

Commander-in-Chief says Armed Forces responsible for “safeguarding constitution” as 69th Armed Forces Day is marked with parade



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects parade companies at 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade in Nay Pyi Taw.—NLM

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—Myanmar’s Armed Forces performed drills and displayed their military hardware during the 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade in Nay Pyi Taw on Thursday, with Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivering a speech on the role of the Armed Forces. He said that according (See page 3)

Media Accreditation for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Council Meeting from 2 to 4 April

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—Local and foreign journalists have been informed to register for media accreditation from 15 to 27 March for the 11th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Meeting and related meetings which will be held in Nay Pyi Taw from 2 to 4 April.

The 11th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Meeting and the press conference will be held only on 4 April, and accreditation cards will be issued to journalists before the morning session of the meeting on that day at Grand Amara Hotel in State Guest House Area of Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

Rakhine State Govt to conduct investigation into riots targeting offices, residences of int’l aid groups

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—The Rakhine State government will carry out a probe into riots that took place on 26 and 27 March, targeting offices and residences of international aid organizations in Sittway town, Rakhine State, the Ministry of Home Affairs said on Thursday.

In the first incident on March 26 at around 8.30 pm, around 50 locals surrounded a facility rented by

the humanitarian organization Malteser International, hurling stones at the house. The attack came in response to the removal of a Buddhist flag hoisted at the house, with officials saying that Mrs Yvonne Dunton, project coordinator of the organization, had taken down the flag.

The crowd dispersed around 11.30 pm after local authority and Buddhist monks intervened.

Following the incidence, Mrs Yvonne Dunton and her husband fled to the house of a man identified as U Aye Tun Sein located in Gaukshi Road.

(See page 8)

Photo shows damages at a building caused by riots in Sittway of Rakhine State.

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Water supply system nearing completion in Yuzana Garden City



YANGON, 27 March—Over 40000 people are re-siding in blocks A, B and C of Yuzana Garden City in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Yangon East District of Yangon Region.

The local people have been using unclean water for many years.

On Wednesday, Chief Minister of Yangon Re-

gion U Myint Swe and region ministers, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Hla Myint and officials inspected water tank and water pumping station near Padauk Road in the city.

Head of Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) U Myint Oo

reported on laying of water pipelines and plans of supplying water to the dwellers with the use of charts.

The Chief Minister and party viewed progress of building water tanks and completion of water pumps and gave instructions on supply of water to the people as soon as possible.

U Kyin Maung



Head of Yangon East District Electricity Supply Board U Phone Myint explains new rates of electric meter bill to the people in Wards 13, 15 and 16 of Yankin Township on 24 March.

THAN MAUNG
(YANKIN)

Rural asphalt road put into service in Bilin Tsp

BILIN, 27 March—In honour of the 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the Daukyat-Khemauk-Tetukon asphalt road was commissioned into service in Bilin Township of Mon State on Wednesday.

Mon State Minister for Forestry and Mining U Win Maw Oo, Mon State Minister for Finance Dr Khin Maung Thwin and officials formally opened the newly-repaved road.

The road is three furlongs long and 12 feet wide, funded K 32.629 million by Rural Development Department.

Thanks to the road, locals of Kadipu and Daukyat villages have easy access to other villages all the year round.—Township IPRD

Fire fighting demonstrated in Phaungpyin

PHAUNGPYIN, 27 March—As part of effort to take fire preventive measures, fire servicemen performed demonstrations on skills of fire fighting in front of the Aung Min-

gala Theatre in Phaungpyin of Mawlaik District in Sagaing Region on Wednesday. Members of the Township Fire Services Department demonstrated fire fighting with the use of

Delivery unit chairman looks into progress of Myitkyina, Waingmaw regions

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March—Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Khin Maung Aye, who is the chairman of Livestock and Fisheries Delivery Unit, on Tuesday met local authorities and departmental officials at the hall of District General Administration Department in Myitkyina of Kachin State.

The deputy minister gave instructions on reform

process, environmental conservation, bio-diversity protection, development of livestock breeding, food sufficiency in Kachin State, prevention against fish resource depletion, cooperation of local people in nation-building endeavours.

The deputy minister on Monday scrutinized the outstanding person of Aung Myint Mo integrated farm for the President's Ex-

cellence Award in Kachin State.

He inspected the progress of Khatcho inter-village road in Waingmaw Township being undertaken by Rural Development Department and tasks of fish hatching camp.

While in Myitkyina, the deputy minister looked into progress of rural housing in Aungmyetha Village in Myitkyina Township.

MNA

Medical treatment given to locals with traditional medicines



MONYWA, 27 March — A squad led by Medical Superintendent U Nay Aung of Monywa Traditional Medicine Hospital made a field trip to Nyaungbingan Village of Myinmu Township, Sagaing Region for providing health care services to the local people with the use of traditional

medicines on 23 March.

The whole day, they gave medical treatment to 205 locals.

Head of Sagaing District Traditional Medicine Department U Soe Kyi cooperated with them in medical treatment. Later, the medical superintendent gave health educative talks

to the people and donated 300 copies of journals to the library of the village.

Po Chan (Monywa)

Legal trade route, the safety way for merchants

MYEIK, 27 March—A meeting on trade promotion was held at the hall of Myeik District Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Myeik of Taninthayi Region on Tuesday.

At the meeting, U Myo Min, Assistant Director of Border Trade Department (Myeik) stressed the need to carry out legal trade route for trade promotion and exceeding the target of trade and explained plans and actual works of export and import trading.

Vice-Chairman of Myeik District CCI U Kyi San and entrepreneurs discussed progress of trade in their respective sectors.

Departmental officials participated in discussion of trade promotion and replied to queries raised by merchants and entrepreneurs. The assistant director reviewed the discussions for trade promotion.—Khaing Htoo (Myeik District IPRD)



NATIONAL

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife host dinner to mark Armed Forces Day

NAY PYI TAW, 27 March — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla hosted a reception and dinner in commemoration of the 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day on the lawns of Zeyathiri Beikman, here, on Thursday evening.

Before and during the dinner and reception, Myawady music band presented songs to the guests. After the dinner, Myawady Anyeint troupe and mobile public relations companies performed entertainments to them.

On Thursday morning, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Thayay Sithu Hla Htay Win made a speech at the ceremony to honour artistes who participated in the tele-plays in honour of the Armed Forces Day.

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thiri Pyanchi Khin Zaw Oo and Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Thiri Pyanchi Yar Pyae presented certificates of honour to the artistes.

At 9.35 am, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Thiri Sithu Hla Htay Win presented best awards in



camp, military song, military disciplines, parade and first, second and third awards for model companies to respective companies.

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thiri Pyanchi Khin Zaw Oo also gave prizes to respective award winning troops.

MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing cordially greets military attaches of foreign missions at the reception in commemoration of the 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day on the lawns of Zeyathiri Beikman building.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief says...

(from page 1)

to the constitution, the Tatmadaw—the Armed Forces—is mainly responsible for safeguarding the constitution, which can only be amended in conformity with chapter 12.

According to chapter 12 of the 2008 constitution, the constitution can only be amended with the prior approval of more than seventy-five percent of the representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Union Parliament.

The Commander-in-Chief also called for respect to be given to the 92.48% of voters who cast their ballot in favour of the constitution during a referendum in 2008.

Back then, 27.28 million out of Myanmar's then population of 57.3 million was eligible to vote in the referendum, with 24.76 million of the 26.7 million people who did cast their ballot, voting in favour of the constitution, he said.

The commander-in-chief called on all people to cooperate with the Tatmadaw as the Armed Forces are assisting the police in the enforcement of rule of law.

The need for the Armed Forces to continue their role in political negotiations in order to find solutions to the political issues in Myanmar was stressed by President U Thein Sein on Wednesday



Dignitaries seen at 69th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day Parade in Nay Pyi Taw.

NLM

in his address to parliament. He did, however, say that the role of the Armed Forces will be gradually reduced as the country matures in democracy.

Regarding social prob-

lems, Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said the country has to solve problems caused by different nationalities who were brought to Myanmar by British colonialists.

He said the Armed Forces are committed to strengthening the friendship and unity among the peoples as the divide-and-rule policy of the British colonialists caused disharmony.—NLM

Military columns taking part at 69th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day Parade in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA



Opening of new library marks 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day



ZABUTHIRI, 27 March—As a gesture of honouring the 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, a new library namely “Helping Hands” was opened in Nyanatheikdi Ward in Zabuthiri Township in Nay

Pyi Taw Council Area on Thursday.

A newly-opened library was funded K 4 million of the parliament’s development fund.

The one-storey building was donated 2000 pub-

lications. Locals are enjoying the benefits of reading thanks to the library.

Township IPRD

Myanmar Passport Office (Hpa-an branch) packed with passport applicants

HPA-AN, 27 March—Passport applicants queue up in front of Myanmar Passport Office (Hpa-an branch) in Hpa-an Township of Kayin State.

The branch office of Hpa-an was opened on 2 January. Passport applicants have been increasing up to 547 from 1 to 19 March, said in-charge of Myanmar Passport Office (Hpa-an branch).

For passport applicant’s convenience, list for the related documents are displayed at the branch office of Hpa-an including

the total cost of passport.

As the government has opened passport offices in more regions and states in Myanmar, local applicants may easily get passports in a short period.

Local passport applicants thank to great efforts made by the government.

Myanmar Passport Office (Hpa-an branch) is facilitated with the strength of seven members of Special Branch of Myanmar Police Force and two of Immigration and National Registration Department.

Tun Tun Htwe (Hpa-an)



Applicants waiting for their turns to take out passports at Passport Office (Hpa-an) Branch.

Taunggyi District IPRD opens PSM course

TAUNGGYI, 27 March—Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) of Taunggyi District, southern Shan State, opened the public service media-PSM course at his office on

Wednesday.

This course that was run up to 30 March covers library service, Internet media service, democratic reform and public service sector, making interview, writing news and article,

taking photo and video, and editing.

The staff members from Taunggyi, Loilem and Langkho District IPRDs attended the five days PSM course.

Moe Lwin Oo (Loilem)

Dragon fruit plantations thriving in Thabeikkyin Tsp

THABEIKKYIN, 27 March—Dragon fruit plantations are cultivated on a commercial scale in Thabeikkyin Township in Mandalay Region.

