

Chinese patrol ship Haixun 01 is in new search area



Chinese rescue ship Donghaijiu 101 heads to the waters where Australia spotted floating objects that might be related to the missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 in the south Indian Ocean, on 27 March, 2014. —XINHUA

CANBERRA, 28 March —Chinese Maritime Safety Administration patrol ship *Haixun 01* is in the new search area following advice from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB), the Australian

Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) said in its latest update on Friday.

The AMSA search for any sign of the missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 has been shifted to an area north following

the ATSB advice. An international air crash investigation team in Malaysia provided updated advice to the ATSB, which, after examination, determined an area 1,100 kilometres to the northeast of the existing

search area is now the most credible lead as to where debris may be located.

The new search area is approximately 319,000 square kilometres, about 1,850 kilometers west of Perth. The depth of the water in the search area is between 2,000 and 4,000 metres.

The Australian Geo-spatial-Intelligence Organization (AGO) is re-tasking satellites to capture images of the new area. According to AMSA, six ships are re-locating to the new search area including Australian warship HMAS Success and five Chinese ships. China's *Haixun 01* "is in the search area. HMAS Success is expected to arrive in the search area late tomorrow night," AMSA said.—Xinhua

INSIDE

President U Thein Sein meets with Professor of Stanford Graduate School of Business



PAGE 3

British Council to train teachers of English subject



PAGE 3

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office

Notification No. 24/2014
13th Waning of Tabaung 1375 ME
28 March, 2014

Formation of Commission to investigate Rakhine riots

1. An investigation commission has been formed with the following personnel to investigate and take action against those who destroyed the residences and garages hired by the Malteser International aid organization and the UN during riots on 26 and 27 March in Sit-tway, Rakhine State.

(a) Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn Chairman
Deputy Minister

Ministry of Border Affairs
(b) U Hla Thein Member
State Advocate-General
Rakhine State
(c) Police Brig-Gen Nay Win Member
Commander
Aviation Police Force
Ministry of Home Affairs
(d) U Sit Aye Member
Leader
Legal Adviser Group to the president
(e) Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing Secretary
Myanmar Egress

2. Following are the duties of the investigation commission.

(a) To expose those who led and were involved in the riots that broke out on 26 and 27 March.

(b) Rakhine State authorities are to expose those were responsible for the riots.
3. President Office and Rakhine State Government are to provide security and administrative support to the investigation commission.
4. During the period of investigation, the commission must carry out the probe in accordance with the law including the Criminal Procedure Law and the Evidence Act. Besides, the commission can summon witnesses, can ask for documents and can inspect the locations where the riots took place. The investigation report shall be directly sent to the president by 7 April, 2014.

Sd/Thein Sein
President

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

How do you cope with the hot weather?

As the daytime temperature in Nay Pyi Taw has been stuck at 40 degrees in the last few days and experts have warned of a high UV Index, we have asked residents here how they protect themselves and cope with the heat. Continued on page 8.



**U Tin Sein, 75
Retired**

I have noticed that I can't eat much food and I have lost my appetite because of the hot weather. So, I drink sugarcane juice with ice and stay inside my room. I take a walk early in the morning and in the evening.



**Kay Khaing Win, 26,
Layout Designer**

I am leaving all the windows of my house open, but I am afraid of thieves. Other than that I shower more often, apply Thanaka thickly and stay at home if possible. And I eat more fruits and veg.



**Soe Thura, 34,
Reporter**

I often feel dizzy and dehydrated, so I shower twice a day and drink coke. We all must drink more and wear light cotton clothes. Sun exposure can harm our health and lead to cancer, so it is best to stay out of the sun.



**Myo Lwin, 32,
Driver**

I try to change my mindset and shift my concentration from the heat by watching videos and playing games with some children here. I do not have air-con in my home, so it's very hot inside. I only have a fan, so the heat is making me tired.



**Daw Hmwe Hmwe,
56, Merchant**

I avoid meat and oily food and eat more sour vegetables these days. I also eat less. I have a shower at 5 am. I never take a bath at night even if I am soaked in sweat. I also use Thanaka, so I don't need to take any medicine in the hot weather.



**U Moe, 60
Shopkeeper**

When I am too hot, I only wear longyi, nothing else. But when I wear a shirt and I am soaked in sweat, I will not take it off, because I am afraid to catch a cold. I do not drink water with ice. I always drink normal water.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker meets with Professor of Stanford Graduate School of Business

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Parliament) and Pyithu Hluttaw (People's Parliament) Thura U Shwe Mann welcomed the MBA students led by Professor Mr. Edward Paul Lazear of Stanford Graduate School of Business in the US at the hall of the Hluttaw building in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday morning.

Also present at the call were the chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Public Ac-

counts Committee and members of the Pyithu Hluttaw Commission and officials from the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives Professor Mr. Edward Paul Lazear at the Graduate School of Business of Stanford University in the US.—MNA



Union Ministers clarify Myanmar's reform processes to students from Stanford Graduate School of Business

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Union Minister U Soe Thane and party held discussions on Myanmar's political, economic and reform processes with the MBA students led by Professor Mr. Edward Paul Lazear of Stanford Graduate School of Business from the United States at the Ministry of President Office in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

Union Ministers U Soe Thane, Dr Daw Khin San Yi and Dr Kan Zaw, Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, Deputy Minister U Ye Htut and Dr Daw Khaing Khaing Soe from Ministry of Immigration and Population replied to the queries on successes



Union Minister U Soe Thane holds discussions with the MBA students of Stanford Graduate School of Business from the United States.—MNA

and challenges of Myanmar's reform processes, nation-building and role of defence services, economic development potential, rule

of law and impact on foreign investment, rural development tasks, peace-making processes, prospects for cooperation

in education sector and Myanmar's international relations raised by the students.

MNA

Myanmar-Thai Dawei SEZ Implementation Task Force continues 7th meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Myanmar-Thai Task Force to implement Dawei special economic zone and related projects held the second day of its 7th meeting at the hall of the Ministry of Transport on Friday.

They discussed process of maintenance by Italian-Thai Co. Ltd and schedules for implementation of Dawei SEZ and its related projects.

The government signed the agreement with Italian-Thai Co. Ltd for implementation of the project.

Dawei Special Economic Zone Management Committee, Dawei SEZ Development Co. Ltd and Italian-Thai Co. Ltd signed a Tripartite Memorandum.

Selecting Project Management Officer (PMO) has already finished on the first day of the meeting.

Chairman of Dawei SEZ Implementation Task Force Union Minister U Aye Myint, Chairman of Dawei SEZ Management Committee Deputy Minister U Han Sein and officials attended the meeting.—MNA

NRC channel extends its programme schedule

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Myanma Radio and Television broadcast Kayah, Sakaw Kayin, West Poe Kayin, East Poe Kayin, Chin (Laizo), Chin (Cho), Mon, Rakhine, Shan, Wa and Kachin languages through NRC channel from 6 am to 2 pm for the first round and from 2.30 pm to 11 pm for the second round from 1 February to 31 March.

With the extended

works, NRC channel broadcasts Kayah language from 6 am to 8 pm, Sakaw Kayin from 8 am to 9 am, West Poe Kayin from 9 am to 10 am, East Poe Kayin from 10 am to 11 am, Chin (Laizo) from 11 am to 12 noon, Chin (Cho) from 12 noon to 1 pm, Mon from 1 pm to 3 pm, Rakhine from 3 pm to 5 pm, Shan from 5 pm to 7 pm, Wa from 7 pm to 9 pm and Kachin from 9 pm to 11 pm.—MNA

Slight earthquake jolts inside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.1 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 26 miles North of Khamti) about 300 miles

North-Northwest of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 9 hrs 39 min 53 sec M.S.T on Friday, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Myanmar prepares to host 24th ASEAN Summit, related meetings

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Accommodation and Reception Subcommittee held a work coordination meeting on 24th ASEAN Summit and related

meetings at Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

Speaking at the meeting, Union Minister U Htay Aung called for making

necessary preparations before 15 April for the heads of state/government of ASEAN countries. He continued that priority should be given for security meas-

ures, adding to install quality security equipments and cooperate with security personnel.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Kan Chun and officials from Protocol Department, ASEAN Affairs Department and Myanmar Police Force took part in the discussions.

MNA



Work coordination meeting on 24th ASEAN Summit and related meetings in progress.—MNA

NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein meets with Professor of Stanford Graduate School of Business



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with MBA students led by Professor Mr. Edward Paul Lazear at Stanford Graduate School of Business in the US.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—President U Thein Sein welcomed the MBA students led by Professor Mr. Edward Paul Lazear at the Stanford Graduate

School of Business in the US at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

During the call, the President said the political, economic and administration reform processes for implementation of the development of socio-economy and peace and stability of the country, progress of the history of Myanmar and politics and prospects of Stanford's cooperation in development of Myanmar's education sector.

The President replied to the queries for prospect of Myanmar's reform processes presented by the students.

The 32-member MBA students from the US, Canada, Bahama, Uruguay, Japan, India and Indonesia together with the economic experts and entrepreneurs also visited the Myanmar on 23 March and observed reform process of Myanmar.

MNA

British Council to train teachers of English subject

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received British Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Andrew Patrick and party at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am on Friday.

At the meeting, they discussed the plan of the British Council to be implemented for providing English proficiency course to teachers of English subject in Myanmar, further cooperation in culture and education sectors between Myanmar and Britain, and

closer cooperation for development of Myanmar's education sector.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Daw Khin San Yi, and officials of the British Council.—MNA

President U

Thein Sein

shaking

hands with

British

Ambassador

to Myanmar

Mr. Andrew

Patrick.

MNA



General Hla Htay Win inspects riot-affected areas in Rakhine State



Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win greets service men at local station in Rakhine State.—STATE IPRD

SITTWAY, 28 March—Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win inspected the areas where the riots occurred on 26 and 27 March in Sittway Township of Rakhine State on Friday morning.

Afterwards, the Gener-

al held a meeting with the departmental officials at the Rakhine State Government Office.

In the evening, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, Rakhine State Hluttaw Speaker U Htein Lin, responsible persons from the political

parties, the Head of the State Religious Affairs Department and town's elders took advices on recent incidents from the monks led by the Maniyadana Monastery Sayadaw in Sittway Township at Rakhine State Parliament Hall.

State IPRD

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Nay Pyi Taw

Notification No. (10/2014)

13th Waning of Tabaung, 1375 ME

(28th March, 2014)

Mon Democratic Party allowed to change as Mon National Party

Mon Democratic Party registered as a political party under the Article 9 of Political Parties Registration Law submitted its application to change its name as Mon National Party to the Union Election Commission.

