first place in solo demonstration event (women) and another gold came from the combined efforts of Ma Cho Ma Linn, Maung Kaung Htet Lian, Maung Aung Thura and Maung Ko Ko Naing in 1+3 team (men/women) event.

The championship came as a tough test to the skills as well as the confidence of Myanmar Vovinam team which participated with full force in a regional tournament for the first time. Vovinam

is the traditional martial arts of Vietnam and will be included in XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar in coming December.

To clinch victory in XXVII SEA Games, players with high potential were selected from Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman's Shield Martial Arts Tournament 2012 and given intensive training at the training camp. The 52-member tentatively selected team underwent a joint-training with Vietnamese counterparts in Vietnam from 16 March to 14 April. Myanmar Vovinam Federation is also planning to hire a Vietnamese coach.

Myanmar Martial Arts Federation



Maung Kaung Htet Lian, Maung Aung Thura, Ma Cho Ma Linn, and Maung Ko Ko Naing in 1+3 team (men/women) event.