U Aung Than Oo, a plantation owner, said, “Dragon fruit plants begin to bear fruits in the month of Waso in Myanmar lunar calendar (August). Cost of

purchase for fruit sapling is K 800-K 1000.”

The owner continued, “The fruit is sold at K 1000-K 1200 in Mandalay Market on average. Last year, about 50 dragon fruits plants were grown and sold at K 800,000. At present, a total of 300 plants have been cultivated for this season.” “This region has

favourable condition for agriculture. Dragon fruit plantations are mushrooming across the region,” U Maung Win, another plantation owner, explained.

“A total of 600 plants have been grown for this season. I think those plants would benefit to me surely,” he said.—*Soe Naing Win (Thabeikkyin)*



Photo shows thriving Dragon fruits plantation cultivated on a commercial scale.

Knowledge about gender equality shared in Pathein

PATHEIN, 27 March—Three-day workshop on gender equality and knowledge about Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was held at the Social Welfare Department in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region on Wednesday.

Speaking at the workshop, Head of region Social Welfare Department U Thet Hlaing Tun said that Myanmar has signed convention to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in 1997 and the department has been disseminating knowledge

about gender equality and CEDAW starting from 2010.

He highlighted that emphasis should be placed on gender equality and development of women’s status to keep abreast with other countries.

Pathein District IPRD

Kyonpyaw residents get free eye care

KYONPYAW, 27 March—As part of efforts for eye health of the people, eye specialist of Cak-khupala Free Eye Team performed the eye surgical operations at 145 eye patients on 23 and 24 March

at the People’s Hospital of Kyonpyaw Township in Pathein District, Ayeyawady Region.

Dr Khin Shwe, Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw (National Parliament) Relief and Victims Care

Committee, sponsored all cost of eye operations and care.

The specialists daily provided free eye care to over 100 patients from 23 to 27 March.

Township IPRD

WORLD

India arrests two suspected Pakistani terrorists in northern state

NEW DELHI, 27 March — Indian police had arrested two suspected Pakistani terrorists and seized a huge cache of arms and ammunition from them in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, a senior police official said on Thursday.

“The duo were arrested by officials of the Uttar Pradesh anti-terror squad in Gorakhpur District on Wednesday. They were plotting to disrupt the upcoming general elections, after being recruited by the home grown terror outfit, Indian Mujahideen, whose chief was nabbed on Tuesday,” he said on condition of anonymity.

The arrests were made following revelation by Indian Mujahideen chief

Tehseen Akhtar during interrogation by the intelligence agencies, the official said, adding that the two terrorists entered the district through Nepal which shares border with Uttar Pradesh.

Two days back, Akhtar, who allegedly masterminded serial blasts at a rally of the country’s main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party’s prime ministerial candidate Narendra Modi in the eastern state of Bihar’s capital Patna last year, was arrested from a place close to the Indo-Nepal border.

The terror outfit’s founder, Yasin Bhatkal, was held last year near the border.

Xinhua



Anti-government protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban (2nd L, front) greets supporters during a march through streets in Bangkok, Thailand, on 27 March, 2014. People’s Democratic Reform Committee protesters marched in Bangkok for the fourth day to invite Bangkok people to join their mass rally on Saturday.—XINHUA

Nepal plans free SIM cards to help hikers in distress

KATHMANDU, 27 March — Nepal plans to distribute free SIM cards to trekkers visiting remote areas alone, officials said on Thursday, after several foreign hikers were attacked or went missing in recent years.

Home to eight of the world’s 14 highest mountains including Mount Everest, Nepal hosts thousands of foreign climbers and trekkers every year. But the killing or disappearance of solo trekkers have raised concerns about the safety of tourists.

“When a trekker is lost, it becomes easy to find out the location by tracking the SIM card,” said Sharad Pradhan, a senior Nepal Tourism Board official, told Reuters.

“Trekking in distress can also call us on some specified numbers for help or rescue.”

Mountain climbers and group trekkers are accompanied by local helpers. But thousands who trek alone to remote Himalayan foothills or national parks make emergency rescue or help difficult when they are in distress, authorities said.

Free SIM cards will benefit about 30,000 independent trekkers who go to the remote areas every year. The cards will be handed over to them with their permits.—Reuters



Egypt’s interim President Adly Mansour (L, in suit and tie) meets with Egypt’s army chief Field Marshal Abdel Fattah al-Sisi (seated next to Mansour) and military leaders, in Cairo on 26 March, 2014. — REUTERS

Egypt’s Sisi to run for president, vows to tackle militancy

CAIRO, 27 March — Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, the general who ousted Egypt’s first freely elected leader, declared his candidacy on Wednesday for a presidential election he is expected to easily win. Sisi toppled Mohamed Mursi of the Muslim Brotherhood last July after mass protests against his rule and has emerged as the most influential figure in an interim administration that has governed since then. “I am here before you humbly stating my intention to run for the presidency of the Arab Republic of Egypt,” Sisi said in a televised address to the nation. “Only your support will grant me this great honour.” A Sisi presidency would mark a return to the

days when Egypt was led by men from the military, a pattern briefly interrupted by Mursi’s one year in office after his 2012 victory in Egypt’s first democratic presidential election.

Among his supporters, Sisi is wildly popular. Many see him as the kind of strong man needed to stabilize a country in crisis. But he is reviled by the Islamist opposition as the mastermind of a coup against a freely elected leader. Dressed in military fatigues, Sisi vowed to fight what he described as a terrorist threat facing Egypt, a reference to militant attacks that have spiraled since he ousted Mursi.

“True, today is my last day in military uniform, but I will continue to fight

every day for an Egypt free of fear and terrorism,” said Sisi, 59, who had to resign his posts of army chief and minister of defence so he could run in the election.

General Sedki Sobhi, formally chief of staff, replaces Sisi as head of the army. Seeking to cap sky-high expectations, Sisi warned he could not perform “miracles” in a country of 85 million that is steeped in poverty. “I cannot make miracles. Rather, I propose hard work and self-denial,” he said.

Before his address, state TV broadcast montages including footage of Sisi jogging with troops. He has been lionized by privately owned and state media that are hostile to the Islamists.

Reuters

Bangladesh sets Guinness World Record in chorus national anthem singing

DHAKA, 27 March — Tens of thousands of Bangladeshi volunteers along with the country’s head of the government on Wednesday sang the national anthem in chorus in capital Dhaka on the country’s Independence Day in a bid to breach Guinness World Record. Organizers said 254,681 volunteers from the Bangladesh Army, educational institutions and the general public sang the national anthem in chorus at about 11:00 am local time.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, accompanied by a large number of her cabinet members, also sang in unison the national anthem — “Amar Sonar Bangla Ami Tomai Bhalobash (My Golden Bengal, I Love You).”

Organizers had earlier said the main objective of this event was not only to celebrate Bangladesh’s Independence Day which falls on Wednesday but also to show the world the inner strength and unity of the people of the nation.

According to the organizers, previously in May 2013 an Indian organization had set a Guinness Book record by arranging the singing of the Indian national anthem by 121,653 people.

Bangladesh’s Ministry of Cultural Affairs in collaboration with the Bangladesh Army and other government and non-government organizations arranged the event titled “Lakho Konthe Sonar Bangla (Sonar Bangla in tens of thousands of voices).”—Xinhua

Son of China’s ex-leader eyes visit to Japan to mend bilateral ties

BEIJING, 27 March — The eldest son of late Chinese reformist leader Hu Yaobang is making arrangements to visit Japan from later this month to early April, a source familiar with Japan-China relations said on Thursday.

The envisioned trip by Hu Deping, who is known to be close to Chinese President Xi Jinping, is hoped to “explore the possibility of improving

Japan’s relations with China by getting in touch with Japanese politicians and civilians,” the source said.

The 71-year-old Hu’s visit, if realized, would come at a time when ties between Tokyo and Beijing remain soured over differences in perceptions of wartime history and tensions over the Senkaku Islands, controlled by Japan and claimed by China.

Kyodo News

Japan, S Korea eye senior officials' talks in April

TOKYO, 27 March — Japan and South Korea are considering a meeting of senior officials in April to lay the groundwork for a summit, diplomatic sources said on Thursday.

Foreign Ministry officials from the two countries will step up preparations for the so-called director general-level meeting, including coordination on the issues to be discussed, the sources said.

South Korea has been insisting that the talks exclusively focus on the issue of South Korean women forced to provide sex to

Japanese soldiers before and during World War II. But Japan argues the two sides should discuss a range of bilateral issues.

If the two sides fail to narrow their gaps on the agenda, they may delay the timing of the envisaged meeting, according to the sources.

The two governments agreed to hold a senior officials' meeting after Vice Foreign Minister Akitaka Saiki floated such an idea to South Korean Ambassador to Japan Lee Byung Kee on 17 February, they said.—Kyodo News

UNDP chief stresses climate change, recovery issues after Haiyan

MANILA, 27 March — United Nations Development Programme head Helen Clark underscored on Thursday climate change and the pressing need for recovery in Haiyan-affected areas in the Philippines after seeing for herself the damage left by the world's strongest typhoon to hit land.

Speaking to reporters a day after inspecting Tacloban City in the central Philippines that bore the brunt of super typhoon Haiyan last 8 November,

Clark said, "Livelihood is a very big issue for the whole UN team" since it is a key element to human development following the humanitarian response phase.

She also pointed out the "compelling need for people to be moved out of tents into transitional houses" as part of the permanent recovery phase, adding typhoon season is once again approaching.

"I personally have been impressed by the planning that I see. What

I bring is the commitment of the UN system to align itself behind the plans the government is developing, and to work with the government to support its capacity to do it," Clark, a former prime minister of New Zealand, said.

She added that during her meeting with Philippine President Benigno Aquino she would inform him about the climate change summit UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon will convene for world leaders in September in New York.

"I think this is a very important platform for President Aquino and the Philippines because you bring such direct experience of what a wild climate does to people and to their lives...we have to act. We need a new international agreement which will support countries like the Philippines with adaptation, and support all countries on sustainable pathways to less polluting, less damaging developments," Clark said.—Kyodo News

Pakistani gov't, Taleban hold first round of direct peace talks

ISLAMABAD, 27 March — A Pakistani government's negotiation team held first direct peace talks with Taleban militants and agreed to continue talks to find out a peaceful solution to the conflict in the country, negotiators said on Wednesday.

Head of the Taleban intermediaries Maulana Samiul Haq told the media that the talks were "productive" and that both sides showed willingness to continue the dialogue process.