It is hereby announced that UEC allowed Mon Democratic Party to change its name as Mon National Party in accord with the law as of 28 March.

By order,

(Dr Daw Myint Kyi)

Member

Union Election Commission

Workshop on public affairs accountability held

HINTHADA, 28 March—A workshop on public affairs accountability was held at Hon San Si Hall in Hinthada, Ayeyawady Region, on Wednesday.

A total of 200 representatives from social organizations and Ayeyawady Region Government were present at the workshop.

They submitted papers on solving farmlands problems, education matters,

human rights issue, development of massive women, youth affairs and employers' rights.

On the first day of the workshop, district/township administrators and departmental heads answered 60 various questions for development of six townships in the district.

The second day continued on Thursday.

Thiha (Laymyethna)

Elderly health care programme for older persons



Nurses and health staff provide health care to older persons under Elderly Health Care Programme in Mohnyin.

MOHNYIN, 28 March—Mohnyin District People's Hospital gives elderly health care free of charge to the aged of above 60 years every Wednesday as of 8 January.

"At first, we did not get any information about it. We thank the hospital offi-

cials for their arrangements and elderly health care to the aged free of charge," said Daw Khin Nyunt of 83 years old.

"Most of the older persons cannot receive medical treatment themselves from the hospital. So their offspring take

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—The World TB Day was observed at Mingala Kandaw Hall in Pyinmana of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 26 March.

Head of Nay Pyi Taw Health Department Dr Tun Myint made a speech. Pyinmana General Hospital (200-bed) Medical Superintendent Dr Kyaw Myint read the message sent by the Union Minister for Health.

Chairperson of Nay Pyi Taw Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Aye Aye San and officials viewed round documentary photos on combating TB disease.—*Shwe Kokko*

Pyinmana holds World TB Day



Four human trafficked victims rescued

TACHILEK, 28 March—Police Lt-Col Sukanyaphumarin of Chiang Rai District Immigration Bureau of Thailand and party handed over four trafficked girls to the officials from Myanmar at Tachilek-Mae Sai friendship bridge No.1

between the two border areas on Tuesday.

The Tachilek District Deputy Commissioner's family and district/township Women's Affairs Organizations presented K 20,000 each to the fourteen and seventeen-year-old

victims.

The officials also handed over a victim to her family in Tachilek Township and three to Women's Vocational Training School in Kengtung Township, eastern Shan State.

Myintmo (Tachilek)

Human rights workshop held in Thazi

THAZI, 28 March—Association of Human Rights Defender and Promoters (HRDP) staged a workshop on human rights at Soe San Cinema in Ward 5 of

Thazi, Mandalay Region, on 24 and 25 March.

U Myint Aye, U Maung Maung Lay, U Saw Marn Htool, U Aung Zaw Oo, U Win Naing and U

Lin Naing explained matters related to human rights.

Responsible persons and interested persons from political parties and social organizations attended the workshop.

Similar workshops will be held in Myittha and Thedaw townships of Mandalay Region.—*NLM-018*

Illegal crude oil barrels seized in Kalay

KALAY, 28 March—Authorities raided the house in Taungphila Ward of Kalay, Sagaing Region, on 23 March, and seized illegal crude oil, according to the Kalay Police Station.

Under the instruction of Kalay District Police Force Commander, township police officials togeth-

er with witnesses searched the house of U Khin Ouk in Taungphila Ward of Kalay.

They found 76 barrels of crude oil worth K 16,780,800 in the residence. Kalay Police Station opened a file of lawsuit over the crude oil under section 23 of Oil Act.

NLM-005

2332 acres of confiscated farmlands handed over to owners

MOHNYIN, 28 March—A ceremony to hand over the farmlands confiscated for 20 years to the owners was held at Seinle Yadana Hall in Mohnyin on 26 March.

After Deputy Commissioner U Aung Soe Moe of the district General Administration Depart-

ment, Commander of No 904 Artillery Control Command Brig-Gen Thet Lwin handed over documents on 2332 acres of farmlands confiscated by eight regiments and units to the local farmers through Township Administrator U Kyaw Swa Aung.

NLM-001

Responsible persons of political parties, members of social organizations and local farmers attend the ceremony to hand over confiscated farmland by local regiments and units.



Telenor explains future telephone services

MEIKTILA, 28 March—U Thein Tun Hla, in-charge of Telenor Myanmar Co made a clarification at the hall of General Administration Department in Meiktila on 24 March.

He said that Telenor SIM cards will be sold at K 1500 per card as of October 2014 to satisfy the demand. Call bill will be reduced a half from original charge. Its SIM cards can be used at any handset.

The company will build eight towers in Meiktila not to be difficulty in telephone access.

The clarification was attended by administrators and local people from 14 wards of Meiktila.—*NLM-018*

WORLD



Tourists holding paper pandas pose for photos during the "Panda World Tour" in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, on 27 March, 2014. A total of 1,600 paper pandas were on display in Taipei on Thursday.—XINHUA

Chinese journalist receives award of "Tamgha-i-Pakistan"

BEIJING, 28 March — Chinese journalist Zhao Qiao received an award of "Tamgha-i-Pakistan" in recognition of her meritorious services in the field of journalism.

Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Masood Khalid conferred the award on behalf of the President of Pakistan at a Pakistani national day reception and investiture ceremony hosted by the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing on 24 March.

Zhao Qiao is a renowned Chinese journalist from China Radio International (CRI). She has been associated with CRI's Urdu service during the last 20 years. And she also worked at the CRI's Islamabad bureau. She had done her major in Urdu language, history and culture of Pakistan from the Peking University.

The Reception began with the playing of national anthems of both countries, followed by the investiture

ceremony.

"I am privileged to witness rapid strides for development which China has made in recent years. We, in Pakistan, are confident that China will continue to gain greater heights of glory and success in the years to come and realize the goal of 'Chinese Dream', which is envisioned by President Xi Jinping," Masood Khalid addressed at the reception.

"Both countries have embarked on developing Pakistan-China Economic Corridor, which will open up new opportunities for development, enhance connectivity and people to people contacts. Currently, both countries are engaged in forging cooperation in energy, infrastructure development, culture, education, science and technology and defence," said Khalid.—Xinhua



Chinese ensemble, Beijing Landscape Traditional Orchestra, performs at the Celebration of the 75th National Day of Islamic Republic of Pakistan hosted by the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, on 24 March, 2014.

XINHUA

Turkey calls Syria security leak 'villainous,' blocks YouTube

ISTANBUL, 28 March — Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday denounced as "villainous" the leaking of a recording of top security officials discussing possible military action in Syria to the video-sharing site YouTube. Turkish authorities ordered the shutdown of the site.

Erdogan's foreign minister Ahmet Davutoglu called the posting a "declaration of war," an apparent reference to an escalating power struggle between Erdogan and rivals. The anonymous

posting was an audio file with photographs of the officials involved.

It followed similar releases on social media in recent weeks that Erdogan has cast as a plot by his political enemies, particularly a Turkish Islamic cleric based in the United States, to unseat him ahead of 30 March elections.

The posting took the campaign to a higher level, impinging on a highly sensitive top-level meeting of security officials.

"They even leaked a national security meeting," Erdogan said at a campaign

rally. "This is villainous, this is dishonesty ... Who are you serving by doing audio surveillance of such an important meeting?"

Reuters could not verify the authenticity of the recording.

The account posted what it presented as a recording of intelligence chief Hakan Fidan discussing possible military operations in Syria with Davutoglu, Deputy Chief of military Staff Yasar Guler and other senior officials.

Speaking to reporters in Kutahya, Davutoglu confirmed the meeting

Brazil's President loses support but on track to win re-election

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 March — Popular support for Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff has faltered ahead of the 5 October presidential election, a poll showed on Thursday, but the leftist leader remains favored to win a second term.

Hurt by a sluggish economy, high inflation and a scandal surrounding Brazil's state-run oil company, Rousseff's personal approval rating has dropped to 51 percent from 56 percent in November, the survey by the Ibope polling institute and Brazil's National Industry Confederation showed.

Support for her administration fell to 36 percent from 43 percent in the previous poll, while 27 percent of those polled disapproved of the government, compared with 20 percent in November. The latest poll was taken from 14-17 March and has a margin of error of 2 percentage points.

The drop in support, which led to a sharp rally in Brazilian stocks and boosted the country's currency on Thursday, reflects the challenges that Rousseff must overcome to win re-election.

"It shows that 2014 is going to be a hard year for the government," said Rafael Cortez, a political analyst with Tendencias, a



Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff speaks at a joint news conference with European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and EU Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso (unseen) during an EU-Brazil summit in Brussels on 24 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

consultancy in São Paulo. "All these negative issues are hurting her image as a candidate."

Although Rousseff and her ruling Workers' Party still enjoy widespread support because of economic gains made during the administration of former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, her mentor and predecessor, Rousseff is currently presiding over the fourth year of lackluster growth in Latin America's largest economy.

Price increases and a lack of investment in the country's public services led to mass nationwide demonstrations last year that have caused many voters to question the Workers' Party's 12-year grip on the presidency.

Some voters are also critical of the billions of dollars worth of public funds that have been spent on 12 stadiums for the 2014 soccer World Cup, which kicks off in São Paulo 12 June.—Reuters

S Korea, Japan, US to hold defence talks in mid-April

SEOUL, 28 March — High-ranking military officials between South Korea, Japan and the United States will hold tripartite talks in Washington next month to discuss defence coordination against nuclear and missile threats from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

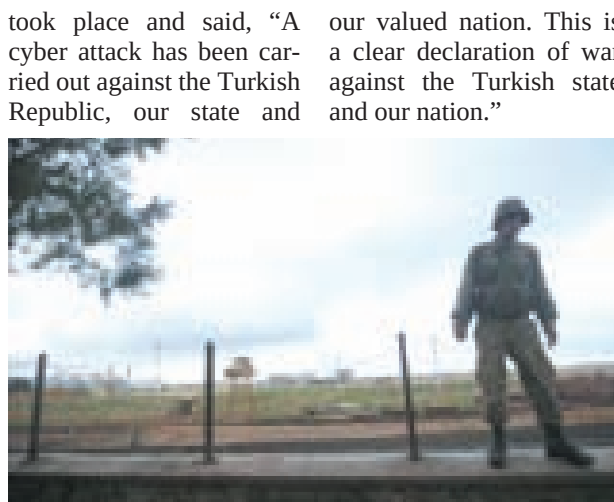
Army Col Wi Wongseop, vice spokesman at the South Korean Defence Ministry, told a routine press briefing that the sixth round of the Defence Tripartite Talks among the three allies will be held for

two days from 17 April in Washington DC. Wi said during the annual security cooperation dialogue, delegations from the three allies will discuss how to cooperate in the DPRK's nuclear and missile threats as well as transnational nonmilitary threats such as humanitarian and disaster relief.