He said both sides listened to each other's views in the seven-hour talks in a

"cordial atmosphere."

Five members of the Taleban political council attended the talks. Qari Shakil Haqqani led the Taleban delegation in the face-to-face talks in Tull, Hangu District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province.

Both sides did not issue any formal statement at the conclusion of the talks. However, the Taleban intermediaries said they were satisfied with the outcome of the talks.

"The direct talks and agreement to continue talks are big achievements," said Maulvi Yousaf Shah, who

also attended Wednesday's talks.

He did not reply to query if the Taleban agreed to extend their month-long ceasefire they had declared on 1 March.

"The understanding is the ceasefire will continue during the talks," Shah said, adding that the Taleban and the government negotiators will apprise the leadership of the details of the talks. In a positive response to the Taleban ceasefire, the government had also suspended airstrikes against Taleban hideouts in Waziristan tribal region.—Xinhua

Ukraine, Russia dominate EU-US Summit



US President Barack Obama (L), European Council President Herman Van Rompuy (C) and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso hold a joint Press conference during the EU-US Summit at the EU Headquarters in Brussels on 26 March, 2014.—XINHUA

BRUSSELS, 27 March — The leaders of European Union and United States vowed on Wednesday to support Ukraine and "intensify sanctions" on Russia if things "further escalating."

"If the Russian leadership thought the world would not care about Ukraine, they clearly miscalculated," Obama said at

a Press conference after the EU-US summit meeting.

"There is still a way for Russia to work with Ukraine," Obama added.

"We support Ukraine", and in case of further escalation, the EU and the US are ready to "intensify sanctions," said European Council President Herman Van Rompuy in the same conference.

Van Rompuy also said that sanctions are a positive incentive to seek a diplomatic solution. While the president of European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso called the Ukraine crisis a "wake up call" for the EU that the EU need to become less dependent from energy coming from "difficult spots", indicating from Russia.—Xinhua



Teachers participate in a national teachers march outside the Education Ministry in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 26 March, 2014. The march organized in defence of public education and salary, is carried out in the framework of a strike which has lasted 15 days by the teachers in Buenos Aires Province.—XINHUA

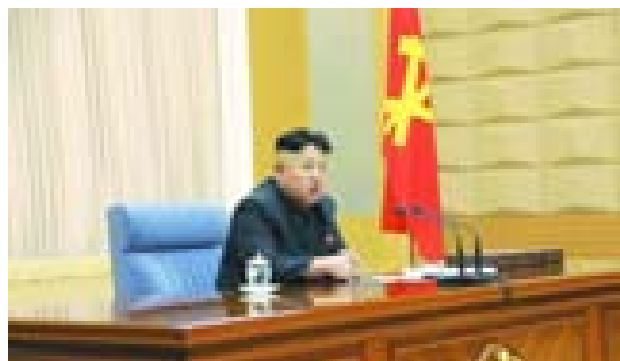
UN Security Council to meet Thursday on North Korea missile launch

UNITED NATIONS, 27 March — The UN Security Council will hold closed-door consultations on Thursday to discuss a possible condemnation of North Korea's latest ballistic missile launches, UN diplomats said. The request for a special session on North Korea came from the United States, council diplomats told Reuters on condition of anonymity on Wednesday. The meeting of the 15-nation council was scheduled for 4:30 p.m. EDT (2030 GMT)

on Thursday.

The UN mission of Luxembourg, which holds the presidency of the Security Council this month, announced on its Twitter feed that UN political affairs chief Jeffrey Feltman would brief council members on developments on the Korean peninsula during the session.

In what appeared to be a show of defiance, North Korea fired two medium-range Rodong ballistic missiles into the sea at 2:35 am Japan and Korea time, both Tokyo



North Korea leader Kim Jong Un presides over a meeting of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea in this undated photo released by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang on 17 March, 2014.—REUTERS

and Seoul said. North Korea's first firing in four years of mid-range Rodong missiles that can hit Japan followed a series of short-range rocket launches over the past two months.

In Seoul, South Korean Defence Ministry spokesman Kim Min-seok called the launches "a clear violation of UN Security Council resolutions and a grave provocation against South Korea and the international community". South Korea is a temporary member of the

Security Council.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's press office issued a statement condemning the latest missile launch.

"Such launches are contrary to building trust in the region. The Secretary-General urges the DPRK (North Korea) to cease its ballistic missile activities and focus, together with other countries concerned, on the dialogue and diplomacy necessary to maintain regional peace and security," the statement said.

Reuters

WORLD

Japan to propose 32 festivals as UNESCO cultural heritage

TOKYO, 27 March — The Japanese government decided on Thursday to propose a set of 32 traditional festivals in 18 prefectures for registration by UNESCO as an intangible cultural heritage.

The proposal will be filed with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization by Monday with the aim of gaining registration in 2015, the Cultural Affairs Agency said.

The 32 Yamahoko

float ceremonies and parades around the country include two in Kyoto and Ibaraki prefectures that are already on the UNESCO heritage list. The proposal aims to integrate them with 30 other festivals.

“The proposal is aimed at demonstrating the diversity of Yamahoko culture, which has been strengthening people-to-people links through generations,” a government official said.

Kyodo News



Venezuelan opposition Congresswoman Maria Corina Machado (C) delivers a speech during a rally at Brion de Chacaito Square, in Caracas, Venezuela, on 26 March, 2014. XINHUA

Hong Kong delegation to attend International Summit on teaching profession

HONG KONG, 27 March — Hong Kong's Secretary for Education Eddie Ng on Wednesday led a delegation to attend the International Summit on the Teaching Profession 2014 in Wellington, New Zealand. According to the city government, the two-day event, on 28 and 29 March, will bring together education ministers and teaching profession members from top-performing countries

and regions in the Programme for International Student Assessment 2012 to discuss building and supporting teaching excellence.

Hong Kong students performed in the top three in the world for reading, mathematical and scientific literacy in the programme.

The summit will consider the best practices worldwide for strengthening the teaching

profession and raising student achievement. Education ministers from Singapore, Finland, Britain, the United States and Canada will also participate.

Ng will meet and exchange views with New Zealand key education officials, including the minister for tertiary education, skills and employment, the minister for education, and the secretary for education.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 25 March, 2014 shows a model of East Japan Railway Co's new Onagawa Station in Onagawa Town, Miyagi Prefecture, designed by Japanese architect Shigeru Ban, winner of the 2014 Pritzker Architecture Prize. The north-eastern Japan town was devastated by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

KYODO NEWS

Nepali PM Sushil Koirala: the poorest head of state in entire world

KATHMANDU, 27 March — The Greek philosopher, Plato, once said that a true leader should be “truly rich, not in silver and gold, but in virtue and wisdom which are the true blessings of life.” Nepal's Prime Minister Sushil Koirala seem to fit Plato's definition of a genuine leader.

Koirala has amazed not only Nepalis but the international community as well with his austere lifestyle and unpretentious way of running a country.

According to the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Min-

isters(OPMCM), which disclosed last week the assets of top government officials including Koirala and members of Council of Ministers, Koirala does not own a house, a car, or real properties. He does not have a bank deposit or jewellery nor has any sort of financial transactions with others. The only assets of the prime minister are an iPhone and two mobile phones and one is not even working.

With just three sets of electronic gadgets, Koirala is probably the poorest head of the state in the en-

tire world. The details of Koirala's assets have been uploaded in the OPMCM's official website.

The Nepal government has earlier directed the prime minister and all ministers to disclose their assets following the formation of the current government. “This was shocking to all of us who went through the property details of PM Koirala as we found that he listed only three cell phones as his possession,” an official at OPMCM told Xinhua on Wednesday preferring anonymity.

Xinhua

N Korea conducting drills with mock-up targets of S Korea

SEOUL, 27 March — North Korea has been conducting military drills with mock-up targets of South Korean frontline bunkers, Yonhap News Agency reported on Thursday, citing a senior South Korean military source.

“The North Korean military has openly carried out the drills with very specific targets to make surprise attacks or infiltrate into GPs or GOPs,” the source was quoted as saying. The report surfaced after tensions hiked on the Korean Peninsula by North Korea's test-firing of two mid-range ballistic missiles on Wednesday.

The missile launches, made in about five years, were timed for the trilateral summit between South Korea, the United States and Japan, which was held in The Hague on the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit.

North Korea also launched a spate of short-range missiles and rockets from its east coast since late February in a move widely seen as a show of force against the ongoing joint military drills between South Korea and the United States.

In response to the North's military moves, South Korea's Defence

Ministry said it is closely watching the North and is fully prepared for any contingency.

Yonhap said the North Korean Army has conducted infiltration drills under scenarios in which the artillery units strike mock-up military camp sites similar to the South Korean Army's general posts (GPs) and general outposts (GOPs) in the middle of day.

In response to the North's drills, South Korean Army troops have stepped up their guard near the border and monitoring of the North Korean military.—Kyodo News

Iran fuel price hikes will be big test for Rouhani

ANKARA, 27 March — Looming fuel price rises in Iran will be the first major test of President Hassan Rouhani's ability to retain public support in the face of attacks from his hardline rivals. Since he was elected in August, Rouhani has pleased many Iranians by reaching an interim agreement with the United States

and the European Union on his country's nuclear programme, and pursuing a deal that would end economic sanctions against Iran.

He has promised more social freedoms and repaired some of the economic damage of the sanctions; the rial currency has stabilized and sky-high inflation

has started to come down.

But this could be threatened if Rouhani's government mishandles planned cuts in the massive state subsidies which keep domestic prices of gasoline and other fuels far below global levels.

The cuts are a key part of Rouhani's efforts to reform the economy after years of erratic management under his predecessor, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. But they will be painful for many Iranians and therefore eat into Rouhani's political capital, which he needs to overcome domestic resistance to a nuclear deal. “People voted for Rouhani in the hope that he would decrease their living costs, not increase them,” said Karim Sadjadpour, an Iran expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in the United States.—Reuters



Iran's President Hassan Rouhani speaks during an event hosted by the Council on Foreign Relations and the Asia Society in New York on 26 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 28 March, 2014

Unity a pillar of peaceful democracy

By Myo Than

Myanmar's democratic reform process has now been going on three years. We have seen a flood of reforms. Nobody can deny that the country is seeing progress and development

in every sector due to its sweeping reforms. But while some reforms can be made in a short period of time, others need longer as mistakes must be avoided.