The defence dialogue was launched in 2008 to let deputy defence minister-level officials from the three nations talk about ways to coordinate in security issues. The sixth round came as a follow-up action

to the trilateral summit between South Korean President Park Geun-hye and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe under the arbitration of US President Barack Obama.

During the summit held on the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit in the Netherlands earlier this week, the three heads of state agreed to hold tripartite talks among top nuclear envoys who represent the long-suspended six-party talks, stressing the need for the senior-level defence dialogue.—Xinhua



A Turkish soldier takes up position near the border with Syria, in the Turkish border town of Ceylanpinar, Sanliurfa province, on 8 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

our valued nation. This is a clear declaration of war against the Turkish state and our nation."

Turkish authorities said they had taken an "administrative measure" to impose a block on YouTube, a week after they blocked access to microblogging site Twitter.

Erdogan has been the target of a stream of anonymous internet postings suggesting his involvement in corruption. He denies the allegations and accuses a former ally, Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen, of unleashing a campaign to undermine him before Sunday's elections.

Reuters

Team to re-enter New Mexico nuclear waste site after radiation leak

SANTA FE, 28 March — An investigative team plans to re-enter an underground nuclear waste site in New Mexico next week for the first time since an accidental release of unsafe levels of radiation there last month, a US Energy Department official said Thursday.

US authorities now say that 21 workers at the Carlsbad-area “waste isolation pilot project” (WIPP) were exposed to radiation after the accidental leak from the site, which stores waste from US nuclear labs and weapons production facilities. Eight workers will test air for contamination as they seek to make their way into an ancient salt formation half a mile below ground where radioactive waste is stored, Energy Department spokesman Bradley Bugger said in a statement.

The team will wear

protective clothing and use self-contained breathing devices in a mission designed to determine the cause of the 14 February accident.

Testing of surface air in and around the Energy Department complex has shown elevated levels of radiation since the mishap, but those have steadily decreased. None reached concentrations considered harmful to human health or the environment, Bugger said. He added that four additional employees at the facility in the Chihuahuan Desert have tested positive for contamination based on more stringent testing protocols. That brings to 21 the number of workers who inhaled or ingested particles emitted from the decay of radioisotopes like plutonium while working above ground on 14 February or the following day.

Reuters

Fiji announces date for general election

SUVA, 28 March — Fiji's 2014 general election will be held on 17 Sept, the government announced on Friday.

The one-day election will be a paid public holiday, said Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, the country's attorney general and minister responsible for elections, at a press conference here.

Acting permanent

secretary for justice Mohammad Saneem will resign on Monday to take up the role of supervisor of elections, he added. Fijian Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, who came to power after the 2006 coup, has resigned as commander of the country's military forces and said he will form a political party to contest the upcoming general election.—Xinhua



Pakistani female traffic police wardens patrol on road in eastern Punjab's Lahore, on 27 March, 2014. Punjab is the first province of Pakistan in which the local government introduces female traffic police wardens.
XINHUA

Connecticut becomes first state to pass \$10.10 minimum wage

MILFORD, (Connecticut) 28 March — Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy on Thursday signed into law a measure that will phase in the highest minimum wage of any US state, in line with a push by Democrats nationwide to raise the entry-level wage.

The bill, which was approved by state legislators a day earlier, will raise the state's minimum hourly rate to \$10.10, a figure that matches what US President Barack Obama has asked Congress to consider imposing nationally.

Malloy signed the legislation on Thursday evening in the same New Britain diner where he appeared earlier this

month with Obama and three other New England governors: Deval Patrick of Massachusetts, Peter Shumlin of Vermont and Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island. All are Democrats who have pushed to raise the minimum wage in their states.

New Britain, located in the centre of the state, has been hard hit by the economic downturn with the household median income at about \$35,000, compared with the state-wide median of \$66,000.

“This is just a step in moving people in the right direction,” Malloy said in signing the bill. “We will be lifting people out of poverty in the state of Connecticut. Increasing the minimum wage is not

just good for workers, it's also good for business,” he added.

Connecticut's Speaker of the House Brendan Sharkey, also a Democrat, said: “Raising the minimum wage helps people who need it most, is good for the economy and is the right thing to do.”

State House Republican spokesman Patrick O'Neil said his party opposed the measure because it does not believe the bill will help create jobs in a state with an unemployment rate of 7.2 percent, above the national average.

“This is just politics in an election year and isn't going to lift anyone out of poverty,” O'Neil said.—Reuters

Denmark to send F-16 fighters to patrol Baltic airspace

COPENHAGEN, 28 March — The Danish government has decided to send a group of F-16 fighters to patrol the airspace over the Baltic nations Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, according to *Copenhagen Post* on Thursday.

There would be six planes in the group, four of which would be active and two would remain grounded in reserve, the local newspaper said. The Baltic countries reportedly feel threatened by Russia due to the crisis in Ukraine, and the Danish cabinet met on Thursday to discuss a plan to dispatch the fighters in May.—Xinhua

Belarus not to recall its ambassador from Ukraine

MINSK, 28 March — Belarus is not going to recall its ambassador from Ukraine, Belarusian Foreign Ministry spokesman Dmitry Mironchik told local media here on Thursday.

Belarus will not recall its ambassador from Ukraine after Kiev recalled its ambassador from Belarus for consultations, Mironchik said, adding “The Belarusian side does not see the need for similar steps.”

The official stressed that Minsk holds the view that “the ambassadorial level is the optimal level of interaction between the two neighboring countries.”

On 24 March, Ukraine recalled its ambassador in Belarus and sent a diplomatic note to Belarus after a statement made by Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said Belarus had recognized de facto that Crimea was part of Russia.—Xinhua

Hungary opposed to economic sanctions against Russia

BUDAPEST, 28 March — Hungary is against the European Union imposing a round of economic sanctions on Russia over its intervention in Ukraine, Prime Minister Viktor Orban was quoted as saying in an interview published on Friday.

The central European country of 10 million people relies on Russia for about 80 percent of its natural gas needs and recently signed a 10 billion euro deal with Moscow for Rosatom to expand Hungary's Paks nuclear plant, a major power generator.

Russia is also Hungary's largest trading partner outside the European Union, with exports worth 2.55 billion euros in 2013.

“Economic sanctions are in the third round and it would be fortunate to avoid these because it is not in the interests of either Europe, or much less Hungary,” Orban was quoted as saying by the business daily *Vilaggazdasag*.

Reuters



People pray for the passengers aboard the missing Malaysia Airlines MH370 in front of a mall in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 27 March, 2014.—XINHUA

HEALTH & BUSINESS

GSK recalls weight-loss drug Alli in US on tampering concerns



The GlaxoSmithKline logo is seen at the entrance of a building in Luxembourg, on 10 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 28 March — GlaxoSmithKline is recalling all supplies of its non-prescription weight-loss drug Alli in the United States and Puerto Rico after customers reported finding other pills and tablets in

ago. The British group said it believed that some US bottles of Alli might not contain authentic product, adding that it was working with the US Food and Drug Administration on the retailer-level recall.

News that bottles had been tampered with first emerged on Wednesday.

GSK has received inquiries from consumers in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina and Texas about 20 bottles containing tablets and capsules that were not Alli.

The treatment is also sold in Europe but the company said no problems had been detected there and European sales were not affected by the US recall.

GSK said it was not immediately clear how the bottles had been tampered with or where in the supply chain the problem had occurred. “The investigation is ongoing. We’ve asked people to return bottles to us, so we can examine them very closely ... we don’t have any theories at this point,” a company spokeswoman said.

Shoppers said they had found a range of tablets and capsules of various shapes and colours in purchased Alli containers. The authentic drug is a turquoise-blue capsule. Some bottles inside the outer carton were also missing labels and had tamper-evident seals that were not genuine.

Reuters

China premier says policies ready to counter economic volatility

BEIJING, 28 March — China has the policy tools in store to support the economy this year and will roll out support measures, Premier Li Keqiang was quoted by the state media as saying, seeking to address recent concerns over faltering growth.

The remarks came amid heightened concerns over the world’s second-largest economy after recent weak economic data and mounting financial risks.

In a speech to a meeting in China’s northeast made on Wednesday and reported by the *Xinhua* news agency early on Friday, Li also said the government would roll out targeted measures step by step to aid the economy.

“We have policies in

store to counter economic volatility this year,” Li said.

The central government will also roll out targeted measures step by step to boost the economy, in line with market expectations that Beijing would take actions to arrest the early signs of a slowing economy, whose performance in the first quarter is set to be the weakest in five years.

“We will launch relevant and forceful measures according to what we have planned in our government work report,” he said.

China will also speed up construction of basic infrastructure, such as railways, highways and water conservation projects in the central and western provinces, Li said.—Reuters



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (L) walks next to a delegate as he meets participants of the China Development Forum inside the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 24 March, 2014.—REUTERS

Flu vaccines significantly cut children’s risk of intensive care admission

WASHINGTON, 28 March — Flu vaccines may help cut a child’s risk of flu-related intensive care hospitalization by 74 percent, revealed a study released Thursday by the US Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The study, published in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, is the first to estimate vaccine effectiveness against flu admissions to pediatric intensive care units, the CDC said.

“These study results underscore the importance of an annual flu vaccination, which can keep your child from ending up in the intensive care unit,” Alicia Fry, a medical officer in CDC’s Influenza Division, said in a statement.

“It is extremely important that all children, especially children at high risk

of flu complications, are protected from what can be a life-threatening illness,” Fry said.

According to the CDC, children younger than five years and children of any age with certain chronic medical conditions like asthma, diabetes or developmental delays, are at high risk of serious flu complications.

Fry’s team analyzed the medical records of 216 children aged six months through 17 years admitted to 21 pediatric intensive care units in the United States during the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 flu seasons.

They found that flu vaccination reduced a child’s risk of ending up in the pediatric intensive care unit for flu by an estimated 74 percent.—Xinhua

As US momentum stocks take beating, some sectors benefit

NEW YORK, 28 March — Investors in some of the past year’s hottest US stocks have been given a savage lesson in the risks of so-called “momentum trading”.

A group of 24 such companies compiled by Credit Suisse has lost \$63 billion in market value, or almost 19 percent, so far in March. One of them, streaming video service Netflix (NFLX.O), has declined on 15 of the last 17 trading days, while another, online travel service Priceline (PCLN.O), is on pace to for its worst month in nearly two years, while Twitter (TWTR.N) sank below its November first-day closing price for the first time.



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on 21 March, 2014.—REUTERS

The sell off may well have further to go, investors warn.

For one thing, the initial public offering market looks vulnerable after King Digital Entertainment (KING.N), maker of the popular *Candy Crush* on-

line game, cratered on its debut, losing 15 percent in its first day of trade on Wednesday, and another 2.7 percent on Thursday. If such raisings get pulled or pared back it will likely hurt the banks’ underwriting fees.

But while it all stands as a warning to those who joined crowded trades in richly priced stocks, it is good news for short sellers who are prepared to bet against what they see as over-valued stocks, and for investors who spend their time searching for unrecognized gems trading at bargain-basement levels.

It also indicates that the investing world may be returning to more normal rules, that includes sharper assessments of the risk in different sectors, now that the Federal Reserve’s bond-buying stimulus program is being reduced and there is less “easy money” sloshing around.

Reuters

Britain, Germany say EU reform must be fair to non-euro members

LONDON, 28 March — The finance ministers of Britain and Germany said on Thursday reform of the European Union needs to guarantee fairness for its countries that do not use the euro currency. In a jointly authored editorial in the *Financial Times*, Britain’s *George Osborne* and Germany’s *Wolfgang Schäuble* said it was important that EU countries outside the euro zone — like Britain — are not disadvantaged by deeper integration

of the currency union.

“Future EU reform and treaty change must include reform of the governance framework to put euro area integration on a sound legal basis, and guarantee fairness for those EU countries inside the single market but outside the single currency,” they said. Germany’s support for Osborne comes as his Conservative Party tries to placate its eurosceptic factions and voters defecting to the anti-EU UK Independence Party.



A structure showing the Euro currency sign is seen in front of the European Central Bank (ECB) headquarters in Frankfurt on 11 July, 2012.—REUTERS

British Prime Minister David Cameron has promised to negotiate sweeping reforms to the EU and, if re-elected next year, to hold a referendum by 2017 on whether Britain should

stay in it. Britain joined the EU in 1973, but like Denmark and Sweden, it kept its national currency and monetary policy when the euro launched in 1999.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 29 March, 2014

The importance of speaking English

By Thet Ko Ko

From kindergarten to college and even to graduate school, we have studied English, the global language, both reading and writing though we are not proficient in listening and speaking.

Normally, we begin to learn the ABC around three or four and then grammar and patterns in our curricular textbooks during the academic period of at least 12 years. But, are we really familiar with it?

Of course we need to value and cherish our mother tongues. It is unarguable that the extinction of a language is a great loss, with fewer peo-

ple speaking their ancestors' language, but knowing foreign languages on the other hand broadens our horizons.

English, we have learnt for more than a decade at school, and so it is quite reasonable to leap to the conclusion that we are familiar with it to some extent. Unfortunately, when it comes to making use of the English language, the reverse is true for most of us. This is partly because of parrot fashion teaching and learning methods entrenched in our schools and even in colleges.

What's worse in Myanmar's education sector is even post-graduate and research students hire Myanmar-English translators, but do not use their own brains, to write up and submit their theses for master and doctorate degrees. Internationally, those doing post-graduate degrees are supposed to have a certain level of English proficiency and be able to write theses in English by themselves.

For most of us, we need not to master English because it is not the language we speak on a daily

basis though it is widely considered as the second language here. Nonetheless with more and more foreign investors coming to our country, it has become important that we have a workable degree of English language proficiency.

Language training centres have been in Yangon and Mandalay ever since. But in Myanmar's education system, the core values lie in quantity and still not in quality. Today, degrees can be bought without having practical knowledge of a particular subject and the result is clear and obvious—a severe shortage of human resources.

Speaking English well has nothing to do with anti-nationalism or anti-patriotism, it is a medium, a tool to communicate.

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.

How do you cope with the hot weather?

(from page 1)



**Khin Lay Win, 27,
Shop Owner**

I always spray the floor of my shop with water.



**Tin Maung Than, 59,
Online Editor**

I rarely go out in the daytime and I exercise in the evening so I can sleep better. Luckily I have air con. Last year around this time it was not so hot.



**Hnin Ei Phyu, 22,
Reporter**

It is too hot for me and I find it difficult to fall asleep. I drink lots of coconut juice, and always wear Thanaka. And I use an umbrella when I go outside.



**Aung Kyaw Kyaw, 27,
Private School Teacher**
I always carry a bottle of water, but I am still losing energy.

My students cannot concentrate in this heat, they just fan themselves, so it is difficult to control my class.



**Daw Khin Nwe, 49,
Tailor**

I take a shower until I feel better and also wear Thanaka. At night, I open all windows to cool down my room before I go to bed. I can sleep well because the temperature is down after 10 pm.

Calm returns to Sittway after two days of mob talks

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March — U Win Myaing, leader of information team of Rakhine State Government, assured that calm returned to Sittway on Friday.

He said that seven among foreigners who work for INGOs in Sittway flew back to Yangon on Thursday. Plane tickets to Yangon have been arranged for 37 foreigners who have been accommodated at Police Hall in Sittway and 17 in Sittway Hotel, 39 national servants at Police Hall and 47 at Sittway Hotel in order to leave Sittway on Friday.

Despite increased security measures following the incidents in which residences of foreigners who work for INGOs, offices and warehouses in Sittway, Rakhine State on Wednesday, mob attacks happened again the following day.

Rakhine State Emergency Management Committee and police members managed to break up the mobs who got involved in 25 acts of violence on Thursday, firing five warning shots. While taking warning shots, a shot hit

Ma Nyo Thein May, 11, daughter of U Tin Maung of Ywagyaung ward. She was pronounced dead at about 4.50 pm while receiving treatment at people's hospital in Sittway. During the incident, Daw Win May Thein, 39, daughter of U Aung Hla Sein of the same ward sustained a minor gunshot wound.

During mob attacks, numbering 35, on Wednesday and Thursday, 29 houses, seven warehouses and two vehicles were destroyed.

Regarding the incidents that damaged public security and the rule of law in Sittway, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun said he will lead the Sittway-based emergency management committee that is tasked with restoring peace and stability of Rakhine State and the rule of law.

Security forces have been stationed, taking security measures at Sittway Hotel and in the neighborhood of offices of UNICEF, AZG and ICRC and WFP warehouse and a Bangladesh consulate in Sittway

MNA

Go Forward

This is the title of a story which Sri Ramakrishna liked to tell everybody or every group of people he met.

The story is like this.

Once upon a time, there lived a woodcutter. One day, he went into the forest to cut wood. At one place in the forest, he chose a certain tree to cut down for firewood. Just as he made himself ready to fell the tree down, he heard someone say "Go Forward" from behind him. So, he looked back and saw an old man in white robes. The old man just said go forward only once and went on his way. He didn't say any other words, nor did he ask for anything from the woodcutter.

So, this set the woodcutter upon thinking hard.

By Kyi Mun

He pondered over the old man's words. And he thought why did the old man say go forward. He settled himself upon the idea that there must be some good reason for the old man for saying go forward. Although he was a mere woodcutter, he seemed to possess some thinking power, because he didn't brush aside outright the old man's advice as absurd.

He thought he couldn't lose anything by going forward except his time and his energy, both of which he still had aplenty at that time. And there were miles and miles of spaces in the forest. So, he decided to go forward.

After traversing the woods for some time, he

suddenly found many sandalwood trees. Needles to say, he was very much elated to find such precious, fragrant trees. But, did he stop there and was overwhelmed by the valuable trees? No. He stretched his mind and decided to still follow the old man's advice. So, he continued to go forward again.

After sometime, he reached a certain place in the deeper part of the forest where, to his exhilaration, a silver mine came into his view. By that time, the woodcutter had come to realize the value of the old man's advice to go forward. Although he had become somewhat tired, thirsty and hungry, he became resolute to continue going forward into the deeper part of the forest, as he had realized how much the old man's admonishing had proved to be

valuable. So, he became more determined to go forward, again.

After overcoming many obstacles, thirst and hunger, he reached a spot where he found, to his much delight, a gold mine. By this time, the woodcutter had reached a stage where he became more resolute, more determined to fear no sacrifice and to surmount all difficulties to win more glorious victories. So, he proceeded on his adventure to be crowned with greater success.

Finally, with a tremendous determination and iron will to turn the heaven and the earth upside down, he eventually came upon a place after much hardship and super human endurance, where the sparkling diamond mine welcome him.

U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING GROUP CO., LTD.

LOCAL NEWS

Highway bus terminal to put into service in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 28 March—A highway bus terminal is being constructed near Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Aungzayar Ward in Meiktila, Mandalay Region.

The construction site is situated in the old place of Maha Beidin cemetery.

Officials invited tenders to construct the terminal in November 2013. Of three companies in line with the rules, Zeyar Shwe Toe Co. Ltd won tender with K 2640 million.

Under the agreement, Zeyar Shwe Toe Co. Ltd must construct the designated buildings in the compound of the terminal within six months.

The construction has met completion of 30 % so far. The tender winner company has already sold two buildings for K 500



million each to two companies in the compound of the terminal. Meiktila dwellers are hoping to complete the construction of the terminal to have easy access to transportation.—NLM-018

K 3 million of village fund handed over to two villages in Tatkon

TATKON, 28 March—Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint presented K 3 million to the village administrator at a ceremony to hand over cash assistance for the fund of Aungmye Yeiktha Village, Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 26 March.

The Union minister and CP Co Representative Mr. Carnate made opening speeches. The Union minister posed for a documentary photo with locals and distributed milk bottles to them.

Then, Director-General U Khin Maung Maung of Fisheries Department and Deputy Director-General Dr Khin Zaw of Live-



stock, Fisheries and Rural Department presented K 3 million for the fund of Paylaw Village in Tatkon Township.—Tatkon Township IPRD

Talks on Publication of Trademark Notice at UMFCCI on 5 April

YANGON, 28 March—Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) has been organizing monthly talks for development of human resources.

U Than Maung (Sitway) will give talks on

Publication of Trademark Notice at the hall of UMFCCI Office Tower on Minye Kyawswa Street in Lanmadaw Township in Yangon at 2 pm on 5 April (Saturday) and any enthusiast can attend the talks.

Aung Thura

Teachers under training for Buddhology Test

TATKON, 28 March—Lectures on Buddhological knowledge were provided to students at MyoU Pariyatti Monastery in Myawady Ward of Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The students will sit

for the Buddhology Test 2014 from 8 am to noon on 23 March.

Five instructors are training 61 students at sixth, seventh and eighth standards. The training period lasts up to 10 April.