The government is taking short-and long-term measures to continue working on its democratic reforms. Handling the reform process in a careful manner is vital. Peace and stability are crucial for a democratic transition. Only when there is a sense of unity among all citizens, will the country's path to democracy be smooth. President U Thein Sein said in his address to the Union Parliament on the occasion of the third anniversary of his tenure, "the remaining two years will be a test for the government on how it can make more efforts for the people and the country."

Unity plays a crucial role in marching toward a democratic country and must come from the efforts of each and every citizen. Only when there is peace and stability, will progress and development prevail.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

Census Taking

Census, this term itself comes from Latin word. A census is the procedure of systematically acquiring and recording information about the members of a given population. It is a regularly occurring and official count of a particular population. The term is used mostly in connection with national population and housing census as; other common censuses include agriculture, business and traffic censuses. In the latter cases the elements of the 'population' are farms, business, and so forth, rather than people.

The United Nations defines the essential features of population and housing censuses as "individual enumeration, universality within a defined territory, simultaneity and defined periodicity" and recommends that population censuses be taken at least every (10) years.

The census can be

contrasted with sampling in which information is obtained only from a subset of a population, sometimes as an intercensal estimate. Census data is commonly used for research, business marketing, and planning,

Sann Ni Lar Winn

as well as a baseline for sampling surveys. Census counts are necessary to adjust samples to be representative of a population by weighting them as is common in opinion polling. Similarly stratification requires knowledge of the relative sizes of different population strata which are derived from census enumerations. In some countries, census data are used to apportion electoral representation.

An important aspect of census enumerations is deciding which individuals to include within a national population. Broadly, three definitions can be used: de

facto residence; de jure residence; and permanent residence. This is important to consider individuals who have multiple or temporary a dress. Every person should identified uniquely as resident in on place but

where they happen to be on census day, their de facto residence, may not be the best place to count them. Where an individual uses services may be more useful and this is at their usual, or de jure, residence. An individual may be represented at a permanent address, perhaps a family home for students or long term migrants.

It is necessary to have a precise definition of residence to decide whether visitors to a country should be included in the population count. This is becoming more important as students travel abroad for education for a period of

several years. Other groups causing problems of enumeration are new born babies, refugees, people away on holiday, people moving home around census day, and people without a fixed address.

Tracing back the history of census taking, we can find out that census was taken in times of King Thadoezapudipa Mahadazarazad of Tagaung Dynasty and BC 500. After that in Myanmar era 999 under the rule of King Tharlon as well as Myanmar Kongbaung Dynasty population was counted respectively.

Census was also taken under the imperialist English Government. It was taken in lower Myanmar (Previously lower Burma) in AD 1872. It has since been called 'THEGAUNG-SAYINN' in Myanmar language meaning 'Midnight Census' because census was taken at midnight.

Moreover from 1881 onwards population census was taken every 10 years. The censuses taken from

1872 to 1931 were contained in the Indian census because at that time Myanmar was treated as a Province of India. As Myanmar was separated from India in 1936, only the population census of 1941 under the British Government became a separate census of Myanmar.

After independence of Myanmar population was counted in 252 towns in 1953. It was also counted in more than 2000 villages close to the towns. In taking population census in 1957, sampling method was used. Under the Revolutionary Council Government in 1972, the census law was promulgated and then population census was taken in 1973 with the objectives to promulgate the State Constitution by Referendum. Then census was taken in 1983 again.

The census should be considered as a national duty because the government need to get correct data to be able to fulfill the needs of the citizens. The government has to

take about two years to prepare for the national census in 30 years and has been closely working together with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to carry out the task.

The national census will start at midnight of 30 March and end on 10 April. The census taking is a noble national-task in every country. Census data is used to take for current population, economic and social facts. Besides, we must know concern with lawful immigration differently by taking census. Migration has continued under the form of both voluntary migration within one's region, country, or beyond and involuntary migration (which includes trafficking in human beings and ethnic cleansing). Every national citizens always ought to protect the danger of illegal immigration according to the Myanmar Immigration (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1947.

Rakhine State Govt to conduct ...

(from page 1)

As the mob moved to the house of U Aye Tun Sein to demand the hand-over of the woman, police arrived to escort her and her husband to a guest-house owned by the local police force.

Later, around 300 people destroyed the offices and residences of international aid worker—house of U Pan Tha on U Uttama Road, Malteser Office at the house of U Kyaw Than on Gaukshi Road, MSF office at the house of U Than Aung on U Uttama Road, MSF office at the house of U Tin Hlaing on Gaukshi Road and Malteser Office at the house of Daw Than Myint on U Uttama Road. The security forces

had to fire about 100 warning shots. The crowd dispersed around midnight.

Thursday morning at around 10.45 am, around 200 local people surrounded a residence of ICRC workers in Sittway, throwing stones at the house and damaging windows as well as breaking the windshield of a car. The crowd dispersed around 11.50 am as the security forces fired five warning shots and the crowd dispersed.

The office of UNHCR was attacked the same day in Sittway by a mob which hurled stones, with the OCHA office and a garage used by the WFP also targeted. Security forces fired 15 warning shots.

A total of 71 aid work-

ers, including 32 foreigners, have been evacuated and are now staying at the guest house of the local police force.

Local authorities and monks have called on all people to abide by the rule of law, with the local police force saying it is providing security to the international aid workers.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has announced that it will carry out an investigation into the incidents, and that actions will be taken against those who got involved in the incidents.

MNA

Photo shows damages of packages from aid of UNHCR warehouse caused by riots in Sittway.—MNA

UEC member leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 27 March—Union Election Commission member U Myint Naing and Chairman of

Bago Region Union Election Sub-Commission U Win Maung left Yangon for Thailand on Thursday

morning to attend the Senate Election to be held in Thailand.

MNA



PHOTO GALLERY DEPICTING IMAGES OF 69TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY



A military helicopter bearing State Flag at Armed Forces Day ceremony.—MNA



Defence Attaches of foreign countries enjoy observance of 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day on 27 March, 2014.—MNA



Servicemen marching into Parade Ground for attending 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA



Armoured vehicles driving to parade ground at 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day ceremony.—MNA



Mobile rocket launchers rolling into parade ground to take part in 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day.—MNA

UN agencies warn of worsening humanitarian situation in Sudan and South Sudan

NAIROBI, 27 March — Seven international aid agencies warned on Wednesday of worsening humanitarian situation in Sudan and South Sudan and called on the international to scale up response.

Operations Director of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) John Ging

cited an urgent need to mobilize funding for the crisis in Sudan, where some 6.1 million people currently need assistance, a 40 percent increase over this time last year.

“The people of Sudan are facing an overwhelming humanitarian crisis that has almost entirely slipped off the international

community’s radar,” Ging said in a statement received in Nairobi on .

The agencies — FAO, UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR, IOM, OCHA and Danish Refugee Council — expressed deep concern about the massive and growing humanitarian needs in Sudan and the conflict devastating South

Sudan and its people.

According to UN, malnutrition and food insecurity are escalating at an “alarming” rate, with some 500,000 children affected.

The situation is particularly dire in Darfur, where renewed violence is displacing larger and larger numbers of civilians — almost 400,000 newly

displaced in 2013, and almost 200,000 more so far this year.

He added that the situation in Sudan requires an end to conflict and a more generous response from the international community.

So far this year, the UN and partners have only received 3 percent of the 995 million US dollars re-

quested for humanitarian activities in Sudan.

Ging said that the emergency directors engaged in a constructive dialogue with Sudanese authorities and emphasized the need for greater access for humanitarian organizations particularly in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile States.—Xinhua

Jordan’s king reiterates support for Palestinian-Israeli peace talks

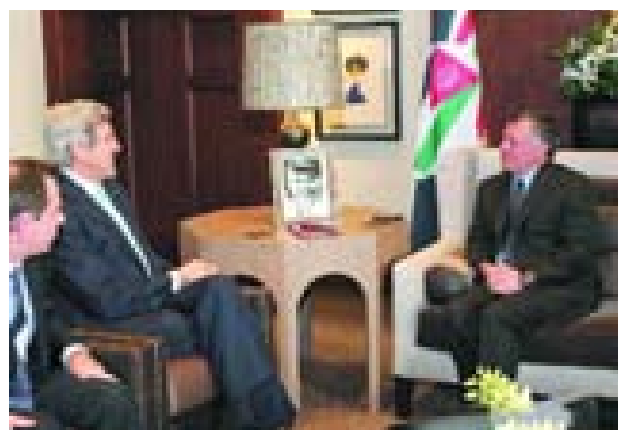
AMMAN, 27 March — Jordan’s King Abdullah II on Wednesday voiced his support for the Palestinian-Israeli peace talks, the state-run Petra news agency reported.

At a meeting with visiting US Secretary of State John Kerry, the King said the peace talks should be based on the 2002 Arab peace initiative, which attempted to normalize relations between Arab countries and Israel in return

for a complete withdrawal from territories Israel occupied in 1967.

Discussions between them also focused on the latest developments in the peace process, the report said. The King underlined the needs for attaining a just and lasting peace which could lead to the creation of an independent Palestinian state, but in a manner that also protects the top interests of Jordan.

Xinhua



King Abdullah II of Jordan (R) meets with visiting US Secretary of State John Kerry (2nd L) in Amman, capital of Jordan, on 26 March, 2014.—XINHUA

Three Gorges Dam not affected by tremor

YICHANG, 27 March — The Three Gorges hydropower project in central China was operating normally after a 4.3-magnitude earthquake jolted the area early on Thursday, operators said.

The epicenter of the tremor which happened at 12:20 am was in Zigui County, some 30 km from the Three Gorges Dam, according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre.

The quake was felt at the dam area but has not affected the normal operation of the project, said an administration official from the China Three Gorges Corporation.—Xinhua

ASEAN Culture Mini Festival launched in Brunei

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 27 March — The two-day ASEAN Mini Festival, themed “Festival of ASEAN Cultural Expressions,” aimed to showcase the regional identity of ASEAN to the world, opened at the Airport Mall, Brunei on Wednesday. In the opening remarks, minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hazair, said “ASEAN countries shared many similarities and common roots in their traditional games. The common traditional games and other traditional games in ASEAN can easily foster transnational cultural understanding which can become an effective vehicle to

regional political, economic and cultural integration thus the realization of the ASEAN Community by 2015. Traditional games can be seen as added value in terms of cultural comprehension and mutual tolerance both within the community of nations and between them.”