Township IPRD

Teachers participate in capability enhancement workshop

MANDALAY, 28 March—Only when the teachers have qualified, can they teach pupils to become good and able persons of the nation, said Chief Minister U Ye Myint of Mandalay Region at opening of the capability enhancement workshop for basic education teachers was held at Mandalay Education College in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay on Wednesday.

In building a modern

and developed nation, it needs highly-qualified citizens, and teachers play a key role in nurturing the basic education students, he added.

He stressed the need for teachers to participate in the workshop for uplifting their capabilities.

At the workshop, Aungmyethazan Township Education Officer U Nyan Win submitted a paper on enhancement of qualification of teachers,

Chanayethazan Township Education Officer Dr Kyaw Lwin, promotion of teaching and learning capability and Chanmyathazi Township Education Officer U Tin Myint development of teachers' status.

It was attended by Mandalay Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing and officials including teachers totalling 397.

Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)



Grenade attack on Thai anti-graft office ahead of PM hearing

BANGKOK, 28 March — Grenades were thrown at the offices of Thailand's anti-corruption agency, which has summoned the prime minister to answer charges of dereliction of duty next week, as protesters trying to oust her prepared for a big weekend rally.

Nobody was injured

in the overnight attack, the second on the agency's offices this week, police said on Friday. It was not clear who threw the grenades. Supporters of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra have been demonstrating at the building this week.

The National Anti-Corruption Commission is examining the al-

leged failure of Yingluck to stop corruption and stem huge losses in a government rice-buying programme.

It is widely expected to recommend her impeachment by the Senate. If the Senate takes up the case, Yingluck will have to step aside, with a deputy prime minister expected to take

over. If she is found guilty by the Senate, she has to step down.

Her supporters, who have been restrained during five months of anti-government protests in the capital, are starting to mobilize and are planning their own big rally, or series of rallies, on 5 April.

Anti-government

demonstrators resumed street protests on Monday after lying low for weeks. Their rally on Saturday is expected to draw up to 50,000 people. Paradorn Pattanathabutr, a security adviser to the prime minister, told *Reuters*.

"We don't expect any violence at the rally but provocateurs might try to

stir trouble to discredit the government side," Paradorn said.

The turmoil entered a fresh phase in November, when anti-government protesters first took to the streets, with 23 people killed during the political violence over the following months.

Reuters

Syria refugee crisis poses major threat to Lebanese stability



Refugees who fled the violence from the Syrian town of Flita, near Yabroud, stand outside their tents at the border town of Arsal, in the eastern Bekaa Valley on 20 March, 2014 file photo. — REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 28 March — An influx of almost 1 million refugees from Syria into neighbouring Lebanon poses a serious threat to the already fragile country, but donor nations may not grasp the potential impact of further destabilization, a UN official said on Thursday.

"There is not a single country in the world today that is shouldering as much in proportion to its size as Lebanon," said Ninette Kelley, regional representative for Lebanon for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

"If this country is not bolstered, then the very real prospect of it collapsing and the conflict

of Syria spreading full force to Lebanon becomes much more likely," she said during a visit to Washington.

Last month, top UN officials said that as Syria's grinding conflict enters its fourth bloody year, Syrians are set to replace Afghans as the world's largest refugee population.

While hundreds of thousands of Syrians have also sought refuge in Jordan, Turkey and elsewhere, the largest concentration of Syrian refugees, close to 1 million people, can now be found in Lebanon, increasing the population of the tiny country by about a quarter, the United Nations said.—*Reuters*

US defence chief to host ASEAN ministerial meeting in Hawaii

WASHINGTON, 28 March — US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel will convene the first US-hosted ministerial meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) next week, a Pentagon spokesman said on Thursday. Following the meeting, Hagel will travel to the Asia-Pacific region for visits with his counterparts in Japan, China and Mongolia, Defence Department Press Secretary John Kirby told reporters at a Pentagon Press briefing.

The trip will be Hagel's fourth official visit to the Asia-Pacific, a region of growing importance and emphasis for US foreign policy and its defence strategy, the Press secretary said.—*Xinhua*

British gov't orders probe into big energy companies

LONDON, 28 March — Six British big energy suppliers will face a competition inquiry after the energy regulator Ofgem published its first competition assessment of energy market on Thursday.

The joint assessment, carried out by Ofgem, the Office of Fair Trading and the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), identified weak competition between larger energy suppliers, low customer trust and engagement, and barriers to entry and expansion.

Ofgem was proposing a reference to the CMA to investigate the energy market to ensure that there are no further barriers to effective competition.

"It's right that there is a full investigation into whether the 'Big Six' are preventing effective competition in the UK energy market," commented by British Prime Minister David Cameron through his twitter account.—*Xinhua*

Japan city hosts 1st int'l confab in Asia to promote "fair" trade

KUMAMOTO, 28 March — An international conference of "fair trade towns" opened with pre-events on Friday in the southwestern Japan city of Kumamoto — the first time the conference has taken place outside Europe — as campaigners look to spur the growth of ethical consumption movement in Asia. "This is an opportunity for us to discuss how to bridge the North-South divide, protect the environment, and how diverse the fair-trade movement has become recently," said Shoko Akashi, who heads the steering committee in Kumamoto, at a Press conference.

Nearly 500 participants and volunteers from 20 countries are gathering for the annual International Fair Trade Towns Conference, which takes over the weekend after a series of related events on Friday, according to the local organizer.

Kumamoto became Asia's first and only fair-trade town in 2011. To date, 1,444 towns in 24

countries have received the designation in the movement that began in Garstang, England, which was declared the first-ever fair-trade town in 2000.

"The expectation is very high for Kumamoto to spread the movement in Asia," Akashi said. "We hope everyone will get in touch with fair trade and take the chance to send a message of fair trade to Asia and the world."

Aside from the formal conference, producers from 12 developing countries are displaying their fair-trade products, managers of eco-friendly companies will hold their own conference and students will organize a forum, she added.

Kumamoto is "setting an example not only for Kumamoto people but for the nation of Japan and the whole of Asia and indeed for the whole of the world whose eyes are looking upon (the) city," said Bruce Crowther, founder of the International Fair Trade Towns Movement, from Garstang.—*Kyodo News*

Russia criticizes UN resolution condemning Crimea's secession

MOSCOW, 28 March — Russia said on Friday a UN resolution declaring invalid Crimea's Moscow-backed referendum on seceding from Ukraine was counterproductive and accused Western states of using blackmail and threats to drum up "yes" votes.

The non-binding resolution passed with 100 votes in favour, 11 against and 58 abstentions in the 193-nation UN General Assembly on Thursday, in a vote that Western nations

said highlighted Russia's isolation.

"This counterproductive initiative only complicates efforts to resolve the domestic political crisis in Ukraine," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

It accused Western states of using the "the full force of the unspent potential of the Cold War-era propaganda machine" to whip up support for the resolution.

"It is well-known what kind of shameless pressure,

up to the point of political blackmail and economic threats, was brought to bear on a number of (UN) member states so they would vote 'yes'," the ministry said.

Several Western diplomats, however, have said Russia's UN envoy led an aggressive lobbying campaign against the resolution in what they said showed how seriously Moscow took the UN vote condemning a referendum that led to its annexation of Crimea.

Reuters



A tank, believed to be Russian, drives outside a military base in Perevalnoye, near the Crimean city of Simferopol, on 27 March, 2014.—REUTERS

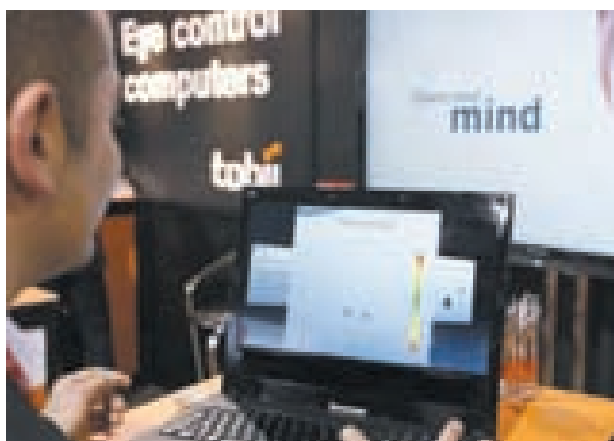
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Swedish eye tracking technology firm Tobii plans IPO

STOCKHOLM, 28 March — Swedish eye tracking technology firm Tobii, co-owned by chipmaker Intel, is planning a stock market listing which could value the firm at around 2 billion crowns (\$309 million), business daily *Dagens Industri* reported.

Tobii, which develops eye-controlled devices that can be used in computer interaction and in human behaviour analysis, was founded in 2001 and employs around 380, according to its website.

Among its owners it counts US chipmaker Intel and Investor AB, the investment company controlled by Sweden's powerful Wallenberg family, as well as venture capital



A Tobii Technology representative demonstrates what the Swedish company says is the world's first eye-controlled laptop at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas on 11 Jan, 2012.—REUTERS

firm Northzone, which also owns a stake in music streaming service Spotify.

Citing sources, the paper said Tobii had been in touch with investment

banks to appoint financial advisers ahead of a planned Stockholm listing during the second half of this year.

Reuters



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

Twitter to launch mobile advertising product for apps

NEW YORK, 28 March—Twitter Inc plans to release a mobile-advertising product in the next few weeks that will allow app-makers to encourage downloads of their software, Bloomberg reported citing people familiar with the matter. The format will lead users to the advertiser's page in a mobile app store where they can download the software, Bloomberg said.

There had been speculation that Twitter and other internet firms would try their hand at this sort of marketing, which has proven lucrative for Facebook.

Twitter expects the app-install advertisements to attract advertisers in the e-commerce and gaming industries, according to Bloomberg. Twitter representatives were not immediately available to comment.—Reuters

NEW YORK, 28 March — Chinese Internet company Baidu Inc on Thursday won the dismissal of a US lawsuit by pro-democracy activists who complained that Baidu illegally suppressed political speech on China's most widely used Internet search engine.

Eight New York writers and video producers had accused Baidu of creating search engine algorithms, at the behest of China, to block users in the United States from viewing articles, videos and other information advocating greater democracy in China.

The plaintiffs said this kept Baidu users from seeing their work, unlike users of other search engines such as Google and Microsoft's Bing.

They sought \$16 million in damages for violations of their civil and

equal protection rights.

US District Judge Jesse Furman in Manhattan, however, concluded that the results produced by Baidu's search engine constituted protected free speech under the US Constitution, warranting dismissal of the May 2011 lawsuit.