About 40 participants from ASEAN including Brunei participated in the Mini festival which showcases the various traditional games of each ASEAN country. The Mini Festival will provide opportunities to experience the wealth of arts and culture found around the ASEAN region as well as in fostering regional development.—Xinhua

A student participates in a protest during the general strike called by the five worker’s centrals, in Asuncion, Paraguay, on 26 March, 2014. The worker’s centrals demands include a new adjustment to the minimum wage of 25 percent, the rejection of the increase in transportation rates, products and basic services. The syndicates also demand “free and good quality education and health services”, generation of “decent” jobs and syndical liberty.—XINHUA



Villager stabs seven people in southern China

BEIJING, 27 March — A Chinese man stabbed at seven fellow villagers in southern Guangxi province on Thursday, seriously injuring a four-year-old boy and a woman, state news agency Xinhua said.

Xinhua did not specify the motive for the attack on its official microblog. It said the man surnamed Lu had attacked seven people,

including two children, in his village on the outskirts of Qinzhou city.

The suspect was taken into custody at the local police station, Xinhua said.

China is still jittery after a mass stabbing at a train station in the southwestern city of Kunming about three weeks ago left 29 people dead and about 140 wounded. The govern-

ment blamed that attack on militants from Xinjiang, the far western region that is home to a large Muslim Uighur minority. Thursday’s attack occurred nearly two weeks after at least six people died in a knifing incident in central China’s Changsha city, in what appeared to be a dispute involving market vendors from Xinjiang.—Reuters

Chinese president pays tribute to Charles de Gaulle

PARIS, 27 March — Visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping paid tribute to General Charles de Gaulle on Wednesday at the late French leader’s namesake foundation, where he also met a group of French friends.

Accompanied by French Foreign and Education Ministers Laurent Fabius and Vincent Peillon, Xi visited the former office of Charles de Gaulle and laid a wreath at the general’s bronze statue.

Addressing the French friends there, Xi said that it was the decision made by Chairman Mao Zedong and General Charles de Gaulle 50 years ago that brought China and France together, ushering in a new era in China-France ties.

As the two nations are celebrating five decades of their diplomatic ties this year, it is time to further appreciate the far-sightedness, wisdom and courage of the two late leaders, he said.—Xinhua



Image provided by the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD), shows SENAD’s agents guarding a shipment of seized marijuana, in Asuncion, Paraguay, on 26 March, 2014. SENAD’s agents intercepted on Wednesday a shipment of marijuana that was heading to Chile, according to local Press.

XINHUA

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

How low can you go? This whale is the champion of deep diving

WASHINGTON, 27 March — If there were a gold medal for cetacean diving, it undoubtedly would go to the Cuvier's beaked whale.

Scientists said on Wednesday they tracked these medium-sized whales off the coast of California using satellite-linked tags as the creatures dove down nearly 1.9 miles and spent two hours and 17 minutes underwater before resurfacing.

Those are breath-taking accomplishments for an air-breathing creature. In fact, those figures represent both the deepest and the longest dives ever documented for any marine mammal, said Greg Schorr of the Cascadia Research Collective in Olympia, Washington, who led the study published in the journal *PLOS ONE*.

"Many creatures live at the depths these whales dive to, including their likely primary prey of squid

and fish. However, there is a major difference between these whales and the other creatures living deep in the ocean - the fundamental requirement to breathe air at the surface," Schorr said.

"Taking a breath at the surface and holding it while diving to pressures over 250 times that at the surface is an astounding feat," Schorr added.

By way of comparison, the record for a person holding his breath underwater is 22 minutes, according to the Guinness Book of World Records. A person, of course, would never survive the bone-crushing water pressure at those stupendous depths.

Cuvier's beaked whales are widely distributed in many deep-water regions from the tropics to cool temperate waters, though not in polar regions. They measure up to about 23 feet long, with stout bodies shaped a bit like a tor-



The head of an adult male Cuvier's beaked whale is pictured as it surfaces in this undated handout photo obtained by Reuters on 26 March, 2014.—REUTERS

pedo. Their foreheads slope into a short beak with a slightly upturned mouth — leaving them with a vaguely "smiling" appearance.

Their colour ranges from gray to a reddish-brown to a pale white.

Some are marked with linear white scars caused by males raking other males with their teeth, perhaps while competing for females.

They feed primarily on deep-water squid and some

fish near the ocean floor.

"This species is highly adapted to deep diving, spending less than two minutes at the surface between dives," Schorr said. "These are social, warm-blooded mammals that have adapted

to actively pursue their prey at astounding depths — all while up to 1.8 miles away from their most basic physiological need: air."

A number of marine mammals are known for their deep-diving abilities. The sperm whale, the largest of the toothed whales, also swims into the ocean depths to find prey. But the deep dives of sperm whales generally are less than six-tenths of a mile and are followed by much longer periods of time spent at the surface, Schorr said.

Elephant seals have been documented making incredibly long and deep dives. Until this new data about Cuvier's beaked whales, the records for deepest and longest dives by a marine mammal had been held by elephant seals - so named because adult males have large noses that look a bit like an elephant's trunk.

Reuters

Microsoft, Dell seal Android, Chrome royalty pact

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 March — Microsoft Corp (MSFT.O) and Dell Inc have sealed a patent licensing deal under which Dell will pay the software giant royalties on sales of devices powered by Google Inc's (GOOG.O) Android or Chrome software. The two companies will license to each other intellectual property related to Android and Chrome devices, such as "Chromebooks" based on Google's Chrome operating system.

Microsoft is locked in a



A Google Android figurine sits on the welcome desk as employee Tracy McNeilly smiles at the new Google office in Toronto, on 13 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

battle with Google to ensure that handset makers using the free Android phone operating system pay Microsoft a license fee. Most of the larger handset makers, such as Samsung, LG and HTC, have already agreed to pay Microsoft a royalty on Android smartphones that Microsoft believes may infringe its patents.—Reuters



Visitors check out products at the ZTE stand at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, on 24 Feb, 2014. —REUTERS

China's ZTE says 4G phones will be 40 percent of 2014 global smartphone shipments

HONG KONG, 27 March — ZTE Corp, the world's seventh-biggest smartphone maker, sees sales of 4G smartphones accounting for at least 40 percent of its global smartphone shipments in 2014, Zeng Xuezhong, ZTE's global head of mobile devices, told reporters at a Hong Kong press conference on Thursday. Shenzhen-based ZTE, smaller than its cross-town rival Huawei Technol-

ogies Co Ltd, aims to ship 60 million smartphones in 2014, up 20 million units from last year.

ZTE returned to net profit last year after making a loss in 2012, it said on Wednesday. However operating revenue for the year dropped 10.6 percent, its biggest ever decline, to hit the lowest level in three years.

Reuters

Judge tosses lawsuit against Facebook over use of minors' photos

NEW YORK, 27 March — A California federal judge has dismissed a proposed class action lawsuit against Facebook Inc that had accused the company of misappropriating the names and likenesses of minors who use the social network.

At issue was Facebook's use of minors' names and photos in targeted advertising in a case that highlighted privacy concerns. The lawsuit, originally filed in Illinois in 2011, had sought to represent all minors that used Facebook and had their names used in an ad.

In a ruling on Wednesday, US District Judge Richard Seeborg ruled that the minors gave their consent when they signed up for Facebook under a "statement of rights and responsibilities" that governs the site.

Reuters



A portrait of the Facebook logo in Ventura, California on 21 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

Samsung Galaxy S5 rollout moved forward in S Korea

SEOUL, 27 March — South Korea's three mobile carriers have brought forward the launch of Samsung Electronics Co Ltd's (005930.KS) flagship Galaxy S5 smartphone to Thursday, in a bid to cushion the blow from a sales suspension slapped on the operators.

Regulators have banned SK Telecom Co Ltd (017670.KS), KT Corp (030200.KS) and LG UPlus Corp (032640.KS) from signing up new customers or replacing phones for some existing customers for various periods totalling 45 days between 13 March and 19 May.

The bans coincide with the planned global launch of Galaxy S5 on 11 April, and sparked concerns that the key model could get off to a slow start in its home market.

The model already lacks sweeping hardware improvements and faces intensifying competition from smaller competitors at home and abroad. SK Telecom, South Korea's biggest mobile carrier, said it started to offer the Galaxy S5 at 866,800 Korean won on Thursday, cheaper than its predecessor.—Reuters



The new Samsung Galaxy S5 smartphone (L), Gear 2 smartwatch (C) and Gear Fit fitness band are displayed at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on 23 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

Interpol to inaugurate new facility, int'l meeting in Singapore next year

SINGAPORE, 27 March — Interpol, the international police organization, expects to officially open its Global Complex for Innovation in Singapore on 13 April next year, an official of the organization said on Wednesday.

The complex will be a cutting-edge research and development facility for the identification of crimes and criminals, innovative training, operational support and partnerships. The organization has said that it is building the facility in Singapore to complement its general secretariat in Lyon, France and to enhance its presence in Asia. Speaking at a Press conference here, Julia Viedma, director of Interpol's international partnerships and development unit, said the organization is also planning to launch the Interpol World, an international security event, in April next year.

"Interpol World represents a new paradigm of closer collaboration between the public and private sectors to address new and increasingly complex security challenges facing the world today," she said.

The event consists of four main pillars such as a public-private partnership meeting, an expo, a congress and a dialogue. The inaugural edition will focus on domains such as cyber security, safe cities, border management and supply chain security.—Xinhua



Japan Airlines shows its newly added area of Sakura Lounges in the expanded section of Haneda airport's international terminal building in Tokyo to the press on 25 March, 2014. Azusa Ogasawara (L), winner of the "Hirosaki-jo Miss Sakura Grand Prix" (Hirosaki Castle Miss Cherry Blossom Grand Prix) from Aomori Prefecture, attended the event.—KYODO NEWS

Illegal online access doubled in 2013, Net banks targeted

TOKYO, 27 March — The National Police Agency said on Thursday police logged nearly 3,000 cases of illegal unauthorized Internet access in 2013, more than double the previous year, due chiefly to a surge in breaches of online bank accounts. The police counted a record 2,951 cases of violations of the law banning unauthorized online access, up 1,700 from the previous year. Authorities took law-enforcement actions such as arrests in 145 cases, also a record high, marking a rise of nine, the agency said.

A sharp 14-fold increase was observed in fund transfers from Internet bank accounts after account holders' personal computers were infect-

ed with virus programs to steal IDs and passwords, the agency said. These cases totaled 1,325.

The agency said it is difficult to track down perpetrators of these illegal fund transfers because they often use complex access methods involving overseas computer servers and software enabling online anonymity. No arrests or law-enforcement actions were made in these cases last year.

"By improving technical capabilities and strengthening cooperation with investigative authorities of foreign countries, we want to crack down on these cases," an agency official said.

The second-most frequent cases were online

shopping using stolen IDs and passwords, followed by unauthorized operations of social networking sites and online games, and by unauthorized modification and deletion of websites.

The law banning unauthorized access prohibits acts such as the use of other people's IDs and passwords without consent or accessing computers through a security hole. It carries a penalty of up to three years in prison or a fine of up to 1 million yen.

Broader "cyber-crimes," including illegal access and online fraud, or violations of the child prostitution and pornography law involving the Internet, totaled a record 8,113 cases, up 779, according to the police.—Kyodo News

Bad weather suspends search for missing Malaysian airliner

CANBERRA, 27 March — The search in the southern Indian Ocean for signs of missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 was suspended Thursday due to bad weather.

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) said through its Twitter feed that all aircraft were returning to Perth and all ships were leaving the search area.

Six military aircraft from four countries and five

civil aircraft were scheduled to join the search on Thursday along with four Chinese ships and one Australian vessel. The search area is more than 2,500 km from the southwest Australian city of Perth.

On Wednesday, the Malaysian government announced that analysts had found in satellite photos from France 122 unidentified objects floating in the southern Indian Ocean search area.—Xinhua

Philippine rebels forge peace pact with gov't

MANILA, 27 March — The Philippines' largest rebel group on Thursday signed a comprehensive peace agreement with the central government, ending 17 years of negotiations and more than four decades of insurgency mainly in the southern island of Mindanao.

The signing of the five-page document that sums up and formalizes the important agreements on transition, wealth-sharing and revenue generation, power-sharing and normalization was done by negotiators from both the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, as well as the facilitator from Malaysia, which has brokered the talks since 2001.

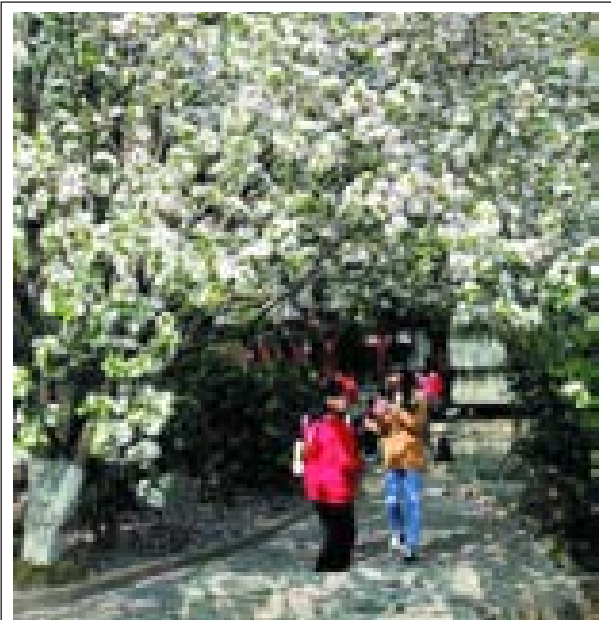
The agreement paves the way for the creation by 2016 of a new political entity called Bangsamoro in

the mostly Muslim-occupied region in southwestern and central Mindanao, which will be ratified by a plebiscite among the affected residents.

"The Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro brings with it the restoration of the identity, powers and resources of the Bangsamoro. These three things, which have been ours since time immemorial, unjustly taken through colonization and occupation, are now returned to us," MILF chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim said in a speech.

Murad joined Teresita Deles, the presidential adviser on the peace process, Philippine President Benigno Aquino, and Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak in witnessing the signing held at the Presidential Palace.

Kyodo News



Tourists view the cherry blossoms at the Wulongtan park in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 27 March, 2014.—XINHUA

Australian police smash criminal gangs, seize cash, assets in Queensland drug raids

BRISBANE, (Australia), 27 March — A combined total of 7 million AU dollars (6.4 million US dollars) in cash and assets have been seized in raids across Australia's Queensland over the past two days, Queensland Police confirmed on Wednesday.

Twelve people have been charged with drug trafficking after police executed 28 search warrants at properties throughout Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

Queensland police say they've dismantled two criminal gangs and netted 1 million AU (0.92 million US dollars) in cash linked

to criminal activities in Queensland and Victoria.

Assets, including luxury cars, worth more than 6 million AU dollars (5.5 million US dollars), have also been seized during the operation.

In all, police seized 85 kilograms of cannabis in the raids, together with weapons and drug-making equipment.

Officers from Queensland's anti-gang Taskforce Maxima, Victoria's Police Crime Command, and Australian Federal Police from the National Anti-Gangs Squad, took part in the operation.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 22 March, 2014 shows the cracked floor of the Chuanqian Reservoir in Heba Town of Fenggang County in Zunyi City, southwest China's Guizhou Province. The lingering drought here makes the water level of the Chuanqian Reservoir, the only drinkable water reservoir of the Fenggang County, fall from 783 meters to less than 770 metres, affecting daily lives of more than 60,000 people.

XINHUA

2 killed in road mishap in western India

NEW DELHI, 27 March — At least two people were charred to death in a fire which broke out when a tempo rammed into a stationary luxury bus in the western Indian state of Maharashtra on Thursday, a senior police official said.

"The incident happened on Mumbai-Pune Expressway when the tempo rammed into the Volvo bus in Talegaon region from behind. The impact of the collision was such that the tempo caught fire, killing the driver and the cleaner of the vehicle," he said on condition of anonymity. However, all the passengers of the bus escaped unhurt, the official said, adding that a probe has been ordered into the incident.—Xinhua

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(7/2014)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB -207(13-14)	5 KW Diesel Engine Driven Generating Set	US\$
(2)	IFB -208(13-14)	Maintenance Requirement for Pipeline Centre (PLC-Daw Nyein)	US\$
(3)	IFB -209(13-14)	Universal Fuel Pump Test Stand	US\$
(4)	IFB -210(13-14)	Spares for CAT D 3512 Dita & CAT D 3406C Engine	US\$
(5)	DMP/L-068(13-14)	Spares for Komatsu Dozer	KS
(6)	DMP/L-069(13-14)	315/80 R 22.5 Tubeless Tyres	KS
(7)	DMP/L-070(13-14)	Cylindrical Roller Bearings for FA-1600 Mud Pump	KS
(8)	DMP/L-071(13-14)	1 1/4" Pitch Quadribble Chain & Offset Link	KS
(9)	DMP/L-072(13-14)	Fuel Bowser (3200 Gals Capacity)	KS
(10)	DMP/L-073(13-14)	Electronic Private Branch Exchange and Telephones	KS

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 28-4-2014, 16:30 Hr.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 28th March, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 1st April (Tuesday) 2014, Bank Holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

7 Afghan militants killed in raids

KABUL, 27 March — Seven militants were killed in Afghanistan within the last 24 hours, the authorities said on Thursday.

"During joint military operations carried out by the Afghan National Security Forces, four Taleban insurgent members were killed and seven others arrested over the last 24 hours," the Afghan Interior Ministry said in a statement.

In addition, a Taleban local leader named Qari Abdul Latif along with two other militants were killed after the special operation police force launched an operation and battled militants in Jurm district of northern Badakhshan province overnight, the provincial government spokesman Nawid Froutan told *Xinhua*, adding that one policeman were also killed in the engagement.

The army and police have stepped up efforts to clear the militants across Afghanistan as the country is preparing for the presidential and provincial council elections slated for 5 April. However, the militants responded by bombings and attacks.

On Wednesday, one civilian was killed and seven others were wounded when a car bomb went off in the country's eastern Province of Khost.

Xinhua



A central part of Beijing is enveloped in white fog due to severe air pollution on 26 March, 2014.

KYODO NEWS

Cambodia to resort to legal measures if violent protests occur

PHNOM PENH, 27 March — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Thursday warned that the government would take legal actions against any illegal protests in order to maintain peace and political stability in the country. "A country has its own constitution and law. If you do anything beyond the law and cause violence, there will be no more tolerance, and legal measures will be taken," he said during the inauguration ceremony of a hydroelectric plant in western Pursat Province.

He reiterated that all state's institutions and garment factories have been working as normal despite the opposition's ongoing boycott of parliament.

The premier's warning came after Sam Rainsy, president of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), announced on Wednesday that the party would hold a rally Sunday afternoon at the capital's Freedom Park to consult with its supporters over current political row. "We will meet with about 3,000 supporters Sunday afternoon at the Freedom Park to hear people's recommendations

over the ongoing political dispute," Sam Rainsy told reporters. "The upcoming gathering is not a demonstration to topple the government, so don't use this pretext to ban our rally."

Long Dimanche, spokesman for the Phnom Penh City Hall, said on Thursday the City Hall had decided not to allow the CNRP to hold a rally at the Freedom Park on Sunday. "In principle, the Phnom Penh Municipality does not allow the CNRP to rally at the Freedom Park on Sunday because the park is still under the court's investigation process relevant to violent cases in January," he said.

Political row between Hun Sen's ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) and Sam Rainsy's CNRP simmered after the July election results showed that the CPP won 68 parliamentary seats against 55 seats gained by the CNRP.

Claiming serious ballot-rigging, the CNRP refused to accept the outcome and has boycotted parliament and held many protests — some turned violent — to demand the resignation of Hun Sen and a re-election. —*Xinhua*

Afghanistan kicks off celebration for Int'l Day of Nawroz

KABUL, 27 March — The celebrations for the International Day of Nawroz or New Year in Persian calendar kicked off in Afghan capital city Kabul on Thursday.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, Pakistani President Mamnoon Hussain, Tajikistan President Emomali Rakhmon and Turkmenistan Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime

Minister Rashid Meredov have arrived in Kabul to attend the ceremony held in Arg or Presidential Palace.

Nawroz marks the first day of spring in Afghanistan and the beginning of the year 1393 in Persian calendar which fell on 21 March.

However, the Afghan government for some reasons celebrates it on 27 March amid tight security.