"The First Amendment protects Baidu's right

to advocate for systems of government other than democracy (in China or elsewhere) just as surely as it protects plaintiffs' rights to advocate for democracy," the judge wrote.

Furman likened a search engine's "editorial judgment" to that of a newspaper editor who decides which stories to publish.



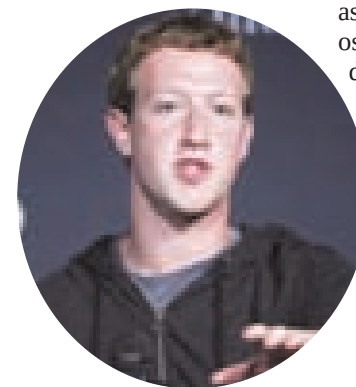
People talk in front of a Baidu's company logo at Baidu's headquarters in Beijing on 16 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

telecommunications carriers to make Internet access more available and affordable.

"We're going to continue building these partnerships, but connecting the whole world will require inventing new technology too," Zuckerberg said in his post. Facebook envisions a fleet of solar-powered drones as well as low-earth orbit and geosynchronous satellites delivering Internet access to different regions of the world.—Reuters

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg delivers remarks in an on-stage interview for the Atlantic Magazine in Washington, on 18 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS



China's Baidu defeats US lawsuit over censored search results

Russian-US crew makes belated arrival at space station

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 28 March — A Russian spaceship carrying two Russian cosmonauts and a US astronaut made a belated arrival at the International Space Station on Thursday, returning the orbital outpost to full staff.

Russian cosmonauts Alexander Skvortsov and Oleg Artemyev and NASA astronaut Steven Swanson blasted off aboard a Russian Soyuz rocket two days ago from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in

Kazakhstan. They had expected to reach the station, a \$100 billion research complex that flies about 250 miles above Earth, six hours later.

But about two hours after launch, the crew's Soyuz capsule failed to fire its maneuvering engines as planned, forcing a delay to the next station docking opportunity on Thursday.

The cause of the skipped rocket firing remains under investigation, said NASA mission

commentator Rob Navias.

Preliminary analysis shows the spaceship was 1 degree out of alignment from its predicted orientation, triggering the Soyuz computers to automatically abort the engine burn, Navias said during a NASA Television broadcast of the docking. Since Tuesday's mishap, the Soyuz successfully conducted the necessary engine firings to reach the station. "Better late than never," said Navias as the Soyuz made its final

approach to the outpost.

The crew's prolonged journey ended at 7:53 pm EDT as the Soyuz slipped into a berthing port on the station's Poisk module.

The arrival of Skvortsov, Artemyev and Swanson returns the station to a full six-member crew. The orbital outpost, a project of 15 nations, has been short-staffed since two other cosmonauts and a NASA astronaut returned to Earth on 11 March.

Reuters



Members of the International Space Station (ISS) crew, Russian cosmonauts Alexander Skvortsov (L) and Oleg Artemyev (R) and US astronaut Steven Swanson (C) wave as they board the Soyuz spacecraft before their launch at the Baikonur cosmodrome on 26 March, 2014.

REUTERS



The Moro Islamic Liberation Front, the Philippines' largest Muslim rebel group, signs a comprehensive peace agreement with the central government at the Presidential Palace in Manila on 27 March, 2014, ending 17 years of negotiations and more than four decades of insurgency mainly in the southern island of Mindanao. MILF Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim (far L, back), Philippine President Benigno Aquino (2nd from R, back), and Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak (3rd from R, back), who served as facilitator, and others witnessed the signing.—KYODO NEWS

Thai legal expert urges constitutional compromise for effectual election

BANGKOK, 28 March —Thailand's only way out of the prolonged political deadlock lies in a compromise reached by various sides to enable a valid general election, a Thai legal expert has told *Xinhua*.

Whatever the content of the compromise is, it must be under the framework of the constitution, legal advisor and political analyst Verapat Pariyawong insisted.

If the compromise is for the caretaker government to resign and have a special unelected body of prime minister and cabinet, as anti-government protesters have pressed for, it will run counter to the constitution, Verapat said in an interview with

Xinhua. He suggested a feasible compromise in which the Democrat Party, former major opposition that boycotted the 2 February election, agreed to contest the next election, protesters promised not to disrupt voting as they did with the last one, and any party that won the election would govern for a limited period to implement reform before calling a new election.

"Whatever government comes out of the next election, it will stay in power for very limited time and in a very limited fashion to carry out a very open and involving reform mechanism for all sides. That's something that can be realized," Verapat said.

He urged the Pheu Thai Party, headed by caretaker Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, to negotiate with opposing sides to provide good incentives for the Democrat Party to join any new election to be held.

The Democrats will "lose a lot of legitimacy" by boycotting an election for a second time, he added.

Following the Constitutional Court's verdict last Friday which annulled the 2 February election, the Election Commission is obliged to organize a new election in all constituencies nationwide in a 60-day time in accordance with the constitution and electoral law.—*Xinhua*

S Korea returns remains of 437 Chinese-Korean War soldiers

INCHEON, (South Korea), 28 March — South Korea on Friday handed over to China the remains of 437 Chinese volunteer soldiers killed in the 1950-53 Korean War.

A transfer ceremony was held on Friday morning at the Incheon International Airport, about 50 km west of the capital of Seoul, where remains and belongings of the fallen soldiers were handed over to a Chinese delegation.

Zou Ming, an official from the Chinese Civil Affairs Ministry, and Moon Sang-gyun, an official from the South Korean Defence Ministry, signed a transferal protocol.

The Chinese delegation paid homage to the flag-draped coffins before a Chinese honour guard escorted them to a plane bound for Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province, where a solemn welcome ceremony will be held.

Zou said China and South Korea had jointly contributed to the handover of the remains on the basis of a sincere, friendly,



Soldiers of the Chinese People's Liberation Army carry coffins containing remains of soldiers of the Chinese People's Volunteers (CPV) dead in the 1950-53 Korean War, during a handover ceremony at the Incheon International Airport of South Korea, on 28 March, 2014.—XINHUA

cooperative and humanitarian spirit.

China appreciated the cooperation and efforts made by the South Korean authorities, as well as the friendship and goodwill the South Korean media and public showed toward the repatriation, he added.

The two countries agreed to establish a long-term cooperative mecha-

nism to return the soldiers' remains before the traditional Chinese Tomb-Sweeping Day every year.

The Chinese People's Volunteers (CPV) fought side by side with the Korean People's Army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the Korean War against the South Korean army and US-led UN forces. Tens of thousands of

CPV soldiers died on the Korean Peninsula during the war, which ended in an armistice in 1953.

The Chinese soldiers were buried scatteredly to the south of the Military Demarcation Line on the peninsula. In recent years, their remains had been excavated, identified and reburied in South Korea's border city of Paju.—*Xinhua*

Chinese doctors perform free cataract surgeries in Nepal's rural communities

BAHRABISE, (Nepal), 28 March — A dedicated team of Chinese doctors from the China Chengdu Aidi Eye Hospital has been performing cataract operations for free in Nepal's rural areas with about 60 Nepalese already saved from becoming blind.

"I thought I would be blind for the rest of my life but thanks to the Chinese doctors, I can now see," Durga Parsad Paudel, 80 years old, said with a smile as he proudly adjusted his new eyeglasses after his cataract was removed Thursday at the Keystone Hospital in Bahrabise,

close to the Chinese border, 79 km north of Kathmandu.

Five years ago, Paudel could hardly see because of the cataract that was slowly enveloping his eyes. He was told that if the cataract is not removed, he will eventually become blind.

Paudel is just one of the estimated 60,000 Nepalese who might lose their sight due to cataract every year.

Many cases are actually preventable or treatable. Nearly half could be saved by a simple procedure that has become routine in many countries.

Xinhua



Chinese doctors conduct an eye operation during a free health camp in Barabishey, Nepal, on 27 March, 2014.

XINHUA

S Korea home for "ex-comfort women" to invite PM Abe's wife

SEOUL, 28 March — The head of a common home for elderly South Korean women forced into sexual service for the wartime Japanese military said on Friday he will invite Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's wife to meet the former "comfort women" living there.

Ahn Shin Kwon, head of Namunejip, or House of Sharing, said the idea of sending an invitation to Akie Abe was conveyed when he met with a Japanese Foreign Ministry official on 17 March. House of Sharing, built in 1995 on the outskirts of Seoul, is home to seven elderly Korean women

who have testified that they were forced to work at Japanese military brothels during World War II. In Japan, these sex slaves for the former Japanese military are euphemistically called "comfort women." "Akie is well known even in South Korea to have an interest on South Korea," Ahn said, adding that a letter of invitation will be sent next week.

"If she visits Namunejip and talks with the elderly former comfort women, there are feelings they may share as women, and she may play a role on the issue of comfort women," Ahn said. Yasushi Yamamoto, head of the Japa-

nese Foreign Ministry division for regional policies, met Ahn on 17 March to brief him on the Japanese stand on the issue of former sex slaves and sound out what the former Korean "comfort women" want from the Japanese government.

According to the South Korean daily *Hankuk Ilbo*, Ahn asked the Japanese government to admit its legal responsibility for forced mobilization of the "comfort women" and wanted Abe to make an apology to the international community for it.—*Kyodo News*

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ANNA BHUM VOY NO (101)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANNA BHUM VOY NO (101) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.3.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S MOL SINGAPORE PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (373)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (373) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.3.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV OCEAN FORTUNE VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OCEAN FORTUNE VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on ETA 31.3.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S KNIT SHIPPING INT LTD
Phone No: 2301191/2301178/2301177

**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

Colombia confirms US request to take in Guantanamo prisoners

BOGOTA, 28 March — Colombian Foreign Minister Maria Angela Holguin confirmed on Thursday that the US Government has asked Colombia to receive some detainees from Guantanamo Bay, Colombia's El Tiempo daily network reported.

According to Holguin, Colombia has not yet given a response to the request because it has not analyzed the implications of such a decision. US President Barack Obama has pledged to close the detention centre, located in Cuba, and free the 154 remaining prisoners.

"We have heard carefully the request from the US, we have not advanced absolutely anything with them on this issue... we

have not responded on this issue," Minister Holguin said.

The official added that Colombia fully understands the need for Guantanamo Bay detainees to continue with their lives and welcomes the US approach.

Holguin's statement was given shortly after Colombia's Minister of Justice Alfonso Gomez Mendez said Colombia would not take in detainees given the overcrowding in the country's prisons.

Speaking in response to an article by Uruguayan magazine Busqueda claiming Colombia and Brazil could agree to take in prisoners from the US military base, he said: "No, I do not know, I am not aware of

this, and I know that in the Foreign Minister does not know about this issue."

The only country in the region to have so far confirmed the request from US President Barack Obama to take in Guantanamo detainees is Uruguay. President Jose Mujica said the country would host five of them.

Guantanamo Bay has been used since 2002 to hold terrorist suspects captured after the 11 Sept, 2001 attacks on the United States, but drew criticism for holding many prisoners without trial or bringing charges against them.

Since taking office, Obama has taken steps such as resettling detainees to reduce the number of prisoners to 154.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV NASICO LION VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NASICO LION VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on ETA 31.3.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of YANGON PORT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301191/2301178/2301177

Turkey sacks defence official involved in China missile talks

ANKARA, 28 March — Turkey has removed Murad Bayar, Defence Ministry undersecretary for the state-run defence industries, from his post with immediate effect, the official gazette showed on Thursday.

The ministry did not give a reason for the decision. Bayar had been influential in Turkey's negotiations with China over the procurement of a missile defence system.

Turkey's NATO allies voiced concern when it said in September it had chosen China's FD-2000 missile defence system over rival offers from the Franco/Italian Eurosam SAMP/T and US-listed Raytheon Co. It said China had offered the most competitive terms and would allow co-production in Turkey.

Reuters

Advertise with us!
For inquiries to place an advertisement in the NLM,
Please email
wallace.tun@gmail.com



Students walk in rain with umbrellas in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 28 March, 2014. Most parts of Jilin Province witnessed rainfall on Friday.—XINHUA



French actress Julie Gayet poses as she arrives at the 39th Cesar Awards ceremony in Paris on 28 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

Actress Gayet wins privacy lawsuit versus tabloid in Hollande affair

PARIS, 28 March — A French court ordered Closer magazine on Thursday to pay actress Julie Gayet 15,000 euros (\$20,700) for publishing photos that revealed an affair between her and President Francois Hollande, her lawyer told Reuters.

The 7-page photo spread published on 10 January showed the comings and goings outside a Parisian apartment rented by Gayet. It included the night-time arrival and morning departure of Gayet

and, separately, that of man wearing a black helmet and said to be Hollande.

Neither party has denied the affair, but Gayet filed a lawsuit alleging breach of privacy. Hollande chose not to sue.

Gayet's lawyer Jean Ennochi, who had been asking for a larger sum of 50,000 euros, said his client's life had been "turned upside down" by the publication.

The disclosure by the magazine was followed by Hollande's breakup with

his partner of eight years, Valerie Trierweiler.

The scandal was an unwelcome distraction for Hollande, whose popularity ratings are at record lows, as he tries to stem rising unemployment and spur growth in the euro zone's second-largest economy.

Gayet, a Socialist party supporter who has acted in French films including the 2013 comedy "Quai d'Orsay", backed Hollande during the 2012 presidential race.

Reuters

Friends worried about Lindsay Lohan's sobriety

NEW YORK, 28 March — Troubled actress Lindsay Lohan's friends are reportedly worried about her sobriety after finding that she is hanging around with the wrong crowd again.

The 27-year-old, who has been to rehab several times for drug and alcohol addiction, was clicked with her old friend, British socialite Lady Victoria Hervey on the streets of New York City, and this is causing panic in her inner circle, reports radaronline.com.

"This is terrible news and so bad for Lindsay's sobriety," said a source.

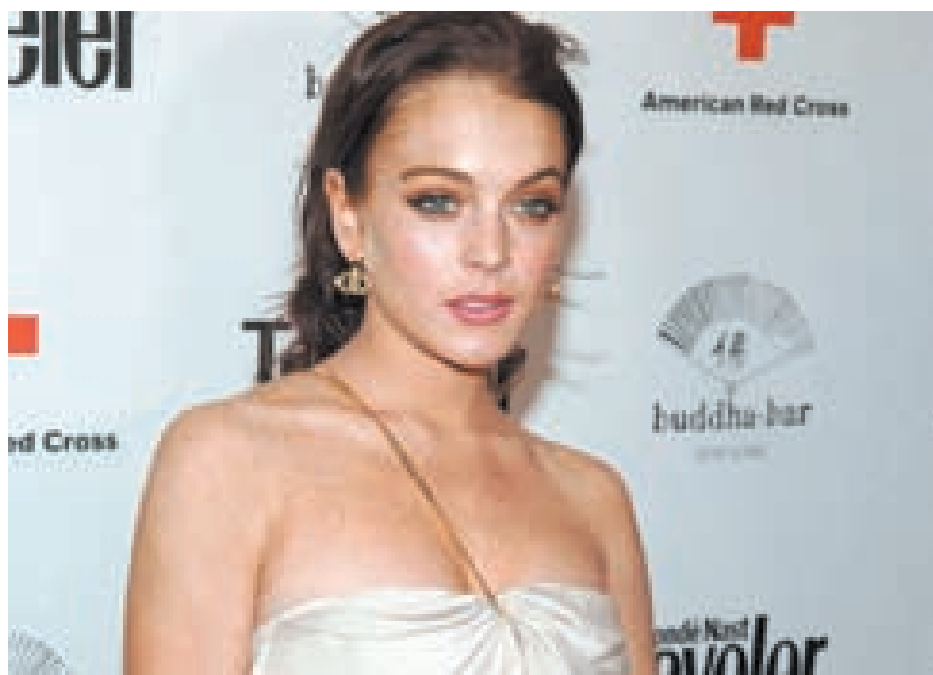
"It's a really bad sign. Anyone in recovery knows when you hang around with the same old people that you used with before it will sidetrack your entire life," added the source.

Another troublesome friendship she seems to

have rekindled is with wealthy Spanish artist Domingo Zapata, whose car she was driving when she hit someone here in 2012

and was arrested for allegedly leaving the scene of the crime. "What's more startling is why would Lindsay risk the opportuni-

ty she has to do the movie Inconceivable and working with Randall Emmitt to hang out with these people?" said the source.—PTI



The 27-year-old has been to rehab several times for drug and alcohol addiction.

Elvis Presley had genetic heart condition, DNA analysis shows

LONDON, 28 March — Elvis Presley had a genetic heart defect that may have contributed to his premature death, a British documentary series reported, citing a DNA analysis of a sample of the singer's hair.

The producers of the documentary, airing on Wednesday on Britain's Channel 4, said the sample of hair belonging to "The King of Rock and Roll" was purchased from a friend of his barber.

An analysis of Elvis's DNA identified a gene mutation known to cause hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, which causes thickening and weakening of the heart muscle.

Elvis, who died on 8 August, 1977, at the age

of 42, gorged on junk food and became addicted to drugs in the last years of his life. His death has long been blamed on a drug overdose, but the coroner's report said he died from a heart attack.

Stephen Kingsmore, director of the Centre for Pediatric Genomic Medi-

cine at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, performed the DNA analysis and concluded that the results provide "obvious evidence".

"We know that Elvis had a strong family history of heart failure, and we know that he died suddenly, and at autopsy his heart

was indeed thickened, which is another word for cardiomyopathy of a particular type. So this was a very good fit with Elvis's clinical picture," Kingsmore told Channel 4's Dead Famous DNA.

PTI



Elvis' death has long been blamed on a drug overdose, but the coroner's report pointed to a heart attack.



Gwyneth and Chris got married in a secret ceremony in Mexico in December 2003.

Chris Martin buys break-up gift for Gwyneth Paltrow

LOS ANGELES, 28 March — Singer Chris Martin has reportedly bought a painting as a special parting gift for his wife of 11 years, Gwyneth Paltrow. The two have announced their split via an official statement. Gwyneth and Chris, who married in a secret ceremony in Mexico in December 2003, announced 25 March

that they have decided to "consciously uncouple and co-parent".

But if a source is to be believed, Chris, 37, bought a painting of a bird in flight by Mila Furstova for Gwyneth, with whom he has children Apple, nine and seven-year-old Moses, reports dailymail.co.uk.

PTI



Bradley Cooper

Bradley Cooper, the new Indiana Jones: just a rumour?

LOS ANGELES, 28 March — Hollywood star Bradley Cooper is rumoured to be playing the lead in the next Indiana Jones film.

The Hangover star might replace actor Harrison Ford in the famous movie series, reported Huffington Post online.

However, sources close to the production have denied the reports saying that Cooper, 39, is not under consideration and there are no plans to reboot the franchise with another actor. The adventure series, which was created by director Steven Spielberg, starred Harrison Ford

as the lead in all four films.

However, the next movie in the franchise has been a topic of conversation for many years since it was always assumed that Ford, 71, would be its star but due to his age, many are unsure whether the actor would be fit enough for the role.—PTI

GENERAL

World Cup referees told to focus on protecting players

ZURICH, 28 March — Protecting players from heavy tackles will be the priority for referees at this year's World Cup in Brazil rather than other contentious issues such as diving, handball and the triple punishment.

Football is generally considered to have become much less violent on the pitch in the last few years and the game's governing body FIFA said during a training week for World Cup referees on Thursday that it wanted to keep it that way.

"There are always things we are asked to be vigilant on, pretty much always trying to protect the players, from heavy play, from foul play and violent play and also protecting the image of the game," 2010 World Cup final referee Howard Webb told reporters.

FIFA's head of refereeing Massimo Busacca said referees attending the World Cup, which starts on 12 June, would be instructed to nip any signs of rough play in the bud.

"The safety of the players is very important so the referees have to read the situation carefully at the beginning of the game," he said.

"If players start committing this type of (violent) foul, we have to take action to avoid it. We have to say: 'We do not want to see this kind of football in this competition'."

"This is the role of the referee, to try to understand and anticipate. Sometimes, the players forget because of the adrenalin. The role of the referee is to say: 'Do you want to play today or do you want to take a shower?'"

"We must try to avoid these situations which can destroy football."

Although diving is considered by many observers to be the scourge of the sport, Englishman Webb said it was a relatively small headache for match officials.

"It's one of the things we are always asked to be vigilant about because when it's not accurately identified it can have quite a damaging effect on the game," he said.

"The message is being sent, loud and clear, to the competing teams about their responsibilities as well."

"If you look at the number of decisions made around simulation, they are quite low compared to the vast number of decisions

we have to make," he added.

"Although it's a small problem, it has a big impact when it does happen, so of course it becomes quite serious."

Webb said the pace of the modern game made it almost unrecognisable from when he started 20 years ago and said the relationship between match officials and players was good.

"It's almost a different sport from many years ago, so we have to adapt to that and be as quick as the players are in terms of the speed of their thought and speed of their play," he said.