Almost all the roads in Kabul city leading to the Presidential Palace and sensitive areas have been closed and security personnel have been deployed in important buildings. The UN General Assembly in 2010 recognized Nawroz as the International Day observed in some Asian countries including Afghanistan, Iran, Tajikistan and Azerbaijan. —*Xinhua*

Cambodian PM says to quit smoking

PHNOM PENH, 27 March — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Thursday that he is once again trying to stop smoking cigarettes after he had attempted to quit it for about 10 times in the past but failed. "I am struggling to stop smoking cigarettes. I don't know if

get successful or not because I have determined to quit it for about 10 times," he said during the inauguration ceremony of a 120-megawatt Atai hydroelectric dam in western Pursat Province. "I have reduced smoking to three cigarettes a day. Now, I want to quit them," he said,

adding that his hard time to quit cigarettes was the time when he was playing chess.

The premier said now there was no smell of cigarette smoke in his house.

Last month, the country issued a new circular to ban smoking in public venues and workplaces. —*Xinhua*

Kandahar, cradle of Afghan insurgency, torn by tribal rivalry ahead of vote

KANDAHAR, (Afghanistan), 27 March—Growing violence in the southern Province of Kandahar ahead of Afghanistan's presidential election next week highlights a rift between Pashtun tribes that could tip the country back into civil war.

The fate of Kandahar, birthplace of the Taliban insurgency, is crucial. Some Afghans fear a loss in the vote for Zalmay Rassoul, a candidate close to President Hamid Karzai, could push Kandahar's powerful Pashtun tribes into rejecting rule from Kabul, some 500 km (300 miles) away. Others

fear the same outcome if he wins.

Such a revolt would have the potential to split the rugged nation of 30 million people, already divided by fierce loyalties beyond the Pashtuns among such tribes as the Tajiks, Uzbeks and others.

The two presidential frontrunners from Kandahar are Rassoul, backed by Karzai's brothers, and Ashraf Ghani, a former World Bank official. Both are Pashtuns.

"If Kandahar is peaceful, Afghanistan is peaceful," provincial governor



Afghan National Intelligence officers patrol after an assault by suicide attackers in Kandahar, on 12 March, 2014. —REUTERS

Tooryalai Wesa told *Reuters*. "The key of Afghanistan is here. The history and politics of Afghanistan have always belonged to Kandahar." The violence in Kandahar comes despite the governor doubling the size of the provincial army, driving the Taliban to the edge of the region. But now the militant group, which has vowed to disrupt the 5 April vote and return to power, is once again gaining momentum. Just last Friday it killed the Kandahar governor's chief of staff and wounded the deputy governor in a bombing. —*Reuters*

Arnold Schwarzenegger promises 'twists' in Terminator: Genesis



Arnie was 37 when he first played the Terminator. He's now 66.

LOS ANGELES, 27 March — Veteran actor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who is reprising his role as Terminator in the fifth instalment of the eponymous franchise, finds action scenes taxing, but promises to surprise the audience with interesting twists in Terminator: Genesis.

The actor was merely 37 when he first played the character in the classic 1984 movie. Now at 66, he found the action scenes taxing on his body, but he says the story still has a relevant context.

"The way that the character is written, it's a machine underneath," Schwarzenegger told MTV News, reports contactmusic.com.

"It's this metal skeleton. But above that is human flesh. And the Terminator's flesh ages, just like any other human being's flesh. Maybe not as fast. But it definitely ages," said the actor.

Talking about the action scenes, he said: "Sometimes it does get more difficult when you're 66 years old and doing this kind of action, versus when you're in your 30s or in your 40s."

"Terminator deals a lot with time travel, so there will be a younger T-800, and then what that model does later on when it gets reprogrammed, and who gets a hold of him. So it will be all kinds of interesting twists in the movie, but I feel so good."

Arnold wasn't a part of the fourth Terminator movie released in 2009, but he doesn't plan to miss out on any more of them.

PTI

'Unsafe speed' caused car crash that killed Paul Walker

LOS ANGELES, 27 March — The fiery car accident last year that killed "Fast & Furious" actor Paul Walker was caused by excessive speed and not a mechanical failure, the Los Angeles County Sheriff said on Tuesday, concluding its almost four-month investigation.

The red Porsche Carrera GT sports car driven by Walker's friend Roger Rodas, 38, was travelling at speeds of 80 to 93 miles per hour (129 to 150 kilometers per hour) before Rodas lost control of the car and crashed into trees and a utility pole in Santa Clari-

ta, California, northwest of Los Angeles.

"Investigators determined the cause of the fatal solo-vehicle collision was unsafe speed for the



US actor Paul Walker

roadway conditions," Los Angeles County Sheriff Commander Mike Parker said in a statement.

Walker, 40, died from traumatic injuries and burns while Rodas died of multiple traumatic injuries in the one-car crash on 30 November, the Los Angeles County coroner's office determined in January.

Walker was in the process of filming "Fast & Furious 7" at the time and production was halted a few days later.

Reuters

Russell Crowe, Emma Watson take dance lessons together

LONDON, 27 March — Actor Russell Crowe and Harry Potter star Emma Watson took dance lessons together while shooting for

their new film Noah to take their minds off the hectic shoot.

The 49-year-old Gladiator star and Emma, 23,

took Viennese waltz lessons to give themselves a break in between their exhaustive film shoot, reported Contactmusic.

"We did Viennese waltz lessons every Sunday to take us away from the brutality of what we were doing on set. And then we would go and have a cup of tea. One day we went and had a steak and a bottle of wine and then ended up at the Russian tea house and had some caviar and vodka," Russell said.

Noah, based on the story of Noah's Ark, has been directed by Darren Aronofsky. Russell will play the title role of Noah.

PTI



Noah Starring Russell and Emma will release on 28 March in India.

Amitabh Bachchan writing about my album is an honour: Shibani Kashyap

MUMBAI, 27 March — Singer Shibani Kashyap is honoured about the fact that Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan had asked his fans to listen to her new album. Big B praised the singer on his blog last week.

The Sajna Aa Bhi Ja hitmaker released her indie album Soneya on February 28 and the album garnered appreciation from all quarters.

"He (Amitabh Bachchan) did that on the day of Holi and I was like 'Wow', I'm going to play Holi even more. With more fervour and gusto. I was so delighted and thrilled. And I thanked him. I was really happy," Shibani told PTI.

The Delhi-based singer teamed up with Mika for the album. Shibani said that even though she has known

Mika for almost 15 years, this is the first time they are collaborating for an album.

"Sometimes it just doesn't strike you that we can do a collaboration whereas we have done lots of shows together and we've hung out and shared a lot of musical ideas and

jammed together but I guess it just struck me actually.

I said why don't I do a song and feature you in it. He loved the idea and the melody, loved the music. I told him to sing in his own style," Shibani said.

PTI



Big B asked his fans to listen to Shibani's new album on his blog.



Actor Columbus Short, one of the stars of the film "Cadillac Records", attends the film's premiere in Hollywood, California on 24 Nov, 2008. REUTERS

'Scandal' actor Short charged in felony battery case

LOS ANGELES, 27 March — Actor Columbus Short, best known for his role as Harrison Wright on ABC's hit drama series "Scandal," was arrested on Wednesday on a felony battery charge, the Los Angeles County District Attorney said.

Short, 31, was involved in a 15 March incident where he was alleged to have punched and knocked out a male guest at a restaurant in West Los Angeles, the District Attorney's office said in a statement.

Reuters



Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez hold their Oscars for best original song for "Let it Go" in the film "Frozen" at the 86th Academy Awards in Hollywood, California on 2 March, 2014.—REUTERS

'Frozen' hits sales high note, holds throne on top of Billboard

LOS ANGELES, 27 March — The soundtrack to Disney's "Frozen" showed no signs of slowing down four months after its release, as sales for the album hit a high note and held the top spot on the Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday.

"Frozen," which features the Oscar-winning song "Let It Go," sold 202,000 copies last week according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan, its biggest sales week since its 25 November release.

"Frozen," the Oscar-winning animated tale of two Nordic princess sisters who must save their kingdom from an eternal winter, has grossed more than \$1 billion (603 million pounds) worldwide at the film box office.

The spike in sales of its soundtrack was spurred by the release of the film on

DVD.

Six new debuts entered the top ten of the Billboard 200 chart this week, led by rapper YG's "My Krazy Life" at No 2 with sales of 61,000. Alt-rockers Foster the People debuted its latest record "Supermodel" at No. 3, electronic music DJ Skrillex came in at No 4 with "Recess" and grunge rockers The Pretty Reckless notched No 5 with "Going to Hell."

Latin pop crooner Enrique Iglesias' latest studio album "Sex and Love" clocked in at No 8 in its opening week, while rockers Taking Back Sunday rounded out the top ten with "Happiness Is."

For the week ending on 23 March, overall album sales totalled 4.7 million, Billboard said, down 22 percent from the comparable sales week in 2013.

Reuters

GENERAL

After brief respite, dark clouds return over Moyes



Manchester United's manager David Moyes (L) and Ryan Giggs react during their English Premier League soccer match against Manchester City at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 25 March, 2014.—REUTERS

LONDON, 27 March — After a brief ray of sunshine in a stormy season, the dark clouds were hovering over Old Trafford again on Wednesday in the wake of another humiliation for the champions.

A 3-0 home defeat by local rivals Manchester City, their third in a row against them at Old Trafford, drained away any optimism born out of victories against Olympiakos and West Ham United the previous week and illustrated once again just how far United have fallen in such a short space of time.

United manager David Moyes wore a glazed look as City's gloating fans mocked him with chants of "five more years" while thousands of the home faithful voted with their feet, heading for the exits long before Yaya Toure put a realistic gloss to the scoreline with City's 90th minute third.

"I am the one who picks the team," Moyes,

portrayed on one Old Trafford banner as the "Chosen One", said after the latest in a series of debilitating setbacks.

"I take responsibility and always will do. It is disappointing. I thought it would be a tough year but I hoped it would be more competitive."

Club stewards had to step in when some fans tried to haul down the "Chosen One" banner as their frustration boiled over at another home humiliation days after Liverpool thumped them 3-0 there.

This season they have lost six times at their former fortress in the league and on home form alone they would be 12th in the table, rather than the seventh spot they currently inhabit with seven games left.

While league defeats against the likes of West Bromwich Albion and Newcastle United, not to mention an FA Cup exit against Swansea, were hurtful, it is the way they

have been outclassed by Liverpool and Manchester City in consecutive home league fixtures that have been most ego-damaging.

United's record against the current top four is equally dire with one win, two draws and five defeats the sum total of their efforts against Chelsea, Liverpool, Man City and Arsenal.

Moyes had a similarly poor record against the top-four when he was Everton manager but things were supposed to be different once he was given the controls at United.

The reality is, however, that he has inherited a squad in decline, with too many players who would struggle to get a place on the bench at the Etihad, Stamford Bridge or Anfield.

England squad player Tom Cleverley, who has become the whipping boy of the fans, was hauled off at halftime on Tuesday but to single him for United's

malaise would be unfair.

Moyes' two big signings since taking the job, Marouane Fellaini and Juan Mata, were outclassed by City's midfield slickers while Michael Carrick laboured in United's misfiring engine room.

While there is some sympathy for Moyes and continued support from Ferguson, who watched from the stands on Tuesday, and former players, patience is beginning to wear thin.

United look cumbersome in defence, short of guile and pace in midfield and totally reliant up front on Wayne Rooney and Robin van Persie, who missed Tuesday's match because of a knee injury that will keep him out of next week's daunting Champions League quarter-final against a rampant Bayern Munich side.

With no Champions League football, barring something extraordinary in the next month or so, next season Moyes faces a big challenge attracting the very best to Old Trafford in what will be a crucial summer of rebuilding.

The club's name still means a lot around the world but modern-day footballers are fickle and they will go to the clubs that offer them the biggest global stage. Tottenham Hotspur know only too well the dangers of missing the out on the Champions League.

In 2012 they were denied their place in the competition despite finishing fourth after Chelsea won the final. The following summer Tottenham saw Luka Modric leave for Real Madrid and lost out on the signings of Eden Hazard and Oscar - to Chelsea.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(28-3-2014, Friday)

- 6:00 am**
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:30 am**
2. Physical Exercise
- 7:00 am**
3. News/Weather Report
- 7:20 am**
4. Hyper Sports
- 8:30 am**
5. India Drama Series
- 9:00 am**
6. News/International News
- 9:45 am**
7. ASEAN Programme
- 11:35 am**
8. Myanmar Series
- 12:00 pm**
9. News/International News/Weather Report
- 12:30 pm**
10. Myanmar Movie
- 2:30 pm**
11. Songs Programme
- 3:00 pm**
12. News
- 3:20 pm**
13. Teleplay
- 4:00 pm**
14. News
- 4:45 pm**
15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Fourth Year (English)
- 5:00 pm**
16. News
- 5:30 pm**
17. India Drama Series
- 6:00 pm**
18. News/Weather Report
- 6:25 pm**
19. Amazing World
- 8:00 pm**
20. News/International News/Weather Report
- 8:45 pm**
21. Hit Songs of Stars
- 9:00 pm**
22. News
23. Hyper Sports
24. Teleplay

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(28-3-14 07:00am~
29-3-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Let's fly over Silver Mountain
- * World News
- * In The Studio: L CO
- * Local News
- * A Day Out With Sarah (EP-7)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Still Life (Glass)
- * Local News
- * Traditional Matrimony of Khamti Shans
- * World News
- * In The Studio : May Phyu Phyu
- * Local News
- * Visiting A Serene Village In The Northwest of Myanmar
- * World News
- * A Traditional Doctor
- * Local News
- * Bagan, Our Pride and Glory of the Past
- * World News
- * Graffiti: Character Art
- * Local News
- * An Ardent Aficionado Of Traditional Design
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review - Mar Gyi Shay "Best of Health"
- * Local News
- * 100 Shuttle Silk Fabric and its Key Notes
- * World News
- * Director: Mg Myo Min (Yin Twin Pyit)
- * Local News
- * A Glance At A Naga Family Life
- * World News
- * Independent Filmmaker

Japanese beverage makers let tourists see what's brewing

OSAKA, 27 March — Faced with shrinking revenues in the domestic beverage market, a number of Japanese brewers and distillers have been seeking to boost their brands by giving visitors a behind-the-scenes look at their operations.

Guided brewery and distillery tours have gained popularity particularly among tourists from abroad, many of whom have a strong interest in Japanese food and drink.

At the end of February, a group of 25 people

aged from their 20s to 60s, including three foreign visitors, took part in a free guided tour organized by Suntory Liquors Ltd.'s Suntory Yamazaki Distillery in Shimamoto, Osaka Prefecture, in western Japan.

Following the 40-minute tour walking through its distillation facility with copper pot stills and a storage house with whiskey barrels, the visitors also tasted whiskies of Suntory's popular "Yamazaki" and "Hakushu" brands.

Kyodo News



Visitors on a guided tour at Japanese sake brewer Kinshi-Masamune Co's Shintokiwaigura plant in Kyoto, western Japan, watch the sake fermentation process as "koji" malted rice and yeast are mixed on 28 Feb, 2014. —KYODO NEWS

Serie A Standing Table

Pos	Clubs	P	W	D	L	Point
1	Juventus	30	26	3	1	81
2	Roma	29	20	7	2	67
3	Napoli	30	18	7	5	61
4	Fiorentina	30	15	6	9	51
5	Inter	29	12	11	6	47
6	Parma	29	12	11	6	47
7	Atalanta	30	13	4	13	43
8	Lazio	30	11	9	10	42
9	Sampdoria	30	11	7	12	40
10	Verona	30	12	4	14	40
11	Torino	30	10	9	11	39
12	Milan	30	10	9	11	39
13	Genoa	30	10	9	11	39
14	Udinese	29	10	4	15	34
15	Cagliari	30	7	11	12	32
16	Chievo	30	7	6	17	27
17	Bologna	30	5	11	14	26
18	Livorno	30	6	6	18	24
19	Sassuolo	30	5	6	19	21
20	Catania	30	4	8	18	20

Rampant City in mood to inflict killer blow on Arsenal

LONDON, 27 March — Manchester City will look to compound Arsene Wenger's woes when they visit the Emirates stadium this weekend, knowing a win would take them closer to the Premier League title and inflict a potentially fatal blow to Arsenal's chances.

Wenger's side have capitulated in recent weeks and a win for Manuel Pellegrini's team in London would almost certainly leave the battle for the Premier League crown as a three-way race between City, Liverpool and Chelsea. Arsenal, humiliated 6-0 at leaders Chelsea and held to a 2-2 home draw by Swansea City after conceding a last-minute equaliser on Tuesday, would have hoped for an easier match to revive their ailing title bid.

City lie third with 66 points, three behind Chelsea but with two games in hand, and they will look to build on their impressive 3-0 win at bitter local rivals Manchester United on Tuesday.

Jose Mourinho's Chelsea travel to struggling Crystal Palace and second-placed Liverpool, only a point off the top on 68 points, host Tottenham Hotspur. It is 10 years since Arsenal last won the league and they approach the match on Saturday looking not only to keep their slim title hopes alive but to cement a place in the top four and qualify for next season's Champions League.

Fifth-placed Everton are breathing down their necks, six points adrift of Wenger's men but with a game in hand and a trip to bottom club Fulham on Sunday presents the chance to move a step closer to the top four. Wenger endured a torrid time in his 1,000th match in charge of Arsenal at Stamford Bridge and anticipates another tough match against City.

"Manchester City had a good result tonight (against United), they look a bit unstoppable and are favourites because they

still have two games in hand," Wenger said after the Swansea draw. "Them and Chelsea are the favourites for the title. We don't have too much room to come back into it." City beat Arsenal 6-3 at home this season but captain Vincent Kompany said the trip to the Emirates Stadium was a potential stumbling block.

"It's just one little step. The other teams are still very good," the Belgium defender told reporters.

"With the game against Arsenal, obviously it's good in a way, because you don't have to make a big effort to get the lads focused again."

Chelsea are expected to be without striker Samuel Eto'o for their visit to Palace, but as the six goals from five different players proved against Arsenal, they should still have enough firepower to see off the hosts. Brendan Rodgers's Liverpool side will look to maintain their push for a first league title in 24 years against an unpredictable Tottenham on Sunday. Former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher believes that if his old club can win the title this season it will be an even greater feat than the 2005 Champions League final win he played in.

"I think this Liverpool team is better than the side that won the Champions League in 2005, but you could argue that winning the Premier League this season would be a bigger achievement," he told Sky Sports. Liverpool have won their last seven league games but if Tim Sherwood's side, who start the weekend in sixth on 56 points, can grab a victory they too will have their north London rivals sweating on fourth place.—Reuters

Soccer



Sunderland's Ki Sung-Yeung (L) is challenged by Liverpool's Raheem Sterling during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 26 March, 2014.

REUTERS

Cibulkova reaches Miami semis, cracks world top 10

MIAMI, 27 March — Slovakia's Dominika Cibulkova fought off three match points to claim a 3-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-3 upset win over third seed Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland at a windswept Crandon Park on Wednesday to reach the Sony Open semis.

With both players struggling in cool, blustery conditions, the 10th seeded Cibulkova reached the final four for the first time in eight visits to Miami despite being broken 10 times, committing 51 unforced errors and eight double faults. The match was certainly not of the same quality the pair showed in their Australian Open semi-final earlier this year, as Cibulkova waited until the fourth game of the second set before managing to hold serve for the first time. "I have to say I'm really glad, especially about my win today," said Cibulkova, who will move into the top 10 of the world rankings for the first time with the win.

"It wasn't easy at all to play today against Aga with the wind and conditions and I had to stay aggressive all the time even if I missed many shots."

Reuters

Nishikori stuns Federer to reach Miami semis



Kei Nishikori

MIAMI, 27 March — A tireless Kei Nishikori shocked 17-time grand slam winner Roger Federer 3-6, 7-5, 6-4 on Wednesday to claim his second top five scalp in two days and reach the semi-finals of the Sony Open.

After knocking off fourth seeded Spaniard David Ferrer in a three-hour marathon on Tuesday, the 21st ranked Japanese was

forced to go the distance again, surviving a two-hour center court battle with Federer.

Nishikori has been one of Federer's few bogeymen, having now gotten the better of the Swiss maestro in two of their three career meetings.

"To beat Roger, and it's second time to beat him... I thought I really played well, especially in

Djokovic ends Mu reign to reach Miami semi-finals

World number two Novak Djokovic ended