"In most cases, the experience I have with the players is positive, and that includes the famous

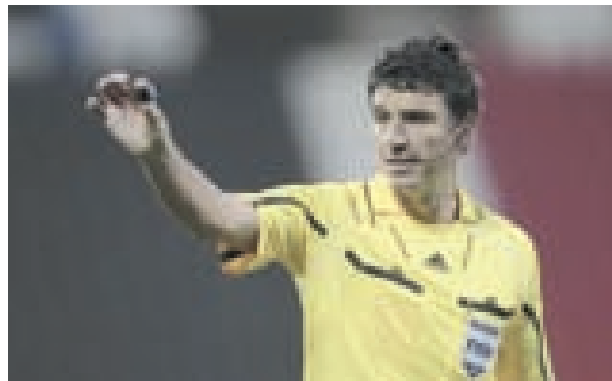
players and the young players."

"You are certainly aware of the increased scrutiny to when I started 20 years ago."

"The attention on football increases all the time. It's so important to so many people in so many ways and we feel that."

"We are aware of our responsibility and aware that if we do make a mistake, there will be a big reaction." "We care about what we do for sure, it's not so easy for us either when we make a mistake."

"The flip side is when we do a good job, and many games do go fantastically well for all of us, then it's a fantastic high and a great thing to be involved in."—Reuters



Referee Massimo Busacca of Switzerland gestures during the Qatar Stars League soccer match between Al-Rayyan and Lekhwiya in Doha on 15 April, 2011.

REUTERS

Cambodian PM to attend 2nd Summit of Mekong River Commission

PHNOM PENH, 28 March — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen will attend the 2nd Summit of the Mekong River Commission (MRC) on 4-5 April in Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced on Friday.

The premier will be accompanied by Minister of Water Resources Lim Kean Hor and Environment Minister Say Samal, the ministry said in a Press statement.

The summit's theme is "Water, Energy and Food Security in the Context of Climate Change for the Mekong River Basin".

The summit will discuss a number of issues on the opportunities and challenges of the Mekong basin and role of the MRC for sustainable development and regional cooperation to promote sustaina-

ble use and development of the Mekong River in the context of growing demand for natural resources for development and of climate change, it added.

According to the MRC, the forthcoming summit will be the most momentous event as heads of the MRC member countries — Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam will revisit their commitments made four years ago on a number of key issues facing the Mekong Basin.

The leaders will discuss, amongst other key priority areas, the best ways in which the MRC can promote its effectiveness and ownership by Member Countries by 2030 and reinvigorate regional cooperation in the transboundary management of water and related resources ahead of the establishment of ASEAN

economic community by 2015, the commission said.

Cambodian conservationists last week expressed their concerns over the Laos' 260-megawatt Don Sahong dam development project on the lower Mekong River, saying the proposed dam would pose a serious threat to the existence of the biodiversity on the Mekong River such as rarely dolphin species and fishery resources vital to millions of people in Cambodia and Vietnam.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has urged Prime Minister Hun Sen to call for a moratorium on the dam during the upcoming MRC Summit, saying the dam could threaten the existence of critically endangered Irrawaddy dolphins in downstream Cambodia.

Xinhua

Subway construction under China's Yellow River begins

LANZHOU, 28 March — Construction on the first subway line to run under the Yellow River, China's second longest, started on Friday. It will also be the first subway line in Lanzhou, capital of northwest China's Gansu Province. The Yellow River runs through the city from west to east.

The 34-km-long subway is scheduled to be completed in December 2017, and is anticipated to ease the city's road traffic. Lanzhou has an average road traffic density of 628 vehicles per kilometer, which is twice as many as in Hong Kong.

Gao Zhihong, manager of the subway construction project with the Lanzhou branch of the China Railway First Survey and Design Institute Group Co Ltd, said it would be challenging work, as builders have to drill through a 200 metre-deep cobblestone layer, which is highly permeable and unstable.—Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

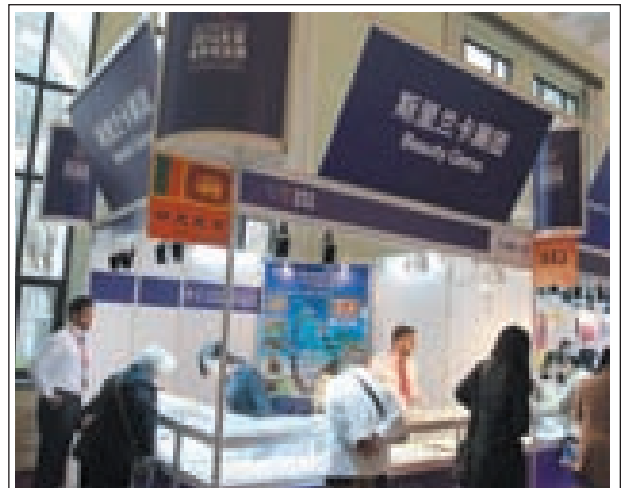
(29-3-2014, Saturday)

- 6:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:25 am 2. Physical Exercise
- 7:00 am 3. News/Weather Report
- 7:20 am 4. Business News
- 8:30 am 5. India Drama Series
- 9:00 am 6. News/International News
- 9:30 am 7. Documentary
- 11:35 am 8. Game For Children
- 12:00 pm 9. News/International News/Weather Report
- 12:30 pm 10. Round Up of The Week's TV Local News
- 2:40 pm 11. Hyper Sports
- 3:00 pm 12. News
- 3:15 pm 13. Four Sacred Place's By Sidagu Sayadaw (Part-1)
- 4:00 pm 14. News
- 4:45 pm 15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Chemistry)
- 5:00 pm 16. News
- 5:30 pm 17. Documentary
- 6:00 pm 18. News/Weather Report
- 6:20 pm 19. MRTV's Youth Programme
- 8:00 pm 20. News/International News/Weather Report
- 8:50 pm 21. Hit Songs of Stars
- 9:00 pm 22. News
- 23. Myanmar Series
- 24. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(29-3-14 07:00am~ 30-3-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Great Shwedagon-Historic And Mysterious Places
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Nyi Voyy
- * Local News
- * Auspicious and Traditional Thingyan
- * World News
- * Creations of a Designer
- * Local News
- * My Travel In This Exceptional Place, Inle Lake
- * World News
- * Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product
- * Local News
- * FLYing Without Wings- My Great Limitless Adventure - Bagan
- * World News
- * Great Minds of Myanmar (Anthropologist U Kyaw Win)
- * 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



Visitors select jewellery at the Sri Lanka booth in the Spring Jewellery Fair in Beijing, capital of China, on 27 March, 2014. The 2014 Spring Jewellery Fair kicked off at the Beijing Exhibition Centre with more than 600 booths of about 200 exhibitors.

XINHUA

Nay Pyi Taw FC secures eighth consecutive win at Myanmar National League 2014



YANGON, 28 March—Nay Pyi Taw FC took easy three points at Friday's Myanmar National League 2014 at Youth Training Centre in Thuwanna in Yangon, winning over Southern Myanmar FC with 3-1.

In the first half, Nyein Tayza Win scored an opener at two minutes and Aung Kyaw Naing added second goal at 6th minutes for Nay Pyi Taw FC. Nay Pyi Taw FC influenced the second half of the match, scoring third goal by Nyein Tayza Win at

49th minutes and Zin Myo Win equalized one goal for Southern FC at 56th minutes.

Since earlier lose to Kanbawza FC in Taunggyi, Nay Pyi Taw FC set eight consecutive win records at Myanmar National League 2014.

First, the players from both teams have a documentary photo taken under "Protect the Goal" programme and played the match wearing brooches for HIV patients.

Byline: Nyi Myat Thawda

Aung Kyaw Naing from Nay Pyi Taw FC attacking Southern Myanmar FC in the match.

PHOTO: SOE NYUNT

Williams, Li set up enticing Miami showdown

MIAMI, 28 March — Serena Williams and Li Na swept past familiar foes at the Sony Open on Thursday, setting up an exciting showdown for the Miami hardcourt crown between the world's top ranked players.

World number one Williams continued her utter domination of Maria Sharapova with a 6-4, 6-3 win over the fourth-seeded Russian, while second-ranked Li won a rematch of her Australian Open final, beating Dominika Cibulkova 7-5, 2-6, 6-3 to maintain her perfect record against the Slovakian.

A six-time Miami champion, the American's victory ran her winning streak against Sharapova to 15 matches, a stunning run that stretches back to 2004.

Li's mastery over Cibulkova may not span as many

years but is no less complete, the Chinese veteran sweeping all seven of their meetings over a dec-

Melbourne Park, in three sets at Indian Wells two weeks ago and

now at Miami. "Good challenge. The last time I played her (Williams) was

have improved," Li told reporters as she looked ahead to the final.

"I am really happy I can play her again. Everyone will be confi-



Maria Sharapova

Serena Williams

ade-long span.

Three of those wins have come this year, with Asia's first grand slam singles champion defeating the Slovakian in straight sets at

in the (WTA Tour) Championships so it has been four months and this time we really can see how I

den't if they come to the final. I think for sure it will be a tough match."

The 10th seeded Cibulkova had looked ready to deny tennis fans a marquee final between the best two players in the world when she stormed back to take the second set and opened the third with a break to forge a 3-1 lead.

However, Li kept her composure and swept the next five games to cap an enthralling fightback and her spot in the final.

Sharapova and Williams, who have both achieved a career grand slam and held the number one ranking, were expected to develop into one of the great rivalries in women's tennis.

But it has not quite worked out that way with Williams winning 16 of the 18 meetings between the pair.—Reuters

United greats agree deal to buy lowly Salford City

LONDON, 28 March—Manchester United's Ryan Giggs and team mates from the famous 'Class of 92' have agreed a deal to buy Salford City who play in the muddy and unglamorous world of English soccer's eighth tier.

Giggs, along with Paul Scholes, Gary Neville, Phil Neville and Nicky Butt, will complete the deal for the humble Northern Premier League



Manchester United manager David Moyes (R) watches from the bench with Phil Neville (2nd R) and Ryan Giggs (2nd L) during their English Premier League soccer match against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge in London, on 19 Jan, 2014. —REUTERS

Division One North club later in the year, according to a statement on the club's Twitter page.

The former players, who were dubbed the 'Class of 92' after United won the FA youth Cup that year before going on to achieve unprecedented success, will buy Salford subject to Football Association and Northern Premier League approval.

"Everyone knows how important Salford is

to me, so this is an exciting acquisition that is right at the heart of what we all believe in," said Giggs, who is still playing for United's first team at the age of 40.

"We want to engage the football community, use our football experience and knowledge to aspire and nurture young talent and being able to do that in Salford makes it even more exciting."

Reuters